# **Tour Descriptions**







#### **FULL DAY SANDWICH HARBOUR 4X4 EXCURSION**

Sandwich Harbour, part of the Namib Naukluft Park, is a place many have heard of but very few have ever visited. Giant sand dunes run straight into the ocean, creating breathtaking sceneries and unique landscapes, just waiting to be discovered!

Our tour starts every morning at 10h00 at the Sandwich Harbour 4x4 office at the Waterfront in Walvis Bay. After a short break at the Walvis Bay Lagoon to see masses of flamingoes, the drive takes us to Pelican Point. From where we proceed to the Kuiseb river delta, a dry riverbed where the odd springbok may still be seen. Beautiful dunes have to be crossed to get to Sandwich Harbour. If weather and tides allow, we will drive right to the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon, one of Southern Africa's richest and unique wetlands. Wedged between the sea and the Namib Dunes, potable water seeping from the underground aquifer sustains the freshwater vegetation at the base of the dunes. If our vehicles cannot drive all along the beach to get to Sandwich Harbour because of the tides, you will get a chance to see the lagoon area from one of our many beautiful lookout spots and will have the time to walk and explore. We have lots of time to stop along the way for photography.

When it becomes time to enjoy something to eat, your guide simply finds a suitable place to stop and serve a light lunch including a selection of snacks, salad, bread, and fresh fruit with sparkling wine, oysters and drinks. We usually do this on top of a high dune overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, or on the beach. A folding table, chairs and a tablecloth come out, and we are ready to serve!

The route homewards will take us past the area's typical fauna and flora. Animals which have developed ways to adapt to the desert include the black-backed jackal, fog-basking beetle, dancing spider ('white lady of the Namib'), golden mole, shovel-snouted lizard, palmato gecko, springbok, oryx, brown hyaena and ostrich. Endemic to the central Namib Desert, the !Nara plant has adapted well to the desert: Its tap root can reach more than 15m into the ground to reach water resources and they have no leaves to lower loss of water by transpiration. The !Nara can live to over a 100 years and is a member of the cucumber family.



#### HALF DAY SANDWICH HARBOUR 4X4 EXCURSION

Our morning half-day Sandwich Harbour 4x4 Excursion starts every day at 8h00, returning at 12h00, while our afternoon half-day Sandwich Harbour 4x4 Excursion leaves from our offices at the Waterfront in Walvis Bay at 12h15 and returns at 16h15.

On the way to the Sandwich Harbour Area, we stop at the Lagoon to enjoy the flamingoes, before we head towards the Kuiseb River Delta via the Walvis Bay Saltpans. Depending on the tides and the swell, we will try to reach the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon along the beach. Alternatively, we will take an exciting dune ride to our lookout dune to get an aerial view of the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon. We have lots of time to stop along the way for photography.

We stop along the way to enjoy our world famous oysters, sparkling wine, drinks and cooldrinks. Depending on the weather condition, we do this on top of a high dune overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, on the beach, or amongst the dunes.

The route homewards will take us past the area's typical fauna and flora. Animals which have developed ways to adapt to the desert include the black-backed jackal, fog-basking beetle, dancing spider ('white lady of the Namib'), golden mole, shovel-snouted lizard, palmato gecko, springbok, oryx, brown hyaena and ostrich. Endemic to the central Namib Desert, the !Nara plant has adapted well to the desert: Its tap root can reach more than 15m into the ground to reach water resources and they have no leaves to lower loss of water by transpiration. The !Nara can live to over a 100 years.

This option is suitable for people on a time restraint, or after enjoying a Marine Cruise with our sister company, Catamaran Charters.

<u>Option</u>: Conclude the morning half-day Sandwich Harbour 4x4 Excursion with a barbeque lunch on the beach at Pelican Point. On concluding the excursion, we will stop at Pelican Point where a sit-down barbeque lunch will be served in a marquee tent on the beach. The lunch includes oysters, sparkling wine, beer and cooldrinks, mussels, calamari, fish, beef fillet, deboned pork neck steaks, roasted vegetables, greek salad rolls with butter, cheese and jam, fresh fruit, rum truffles, coffee and tea.

A luxury mobile loo is also provided. (10 Guests minimum) We will head back to the Waterfront at around 14h00.



# MARINE DUNE DAY

The Marine Dune Day gives you the ultimate combination of a leisure cruise on the Atlantic Ocean, a delicious lunch on the beach or in the dunes, and a 4x4 ride in the breathtaking Sandwich Harbour Area of the Namib Naukluft Park.

