

NAMIBIA NATIONAL PROFILE 2019



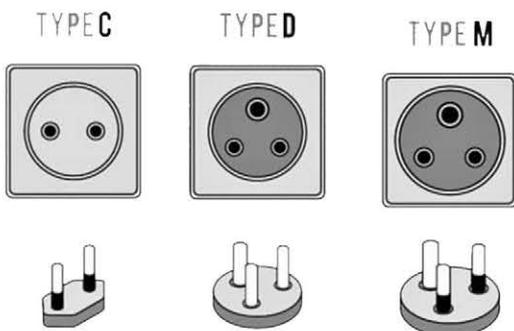
About Namibia

Brief Facts

Official Languages	English
Major Religion	Christianity
Capital City	Windhoek
Political Stable	Democracy
Area	825,615 km ²
Population	2.6 Million
Currency	Namibian Dollar
Time Zone	UTC+2 (CAST)
Country Phone Code	+264
Driving side	left

Namibia electrical outlet and plug types

Namibia uses power outlets and plugs of types C, D & M.



Water: Namibia is an arid country that is regularly affected by droughts. Large rivers flow only along its Northern and Southern border, but they are far from the population centers. In April 2016, the city of Windhoek launched a Zero Tolerance to Water Wastage policy, under which it would disconnect or fine on anyone using potable supply to water gardens or wash cars. Volunteers will be shown and introduced how to use the water efficient and how to safe water.

Geography

With an area of 824,292 square kilometers, Namibia is the world's 34th largest country. Due to the fact that the super-arid Namib Desert covers much of its area, it is also the second-least densely populated country in the world after Mongolia.

The country is not completely covered by barren desert, but instead has five unique geographical areas: the Namib Desert, the Central Plateau, the Great Escarpment, the Bushveld, and the Kalahari Desert.



Fish River Canyon



Namib Desert



Central Plateau



Kalahari Desert



Great Escarpment

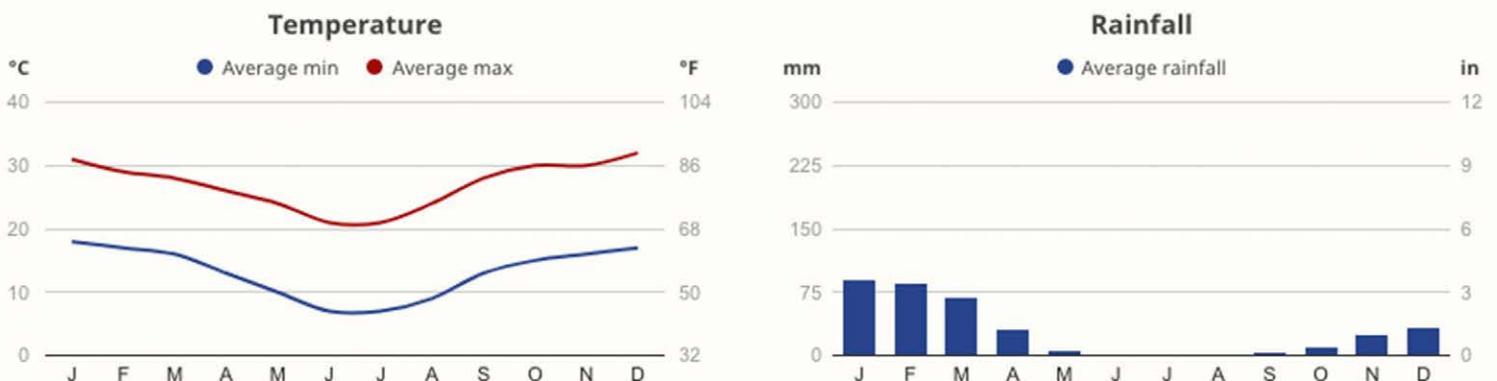


Bushveld

Climate

Mostly, Namibia has a subtropical desert climate characterized by great differences in day and nighttime temperatures, low rainfall and overall low humidity. Namibia experiences winter and summer at opposite times as Europe and North America and they correspond to the Dry and Wet seasons.

Climate Chart Windhoek - 1,700m / 5,600ft



Dry season – *May to October – Winter*

There is little to no rainfall during the entire winter and humidity is low. Wildlife will gather around waterholes and rivers when other water sources dry up.

May – It is the end of summer. The rains have stopped, but the scenery is still lovely and green. The nights aren't cold yet, and daytime temperatures are, on average, around 24-28°C/75-82°F.

