Itinerary at a Glance

April 13 - April 25, 2015

1. 3 nights - Welgelegen Boutique Hotel - Cape Town, South Africa
2. 2 nights - 54 on Bath - Johannesburg, South Africa
3. 2 nights - Frans Indongo Lodge - Otjiwarongo, Namibia
4. 2 nights - Damaraland Camp - Damaraland, Namibia
5. 3 nights - Grootberg Lodge - Damaraland, Namibia
The Thinking Behind Your Itinerary

wild places, friendly faces, rich history & touring the cape

Chatham University president, Esther Barazzone, is excited to lead this adventure to explore some unique and interesting sites in Southern Africa. Your journey begins with three days in Cape Town, Africa's most cosmopolitan city. You will enjoy full days touring to see the penguins at Boulders Beach, a cultural exchange in the New Hope Township and take the cable car to the top of Table Mountain. You continue to Johannesburg for days spent exploring the caves at Sterkfontein with a local Paleontologist in the Cradle of Humankind and touring with a fantastic guide learning about the history of South Africa.

A quick flight carries your group to Namibia for a memorable week at some forward thinking and wild places. Your first days are spent immersed with the staff at the Cheetah Conservation Fund. You will visit their research facility, learn about today's challenges facing this incredible species and experience them sprinting across the open plains.

Continuing into rugged Damaraland, you tour the ancient rock art sites of Twelfelfontein and the ephemeral river systems for desert adapted elephants. The finale is the community owned conservancy of Grootberg. You will journey into the wilds in search of some of the last free roaming black rhino on earth and visit the Himba people who make their home here.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>How</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday April 13</td>
<td>Arrive Cape Town</td>
<td>International flights TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday April 13</td>
<td>Private Transfer</td>
<td>Cape Town Intl to Welgelegen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday April 13 -</td>
<td>3 Nights</td>
<td>WELGELEGEN BOUTIQUE HOTEL - Cape Town, South Africa (Daily breakfast)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday April 16</td>
<td></td>
<td>Arrival welcome dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday April 13</td>
<td>Tour</td>
<td>NEW HOPE TOWNSHIP &amp; TABLE MOUNTAIN</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Guide</td>
<td>THANDO SEKAME - Township &amp; Table Mountain guide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday April 14</td>
<td>Tour</td>
<td>PENINSULA TOUR PRIVATE FULL DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guide</td>
<td>MARK HAWTHORNE - Peninsula guide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday April 16</td>
<td>Private Transfer</td>
<td>Welgelegen to Cape Town Intl</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday April 16</td>
<td>Scheduled Flight*</td>
<td>South African Airways SA322, Cape Town Intl - Johannesburg Intl (950a - 1150a); met on arrival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday April 16</td>
<td>Private Transfer</td>
<td>You will be met by your guide for an afternoon touring with lunch and then check into your hotel early evening.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday April 16</td>
<td>Tour</td>
<td>CRADLE OF HUMANKIND PRIVATE HALF-DAY TOUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday April 17</td>
<td>Tour</td>
<td>HISTORY OF SOUTH AFRICA - GUIDED FULL DAY</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Guide</td>
<td>ANDY COETZEE - History of South Africa guide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday April 18</td>
<td>Private Transfer</td>
<td>54 On Bath to Johannesburg Intl</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday April 18</td>
<td>Scheduled Flight*</td>
<td>South African Airways SA74, Johannesburg Intl - Windhoek Intl (930a - 1035a); met on arrival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday April 18 -</td>
<td>Private Safari</td>
<td>7 Night 8 Day Privately Guided Safari</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday April 25</td>
<td>Private Safari start: You are met by your guide and depart for Frans Indongo</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Nights</td>
<td>FRANS INDONGO LODGE - Otjiwarongo, Namibia</td>
<td>(Standard Room - Breakfast &amp; dinner)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tour</td>
<td>CHEETAH CONSERVATION FUND VISIT - You spend a full day with the Cheetah Conservation Fund (19 APR)</td>
<td>DR. LAURIE MARKER - Founder &amp; executive direct of CCF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guide</td>
<td></td>
<td>20 APR - You depart for Damaraland and enjoy a scenic walk (5 hour drive).</td>
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<td>2 Nights</td>
<td>DAMARALAND CAMP - Damaraland, Namibia</td>
<td>(Tent - Breakfast &amp; dinner)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tour</td>
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<td>22 APR - You spend the morning visiting San rock art sites at Twelfelfontein and continue to Grootberg Lodge (2 hour drive).</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Nights</td>
<td>GROOTBERG LODGE - Damaraland, Namibia</td>
<td>(Standard Room - Breakfast &amp; dinner)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tour</td>
<td>BLACK RHINO TRACKING</td>
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**HIMBA VILLAGE EXCURSION - HALF DAY**

