

FACTS ABOUT NAMIBIA



GENERAL INFORMATION

Population: 2,3 million 300 days of sunshine and little rain 824 292 square kilometers

POPULATION



2.3 MILLION PEOPLE

Population growth rate: **2.6%**

- World's oldest desert
- World's highest sand dunes
- World's second largest Canyon
- The best times to visit Namibia are between June and October
- Winter is between May-September
- Summer (October-April)



LOCATION:

Situated on the south-western coast of Africa, Namibia borders Angola and Zambia in the north, South Africa in the south and Botswana in the east.

DATE OF INDEPENDENCE:

21 March 1990

SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT:

Multi-party Democracy

CONSTITUTION:

Democratic Constitution, division of power between executive, legislature, judiciary

HEAD OF STATE:

Hage Geingob since 2015



PRIME MINISTER:

Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila since 2015



LITERACY:

The current literacy rate in Namibia is about 83%, one of the highest in Africa.

RELIGION:

Freedom of religion was adopted through Namibia's Bill of Fundamental Rights. About 90% of the population is: Christian.

CURRENCY:

The Namibia Dollar (N\$): The Namibia Dollar and South African Rand are the only legal tender in Namibia and can be used freely to purchase goods and services. Traveller's cheques, foreign currency, international Visa, Master Card, American Express and Diners Club credit cards are accepted.

TIME ZONES:

GMT + 2 hours

ELECTRICITY:

220 volts AC, 50hz. Outlets are of the round three-pin type.



GDP per capita
4,140.46 USD

CAPITAL CITY
WINDHOEK

OFFICIAL NAME
REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

CURRENCY
NAMIBIA DOLLAR

LANDMARK
**ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK
SOSSUSVLEI
FISH RIVER CANYON**

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
ENGLISH

DENSITY:

2.2 per square km, 240 000 inhabitants in Windhoek (15% of total)

CULTURES:

Multi-cultural country
16 languages and dialects

SCHOOLS:

1 450



1 450
SCHOOLS

CLIMATE:

Average summer temperatures vary from 20-34°C (day) to 18°C (night) and in winter from 18-22°C during the day and 0-0°C (night)

PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

5450 km tarred roads, 37 000 km gravel roads

HARBOURS:

Walvis Bay and Luderitz

MAIN AIRPORTS: Hosea Kutako International Airport, Eros Airport, Andimba Toivo ya Toivo Airport, Walvis Bay Airport and 44 airstrips

RAIL NETWORK: 2382 km narrow gauge 6.2 telephone lines per 100 inhabitants

MOBILE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM:

- GSM AND 3G (agreements with 117 countries/255 networks)
- Direct dialling facilities to 221 countries
- Postal service affiliated to Universal Postal Union

SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE:

- One medical doctor per 3 650 people
- Two privately run hospitals in Windhoek with intensive -care units
- Medical practitioners (world standard)
- 24 hour medical emergency services

ECONOMY:

Main Sectors: Mining, Fishing, Tourism and Agriculture

Biggest Employer: Agriculture (46%)

Fastest-growing sector: Tourism

Mining: Diamonds, uranium, copper, lead, zinc, magnesium, cadmium, arsenic, pyrites, silver, and gold, lithium minerals, dimension stones (granite, marble, blue soladite and other semi-precious stones).

FLORA:

- 14 vegetation zones
- 120 species of trees
- 200 endemic plant species
- 100 plus species of lichen
- Living fossil plant: Welwitschia Mirabilis



14 VEGETATION ZONES

120 SPECIES OF TREES



FAUNA:

- Big game: Elephant, lion, rhino, buffalo, cheetah, leopard, giraffe
- 20 antelope species
- 240 mammal species (14 endemic)
- 250 reptile species
- 50 frog species
- 676 bird species



Endemic birds include Herero Chat, Rockrunner, Damara Tern, Monteiro's Hornbill.

ENVIRONMENT:

Nature reserves: 15% of surface area

Highest Mountain: Brandberg

Other prominent mountains: Spitzkoppe, Molteblick, Gamsberg

Perennial rivers: Orange, Kunene, Okavango, Zambezi, Kwando/Linyanti/Chobe

Coastline: 1500 km

HISTORY

Namibia's history is engraved into carved rock paintings found in the south at Twyfelfontein, some dating back to 26,000 B.C. A long lineage of various groups including San Bushmen, Bantu herdsmen and finally the Himba, Herero and Nama tribes among others - have been making this rugged land home for thousands of years.

But, as Namibia has one of the world's most barren and inhospitable coastlines, it wasn't until the middle of the nineteenth century that explorers, ivory hunters, prospectors and missionaries began to journey into its interior. Beyond these visitors, Namibia was largely spared the attentions of European powers until the end of the 19th century when it was colonised by Germany.

The colonisation period was marred by many conflicts and rebellions by the pre-colonial Namibia population until WWI when it abruptly ended upon Germany's surrender to the South African expeditionary army. In effect, this transition only traded one colonial experience for another.

In 1966 the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) launched the war for liberation for the area soon-named Namibia. The struggle for independence intensified and continued until South Africa agreed in 1988 to end its Apartheid administration. After democratic elections were held in 1989, Namibia became an independent state on March 21, 1990.

To date, Namibia boasts a proud record of uninterrupted peace and stability.