June – The nights are getting cold and can drop below 10°C/50°F. In desert areas, it can be freezing. Daytime temperatures are still pleasant around 20-24°C/68-75°F.

July & August – These are the main winter months. Be sure to pack warm clothing because morning game drives in open vehicles will be cold. The average maximum temperature is 21-25°C/70-77°F. The average minimum temperature is around 7°C/45°F but can fall to below freezing at night in the deserts and higher areas.

September & October – September is a lovely month. It isn't too hot yet, but the chill in the mornings is becoming less. It is dry, and the skies are clear. During October, the green vegetation is fading, and the heat gradually builds up.

Wet season – *November to April – Summer*

November – The heat continues to rise, and by November, it is very hot, but the humidity is still low, keeping it quite pleasant. On average, the daytime temperature is above 30°C/86°F but can be a lot higher in the deserts. Clouds are starting to build up in the afternoons.

December – The first rains usually arrive and with them the temperature drops. The landscape changes after the first rains and everything comes to life.

January & February – This is midsummer. It tends to be hot and humid with maximum temperatures around 30-35°C/86-95°F with peaks of over 40°C/104°F in the desert. There may be torrential downpours in the afternoon but not every day. Mornings are usually clear.

March & April – Rainfall will decrease and stops around April. It cools down after the rains and the nights start to get cold again. Average daytime temperatures are around 25-30°C/77-86°F



History

Namibia's history is a familiar African story, beginning with ancient peoples and the stories they told on remote rock walls, and entering the modern world with colonial repression and a brutal war of independence. But that's not where the story ends. Instead, Namibia has emerged from such turbulence as a confident, independent country where the future looks far brighter than its past.

The pre-colonial times

Before Europeans ever set foot on Namibian soil, the territory was buzzing with activity. Unfortunately only little is known about the history of these times, due to the fact that the Europeans were the first ones who ever sat down and wrote about what was happening. Traces of the events of this time can however still be found in the rich oral traditions that circulate in local communities. When the first Europeans settled here in the early decades of the 1800's, they found societies with complex social and cultural traditions. Around the same time a group of Oorlams (the descendants of Malay slaves, Khoi-San, Dutch and English at the Cape) had moved across the Orange River with horses and guns.

These advantages made them powerful in the region, and they soon owned large stock of cattle and goats. Some say that the livestock were stolen from the Nama and Herero who were rich in livestock, and others say they were obtained through a form of taxation or tribute. Many of the stories from this period recount a time much like the 'Wild West' with cattle raiding, ambushes, drinking, smoking of marihuana (which was a major source of income for some communities) and riding horses through big open landscapes. Very descriptive of the ethics of the time is the fact that missionaries were engaged in a 'guns for converts' arrangement with the local population. The Oorlams were not only in it for the fun, however.

They established strong trade links with the Cape; they built roads (the back road to Walvis Bay from Windhoek still follows the route of one of these), and maybe most importantly established their headquarters in Windhoek - They called it Winterhoek, which was later corrupted to Windhoek. Some people will tell you that the Germans founded Windhoek ... don't believe a word of it, Windhoek has always been a popular place to stay

The German Period

German South West Africa was the very descriptive name given to Namibia when these northern Europeans staggered ashore in the territory in the early 1880's. At the Berlin Conference in 1883 Africa had been divided between various European nations - largely to the surprise of Africans. As a result Germany ended up with this arid desert land that most Europeans saw little use in claiming.

By means of purchase and /or theft (all depending on your source of information) the Germans gradually gained control of the central and southern parts of the territory that is now Namibia. One of the methods the Germans used to gain control was to change land for 'protection', but this failed miserably when one of the strong local

leaders, Hendrik Witbooi, stole the horses of the Imperial Commissioner Dr. Heinrich Goring - father of the future Nazi Air Marshall Hermann Goring. It seemed that the Germans needed protection rather than the opposite. Subsequently a new method of trying to exert control over the territory had to be attempted.

History tells us that in 1889 25 German troops under the leadership of Curt Von Francoise landed at Walvis Bay disguised, ironically, as 'tourists'. Walvis Bay at the time was under British control, and the German troops could therefore not simply march onto British territory in full battle gear. Once the charades were finished, Von Francoise and his men arrived in Winterhoek where they immediately began building the fortress that today hosts the National Museum of Namibia, called 'The Alte Feste'. The building marked the new militaristic style of the German Colonial presence in Namibia.