Last night finale dinner

Private safari end: You go to Grootberg for your flight back to Windhoek Intl

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday April 25</td>
<td>Light Aircraft Transfer</td>
<td>Grootberg to Windhoek Intl; met on arrival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday April 25</td>
<td>Scheduled Flight*</td>
<td>South African Airways SA77, Windhoek Intl - Johannesburg Intl (310p - 600p); met on arrival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday April 25</td>
<td>Depart Windhoek</td>
<td>International flights TBD</td>
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*Scheduled flights not included in the land arrangements
The Details

Land Arrangements

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<tr>
<td>Per person in a single room -</td>
<td>$975</td>
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<tr>
<td>supplement</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Per person sharing (10-12 people)</td>
<td>$7,825</td>
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<tr>
<td>Per person sharing (6-9 people)</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
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Trip cost includes:
• All accommodations, tours, transfers & meals as listed
• Light Aircraft Transfer - Grootberg to Windhoek Intl

• Guided Private Safari includes: accommodation as specified, meals as specified, full-time services of Wilderness Safaris guide and vehicle (non-air conditioned), unlimited game viewing with Wilderness Safaris Guide, park and entrance fees where applicable, still water & juice on vehicle, local drinks at Wilderness Safaris camps (house wine, Namibian beer, soft drinks, mineral water, juices)

Excluded from the above costs:
• International and regional airfare not listed above or marked with an asterisk (*) on confirmation of services
• Travel Insurance (quoted separately) to cover cancellation and curtailment, medical, baggage, money, and emergency evacuation back home.
• Personal expenses such as laundry, gratuities, baggage handling, excess baggage fees, excess weight fees, communications charges, cost of passport or visa, airport departure taxes and airfares, any sightseeing, beverages or meals not included in the itinerary, optional activities.
• Guided Private Safari excludes: drinks other than specified, items of a personal nature, gratuities, laundry, meals other than specified, excursions other than specified, flights to and from Namibia, personal and medical insurance, cancellation insurance, additional arrangements not stated in itinerary.

Airfare

Regional airfare per person  $642

SA322 16APR CPTJNB 950A 1150A
SA74 18APR JNBWDH 930A 1035A
SA77 25APR WDHJNB 310P 600P

CPT - Cape Town, JNB - Johannesburg, WDH - Windhoek
SA - South African Airways

Published fares – subject to change until ticketed
We require a non-refundable 30% deposit to confirm land arrangements. We recommend ticketing airfare and initiating travel insurance policies at this time. Full payment is due to confirm trips planned inside 90 days to departure.

Payment is accepted by check, wire transfer or credit card (Visa, Master Card or AMEX).

The payment balance is due 90 days prior to your departure.

Cancellations for bookings must be made in writing and effective upon receipt of written notification. Cancellations received more than 8 weeks before departure result in the forfeiture of your deposit. For cancellations inside 8 weeks of the trip, no refund will be given. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended.

Important Information:

When you enter the final country in your itinerary, it is required that your US passport have at least six months remaining before expiration and a minimum of two visa pages for entry and exit stamps. Amendment and endorsement pages are not accepted as substitutes.

Luggage maximum weight restrictions for light aircraft transfers, regional scheduled flights and private charters: 33 lbs for trips visiting Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania; 44 lbs max for trips visiting Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia & Zimbabwe.

Passengers weighing 220 lbs or more must advise us in advance as an extra seat will need to be added into the package for safety purposes.

For those traveling to or from Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia* yellow fever immunization is required. *Yellow fever is required for travel to Zambia if you are connecting through South Africa, which most people do. If you have health issues that make getting this vaccine difficult you may obtain a waiver from a Diseases Specialist (not a General Practitioner). Please contact us with questions.
The Welgelegen Boutique Hotel comprises two Victorian houses joined by a wonderful cobbled patio and granite plunge pool, enclosed by terraces of iceberg roses and fragrant star jasmine. You can begin your day here with breakfast in warm morning sun and end your evening sipping glasses of Cape Sauvignon under the stars and white fairy lights flickering among the surrounding foliage.

The 13 en-suite luxury bedrooms are all equipped with air conditioning, beautifully furnished interiors and fine cotton bedding. The secluded and tranquil courtyard offers views of Table Mountain, and a plunge pool to cool off in.

