

SOUTH AFRICA & NAMIBIAN ADVENTURES WITH ROVOS RAIL

An immersive journey awaits across South Africa and Namibia. Western Africa puts on a show, courtesy of its iconic wildlife, ancient desert and enchanting Atlantic coastline. Our private charter of the celebrated Rovos Rail takes place over nine nights. Along the way, we also disembark to stay in lodges that grant us unrivalled access to the wonders of the Namib Desert and Etosha National Park. Our journey is reserved for just 36 guests, with the option to join our three-night post-tour extension to the Okavango Delta.



- Rail
- Light aircraft
- Coach
- ① Stay (nights)
- Optional post tour extension
- Economy charter
- Light aircraft

A JOURNEY OVERVIEW

Cape Town - Matjiesfontein -
 Fish River Canyon - Kolmanskop
 - Lüderitz - Sossusvlei - Windhoek -
 Etosha National Park - Walvis Bay
 - Okavango Delta

16 Days Rail Journey
 Departing 29 May 2027

Day 1 Cape Town (South Africa)

Your private transfer delivers you to Cape Town's Mount Nelson Hotel, a Belmond property and the city's most celebrated hotel. Enjoy the culinary offerings of our residence this evening.

Day 2 Cape Town

Begin your day with an exploration of Table Mountain, the city's iconic landmark. More than 260 million years old, it was formed before the Andes, Alps and Himalayas. Ponder this as you ride to its peak aboard a cable car. Afterwards, we head to the Constantia wine region, for a tasting and lunch at the acclaimed Steenberg Farm. Tonight's Welcome Dinner then gives us the chance to get to know our travel companions a little better.

Day 3 Embark Rovos Rail

At Cape Town Station, we board the famous carriages of Rovos Rail. Acquaint yourself with your comfortable suite before joining your fellow guests in the lounge car. A gong rings out, heralding the serving of lunch, and we adjourn to the train's dining cars. Rolling through the winelands of the Western Cape, we take in these extraordinary vistas through the windows of the observation car. Locally inspired dishes are enjoyed this evening in the dining car.

Day 4 Matjiesfontein

Our train rolls into Matjiesfontein, whose well-preserved, Victorian-era buildings wind back the clock during our visit. See the Pink Church, the Lord Milner Hotel, and admire the town's collection of vintage cars. Back on board, we continue through the Karoo, a vast semi-desert region. Should we be fortunate, we may glimpse wildebeest and antelope as we pass by. Our gradual northerly journey continues in an effortless fashion, as we enjoy today's lunch in the dining cars. Afternoon tea and dinner are similarly savoured en route to the town of De Aar.

Day 5 Upington, Ariamsvlei (Namibia)

During our approach to Namibia, we make a brief stop in the city of Upington. Intriguing stories of the area's diamond smugglers, horse rustlers and ruthless fortune seekers have been respectively chronicled. While here, we take a walking tour and enjoy sundowners during a cruise of the Orange River. Shortly after rejoining our train, we convene for an African-themed dinner. Traversing the border, we reach Ariamsvlei.

Day 6 Fish River Canyon

Disembarking the train this afternoon, we board a coach for our transfer to Fish River Canyon. On arrival, you would be forgiven for thinking you had been transplanted to the United States; the enormous canyon bears a striking resemblance to Arizona's Grand Canyon. Millions of years of geological history stretches out before us. Cast your gaze across the vast expanse for staggering views. While here, we may cross paths with baboons, rock hyraxes, ground squirrels and klipspringers.

Day 7 Kolmanskop, Lüderitz

Today, we disembark Rovos Rail and transfer to Kolmanskop. Bear witness to this extraordinary ghost town, whose abandoned homes have disappeared beneath relentless desert sands. We then make our approach to the Atlantic coast and Lüderitz, where we pause for lunch. Much of the former German colony's architecture has been painted in various vivid tints. We manage to tear our eyes away from this mesmerising sight just long enough to keep watch for some of the resident wildlife, which includes seals, penguins, flamingos and ostriches. There is also a chance of sighting a few of the wild horses known to roam the desert here. Returning inland, our train then follows the route to Keetmanshoop.

Day 8 Keetmanshoop, Garas Park, Mariental

Enjoy breakfast aboard our train before we arrive in Keetmanshoop. Explore the remote town before continuing to Garas Park. This area is home to *Aloe dichotoma*, also known as the quiver tree. The distinctive forked branches of these plants can reach five metres in height and make for arresting photographic models. Back aboard Rovos Rail, we continue on to Mariental.