The German Colonial Administration was never fully in control of Namibia. The period between 1890-1908 was marred by many conflicts and rebellions against the Germans by the pre-colonial Namibian population. Almost a hundred thousand Hereros, Damaras, and Namas, and about a thousand Germans died because of these wars and the resulting concentration camps that were used to intern prisoners. In Germany there was a big outcry to stop these wars and especially to stop the genocide of the Herero. Of these about 60,000 people were killed, out of a total population of about 80,000.

However 'savage' Africans were made out to be in those days, the worst savagery of the new century surely took place in Europe. As a result of the Sarajevo assassination the First World War broke out which meant that Germany was at war with the British Empire, in southern Africa as in Europe. In 1915, after a fast defeat to the Union troops of South Africa, Germany surrendered the administration of Namibia to the South African Prime Minister Louis Botha.

Today one can still see many reminders of the German period. Namibia is the only African country, has a daily German newspaper. There is also an abundance of German buildings and monuments, erected in the German colonial period. The German language coexists alongside the many other unofficial languages that are spoken in the country.

The Apartheid Period

In 1948 the Afrikaner led National Party gained power in South Africa. Namibia exchanged one colonial experience for another. South Africa saw Namibia as, potentially, a fifth province for their country. The existing system of segregation that was widespread in colonial Africa was intensified through the policy of apartheid. One example of the way in which divisions between communities were created was the increasingly harsh 'Immorality Act', which termed it 'immoral' and illegal for white people to have sex with people defined as having a different skin colour. Strangely it was not considered illegal to lie in the same bed, but only to be caught having sexual intercourse. One wonders how the police went about enforcing this curious law.

Apartheid simply means 'living separately'. In the late 1950's and early 1960s, as in South Africa, the living quarters of black and coloured Namibians in towns were torn down. These residents, according to the principles of Apartheid, now had to be moved out of Windhoek city which was reserved for whites only or 'Slegs blankes' (a term that was to be used often in the years that followed). So-called 'coloured' Namibians were also to be divided from black Namibians. The task proved very difficult as the gene pool had been thoroughly mixed between all Namibians (white and black) since the time of the arrival of Europeans in the country in the early 19th century.

Eventually, though, most 'coloured' Namibians in Windhoek were settled in 'Khomasdal', five kilometres outside of Windhoek, and the black population divided from 'Khomasdal' by a five hundred meter 'buffer zone' in what is known as 'Katatura' - which means "a place where we don't want to stay". These so-called townships now form parts of Windhoek, and the buffer zones have been filled to connect these apartheid creations with the center of Windhoek.

Hidden History

It would be easy for a visitor to Namibia to think that the German period had a huge influence on the country. It did, but proportionally this period overshadows a lot of other interesting and influential history in Namibia. There are no monuments remembering the Herero who died at Waterberg, or the prisoners of war who died in the German prison camps in Swakopmund and Luderitz between 1904 and 1908. There are also no museums dealing with the apartheid history. It is therefore up to tourists themselves to find traces of these histories when visiting different historical sites.

In Swakopmund, over a thousand small mounds are still visible at the edge of the desert, behind the former 'white' cemetery. Although not officially recognised by the Swakopmund municipality, that is busy auctioning away plots on the site, there is little doubt that these mounds are the graves of the prisoners who died in the Swakopmund prisoner of war camp.

Much closer to Windhoek is the Nature Reserve 'Daan Viljoen' which is a popular place for Windhoek residents to spend their weekends. The place used to be the home of a Damara community. Many remnants from this time can be found throughout the park. There are cemeteries dating back to the early part of this century, but there is also evidence to be found of the residents who were still alive when the community was forced out in 1957. Walls on the far side of the 'Aukeigas' dam were built for the gardens of the residents, who grew Maize, pumpkins, melons, tobacco, and other crops. By the dam wall one can still see a piece of rock art, with good eyesight and a bit of guidance, though. The trained eye of the archaeologist will surely come across many other interesting things in this historical oasis.

Population

Namibia's population is estimated at 2.49 million, compared to 2.1 million in 2011.

Namibia is one of the least densely populated countries in the world with just 3.13 people per square kilometer, which ranks 226th worldwide. The only sovereign country that is less densely populated is Mongolia with 2 people per square kilometers.

The largest city and capital is Windhoek, with a population of about 268,000. This is the only city with a population exceeding 100,000. The next-largest cities are Rundu and Walvis Bay, with about 55,000 people each.