Its name meaning well-located in Dutch, is perfectly located at the heart of Cape Town’s city bowl. Within walking distance are many of Cape Town’s finest restaurants and pubs, the Company Gardens, National Museum and Art Gallery, and Greenmarket Square in the city center. Just 5-10 minutes by car, you can enjoy Table Mountain, Clifton Beaches, Victoria and Alfred Waterfront and the Botanical Gardens. Tours of the Cape Peninsula, Robben Island, whale watching, helicopter charters and deep sea fishing are a few of the interesting options available. We will give you a list of Mango favorite restaurants nearby.
We depart for Khayelitsha on the Cape Flats. Khayelitsha means ‘new home’ and was established in 1984 during the tribal war outbreak of the time. Like many other townships, it was created during the apartheid era as a dormitory area for the non-white working class. Our next stop is the Iliso Care Society, to meet Vivian Zilo and learn about her community and the work she does within it. The Iliso Care Society’s main objectives are to fight poverty, encourage community empowerment, organize youth workshops and provide safety and care for orphans, vulnerable children, the elderly and school children.

The next stop is Table Mountain’s Lower Cable-way Station, for a 5-minute revolving cable car ride to the top. We will explore the mountain’s summit and absorb the breathtaking views before descending. Return to the city via the old Cape Malay Quarter, for a walk through the Company Gardens home to the SA Museum, Houses of Parliament, National Gallery and St George’s Cathedral. Stroll through Greenmarket Square, where you can browse for unique African mementos. From there we drive to the Castle, South Africa’s oldest building. Take in the nearby Grand Parade, where Nelson Mandela addressed the nation on his release in 1990, and then on to the District Six Museum, which showcases the colorful life of this legendary area and the forced relocation of its residents during the Apartheid era.
Thando Sekame was born in Cape Town's Roeland Street Prison in 1958. His mother was imprisoned at the time because of her anti-Apartheid political activism. He had a challenging childhood with the turmoil and racial discrimination of Apartheid, no parents, and not even identity documents that were issued to him. After graduating high school in Cape Town, he spent time living with the Hare Krishna in KwaZulu-Natal, hiding out from the apartheid security forces.

Only through his involvement with the international community through being a tour guide did Thando feel he found his purpose in life. Sharing his story and the story of his nation, and meeting new people allowed him to boost his self-worth and let go of his hard past. He lives by the South African term “!ke e: /xarra //ke”, which means “diverse people unite”.

He now has a son of his own with whom he enjoys spending time. He is also an avid reader, enjoys walking his dogs, and going cycling. His name Thando means ‘love’ in Xhosa, which he feels is perfect because he loves his job, meeting new people, and now through these opportunities, he knows how to love himself.
We make our way along the Atlantic seaboard then stop for a photo op of Table Mountain’s towering Twelve Apostles, passing Sea Point, Bantry Bay and Clifton. Bakoven and Llandudno, with their ghostly shipwrecks, are also fantastic sights on the way to the fishing village of Hout Bay, where we board a boat to view the Cape Fur Seal colony on Duiker Island (weather permitting). From here we navigate the 114 curves of 600m high Chapman’s Peak Drive, past the Cape’s longest beach near Noordhoek and the hamlets of Kommetjie and Scarborough - with a chance to sight Southern Right Whales from June to November!

