

Baboon mother & baby



Windhoek view



Fish River Lodge



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acacia@iway.na
www.acacianamibia.com
 Windhoek Namibia
 Tel: +264 61 229142
 Fax: +264 61 229125

Dear Friends of Namibia

As we try to survive our frosty Namibian winter months (June/July), it seems like the 'heat is on' for rental cars and rooms at Namibia's popular tourist spots during our forthcoming high season. The economic downturn does not seem to have an impact on tourists wishing to visit our beautiful country. Wildlife concentrates at the waterholes in the game parks and at private lodges, which makes for excellent and easy game-viewing. Investments in the hospitality sector are soaring with more lodge and hotel openings under way. New enterprises and conservation strategies emerge, adding innovative tourism ideas to an ever expanding tourism industry in Namibia.

Investment opportunity in a Namibian Game Reserve

Nature enthusiasts have the opportunity to purchase their own piece of land 'Out of Africa style' - in Namibia.

The game farm is situated 15 km from Windhoek, visually shielded from the city by a couple of mountains, thus still offering a real bush experience. There are no traversing public roads making this a very private place!

Units are available to 24 investors only. Each investor is entitled to build a residence on the site of his choice. The restricted occupancy guarantees minimized environmental impact and exclusivity for the resident. This Wilderness area will be professionally managed with the rest of the farm. Preservation of habitat and biodiversity are main objectives. Residents have traversing rights over the entire 10000 ha farm. The rest of the farm will be used for low number/impact eco-tourism. The landscape is scenic and supports varied habit types like a big variety of plants and large numbers of game of various endemic species. Over 3500 head of game, ranging from giraffe, oryx, eland, kudu, wildebeest, hartebeest, Burchell's and Hartman's zebra and warthog roam freely. The farm also supports a healthy population of predators (Leopard, Cheetah, Caracal and Brown Hyena) as well as rich bird life. Future owners are encouraged to participate with game ranching.

Size & Price: The property is situated on a 10 000 ha game ranch of which a 3300 ha area has been registered on a 99 year lease. This area can be distributed to 24 shareholders who are entitled to live/build their house and treat as their own piece of ground. Each residential site is "out of sight / sound" from neighbours with a so-called exclusive use area (reserved ONLY for that shareholder and his invited guests) which stretches for 150 m radius around the house or the nearest ridge. Depending on the site chosen, this equates to 2,5 - 4.5 ha. The remainder of the 3300 ha farm which includes 3 dams is for all 24 shareholders to enjoy. The share price is N\$1,5 million of which N\$200 000.00 go into a special account to buy exotic game species like sable or roan antelope which entitles the shareholder to half of the herd of the farm. Prospective shareholders will be assisted to obtain residence permits through the Investment Centre.

Enquiries for this special opportunity with acacia@iway.na

New Lodge on the western side of Fish River Canyon - FISHRIVER LODGE

The new Lodge perched on the rim of the majestic Fish River Canyon opened its doors in April 2009. Situated in the privately-owned 45000 ha Canyon Nature Park, the area includes 50 km of river frontage and provides breathtaking views. Walks, horse-trails and game drives are offered in one of the most spectacular settings in Namibia. The excursions will also include visits to mineral and petro glyph sites, as well as a wide range of beautiful rock pools.

The lodge offers 20 comfortable chalets inclusive of in- and outdoor showers. The main building is stylishly decorated with a large deck overlooking the canyon. One can also enjoy spectacular views from each chalet. Ancient quiver trees surround the lodge and rare mountain zebra and klipspringer wonder the remote valleys and side canyons. Fauna in the Fish River Canyon includes several species of mammal, such as the endangered Hartman's zebra, kudu, oryx, springbok and baboon. Birdlife is plentiful, with surprises like pelicans, black eagles, fish eagles, kingfishers, lovebirds, ostriches and wading birds.

Information at: www.fishriverlodge-namibia.com

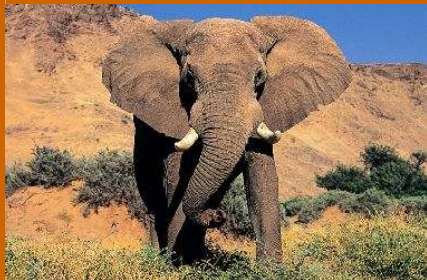
Ai-/Ais Restcamp open again

After many months of renovation work, the Namibia Wildlife Resort Restcamp in the South, has opened its doors again in July 2009. The redeveloped premise now boasts refurbished Mountain View and River View double rooms and Family chalets, all in the price range of N\$650 - N\$800 per person (BB). Exquisitely redesigned Spa facilities, an expanded Restaurant and a neatly landscaped Camping area are available for guests.