Namibia Demographics

Most Namibian people are of Bantu-speaking origin. The largest ethnic group is the Ovambo (49.8%), who live mostly in the north of the country and in towns throughout Namibia.

Other ethnic groups include Kavango (9.3%), Damara (7.5%), Herero (7.5%), white (6.4%), Nama (4.8%) Caprivian (3.7%), San (2.9%), and Basters (2.5%).

The Khoisan (including the San and Nama) are descended from original inhabitants of Southern Africa. Namibia also has many descendants of Angolan refugees. There are two groups of mixed race people in Namibia: "Coloureds" (4.1%) and "Basters." Namibia also has a large Chinese minority.

Whites (Portuguese, British, German and Afrikaner) account for 6.4% of the population and make up the second-largest group of European ancestry in Sub-Saharan Africa. Most Namibian whites and most of the people of mixed race speak Afrikaans. A small amount of whites in the country are descendants of German colonial settlers.

In terms of religions among the population, Christians account for 80-90 (approximately 50% of this is Lutheran) of the population, while 10-20% have indigenous beliefs.

Wildlife

Namibia has 26 parks and reserves making it's abundant wildlife one of its greatest tourist assets. The most famous of these parks is the Etosha National Park which harbours 114 mammal species. There are 8 mammal species endemic to Namibia, including the Black faced Impala, several mice, gerbils and bats. The Black faced Impala is similar to the common Impala except for the distinctive black stripe down its face. The Namibian desert is well known for its large number of endemic dune dwellers, especially lizards, of which there are 30 endemic species. Namibia is also home to many bird species.

Namibia's endangered species include Wild Dog, Black Rhino, Oribi and Puku. The Puku antelope is limited to about 100 individuals along the Chobe River in Botswana and the Linyati marshes in Namibia. The Black and White Rhino have suffered the most from poaching and are on the verge of extinction. If there had been no moves to save them in the last 20 years they probably would have disappeared from the wild altogether. Although both species occur naturally in Namibia, today you will find in many of the reserves that they have been reintroduced. The country also has the largest population in southern Africa of cheetah not contained within National Parks. There are over twenty species of antelope in Namibia ranging from largest, the Eland, to smallest, the Damara dik-dik. The Gemsbok, a striking antelope with long symmetrical horns and distinctive black and white markings is featured on the Namibian coat of arms. Namibia also harbours a wealth of small mammals including Mongoose, Jackal as well as the less common Antbear and Honey Badger, these are not often seen as they are solitary and nocturnal.

Namibia's parks and reserves range from the open bush of the centre and the north where wildlife is relatively plentiful, to the barren and inhospitable coastal strip with its huge sand dunes. The three main tourist attractions for wildlife in Namibia are Etosha National Park, Waterberg Plateau National Park and Cape Cross Reserve.

Etosha's name translates as 'Great white place of dry water'. The wildlife is typical of southern savannah in Africa with large herds of 'plains game' such as Springbok, Burchell's Zebra, Gemsbok and Blue Wildebeest, as well as smaller numbers of Red Hartebeest and Mountain Zebra. It's also home to Lion, Cheetah and the elusive Leopard. Some 300 Black Rhino live in Etosha as well as an Elephant population that fluctuates between 750 -1500 as they migrate between Kaokoveld, Etosha and the Caprivi Strip. Waterberg Plateau was proclaimed for the purposes of breeding and maintaining population of rare and endangered animals, such as Tsessebe, Roan and Sable antelope. Buffalo were introduced from the east and White Rhino were reintroduced from South Africa. It is the only such White Rhino population in Namibia. Cape Cross is Seal reserve which covers 60sqkm. The seal numbers fluctuate between 80,000 and 100,000, with only one in four seal pups surviving as they often fall prey to jackals and hyena.



Government

The Government of Namibia consists of the executive, the legislative and the judiciary branches. The Cabinet is the executive organ of government, implementing the laws of the country. It consists of the President, the Prime Minister and his deputy, as well as the Ministers. The legislative organs of government are the National Council and the National Assembly. They make the laws of the country. The judiciary organs of government are the courts. The highest court of Namibia is the Supreme Court. There is also the High Court, and lower courts.

The Namibian government is partly centralised and partly regional. In the executive branch, Central government consists of ministries, offices and agencies, whereas regional government consists of Regional Councils, and constituencies within these. The legislation is centralised in the lower house (National Assembly), and regional in the upper house (National Council).[2] The judiciary is centralised in the Supreme Court, whereas High Courts and lower courts are distributed all over the country.

