

Namibia Safari



#### Summary

This nine-day 3400-kilometre journey takes the train from the savannahs of the Highveld to the Atlantic in the west. Departing from Pretoria, the first stop is Kimberley, center of one of the world's famous diamond rushes .The train traverses the stark vistas of the Northern Cape to the Fish River Canyon - second in size to the Grand Canyon - and Garas Park with its Quiver Tree Forest and the Giant's Playground. Guests continue across the untamed beauty of the Kalahari Desert to Namibia's capital for a tour; Windhoek is a lively, cosmopolitan city with a strong German flavor. Then it's a short flight to Sossusvlei, a stunning pan in the Namib Desert, for an overnight stay followed by a night in the game-rich Etosha National Park. On the last morning, the train travels the Namib to the perfectly preserved 19th-century German Hansa town of Swakopmund and Walvis Bay - an unforgettable end to a remarkable journey.

# **Prices Include**

8-night accommodation on board of the train Meal: full board All alcoholic and other beverages 24-hour full room service and bar facilities Excursions accompanied by a qualified tour guide Government tax Assistance of our representative in South Africa

# Overview

Interest: group - family - couple Level of Comfort: 5/5 Minimum # of passengers: none Maximum # of passengers: none

# Prices Exclude

International airfare DIP surcharge \$5/ticket Staff gratuities French Champagne Visa fees Travel insurance All other expenses

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- Day 1: Depart Rovos Rail Station in Pretoria and travel south towards the goldfields of the Witwatersrand
- **Day 2:** Arrive Kimberley for Big Hole and Diamond Museum Depart for Upington and travel the Karoo semi-desert
- **Day 3:** Optional two-hour walking tour of Upington Arrive at Holoog after border formalities at Nakop
- Day 4: One-hour transfer to visit the Fish River Canyon Depart for Keetmanshoop. Traverse the Kalahari Visit Garas Park (Quiver Tree Forest/Giant's Playground)
- Day 5: Arrive in Windhoek for a city tour Depart in light aircraft for one-hour flight to Sossusvlei Lodge for lunch, desert drive, bush dinner and overnight
- Day 6: Sossusvlei drive with breakfast in the vlei Depart Sossusvlei for one-hour flight to Windhoek Depart Windhoek and travel north to Etosha Park
- Day 7: Transfer to a lodge in the game-rich Etosha National Park for lunch, game drive and overnight
- **Day 8:** Early morning game drive in the Etosha National Park Enjoy lunch on board the train en route to the Atlantic
- **Day 9:** Enjoy breakfast as the train traverses the Namib Arrive at journey's end in Walvis Bay, Namibia

## Starting price per person in US\$

Room Type	Double	Single
Pullman Suite	4170	6255
Deluxe Suite	6255	9383
Royal Suite	8260	12390

Prices may change without prior notice and subject to availability at time of booking

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# General Information

#### Currency

South Africa – Rands only. We accept all major credit cards on the train. - Outside of South Africa – Any off-train expenses or additional excursions booked while on the train are to be paid with US Dollars. Hotels and major dealers accept credit cards. - US Dollars printed before year 2001 won't be accepted. Low denominations recommended for shopping/gratuities. Larger denominations recommended for exchanging money to local currency (especially in Tanzania) as you get a better rate. The Gift Shop on board might exchange money if currency is available, but it is not normally catered for

# Gratuities

Gratuities for the staff are at your discretion. If you wish to show your appreciation in this manner, there is a suitably marked envelope in your suite that you can hand directly to the Train Manager who will distribute any amounts on a pro-rata basis (share) amongst the staff on board. An amount between ZAR100 to ZAR200 ( $\pm$  US\$10 to US\$20) per person per night is suggested, depending on the length of your journey

# Children

Please be sensitive to the adult atmosphere of the train by keeping your children respectful and quiet. Long journeys are not recommended for under 13s. There are no child-minding facilities or activities for children on board. See Child Policy

**Locomotion:** Use of steam has become increasingly difficult over the years as more and more water and coaling facilities have been scrapped. Diesel or electric locomotives are used while steam is used in and around the area of Rovos Rail Station only