Day 9 Disembark Rovos Rail, Sossusvlei

Today, we board light aircraft for the flight to Sossusvlei. Welcomed to Sossusvlei Lodge, our residence for the evening, we absorb this rare desert setting during lunch and an afternoon at leisure. Head out for a drive across the expansive desert landscape and watch as the sun makes its dramatic retreat beyond the horizon. In these remarkable surroundings, a special bush dinner rounds out our day.

Day 10 Sossusvlei, Windhoek, Embark Rovos Rail, Kranzberg

Rise early this morning for another drive across the desert. Stop for breakfast and appreciate our place within this most remote environment. Upon returning to our lodge, we check out and rejoin light aircraft for the flight to Windhoek. On touching down, lunch is served at Windhoek Country Club. Having refuelled, we take a tour of the city. See the exhibits at the Trans-Namib Transport Museum; learn about Namibia's struggle against colonialism at the Independence Memorial Museum; stand before the striking Evangelical Lutheran Church; and visit the Namibia Craft Centre, which provides a platform for the local community to display their diverse projects. Back aboard Rovos Rail, our journey continues to Kranzberg.

Day 11 Otjiwarongo, Otavi

This morning, we visit the Cheetah Conservation Fund's Research and Education Centre in Otjiwarongo. The staff here engage in the rehabilitation and release of injured and orphaned cheetahs, as well as habitat restoration and environmental education programs. Returning to our train, we continue to Otavi.

Day 12 Tsumeb, Disembark Rovos Rail, Etosha National Park

Arriving along the edge of Etosha National Park, we disembark and transfer to our lodge. Mokuti Etosha is located on its own private 4,300-hectare nature reserve, granting us a true safari experience. This afternoon, our hosts take us out on a game drive. In addition to four of the 'Big Five' wildlife species, we also have the chance to see giraffes, ostriches and oryx. Dinner is served in our lodge's restaurant this evening.

Day 13 Etosha National Park, Tsumeb, Embark Rovos Rail

Following breakfast at our lodge, another game drive presents further opportunities to witness Etosha National Park's extraordinary wildlife. By mid-morning, we check out of Mokuti Etosha and return to Tsumeb Station, where we meet back up with our train.

Day 14 Walvis Bay, Disembark Rovos Rail, Swakopmund

Returning to the shores of the South Atlantic, we farewell Rovos Rail as we reach Walvis Bay. Flanked by ocean and desert, a short coastal drive then brings us to the Strand Hotel in Swakopmund. Take some time to relax in this spectacular seaside setting before dining at our hotel this evening.

Day 15 Swakopmund

Lap up more sundrenched scenes during a morning at leisure. Later today, we embark a private catamaran for a sunset cruise. Toast our adventures on board with champagne and freshly shucked oysters. Choose your preferred dining venue from our hotel's multiple options this evening.

Day 16 Walvis Bay

Our grand journey concludes this morning as we return along the coast to Walvis Bay. Farewell your fellow guests and Tour Host Team or perhaps join us for our three-night Okavango Delta adventure.

Extend Your World

Day 1 Walvis Bay (Namibia), Maun (Botswana), Okavango Delta

From Walvis Bay, join economy class, chartered aircraft and fly to Maun in Botswana. From here, we transfer to a fleet of light aircraft for our entry to the Okavango Delta. Our home for the next three nights is Belmond Eagle Island Lodge, which provides privileged access to the floodplains, waterways and wildlife of this awe-inspiring territory. This afternoon, our hosts guide us along the water aboard one of their purpose-built vessels. Keep watch for wildlife while enjoying sundowners in this beautiful natural area. This evening, the accomplished chefs of our lodge satisfy curiosities and cravings.

Day 2 Okavango Delta

Aboard a traditional dugout canoe, take to the water in time to witness a magnificent sunrise. The delta's lush landscapes and tranquil lagoons are gradually illuminated, making for a most magical

experience. There is also the option to join a full-day safari, which may include sightings of big cats, elephants, buffalo, and a host of bird species. You may prefer to take your morning at leisure, soaking up the serenity from your private deck, before boarding the lodge's barge for a closer look at the local flora and fauna. Enjoy the dishes of our lodge's chefs again this evening.

Day 3 Okavango Delta

Yesterday's immersive experiences are all on offer again today. Choose your preferred morning, afternoon, or full-day options. Above all else, be sure to make the most of our final full day in this astonishing oasis. Perhaps indulge your tastebuds with some new and unexpected flavours this evening.

Day 4 Maun

This morning, light aircraft return us to Maun, where our adventure-filled journey concludes.