

Tour Descriptions





DOLPHIN AND SEAL CRUISE

From meeting with pelicans to feeding seals, and if luck permits, leaping dolphins and shy turtles - all this and more on our daily morning educational dolphin and seal cruises.

We depart at 09h00 (check-in 08h30) every morning from our Jetty at the Walvis Bay Waterfront for a marine educational sightseeing tour in the bay area in search of the marine big 5: Whales, Dolphins, Mola, Leatherback turtle and seals. While serving hot coffee and tea, our initial route takes us past oyster farms as we approach Pelican Point with its landmark lighthouse and 50,000 resident cape fur seals. In season (July to November), larger mammals such as the Southern Right Whale and Humpback Whales are often spotted, while other whale species, such as the Gray whale and the Pygmy Right whale have made appearances. Bottlenose, heaviside and dusky dolphins are regularly seen, as are Mola Molas and Leatherback Turtles.

Accompanying our three catamarans throughout are a variety of seabirds, such as the Kelp Gull, Hartlaub's Gull, Pelicans and Cape Cormorant.

Our journey from Pelican Point takes us past some of the more interesting ships in the bay as we serve fresh oysters with sparkling wine, snacks and desserts together with light drinks, cooldrinks and water. We return to the waterfront at around 12h15.

All tours are led by experienced guides and well-qualified and experienced skippers. All catamarans are equipped according to the latest safety specifications and are inspected thereon annually.



MARINE DESERT ADVENTURE

The Marine Desert Adventure gives you the ultimate combination of viewing our marine life on a leisure cruise on the Atlantic Ocean and exploring our fauna and flora with a ride in the breathtaking Sandwich Harbour Area of the Namib Naukluft Park. The day starts with a marine educational cruise on one of our luxury catamarans at 09h00 in search of the marine big 5: Whales, Dolphins, Mola, Leatherback turtle and seals. While serving hot coffee and tea, our initial route takes us past oyster farms as we approach Pelican Point with its landmark lighthouse and 50,000 resident cape fur seals. In season (July to November), larger mammals such as the Southern Right Whale and Humpback Whales are often spotted, while other whale species, such as the Gray whale and the Pygmy Right whale have made appearances. Bottlenose, heaviside and dusky dolphins are regularly seen, as are Mola Molas and Leatherback Turtles. Accompanying our three catamarans throughout are a variety of seabirds, such as the Kelp Gull, Hartlaub's Gull, Pelicans, Skua and Cape Cormorant.

Our journey from Pelican Point takes us past some of the more interesting ships in the bay as we serve fresh oysters with sparkling wine, snacks and desserts together with light drinks, cooldrinks and water. We return to the waterfront at 12h15, where your Sandwich Harbour 4x4 guide will meet you with one of our Landrovers.

On the way to the Sandwich Harbour Area, we stop at the Lagoon to view 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, including the endemic !Nara plant. 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. We return to Walvis Bay at 16h15.



PELAGIC BIRDING EXCURSION

Few people realise that there is a whole new world of strange and wonderful birds just a few miles off shore of Namibia's beaches. The pelagic birds here rarely approach land, except at their remote and isolated breeding locations scattered around the Southern Atlantic Ocean. A pelagic birding excursion aboard our powered catamaran Silvermoon to the continental shelf, between 20 and 25 nautical miles west of Walvis Bay, often rewards the visitor with an incredible density of pelagic birds. The abundance of pelagic birds reaches its climax during the winter months of May, June and July when southern breeding birds visit these nutrient-rich waters. Whether it is summer or winter, you will not be disappointed. Birds likely to be seen include several species of Albatrosses, Petrels, Skuas, Prions, Fulmars and Gulls.

We depart from our offices at the Walvis Bay waterfront at 08h00 on our powered catamaran and head out of the bay offshore in a westerly direction. During the two-hour ride, while sipping hot coffee and tea, we pass Pelican Point with its landmark lighthouse and 50,000 resident seals, and may encounter bottlenose, heaviside and dusky dolphins, mola, leatherback turtle or even a southern right whale or two... We spend about two hours 20 to 25 nautical miles offshore, where even the casual birder is bound to see a sprinkling of Cape Cormorant, Cape Gannet, White-chinned Petrel and Sooty Shearwater, Shy and Black-browed Albatrosses, with regular appearances made by Sub-Antarctic Skua, Northern and Southern Giant Petrels, Yellow-nosed Albatross, Wilson's Storm Petrel and Broad-Billed Prion. Our pelagic birding expert will point out and explain sightings.

During our journey back to the waterfront, lunch consisting of oysters, a variety of snacks and dessert, accompanied by sparkling wine, light drinks, cooldrinks and water are served. We arrive back at the waterfront at 13h00.









PLEASE NOTE:

- All rates include 15% VAT.
- Namibian Tour Guides can go along FoC if space is available or if there is a need 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 tours include oysters, sparkling wine, a variety of snacks, dessert, light drinks, cooldrinks, water, coffee, tea and hot chocolate.

Our company operates the following three modern, well-equipped and luxurious catamarans, of which two are sailing catamarans:

- One 60' Simonis Sailing Catamaran 'Silersand', licensed for 42 pax, built in 1997.
- One 40' Admiral Motorised Catamaran 'Silvermoon', licensed for 25 pax, built in 2010.
- One 45' Royal Cape Sailing Catamaran 'Silverwind', licensed for 27 pax, built in 2006.

All catamarans offer on-deck seating, one Interior Saloon, toilets, cabins and outside but sheltered saloons where snacks are served.

The safety of our guests is our prime priority.

As we are cruising in the Walvis Bay area, the maximum distance from land at any time during the excursion is never more than 4 Nautical Miles. During this time all boats are reachable at all times on the general frequency (Channel 66). We are also able to make contact with Port Control on Channel 12, and the emergency channel 16 at all times. We furthermore have cellphone reception throughout.

Our catamarans have all required safety equipment and instruments, and are being surveyed annually in this regard. This is a legal requirement by the Department of Maritime Affairs as prerequisite for the issue of our annual safety certificate. The survey includes checks on the required number of life jackets, safety and firefighting equipment and the use thereof, as well as the functionality of all instruments including our radar. We pride ourselves on our superior maintenance of our catamarans, which are continually maintained, cleaned and polished.