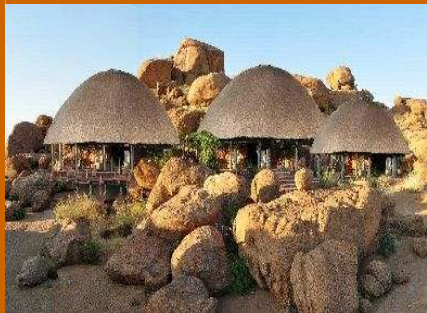
Excursions to the Fishriver Canyon will be offered by NWR staff and can be booked on the spot. More info at : www.nwr.com.na



Namib dunes



Desert Elephant



Camp Kipwe



Nunda River Lodge



African Fish Eagle

Gondwana Collections Game Count at Namib Desert Lodge

Dietlind Dietterle of Acacia Namibia took part at another annual game count at the end of June 2009. This interesting activity took place in the presence of nature conservation experts and a host of other volunteers. The count took place in 4 zones of the 100 km² park, the sand dune and fossilized dune area, the ephemeral river system, the Diep River drainage, the northern calcrete plains. After analysing the collected data the park management came to following results: The Gondwana Namib Park supports around 515 springbok, 54 oryx, 96 ostrich, 57 steenbok. As in previous years no kudu was sighted. Although the numbers of ostrich and steenbok has increased, springbok numbers have decreased and the overall total reflected a decrease of around 70 heads of game compared to the last 2 years. Oryx and steenbok were spotted mostly in the dune area and a group of bat eared foxes as well. It is clear that the explanation for these fluctuations cannot be breeding or death. The reason for the game fluctuations is attributed to the survival strategy of the animals in arid regions. The animals are constantly in search of good grazing areas, thus they move freely between Gondwana Namib Park and the neighbouring Namib Naukluft Park.

Gondwana Collections Game Count at Kalahari Anib Lodge

The annual game count took place beginning of June. The population total of 2718 head of game represents a small decrease compared to the previous 2 years, with springbok numbering a whopping 1905 alone. Within the habitat of green acacia trees and red dune valleys, game species also include around 124 oryx (or gemsbok), 125 hartebeest, 16 kudu, 40 zebra, 44 wildebeest, 300 steenbok and 14 eland. The nature reserve also covers an area of 100km².

Wildlife monitoring is important to track distribution changes, for biodiversity conservation, to manage landscape conditions and to provide information to visitors.

More info at : www.gondwana-collection.com

New Lodge near Twyfelfontein – CAMP KIPWE

Situated 4km from Mowani Mountain Camp, the new Camp Kipwe in the Twyfelfontein Conservancy, is set to **open in August 2009**

The Camp offers 8 twin rondavel-type rooms with outside bathrooms. The front area of the bedrooms features small verandahs with a scenic view. The interior decor will be African orientated in crisp white, green and beige colours. Similar to Mowani Mountain Camp, the lounge and dining area feature thatched dome structures. An elevated view point offers great vistas of a fantastic landscape dotted with giant boulders and granite hills. Various optional activities are offered to the rock engravings at Twyfelfontein, a visit to the "Burnt Mountain" and the "Organ Pipes" and fully guided walking trails around the camp. The highlight excursion offer is a 3- 6 hours nature drive in search of the famous desert elephant which frequents this region. The closest towns in the region are Uis (130 km) and Khorixas (130 km eastwards)

More info from: acacia@iway.na


Information on the seasonal flood situation in the Caprivi Region

Although water levels of the Kwando, Chobe and Zambezi Rivers have been some of the highest in recent years, tourists have to a large extent not been effected in their travel itineraries.

Namushasha Lodge on the Kongola side, has reported that the lodge is still accessible with a normal sedan vehicle, by making use of the detour road. All rooms are high and dry and overnights are not a problem at all. The Mudumu Park is accessible by 4x4 self-drive vehicles.

Lianshulu Lodge too has no problems with high water levels. The Mamilii Park is still flooded at the moment - No self drives are possible at this current time. The Bwabwata Park and the newly constructed detours are unfortunately also flooded. The soil in the Bwabwata Park is saturated to such an extent that it is not certain when the roads will be drivable once the water levels subside. It is speculated the situation might improve by the middle to end of August. All the villages / craft markets are accessible at the moment. **Nunda River Lodge & Divava Okavango Lodge** near Divundu has experienced no problems along their section of the Okavango River.

Ichingo Chobe River Lodge on Impalila Island reports that 2009 saw the biggest floodwaters in the Chobe area in living memory. The result was the remarkable view of endless water as the floodplains got covered and the Chobe and Zambezi Rivers became one large body of water. For Ichingo Chobe River Lodge and the Ichobezi Safari boats who use the water ways for all activities, this was no problem at all since the area became the ideal 'playground' and guests were treated to unbelievable sightings and experiences. Water levels in the Chobe region are already dropping off considerably.



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Until next time - "Totsiens"

your *Acacia Namibia Team*