



Walvis Bay, Namibia: ocean, desert and wildlife

By Floriane

Situated on the Atlantic coast, **Walvis Bay** is a must-see on any trip to Namibia. Known for its **lagoon populated by pink flamingos and pelicans**, this port town also offers an exceptional setting for nature and adventure lovers. From kayak excursions to sea lions, boat trips to meet dolphins and 4×4 expeditions to **Sandwich Harbour**, Walvis Bay promises unforgettable experiences between ocean and desert.

What to see and do in Walvis Bay? Here's a complete guide to making the most of this unique destination.

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What to see and do in Walvis Bay?

What to see and do in Walvis Bay?

Places not to be missed

- **Walvis Bay Lagoon** (pink flamingos)
 - **Pelican Point** (sea lions)
 - Dune 7 viewpoint
-

Don't forget to pack

- A **pair of binoculars!**

Where is Walvis Bay?

Walvis Bay is located on the **west coast of Namibia**, around **30 km south of Swakopmund** and **around 400 km west of Windhoek**, the country's capital. It is one of the few deep-water ports in the region, making it a strategic location for maritime trade.

Thanks to its location between the Atlantic Ocean and the **Namib Desert**, Walvis Bay enjoys a cooler climate than the rest of the country, with a typical morning mist brought in by the cold Benguela Current.

Its location makes it an essential destination on a trip to Namibia, for a **stopover between adventure and relaxation**, with unique landscapes where dunes and ocean meet.

Flamingo watching in the Walvis Bay lagoon

As soon as you arrive, it's impossible to miss the **Walvis Bay lagoon**, a Ramsar-listed site for its ecological importance. This vast body of water is a veritable sanctuary for **pink flamingos**, who come here to feed in great numbers, offering an enchanting spectacle, especially at sunrise and sunset.

As well as flamingos, you'll be able to observe numerous species of birds, including white pelicans and cormorants. The best way to enjoy this unique landscape is to walk along the promenade that borders the lagoon, or take a kayak out for total immersion.

Meet dolphins and sea lions on a sea excursion

If you dream of seeing marine wildlife up close, a **catamaran cruise** is an activity not to be missed. On this **boat trip to discover the marine Big Five**, you'll have the opportunity to observe **dolphins, whales** (in season), **fur seals** and even **molas-molas**, those impressive moonfish.

The cruise also allows you to admire the iconic **Pelican Point lighthouse**, home to a large colony of sea lions. As an added bonus, you can enjoy fresh local oysters and a glass of sparkling wine on board, a little luxury that makes the experience even more memorable.

This is one of the largest colonies of sea lions we've ever seen, and it's also accessible by 4x4. Beware, however, of the wet sand: when we passed through, we had to help other travellers get out of the way!

Kayaking with sea lions at Pelican Point

For an even more immersive approach, **kayaking is the ideal activity**. At Pelican Point, sea lions are particularly playful, swimming around boats and even diving right alongside visitors.

Paddling among these curious and mischievous animals is a unique experience, accessible to all, even beginners. As an added bonus, this excursion allows you to admire the lagoon from a different angle, away from motors and in soothing silence, disturbed only by the cry of seagulls and the lapping of the water.

Explore Sandwich Harbour by 4×4: a meeting between desert

and ocean

If you're looking for the ultimate adventure, **Sandwich Harbour** is the place to be, where the dunes of the **Namib Desert plunge straight into the Atlantic Ocean**. Accessible only by 4×4, this spectacular site is a paradise for photographers and thrill-seekers alike.

On a **4×4 excursion to Sandwich Harbour**, you'll pass through breathtaking scenery, between immense golden dunes and stretches of salt water. Some passages, where you literally roll along the beach between waves and sand, are particularly impressive.

The guide will reveal the secrets of this living desert, where certain plants and animals have developed fascinating adaptations to survive in this extreme environment. As a bonus, you can climb to the top of a dune (dune 7 on our map) for a spectacular panoramic view.

Where to book activities?

To book admission tickets, we advise you to use the online **booking platform** [Get You Guide](#) (official reseller), as tickets benefit from **flexible cancellation conditions** and **can be refunded up to 24 hours before the activity**. Prices are the same as on the official website.

Where to eat in Walvis Bay

After a day of adventure, there's nothing like a good meal to restore your strength. Here are a few recommended addresses:

- **The Raft:** a restaurant built on stilts overlooking the lagoon. It serves fresh seafood and international dishes.
- **Anchors:** renowned for its **local oysters**, grilled fish and friendly atmosphere.

Video

For an even more immersive look at the wonders of **Walvis** Bay, check out this stunning video that takes you on a journey to meet the flamingos, the spectacular dunes of **Sandwich Harbour** and the **mischievous sea lions of Pelican Point**:

Why go to Walvis Bay?

Walvis Bay is a destination that will appeal to **nature lovers** and **adventure enthusiasts** alike. Between the magic of **pink flamingos**, encounters with **dolphins and sea lions**, and the thrills of an excursion to **Sandwich Harbour**, this port town offers a condensed mix of landscapes and unforgettable experiences.

Its **strategic location** also makes it an ideal stopover on a [road trip to Namibia](#). The town is within easy reach of several of the country's most emblematic sites: to the north, you can reach [Etosha National Park](#) and the mysterious **Skeleton Coast**; to the east, the [Sossusvlei and Namib deserts](#) offer breathtaking scenery. Whether you're coming from the south or the north, a stopover at Walvis Bay is a great way to fill up on activities before setting off again to conquer Namibia's wide open spaces.

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Whether you're looking for a quick stopover or a longer stay, Walvis Bay is full of surprises and promises some **wonderful memories**. So, are you ready to discover this jewel of the Namibian coast?

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