



Safari in Namibia's Etosha National Park: our tips on what not to miss

By Floriane

Etosha National Park is the **highlight of our [trip to Namibia](#)**. It's also **one of our favorite places in the world** .

It is one of **the largest wildlife reserves in Africa**, with no less than **114 species of mammals** and **340 species of birds**. You will not see the time passing by!

You have the possibility to realize this safari by **your own means**. You can explore the park on your own in your **rented 4x4**. Each day was extraordinary, a new show was waiting for us!

You can ask **some advice to the different guides** you will meet in the lodges and campsites. They are generally happy to interact with self-directed explorers.

You can also count on **the mutual aid between travelers**. We were able to observe a lioness and her cubs at the end of their feast, an unforgettable moment!

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We chose to stay there for **4 days** to enjoy the park. We give you all our tips below to make sure you don't miss a thing, and our tricks for seeing **Lions!**

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1. Where is Etosha National Park in Namibia located [Carte]?

The park is located in the **north of Namibia**, about 4 hours from **Windhoek** the capital of Namibia.

The park is accessible through four different entrances: **Galton Gate** to the west, **Anderson's Gate** to the south, **Von Lindquist Gate** to the east, and **King Nehale Lya Mpingana Gate** to the northeast.

We did not explore the western part of the park. Coming from **Palwag park** (west of Namibia) we entered through **Anderson's Gate** and then exited through **Von Lindquist Gate** to reach Windhoek.

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Global map

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West of the park

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East of the park
Practical information

Les **horaires** d'ouverture et de fermeture du parc **changent tous les jours**.

Le tarif est abordable pour une telle expérience ! Comptez environ 80 NAD /adulte/jour (environ 5€) + 10 NAD /véhicule/jour (environ 0,65€).

Consultez [les horaires et les prix sur le site du parc national](#) (en français).

2. Where to sleep, in camping and/or lodges?

Lodging inside the park

The park has [5 accommodation options](#), offering both [lodges](#) and **campsites**:

- 1. Dolomite camp** in the west : part we did not explore !
- 2. Okaukuejo Camp**: in the center of the park, a **must-see** because its **watering hole lit up at night is the most frequented** by the park's wildlife.

You will certainly see **oryx, impalas, giraffes, zebras, elephants, rhinoceroses**

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and maybe **lions** if you are lucky!

We loved **waiting for** them and then **watching** them for a long time.

Okaukuejo water point

3. Halali camp to the east between **Okaukuejo** and **Namutoni**: the site is ideally located, with a large swimming pool and, above all, a wooded waterhole where you can observe a few animals.

4. Namutoni camp in the east, the water point surrounded by reeds is pleasant however we did not observe any animal. The site is also equipped with a swimming pool. **Ideally located** to visit the **eastern part of the park**.

5. Onkoshi camp in the north east of the park site that we did not explore.

Our selection of lodges and campsites

Nous avons dormi à l'[Etosha Village lodge](#) avant de rentrer dans le parc, à 2 kilomètres au sud d'**Andersson Gate**.

Ainsi vous pourrez rentrer dans le parc dès **l'ouverture des portes**. Les chambres sont **confortables et propres**. Le personnel est adorable, ils vous donneront plein de conseils pour visiter le parc !

Ensuite nous avons loué un véhicule avec une **tente de toit** donc nous avons privilégié les campings.

Un **restaurant** et une **petite supérette** sont présents sur tous les sites.

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Nos conseils et hébergements

Night 1: ♥♥♥ [Etosha Village lodge](#), ideally located and very pleasant, you can enter the park as soon as it opens and you'll be well rested to explore the park! Accommodation with a lovely swimming pool.

Night 2: ♥♥♥ **Okaukuejo Camp**, our favorite inside the park, not for its campsites, but for its **waterhole populated by incredible wildlife**.

You can see impalas, oryx, elephants and giraffes all at the same time. We saw over **35 elephants** by late afternoon. We **recommend a two-night stay**.

Each pitch is equipped with electrical outlets and a barbecue. Swimming pool.

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Night 3: ♥ Halali camp, the pitches are equally sketchy, the waterhole is pleasant even if we saw **few animals** (impalas, zebras and oryx).

Each pitch is equipped with electrical outlets and a barbecue. Swimming pool.

Night 4: ♥♥ Namutoni camp, this is an **old colonial fort**, the setting is pleasant and the site equipped with a swimming pool. We didn't see **any animals**, however, **as the watering hole is certainly too close to the accommodation.**

Each pitch is equipped with electrical outlets and a barbecue. Swimming pool.

How to book your Etosha campsite or lodge?

1. The [park's website](#) exclusively for accommodations inside the park: you

can book directly on the site via a form gathering all the campsites

2. **The [NWR \(Namibia Wildlife Resorts\) website](#)** : for accommodation inside and outside the park.
3. La [plateforme Booking](#) : pour les lodges **et camping à proximité du parc** vous trouverez tous les hébergements disponibles à vos dates et les avis des autres voyageurs.

Our advice is to book **several months** in advance, if possible. For example, the **Onkoshi** campsite **was fully booked in August**. Note that, the locations are sketchy and close to each other. For sleeping it is more than enough!

[Top rated accommodation in Namibia](#)

3. When to go to Etosha?

The ideal time to visit the park is during the **dry season**, from **May to September**. The animals gather at the **few remaining waterholes** so you will have more opportunity to see many animals.

We went in **August**, we observed by ourselves a great number of **animals and birds**.

During the **wet season**, from **November to April**, you can observe **migratory birds** (flamingos...). The vegetation is more important, the park is flowery and green, but the animals are more difficult to observe!

4. Where to see the animals in Etosha?

Wait for the animals at the watering holes provided by the accommodation

All the **animals need to drink**, so they are obliged to meet at the **different water points of the park**.

In the **dry** season, from May to September, the **concentration of animals is impressive**. We didn't expect to see so many!

As mentioned above, the **Okaukuejo** waterhole is the one where we saw **the most animals at the same** time.

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It is **impressive** to observe them appropriating the waterhole according to their place in the animal kingdom.

As soon as **the elephants** arrive at the watering hole all the other animals leave.

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Impalas, oryx, zebras and giraffes help each other to watch for potential predators.

You will also observe many **species of birds**, of multiple sizes and colors.

Explore the national park by 4x4

With your **4x4** and a **pair of binoculars**, in the dry season from May to September, **you will not drive long before coming face to face with animals.**

An advice to **leave early**, as soon as the sun rises. The animals come out to enjoy the morning coolness or return from their nightly hunt.

Every day you will come across **numerous herds of impala, oryx and zebra.**

Where to see lions in Etosha?

You will certainly come **face to** face with **giraffes**. **Rhinos** and **lions** are more discreet, ask the **guides** you will meet on the site to give you some recommendations.

Count on **the help of other travelers** to point out the positions of the animals that are more difficult to spot. We had the chance to observe **a lioness and her cubs devouring a Zebra in the early morning**.

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Two rhinoceroses blocked our way, when we were wandering in the east of the park.

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As you enter the park, **pick up the map with the different water points**. You can select a few each day to explore.

→ [Find our detailed article about our 3 days in Sesriem and Sossusvlei](#)

In short, a safari in Etosha will remain engraved in your memories! Feel free to leave us a **quick note** or **5 stars** below, to tell us if you're planning this trip, to ask any questions you may have, here or on [Instagram](#), we'll get back to you with great pleasure.

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