

# NAMIBIA



## Country Dialing Code (Tel/Fax): ++264

**Namibia Tourism:** Ground Floor Continental Building, 272 Independence Avenue  
Windhoek Tel 61-2842111 Fax 61-221930 E-mail [tourism@iwwn.com.na](mailto:tourism@iwwn.com.na)  
<http://www.iwwn.com.na>

**Capital:** Windhoek **Time:** GMT + 2

**Background:** South Africa occupied the German colony of Sud-West Afrika during World War I and administered it as a mandate until after World War II when it annexed the territory. In 1966 the Marxist South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) guerrilla group launched a war of independence for the area that was soon named Namibia, but it was not until 1988 that South Africa agreed to end its administration in accordance with a UN peace plan for the entire region. Independence came in 1990.

**Location:** Southern Africa, bordering the South Atlantic Ocean, between Angola and South Africa

**Map References:** Africa

**Area:** total: 825,418 sq km land: 825,418 sq km water: 0 sq km

**Climate:** desert; hot, dry; rainfall sparse and erratic

**Terrain:** mostly high plateau; Namib Desert along coast; Kalahari Desert in east

**Natural Resources:** diamonds, copper, uranium, gold, lead, tin, lithium, cadmium, zinc, salt, vanadium, natural gas, hydropower, fish note: suspected deposits of oil, coal, and iron ore

**Population:** 1,771,327

**Nationality:** noun: Namibian(s) adjective: Namibian

**Ethnic Groups:** black 87.5%, white 6%, mixed 6.5% note: about 50% of the population belong to the Ovambo tribe and 9% to the Kavangos tribe; other ethnic groups are: Herero 7%, Damara 7%, Nama 5%, Caprivian 4%, Bushmen 3%, Baster 2%, Tswana 0.5%

**Religions:** Christian 80% to 90% (Lutheran 50% at least), indigenous beliefs 10% to 20%

**Languages:** English 7% (official), Afrikaans common language of most of the population and about 60% of the white population, German 32%, indigenous languages: Oshivambo, Herero, Nama

**Economy:** The economy is heavily dependent on the extraction and processing of minerals for export. Mining accounts for 20% of GDP. Namibia is the fourth-largest exporter of nonfuel minerals in Africa and the world's fifth-largest producer of uranium. Rich alluvial diamond deposits make Namibia a primary source for gem-quality diamonds. Namibia also produces large quantities of lead, zinc, tin, silver, and tungsten. Half of the population depends on agriculture (largely subsistence agriculture) for its livelihood. Namibia must import some of its food. Although per capita GDP is four times the per capita GDP of Africa's poorer countries, the majority of Namibia's people live in pronounced poverty because of large-scale unemployment, the great inequality of income distribution, and the large amount of wealth going to foreigners. The Namibian economy has close links to South Africa. GDP growth should improve in 2000-01, because of gains in the diamond and fish sectors. Agreement has been reached on the privatization of several more enterprises in coming years, which should stimulate long-run foreign investment.

**Industries:** meat packing, fish processing, dairy products; mining (diamond, lead, zinc, tin, silver, tungsten, uranium, copper)

**Currency:** 1 Namibian dollar (N\$) = 100 cents

**Railways:** total: 2,382 km narrow gauge; 2,382 km 1.067-m gauge; single track (1995)

**Highways:** total: 63,258 km paved: 5,250 km unpaved: 58,008 km (1997 est.)

**Ports and Harbors:** Lüderitz, Walvis Bay

**Airports:** 135 (1999 est.) Airports - with paved runways: total: 22 over 3,047 m: 2, 2,438 to 3,047 m: 2, 1,524 to 2,437 m: 15, 914 to 1,523 m: 3 (1999 est.) Airports - with unpaved runways: total: 113, 2,438 to 3,047 m: 2, 1,524 to 2,437 m: 21, 914 to 1,523 m: 69 under 914 m: 21 (1999 est.)

**Visa:** required by all except nationals of the EU, America, Canada, Australia, and Japan

**Duty Free:** goods permitted: 400 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 250g of tobacco, 2 litres of wine and 1 litre of spirits, 50ml of perfume and 250ml of eau de toilette, gifts to the value of NAD50,000

**Health:** a yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travelers arriving from infected areas. Bilharzias is endemic, avoid swimming or paddling in fresh water. Malaria is present. Mains water is considered safe to drink

## HOTELS•MOTELS•INNS

### HENTIES BAY

**HOTEL DE DUINE,** Tel: +264 64 500001, Fax: +264 64 500724, P.O.Box 1

### LUDERITZ

**HOTEL ZUM SPERRGEBIET,** Tel: +264 63 203411, Fax: +264 63 203414, P.O.Box 373, Luderitz

### KEETMANSHOOP

**CANYON HOTEL,** Tel: +264 63 223361/2/3, Fax: +264 63 223714, P.O. Box 950

### SWAKOPMUND

**SWAKOPMUND HOTEL AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE,** Tel: +264 64 400800, Fax: +264 64 400801, P.O.Box 616

**STRAND HOTEL,** Tel: +264 64 400315, Fax: +264 64 404942, P.O.Box 20

### OUTJO

**HOTEL ONDURI,** Tel: +264 654 313405, Fax: +264 654 313408, P.O.Box 14

### OTJIWARONGO

**HOTEL HAMBURGER HOF,** Tel: +264 651 302520, Fax: +264 651 303607, P.O.Box 8

### WINDHOEK

**JAN JONKER HOLIDAY APARTMENTS,** Tel: +264 61 221236, Fax: +264 61 238794, P.O.Box 21511

**KALAHARI SANDS HOTEL & CASINO,** Tel: +264 61 222300, Fax: +264 61 222260, PO.Box 2254

**KLEINES HEIM HOTEL GARNI,** Tel: +264 61 248200, Fax: +264 61 248203, P.O.Box 22605

**HOTEL HEINITZBURG,** Tel: +264 61 249597, Fax: +264 61 249598, P.O.Box 458

**HOTEL FURSTENHOF,** Tel: +264 61 237380, Fax: +265 61 228751, E-mail: [fuerst@iafrica.com.na](mailto:fuerst@iafrica.com.na), P.O.Box 316,

**SWARTFONTEIN GUESTFARM,** Tel: +264 628, Fax: +264 61 226999, P.O.Box 32042

**THURINGER HOF HOTEL,** Tel: +264 61 226031, Fax: +264 61 232981

**VILLA VERDI,** Tel: +264 61 221994, Fax: +264 61 222574, P.O.Box 6784

**WINDHOEK HOTEL, COUNTRY CLUB and CASINO,** Tel: +264 61 2055911, Fax: +264 61 252797, P.O.Box 30777

## AIRLINES/HELICOPTERS/AIRPORTS

**AIR NAMIBIA,** Region: Africa, Address: PO Box: 731 Windhoek 9000, Tel: 00264 61 299 61 51, Fax: 00264 61 299 61 79, Web site: [www.airnamibia.com.na](http://www.airnamibia.com.na), Main Base: Windhoek

**WALVIS BAY AIRPORT,** Walvis Bay, Namibia, Tel: +264 (0)64 205511, Fax: +264 (0)64 207593, Website: [www.walvisbay.com.na](http://www.walvisbay.com.na)

**WINDHOEK - HOSEA KUTAKO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**, Namibia, PO Box 1, Tel: +264 (0)61 295 5600, Fax: +264 (0)61 295 5622, Email: [nqeno@airports.com.na](mailto:nqeno@airports.com.na), Website: [www.airports.com.na](http://www.airports.com.na)

