

Gondwana Cañon Park



Game count



Difficult terrain



Fishriver- Horseshoe Canyon

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Dear Friends of Namibia

We are briskly moving towards our winter season. The days are getting shorter and the sun is already setting at around 18h00. Despite warm day temperatures of up to 26°C, we already measure nightly temperatures of under 10°C. However, this time of the year offers visitors an extremely ideal time to travel to Namibia, because the months of May and June are still regarded as our 'low season'. Further advantages are favourable hotel rates and less visitors. In addition to that, the overall appearance of the landscape is still green, after the end of a superb rainy season and a clear, cloudless night sky enables perfect views of Namibia's unique star constellations.

"Gondwana Cañon Park - Little Etosha at the Fish River Canyon"

During the Easter Weekend the annual game count took place in the private nature reserve of the Gondwana Cañon Park. Dietlind Dietterle of Acacia Namibia was one of the participants along with nature conservation officials, experts and 50 other volunteers who took part in the interesting activity. Every year the count is conducted along the same standardized routes which cover different types of terrain, e.g. open plains, rocky scenery, inselbergs or dry riverbeds. Computer projections for each game species are compiled from data such as the number of animals spotted at a given place. Specific factors are applied to these projections to take each terrain type's share in the total area and the visibility of each game species into account. Since smaller animals are more difficult to spot than larger ones an adjustment factor, determined statistically, is also necessary for each species.

After analysing the collected data, the park managers came to the following results: The 126.000 ha nature reserve boasts more than 5.000 springbok, 540 oryx, 490 ostrich, 700 kudu and 290 mountain zebra. This reflects a significant increase in the amount of animals since the inception of the park in 1997. The game programme will be continued. As one of the next steps it is planned to release giraffe and eland. Both species were indigenous to southern Namibia when Europeans arrived in the country.

Visitors to Gondwana Cañon Park can watch the animals at a watering place which is freely accessible from the main road. It crosses the park on the way to the main lookout point at the Fish River Canyon. The following accommodation is available in close proximity: Cañon Lodge, Cañon Roadhouse, Cañon Village und Cañon Mountain Camp.

More info at : www.gondwana-collection.com

We have extended our 'Acacia Special offer' until 31st Oct 2009 !

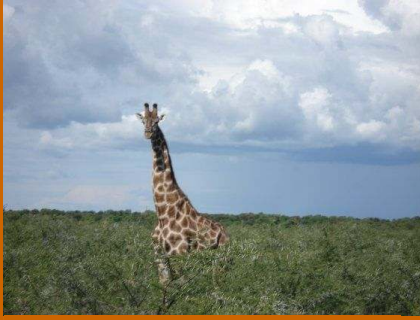
Read more here: www.acacianamibia.com/specials.html

Important Travel Fairs in Southern Africa

Shortly after the largest tourism exhibition in Africa, the INDABA in Durban (from 9th -12th May), we prepare ourselves for our local Holiday & Travel EXPO, which will take place for the 10th time this year from 27th - 30th May in Windhoek. Around 300 Namibian companies and organisations of the tourism and hospitality sector shall present their products. Simultaneously there will be a motor exhibition and the chef's theatre. Various cultural activities and diverse demonstrations at the booths provides entertainment for visitors. The travel fair has shown an increase of visitors every year and this year also promises to become bigger and better, with over 10000 expected visitors. **Acacia Namibia** and **Okomitundu Guest Farm** will be exhibiting at the Expo as well.

More info about the Namibian Travel Expo: <http://nte.republikein.com.na>. Okomitundu Guest Farm, located 170 km from Windhoek, offers a diverse selection of activities, from horse riding to walking trails, farm drives, game- and bird watching, archery, two heated swimming pools, children's playground and an extensive farm property to enjoy optimum leisure and relaxation.

More Info on the guest farm under: www.okomitundu.com



Giraffe in Etosha



Desert elephants



Yellow billed hornbill

Did you know that in the Etosha National Park, there are no baboons, hippo, crocs or buffalo present ?

Etosha's Entrances - Restcamps - Lodges

The famous National Park offers visitors 4 entrances. The **King-Nehale Gate**, situated on the northern side, had to be closed at the end of February for 6 weeks, following damage to the roads by heavy rains, but has been re-opened again in mid April. This gateway can be used by anyone, but is most suitable for tourists wishing to visit the Kunene Region. The southern and most popular entrance to the Etosha Park is the **Andersson Gate**. The Okaukuejo Restcamp is situated 20 km into the park. A variety of private lodges offer their accommodation outside the park borders, e.g. Etosha Safari Camp & Lodge, Taleni Etosha Village, Epacha Lodge and Spa, Naua Naua Game Lodge, Ongava Lodge, Vreugde Guest Farm, Buschberg Guest Farm, Etosha Mountain Lodge, Toshari Lodge and Mondjila Safari Camp. At the eastern entrance of Etosha one finds the **Von Lindequist Gate**. In close proximity outside the park there are also a few private lodges like the Kempinski Mokuti Lodge, Onguma, Mushara und Etosha Aoba Lodge. The famous Namutoni Restcamp lies 20 km from the entrance inside the park and 75 km further in the middle is Halali, the third Restcamp which is administered by Namibia Wildlife Resorts. The only entrance which cannot be used by self-drive customers is situated at **Otjivasandu**, at the far-western side of the Nationalpark (Exception to the rule: This gate is only excessible for tour operators and small groups with tourguides and a special permit). Outside the western side of Etosha Park one finds following accommodations: Kavita Lion Lodge, Gelbingen Guest Farm, Rustig Toko Lodge, Oase Guest House, Otjitotongwe Lodge. Self-drive customers can reach these lodges only via Kamanjab.

New lodge in Kaokoland

The opening of the new Khowarib Lodge in August 2009 has been well timed for the beginning of the Namibian high season. The camp nestles on the banks of the Hoanib River, in the Khowarib Gorge. Accommodation consists of 14 luxury en-suite tents. All units are built on wooden decks with a private veranda under large, shady Mopane trees. The centre piece of the lodge complex is an immense thatched 'lapa' which houses the reception, the dining area, bar, curio shop, lounge and a large veranda platform for nature viewings. The lodge offers various activities: Himba village, nature walks, rock art excursions, desert elephant and rhino tracking.

More info and bookings via Acacia Namibia acacia@iway.na

Air Namibia changes its routes

In light of the current recession and its effect on aviation worldwide, Air Namibia has re-assessed its route network and announced following changes:

The airline will suspend its direct flights between Windhoek and London and vice versa for an indefinite time span. Connections to the UK are however any time possibly via Frankfurt, Germany.


For enquiries about this route e-mail schedulechanges@air-namibia.co.uk

In contrast, Air Namibia will introduce an additional flight on a Friday evening between Windhoek and Frankfurt as from 1st July 2009, operated by the Airbus A340.

This will result in a 6th frequency of direct flights per week to/from Frankfurt/Germany and Windhoek/Namibia.

Some regional flights to Johannesburg, Capetown, Luanda und Katina Mulilo will also be changed. More information at www.airnamibia.com.na

or via [mailto: callcentre@airnamibia.aero](mailto:callcentre@airnamibia.aero)



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Until next time - "Totsiens"

your *Acacia Namibia Team*