# The Track

The track over which we travel is inconsistently maintained. If you wake at night imagining the train is travelling at high speed, be assured it is the state of the track below creating that impression. We restrict the train to 60km/h (37mph) and over bad sections reduce speed to as little as 20km/h (12mph). If you find it noisy, earplugs are available

# Cuisine

Meals are served in one sitting only in the charming Victorian atmosphere of the dining cars and are complemented by a selection of fine South African wines. Breakfast: 07h00-10h00 • Lunch: 13h00 • Tea: 16h30 • Formal Dinner: 19h30. All meals are served at these times unless otherwise stated in the timetable. A gong heralds lunch and dinner

# **Dietary Requirements**

We will do our best to cater for dietary requirements provided a detailed request has been made on the Reservation Form. If a special request has not been made, the chefs will endeavour to prepare suitable meals with the ingredients available on board. We regret we are unable to prepare meals requiring strict religious observance in the preparation

# Dress code

For days on the train dress is smart casual. Evening attire is more formal – for gentlemen a jacket and tie is a minimum requirement while for ladies we suggest cocktail/evening dresses or suits. For off-train excursions, we strongly recommend comfortable walking shoes, sun lotion and hats. If required, blankets and rain capes are available. For game drives, which are on open vehicles, please dress accordingly: mornings can be cool then warm up considerably; afternoons can be warm then cool down considerably. Please see average temperatures as a guide

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#### Mobile Devices and Internet

In maintaining the spirit of travel of a bygone era, there are no radios or television sets on board. The use of mobile phones, laptops and essentially anything that has the ability to disturb other passengers is confined to the privacy of your suites only. The reception is poor while the train is moving. It is advised to contact your service provider to ensure the correct settings for network services are activated. Internet is available at our lounge in Cape Town, Rovos Rail Station, Tau Game Lodge, Victoria Falls Hotel, Mokuti Lodge and most of the other Namibia Safari accommodation

#### Smoking

On board the train, smoking is allowed in the Club Lounge only. Please note on the Reservation Form provided if you are smoking or non-smoking so that the appropriate room might be requested at the hotels. Smoking is allowed in the privacy of your suite, but please be mindful that the train is generally made up of wood; please don't throw flammable items such as cigarette or cigar butts off the train as bush fires in Africa are a constant and dangerous hazard

#### Laundry

There is a limited laundry service on board comprising household washers, dryers and steam irons. The turnaround is 48 hours so we are not able to handle a week's worth of washing. Please note that while we are providing a complimentary service we cannot be held responsible for items that may be damaged or lost in the process. There are no dry-cleaning facilities en route or on board the train

#### Luggage

Each suite has a luggage rack that runs its length providing ample space for storage. On selected annual journeys, guests are provided with a Rovos Rail tog bag that can be used for overnight trips or hand luggage on aircraft

#### **Gift Shop**

There is a small gift shop on the train and at Rovos Rail Station. Due to the varying exchange rates, credit cards are preferred. The host/ess on duty has a basic First Aid Kit and personal essentials (toothbrushes, razors, earplugs etc.). He/she will also fulfil any administrative requirements and check your onward arrangements. Stamps are available for sale and postcards may be posted in the post box at the entrance to the Observation Car or at Rovos Rail Station

#### **Special Occasions**

Please note on the Reservation Form if you are celebrating a special occasion as we would like to share it with you

# Books, Magazines and Games

There are board games, playing cards, a card table (dependent), books and magazines available for your use in the Lounge and Observation Cars. In your suite is a Journeys magazine featuring articles of interest related to your route

#### **Electrical Current and Adaptors**

220V AC 50Hz 3-point round-pronged wall plugs, 110V/220V 2-pin plugs for shavers. International adaptors available Safes An electronic safe is provided in the cupboard in each suite

#### Telephone

There is an internal telephone system on board. Numbers are listed on the provided Guest/Rooming List

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#### Temperature and Air-conditioning

All public cars are fitted with gas-filled air-conditioning systems. Each suite has an individual air-conditioner with temperature controls that can also be set to heat mode. Fresh-air intake is solved by opening a window. Windows should be closed while operating the air-conditioning unit. Electric under-blankets are fitted on the bed

Payment facilities available with CFC CODE: ZA-WIN17-ROVOS RAIL-NAMIBIA SAFARI

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