We then explore the Cape of Good Hope section of the Table Mountain National Park. The rocky coastline and unique Fynbos vegetation, home to fabulous birds like African Black Oystercatchers and Cape Sugarbirds and view endemic fauna like Cape Mountain Zebra, Bontebok and Baboon as we enter the Cape of Good Hope National Park and very special fauna. Climb (or ride the world’s first environmentally friendly funicular) to the famous Cape Point Lighthouse to capture the magical vistas of False Bay. After lunch, we visit Boulders Beach for a close-up with a colony of African Penguins, and then head home through the naval village of Simonstown and over scenic Boyes Drive, taking in the views of the fishing harbour at Kalk Bay and the seaside havens of St James and Muizenberg. To round off your day you can take a stroll through magnificent Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, with time to admire the scenery set on the slopes of Table Mountain before returning to the city.
Mark is a qualified, registered Culture and Nature Tourist Guide (Western Cape including the Garden Route) with a vast knowledge of South Africa’s Cultural and Natural Heritage. Born in Cape Town, growing up on the slopes of Table Mountain, Mark followed his passion and qualified with a National Diploma in Nature Conservation working in this field for 32 years – including 2 years with Cape Nature Conservation and 30 years in the Table Mountain National Park – until 2012. Mainly involved in environmental education, especially amongst the previously disadvantaged youth through schools and other organisations, camp programs, mountain and general field guiding, Mark also trained and managed volunteer guides for overnight trails on Table Mountain and for Orange Kloof restricted area and played a role in training school educators to help equip them for outdoor education. He also hosted international volunteers who helped with various environmental education programs as well as projects such as alien plant clearing, indigenous tree planting, litter clean-ups and footpath maintenance in the Table Mountain National Park – contributing towards biodiversity conservation. Mark is passionate about guiding and enjoys sharing his knowledge on South Africa’s rich and diverse cultural and natural heritage – especially with regards to the Cape Floristic Kingdom, wetlands, birdlife and the Afro-montane forest ecology. Mark is a member of the Mountain Club of South Africa. He became a hike leader for the Cape Union Mart Hiking Club when the Club was established in 1991, guiding members on informative day hikes, bird watching excursions, night and sunset/full moon hikes as well as overnight hiking trails.
MANGO AFRICAN SAFARIS
Cradle of Humankind Private Half-Day
Johannesburg, South Africa

Highlights
• Climb deep into the earth and discover our fascinating history in the Sterkfontein Caves.
• Further your knowledge of our 4-billion year journey at the interactive Maropeng Visitor Centre.

The Sterkfontein Caves are regarded as one of the world's most important archaeological sites. The caves lie in the Sterkfontein Valley which, together with the nearby sites of Swartkrans, Drimolen and Kromdraai, make up the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site. Dr Robert Broom of the Transvaal Museum (Museum of Natural History) began excavations at the cave in 1936 and in 1947 discovered a well-preserved complete skull of a species of early hominid he called Plesianthropus transvaalensis. This later became known as the famous "Mrs Ples".

Your tour will start at the exhibition, which includes displays detailing of the caves and the excavations. From here you will make your way into the depths of the caves. Beneath the dust of millions of years you'll see some of the most important fossils ever found and you'll hear the magnitude of their significance to the world.

Nearby is the world-class visitor facility of Maropeng. The focal point is the Tumulus Building, designed to look like an ancient burial mound from the front. It contains a vast underground visitor attraction that tells the story of the Cradle of Humankind and brings to life the history of humankind.

Note: The tour is +/- 5 hours. You must wear comfortable shoes and leave handbags behind when visiting the caves.
Discover a contemporary and fashionable haven on Bath Avenue right in the heart of Rosebank, Johannesburg's trendy suburb. From the moment of arrival into the elegant lobby with its delightful lounge to the luxury and comfort of your room, you will enjoy attentive and friendly service.

The rooms at 54 on Bath are elegantly styled with views over the garden or over the abundantly green city skyline. Comfortable and spacious the rooms exude the warmth of fine living. Block out curtains, fluffy duvets, crisp white linens and feather top beds ensure an unrivalled sleep experience in Rosebank. Each guest room has everything that you would expect to find in a hotel of international standard, including executive desk, technological connectivity, sleek and luxurious bathroom with separate bath and shower and the finest amenities. Suites offer a beautiful, private lounge with en-suite bedroom and bathroom.

Classic and elegant, Level Four, offers a superb a la carte breakfast, while luncheon is a casual light affair, and dinner, is the perfect opportunity to choose from the excellent a la carte menu. It's dining at its best! Sophisticated and unique, the Bar offers an array of champagne, cocktails and wines accompanied by sumptuous bar snacks. Overlooking the terrace garden the champagne bar is the perfect meeting spot for pre-dinner drinks and evening sundowners.
Highlights: Alexandra Township - Liliesleaf Farm, scene of the Rivonia Raid - The Fort, the Constitutional Court and Prison No. 4 - The Apartheid Museum

