

Dear Riders and Friends

For all those participating at Walvis Bay this year - a few facts about Namibia.

Namibia

Namibia is a country of clear blue skies and pleasant climate. The country's landscapes are an ever-changing kaleidoscope. The economy centres around agriculture, fishing and mining, the country's most important earner of foreign exchange. Be sure to bring your camera and take good memories back.

Road Travel

The speed limit is 60-80km per hour in built up areas and 120km per hour on open roads. All passengers must wear safety belts and drivers are required to have their original driving licences at all times. The use of cell phones when driving is illegal. The road network is one of the best in the world.

Special attention should be paid to warnings of antelope, warthog and kudu, as they often graze along the verges and can be unpredictable. Please watch out for these especially between Windhoek/Okahandja/Karibib.

Travellers using the Trans Kalahari border post should fill up with fuel at either Jwaneng, in Botswana, or Buitepos in Namibia, as the only fuel available between the two towns is at Kang, 400km from Buitepos and 350km from Jwaneng. Extreme caution is required when travelling this route, as some sections in Botswana are unfenced.

The road between Okahandja and Karibib is currently under construction - please drive with caution on this stretch especially with a horse box.

Border Posts

The current operating hours of the main border posts are as follows:

Buitepos/Mamuno - 07h00-24h00

Ariamsvlei/Nakop - 24 hrs

Noordoewer/Vioolsdrift - 24hrs

Currency

The Namibian Dollar (N\$) and the South African Rand are the only legal tender in Namibia. The two currencies are on par and both can be used in Namibia.

Credit Cards

Major credit cards such as Master Card and Visa are accepted throughout the country. However, shops in remote areas and service stations only accept cash.

Drinking Water

Tap water is safe and potable in Namibia, unless specifically stated at particular locations.

Time

Standard: From the first Sunday in September to the first Sunday in April, Namibia reverts to GMT/UTC+2. The same as South Africa, Botswana and Zambia.

Daylight Saving: GMT/UTC +1 during winter starts from the first Sunday in April, and ends on the first Sunday in September.

Firewood

Firewood is usually available at most filling stations.

Namibia is a very clean country and we pride ourselves in keeping it this way. Please drive on designated roads and do not throw anything out of your vehicle. Keep our country clean.

Personal Safety

Tourists in any country are a preferred target. Be on the alert for handbag snatchers and pickpockets. Exercise caution by keeping your vehicle locked, never leaving valuables/bags visible in the vehicle, using registered "car guards" when parking in towns.

Meat Products

It is not advisable to take meat through Botswana due to Foot and Mouth disease. Namibia is famous for good biltong - especially at Closwa Biltong and Piets Biltong in Okahandja.

Food and beverages will be available at the stables/ride venue from Monday at very affordable prices.

Have a safe trip to Walvis Bay.

**Regards
Annette Hanekom**

Secretary Namibia Endurance