

How to see the Sossusvlei dunes in Namibia from Sesriem?



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By Matthieu

Exploring **the dunes of Sossusvlei** is an experience we highly recommend! During our [trip to Namibia](#), we loved **this unique site in the Namib Desert**.

We'll give you all the advice you need on what to see and do to make the most of your visit!

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Organization of Sesriem site to visit Sossusvlei

Before our arrival on the site we had **some difficulties to understand the organization of the site.**

Sesriem(point A on the map below) is a small **“town”** located at the entrance of the site. You will find a **gas station**, a **convenience store** and two **lodging** options (a lodge and a campground).

The **pass to visit the site** is on sale at the campsite reception. **Schedules** can be consulted on site.

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From the entrance to the site (still **point A** on the map), you will have to drive about **60 km on a tarred road** through the dunes before reaching the entrance to the **Sossusvlei site (point B on the map below)**.

Then the **last 5 kilometers in the sand** require a **4x4**. It was our first trip in a 4x4 on sand, it is feasible even for novices. Just deflate your tires slightly and follow the tracks.

The site also offers **shuttles for visitors without a 4x4** or those who dare not venture into the sand in a 4x4. You can leave your vehicle at the entrance of the site. The price is about 6€ round trip, it leaves as soon as it is full.

Here you are on the site, you just have to enjoy the **sites, each one more beautiful than the other!**

Our advice

Admission : N\$80 per person per day (approx. €5). Open from 5.45 a.m. to 5 p.m., site hours to be consulted on site.

Leave as soon as the site opens to enjoy the sunrise over **Big Mama**. In the evening, admire the sunset from **Dune 45**, 45km from the site entrance, or from **Elim Dune** , 5km from the campsite.

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Our must-sees: Dead Vlei, Big Daddy, Big Mama and Hidden Vlei

We stayed **3 days** to enjoy the site. Please note that 2 days are enough, as you certainly know we like to take our time to explore the sites thoroughly.

- **Day 1:** Departure around 3pm from the campsite, exploration of **Dead Vlei, Big Daddy** and sunset on **Dune 45**
- **Day 2:** Departure to the opening of **Big Mama** and **Hidden Vlei** and sunset on **Elim Dune**
- **Day 3:** **Sesriem Canyon** then departure for Namibrand reserve

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Dead Vlei and Big Daddy Dune

Dead Vlei “dead swamp” is a clay basin on which lie dead, sun-dried trees.

It's a **unique** and **photogenic** place, as you can see from the photos below!

You will be impressed by the strong contrast between the white ground, the orange sand dunes and the blue sky.

We stayed on the site for a long time. There are two options for exploring the site, park your car in the parking lot in front of the site.

- **Walk 20 minutes** in the sand (about 1.5km) from the parking lot before reaching the site.
- **Climb to the top of Big Daddy**, the highest dune in **Sossusvlei**, for a breathtaking view of **Dead Vlei**. Count 1h30 of ascent before reaching the top and then you can go down the dune to reach **Deadvlei** below.

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Big Mama Dune

This dune is also a must-see, offering **a panoramic view of the entire site**.

Start your climb at sunrise to enjoy the **incredible morning colors** of the Namib Desert.

If you have reached the site by your own means, you will be able to take **your breakfast** on the spot while returning from your ascent. A well-deserved moment that we loved!

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Hidden Vlei

Hidden Vlei, is also a **clay basin** on which lies dead trees.

As its name indicates, this salar is **hidden** (in the back), it is deserved a little more than the other places, because it will be necessary to walk approximately 1h30 to reach the site.

You'll be rewarded for your effort as you reach the heights of the site, with **a beautiful panoramic view of Hidden Vlei**.

You may share the place with some Oryx, we were the only tourists!

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Where to sleep? Sesriem campsite and desert lodge

It is ideal to stay at the **entrance of the site**, so you can be among the first to enter. Two accommodation options are available to you.

Sesriem camping site

The site is managed by the **NWR**, we advise you to book your nights and locations in advance.

The locations farthest from the reception are more widely spaced. We were located at [this site](#), as you can see we had no other site behind us.

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The campsite is pleasant, each pitch has its **own tree**, its **own space delimited by stones** and its own **barbecue area**.

The site also offers a bar/restaurant (with attractive rates) and a swimming pool.

Note that a **lodge** is also present on the site.

We kebi safari lodge

[We Kebi Safari Lodge](#) is located 1 hour from the magnificent **Sossusvlei** dunes. We stayed there for the last night after leaving the site.

The lodge is set in **splendid** surroundings in the middle of the desert. Don't miss the incredible **sunset**.

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The bungalows are **pleasant, comfortable and tastefully decorated**. The staff is lovely, they know **this area very well** and will give you good advice!

Where to book accommodation?

Campsite: [Sesriem campsite](#) can be booked directly on the NWR website. Make sure you book in advance, as there are very few pitches available. Price: 200N\$/per person (about 15€).

Lodge: [We Kebi Safari Lodge](#) is **available on Booking**. Try to **book as** far in advance as possible – most lodges offer a small number of rooms. Price: €115 including breakfast and dinner.

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→ [Find our selection of the most beautiful lodges in Namibia](#)

What to see and visit in Namibia

We've written an article about our 3 incredible weeks in Namibia, explaining in detail how we organized our trip to Namibia on our own! We tell you more about [our 4-day Safari in Etosha National Park](#). If you love adventure and wild animals, go for it!

As you can see from this article, planning a trip to Namibia takes time and energy to find all the right information.

We wish you a great stay on this incredible site! Don't hesitate to leave us a **little 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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