The day starts with a Marine Cruise with Catamaran Charters in the morning at 9h00. You get a chance to see flying pelicans, seals, dolphins and – during season – even whales, sunfish and turtles! Around 12h00, your skipper will drop you off at the Walvis Bay Waterfront where your Sandwich Harbour 4x4 guide will meet you with one of our all wheel drive vehicles.

On the way to the Sandwich Harbour Area, we stop at the Lagoon to enjoy the flamingoes, before we head towards the Kuiseb River Delta via the Walvis Bay Saltpans. Depending on the tides and the swell, we will try to reach the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon along the beach, one of Southern Africa's richest and unique wetlands. Alternatively, we will take an exciting dune ride to our lookout dune to get an aerial view of the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon. We have lots of time to stop along the way for photography.

We stop along the way to enjoy our world famous oysters, sparkling wine, drinks and cooldrinks. Depending on the weather condition, we do this on top of a high dune overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, on the beach, or amongst the dunes.

The route homewards will take us past the area's typical fauna and flora. Animals which have developed ways to adapt to the desert include the black-backed jackal, fog-basking beetle, dancing spider ('white lady of the Namib'), golden mole, shovel-snouted lizard, palmato gecko, springbok, oryx, brown hyaena and ostrich. Endemic to the central Namib Desert, the !Nara plant has adapted well to the desert: Its tap root can reach more than 15m into the ground to reach water resources and they have no leaves to lower loss of water by transpiration.

We return to the Walvis Bay Waterfront at around 16h15.



#### KAYAK COMBO

The day starts with a kayaking excursion in the calm waters surrounded by seals at Pelican Point. You will be picked up at the Sandwich Harbour 4x4 office at the Waterfront in Walvis Bay at 07h45 and transferred to Pelican Point for some kayaking with a seal colony and – if you are lucky – even dolphins! You can choose between single or double kayaks. The guide will use a waterproof camera to take pictures of you to email you later.

At around 11h30, your Sandwich Harbour 4x4 guide will meet you with one of our Landrovers at the Kayaking Spot. From there, we begin our Sandwich Harbour Excursion to see the Kuiseb River Delta, flamingoes, the saltpans and the wetlands just north of the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon. If weather and tides allow, we will drive right to the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon, one of Southern Africa's richest and unique wetlands.

Alternatively, we will take an exciting dune ride to our lookout dune to get an aerial view of the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon. We have lots of time to stop along the way for photography.

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# WALVIS BAY WETLANDS BIRDING TOUR

The lagoon, salt pans and the bird sanctuary which form the Walvis Bay Wetlands are rightly heralded as the single most important coastal wetlands of southern Africa and are one of five Ramsar sites in Namibia. Over 150,000 migrant birds spend the summer months in Walvis Bay and non-breeding palearctic and intra-African species dominate. Possible sightings include over 150 species of bird that have been recorded in this region. Intra-African migrants make up the majority of these birds, namely the two flamingo species, Chestnut-banded Plovers, Pied Avocets, Cape Teals and Blacknecked Grebes. European and northern Siberian migrants travel between 10 000 and 14 000 kilometres to reach Walvis Bay each year. These long-distance travellers consist of Curlew Sandpipers, Sanderlings, Grey Plovers, Ruddy Turnstones, Little Stints and Knots. Other shore birds that visit Walvis Bay are Palaearctic terns, consisting of Common, Sandwich, Arctic and Black Terns.

Resident birds are less numerous but no less important, for instance the huge Great White Pelicans, Caspian Terns, Damara Terns, Great Crested Grebes and Cape Cormorants. Red Data (endangered) birds include the Swift, Caspian and Damara Terns, Hartlaub's Gulls, Great Crested and Black-necked Grebes, the Chestnutbanded Plovers and the flamingos. You can see the odd Southern Pale Chanting Goshawk and even a Rock Kestrel a few hundred metres inland. If you're a serious ticker, you might get lucky further inland and see Namibia's only true endemic bird, the Dune Lark.