Venture first through the Alexandra Township, where much of the recent historical unrest will be explained. An insight to the local working man's life is unveiled, showing the raw humanity that thrives there. From here, we will visit the Liliesleaf Farm, one of the most important historical sites of the political struggles from 1940-60s. It is the site of the 1963 Rivonia Raid, which is discussed both in the events leading up to it, and the backlash. At the Fort, Constitutional Court and Prison No. 4 you will see the infamous compound where inmates ranged from common criminals to well-known names such as Mandela, Ghandi and Winston Churchill. A window into the grim and cruel past of South Africa, we end this stop by discussing the future of the nation. The final stop is the Apartheid Museum, where the guide, Robin Binckes, tells his own history growing up in the Apartheid era. The museum tour is conducted by Robin with explanations of the exhibits, the turmoil and eventual destruction of the Apartheid laws - along with any peaceful proceedings, notable figures and the Truth and Reconciliation Hearings.
Andy Coetzee, cultural explorer and experiential facilitator, grew up in the diverse regions of rural South Africa and has an in-depth understanding of the traditions and customs of his fellow Africans. Over the years, Andy has participated in a wide variety of indigenous cultural rituals and lifestyles, spending time with the Khoi san, experiencing Zulu rites of passage; and participating in Xhosa ceremonies to name a few. His role as a documentary film presenter has enabled him to explore some of the most intimate of cultural ceremonies. His migration to the city, with his knowledge of African languages and understanding of the people; widened his circle of friends to include urban residents and he is greeted with affection in both the rural areas and the big cities. He and his friends from many backgrounds and cultures will lead you to the warm heart of Africa.

As the bridge between rural traditionalism and the westernized commercial world, Andy provides unique and exclusive access to diverse markets, people and communities, affording, unparalleled insights for you, his fellow explorers. This bridge extends to true reconciliation and transformation, following Andy’s own personal journey from his rural upbringing, to officer in 1 Parachute Battalion, into township life and business. Andy stands comfortably with his feet in dual worlds, offering you the unique opportunity to connect to the exuberant world of Soweto.
Frans Indongo Lodge is located northeast of Otjiwarongo and northwest of Waterberg Mountain. Inside the complex, a variety of beautiful building materials like natural stone, wood and reed were used for the houses. Items of daily use in Ovambo - earthen pots, voluminous storage baskets or original wooden figures - serve as decoration to emphasize the local culture and lend a very special charm to the lodge. The luxurious feel of the lodge is complemented by the interior decoration and color scheme of the two double rooms, two Family units and eight generously proportioned chalets. All the rooms are en-suite, air-conditioned, and have a fridge, hairdryer, telephone, TV and an electric kettle for tea and coffee. The gourmet kitchen whips up a variety of local game dishes served with farm-fresh vegetables and salads seasoned with aromatic ingredients from our herb garden.

The lush green garden is shaded by tall trees and sports a brook. It attracts the shaft-tailed whydah, the strikingly colored crimson-breasted shrike, the pied barbet and many other feathered friends. Have a refreshing dip in the swimming pool, and when the sun starts to set just before dinner you can retreat to the large wooden veranda at the bar or the little observation tower. Both are fabulous places for savoring the enchanting hour of dusk and keeping an eye on the watering place which is illuminated at night. The rare nyala, black springbok and white blesbok, Sable and Roan antelope regularly put in an appearances.
The Cheetah Conservation Fund is a world renowned international research and education facility that opens its doors to the public in an effort to help raise awareness about these incredible creatures. The CCF’s conservation programming is based in scientific research to forward the battle against cheetah extinction. The biology, ecology, and genetics of cheetahs are all areas of focus for CCF. Researchers there regularly publish papers in peer-reviewed journals. The facility is also proud to be the only fully-equipped genetics lab at an in-situ conservation facility in Africa.

Visitors will get the chance to see world of cheetah research, experience the ins and outs of working at a facility that blends field research and lab work at the same site, and immerse themselves in the passion that these dedicated researchers have for saving cheetahs. There are a variety of activities that are offered to guests such as guided tours of the center by staff members, educational presentations where visitors can watch resident cheetahs feed and learn about their race against extinction, and enjoying a picnic lunch on their veranda overlooking the beautiful Waterberg Plateau. A highlight of any trip is the chance to watch these speedsters navigate the Cheetah Run, which is a lure course that allows the resident cheetahs to stretch their legs while putting on an impressive speed display for visitors to enjoy. Guests may also have the opportunity to meet CCF founder and executive director, Dr Laurie Marker, who has been working on cheetah research in Namibia since 1974.
Dr. Laurie Marker is the founder and executive director of the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF) in Namibia. Having worked with cheetahs since 1974, she established the non-profit in 1990 to develop a permanent conservation research base in their natural habitat. Dr. Marker helped develop both the US and international captive programs, including the most successful North American program during her 16 years at Oregon’s Wildlife Safari. She carried out groundbreaking reintroduction research when she brought a captive-born baby cheetah to Namibia in 1977 to determine if it needed to be taught to hunt or if it’s purely instinctual. Realizing that the extinction problem facing cheetahs was complex and in desperate need of intervention, she moved full-time to Namibia.

