

We Know

NAMIBIA

One of the most fascinating countries in sub-Saharan Africa, Namibia is known as “The Land of Contrasts” or the “Land Between Two Deserts.” It is located on the southwest seaboard of Africa, bounded by the Atlantic Ocean to the west, South Africa and Botswana in the south and east, Angola and Zambia to the north. Sparsely populated, Namibia offers unique geological formations, unusually adapted plant and animal life, and rich cultural and historical experiences.



NAMIBIA

Useful Information



CLIMATE

Namibia has a subtropical arid climate, but with some surprises! The scorching heat of the desert can easily give way to very cold nights and mornings. The temperatures along the central watershed average a pleasant 82° Fahrenheit during the dry or winter period from April to September. Summer temperatures can reach 102° Fahrenheit and high humidity is often experienced in the north.

CURRENCY & CREDIT CARDS

The currency in Namibia is the Namibian Dollar (NAD) which is fixed to, and therefore equivalent to, the South African Rand (ZAR). Namibian banks charge a commission for changing foreign currency. Bureau de Change usually do not charge a commission. The Namibia Post Offices (NamPost) also have change bureaus in the major towns. There is a Bureau de Change at Windhoek International Airport and most major towns in Namibia have at least one Bureau de Change.

MasterCard and Visa (both with raised credit card numbers so that an imprint may be taken) are generally accepted throughout Namibia. Clarify with a commercial bank whether other credit cards are acceptable in Namibia and check for any fees you may be charged. American Express and Diners Club specifically are no longer accepted in Namibia. Cash should be kept in small quantities for purchases of crafts or in smaller shops. Note: If carrying cash, it is recommended that you take only recently minted U.S. currency.

SHOPPING HOURS

Normal shop hours are from 9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday, and Saturdays 9:00am to 1:00pm.

LANGUAGE

English is the official national language. Afrikaans is the conversational language and German is also widely spoken. There are many local languages and dialects.

VOLTAGE

220 - 240 volt AC at 50 cycles per second. Americans will need to ensure they have converters for certain equipment.

ELECTRICAL PLUGS



220V 50Hz

PHOTOGRAPHY

Visitors should respect the attitude of the local people towards photography and only use cameras if they have permission from the person or people the picture is being taken. Never try to "steal" a photo against the will of the person concerned. Let your tour guide or escort help you negotiate terms before you start shooting! It is also against the law to take photographs of border posts, persons in uniform, and of course, military installations.