Our morning Birding Excursion starts every day at 08h00, returning at 12h00, while our afternoon Birding Excursion leaves from our offices at the Waterfront in Walvis Bay at 12h15 and returns at 16h15. The search for true and near-endemics takes us to the salt pans, bird sanctuary and lagoon area near Walvis Bay. Estimated to be 3500 years old it is one of the most important coastal wetlands in Southern Africa. Specially trained guides with extensive birding and general knowledge of the Namib Desert's sensitive eco-system, will accompany you on your Namibian birding tour. We stop along the way to enjoy our world famous oysters, sparkling wine, drinks and cooldrinks.



# PELICAN BRIEF EXCURSION

This tour is suitable for persons who wish to experience our coastal excursions but **do not want to do any dune 4x4 driving.** 

This excursion commences every morning at 08h15 at the Sandwich Harbour 4x4 office at the Waterfront in Walvis Bay. Alternatively, this tour is also offered in the afternoons, departing at 12h15 and may be combined with a morning dolphin and seal cruise offered by our sister company, Catamaran Charters.

After a stop at the Walvis Bay Lagoon to see masses of flamingoes and other seabirds, the drive takes us to one of five RAMSAR sites (Ramsar site no. 742) in Namibia. We pass a tidal lagoon consisting of adjacent intertidal areas, which supports varying numbers of wetland birds (37,000 to 79,000 individuals); some species such as flamingos occur in impressive numbers. Eleven endangered bird species are regularly observed. Human activities consist of recreation and one of the largest salt mines in the world. From here we proceed to the Pelican Point Peninsula, a unique stretch of land dividing untouched beaches of the Atlantic ocean on the one side from the Walvis Bay lagoon on the other, and providing shelter to the best naturally protected harbor on the southwest African coast.

We stop for a photo opportunity at a ship wreck before heading to the point and its old rusted Jetty, about 800 metres from the lighthouse, standing guard over the lagoon. Your guide will provide you with fascinating history and facts of the Pelican Point lighthouse, early marine navigation and the ever-changing peninsula. During a short stroll in the shallow waters along the beach, your guide will point out a variety of seashells, crabs and other beach inhabitants. We subsequently serve hot coffee and tea with a selection of snacks right on the beach. On a clear sunny day the dunes of the Namib Desert can be observed, while ships and boats on the Lagoon provide a perfect backdrop to create special memories of this unique place. Pelicans and flamingoes often round off the idyllic picture.

You will be guided to Pelican Point's cape fur seal colony, which is home to about 60,000 cape fur seals, a variety of seabird as well as black-backed jackal.

We will proceed along the beach to donkey bay, a world famous surfing beach frequented by professional surfers during exceptionally high seas. From there we head inland to the Kuiseb river delta, a dry riverbed where the odd springbok may still be seen. The route will take us past the area's typical fauna and flora. Animals which have developed ways to adapt to the desert include the black-backed jackal, fog-basking beetle, dancing spider ('white lady of the Namib'), golden mole, shovel-snouted lizard, palmato gecko, springbok, oryx, brown hyaena and ostrich. Endemic to the central Namib Desert, the !Nara plant has adapted well to the desert: Its tap root can reach more than 15m into the ground to reach water resources and they have no leaves to lower loss of water by transpiration. The !Nara can live to over a 100 years and is a member of the cucumber family.

Along the way we will stop briefly for a glass of sparkling wine and some tasty Namibian oysters, before arriving back at the Walvis Bay Waterfront at around 12h00 for the morning excursion or at 16h15 for the afternoon excursion.

























# PLEASE NOTE:

- All rates include 15% VAT.
- Due to weather conditions and tides it is not always possible to reach the Sandwich Harbour Lagoon.
- Please advise your clients accordingly to avoid disappointment.
- Namibian Tour Guides can go along FOC if space is available or needed for translations.
- Private charter rates available on request.
- 100 % cancellation fees will be charged for no shows.
- No tour is private unless specifically requested and quoted for.
- Invoice payments to be settled before 30 days.
- We are closed on 25, 26 and 27 December and 01 January.
- All Sandwich Harbour tours include oysters, snacks, sparkling wine, light drinks, cooldrinks, water and permits.

We operate four new Landrover Discovery 4's and one Toyota Landcruiser 200 Stationwagon to ensure that guests do excursions in luxury. Carefully chosen as the world's most premium, capable and versatile SUVs, our vehicles are perfect for guests visiting Sandwich Harbour who enjoy living an active lifestyle to the full. Our vehicles' stadium full leather seating gives everybody unspoiled views and a range of infotainment and technologies keep everyone entertained, relaxed and comfortable. As safety is our number one priority all vehicles feature the latest in safety technology.