In the early 1980s, Dr. Marker helped identify the lack of genetic variation in the wild cheetah populations, further impacting their chance for survival. By 1988, she had been named the executive director for the Center for New Opportunities in Animal Health Sciences (NOAHS), where she still serves as a research fellow. Also in 1988, she developed the comprehensive Cheetah Studbook, a worldwide registry for captive cheetahs. In 1996, she was named the vice-chair for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature’s (IUCN) Species Survival Commission’s Cat Specialist Group, where she helps with core managements of their work. Among numerous awards, she has received the Time Magazine’s Heroes for the Planet (2000), the Zoological Society of San Diego’s Lifetime Achievement Award (2008), the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement Award (2010), and was a finalist in the BBC World Challenge. In 2002, she completed her doctorate at Oxford University.
Situated on the northern face of the Huab River Valley and looking south toward the imposing Brandberg Mountains, Damaraland Camp offers its guests endless vistas. Early morning mists generated by the clash between the icy Atlantic Ocean and the warm desert air of the Skeleton Coast, drift inland along the river sand canyon, providing sustenance to the flora and fauna of the region. This comfortable and friendly camp offers walks and drives in one of the best wilderness areas in Namibia.

Damaraland Camp has ten adobe-styled tented rooms each with an en-suite bathroom including flush toilet and shower with hot and cold running water. The tents are comfortable, large walk-in safari tents with doors. They are valley facing with wonderful views of the mountains. Tea and coffee are brought to the tents in the morning. Soaps, shampoos and insect repellents are supplied in each room. A laundry service is offered. The dining room and pub are combined under canvas, and an open fire is enjoyed on calm evenings. A feature of the camp is the unique rock pool.

Activities throughout the area are in 4x4 vehicles and on foot. Mountain bikes are also available for guest use. Although wildlife is not concentrated, Damaraland Camp is situated where the rare desert elephant roams, alongside gemsbok (oryx), springbok, ostrich and other hardy desert animals.
Grootberg Lodge is set overlooking a stunning vista of plateaus and deep valleys that shift between brilliant shades of orange and red to lush greens after the rains. The rock and thatch chalets overlook the Klip River Valley where soaring black eagles can be spotted from private verandas. There are great options for family accommodation. Each chalet is en-suite with complementary amenities, and features a writing desk, tea and coffee facilities and comfortable beds with spectacular views of the uniquely breath-taking landscape.

It is a landmark in Namibia because it is 100% owned by the conservancy. The purpose of the Grootberg Lodge is not only to offer a professional service, great surroundings, extremely good food, well-trained guides and exceptionally good local management but, at the same time, to benefit the local community thanks to the revenues generated by the Lodge. Another important aim of the Lodge is to reduce the animal/human conflict in this community so that the locals will be more tolerant of the lions, cheetahs and elephants and give them a value from a tourism perspective.

Activities are all optional so you can tailor your stay to your interests, these include guided walks and game drives, elephant tracking and horseback safaris. Some favorites are the cultural Himba tribe experience and half-day black rhino tracking.
Grootberg Lodge is the ideal place for marveling at the rare and majestic black rhinos. In spite of an early 6am start, this experience is well worth it. Guests will accompany the guide and game trackers down the banks of the Klip River. Transportation will be by 4x4 safari vehicles, but be ready to set off on foot. This allows for the best up-close encounters with these fascinating creatures, showing them in their natural surroundings - uninhibited and free.

This three-quarter day venture will break for a refreshing picnic lunch at the nearest springs.

There is a reasonable level of fitness required for this excursion as the trekking portion can be over challenging, rocky terrain. This beautiful desert landscape is home to an impressive array of other wildlife in addition to the black rhinos.

Damaraland is one of the last few places where the animals can truly roam free. Due to this, sightings cannot be guaranteed, but it is a wonderful chance to get an intimate feel for this ecosystem and its many residents.
Damaraland and the Kaokoveld as well as southern parts of Angola are home to the Himba, one of the last truly traditional tribes on the planet.

These friendly people are closely related to the Herero and lead a semi-nomadic life as herdsmen, breeding mainly cattle and goats. The community living among the majestic Makalani palms at Palmfontein and invites visitors to learn more about their proud and ancient lifestyle and traditions.

Guests at the Grootberg Lodge will be able to see their cone-shaped homestead made from palm leaves, mud and cattle dung and learn more about their unique customs and techniques.

Due to the nomadic lifestyle of the Himba, the trip is not offered all year round.