Public Holidays

Date	English Name
January 1	New Year's Day
March 21	Independence Day
Easter Sunday -2d	Good Friday
Easter Sunday +1d	Easter Monday
May 1	Workers' Day
May 4	Cassinga Day
Easter Sunday +39d	Ascension Day
May 25	Africa Day
August 26	Heroes' Day
December 10	Human Rights Day
December 25	Christmas Day
December 26	Day of Goodwill

Health and Safety

Following vaccinations are recommended for Namibia: hepatitis A, hepatitis B. Malaria Prophylaxe is also available in Namibia and only necessary when you travel up north, border Angola, Kavango region.

Tap Water

Stick to bottled water while travelling in Namibia, and purify any river water before drinking it.

Availability & Cost of Healthcare

Good-quality health care is available in all major urban areas of Namibia, and private hospitals are generally of excellent standard. Public hospitals by contrast are often underfunded and overcrowded, and in off-the-beaten-track areas, reliable medical facilities are rare.

Prescriptions are generally required in Namibia. Drugs for chronic diseases should be brought from home.

Safety

Namibia is one of the safest countries in Africa. It's also a huge country with a very sparse population, and even the capital, Windhoek, is more like a provincial town than an urban jungle. Unfortunately, however, crime is on the rise in the larger cities, in particular Windhoek, but a little street sense will go a long way here.

Theft isn't rife in Namibia, but Windhoek, Swakopmund, Walvis Bay, Tsumeb and Grootfontein have problems with petty theft and muggings, so it's sensible to conceal your valuables, not leave anything in your car and avoid walking alone at night. It's also prudent to avoid walking around cities and towns bedecked in expensive jewellery, watches and cameras. Most hotels provide a safe or secure place for valuables, although you should be cautious of the security at some budget places.

Never leave a safari-packed vehicle anywhere in Windhoek or Swakopmund, other than in a guarded car park or private parking lot.

Travelling in Namibia

Namibia has everything. It's easy to explore independently, it's safe, it's beautiful, the locals are lovely, the landscapes are diverse, the wildlife is exciting, and there are so few tourists.

If you're dreaming of travelling in Africa but have no idea where to go first, head to Namibia. It's one of the safest and least intimidating countries I've travelled through.

Outside of Windhoek, you really don't need to worry about much at all. The locals are friendly and welcoming, theft is rare, and your only real concern will be how many flat tyres you'll end up with on the seemingly-endless gravel roads.

Not only is Namibia safe and easy to travel through, but it also has just as much to offer as other countries in Africa. Head to Etosha National Park and you'll get to drive alongside elephants, giraffes, lions, black rhinos, and more. You can hit up the Namibian desert for sand dune climbing at sunrise. There are beaches and coastlines full of shipwrecks to explore. The darkest skies in the world are in Namibia, so the Milky Way is always shining brightly above your head at night. Oh, and there's a ghost town in the middle of the desert.

The best way to travel in Namibia is to rent a car, what is very affordable and to drive intepenly to explore the country. If you don't want to travel alone with the car, we also assist you in planning your trip like you want it.

Accommodation in Namibia is either expensive or cheap. You have the option of great lodges or campsites. The campsites in Namibia have a very good standard with shared bathrooms and toilets and nice braai and camping areas. There are also different categories of camping available.

Flyinternship

Our Vision

Creating a better better future for Namibians

Our Mission

FlyInternship aims to create new workplaces and give people a better life, inspiring them with people from overseas! In addition, the volunteers receive the opportunity to appreciate their own environment more after they return from an incredible experience serving and giving to another community.

Meet the Team

Anita worked as a volunteer herself and it was a life-changing experience for her. After working as a volunteer she founded and established a sustainable NGO by herself in Namibia. With the experience of being a volunteer and creating her own Project as a foreigner she had the desire of creating an environment where volunteers can truly connect with the projects and the people they are working with. She continues to see the need in Namibia, which initially drove her to continue working towards improvement within the country.

In 2011, Anita Nangombe founded Butterfly – People support people. Butterfly is a non-profit organisation that supports projects in developing countries. With Butterfly, she gave herself and people, especially those in Austria, the possibility to support a project while knowing where all the money is going. Until now, she has been active and has been raising funds for different projects. Once a year, Anita travels to Europe and holds talks in schools and universities about Butterfly. Because of her charity work, she was nominated in 2011 for the first time as “Steirerin des Tages” and for the “Woman of the Year 2011” in the Women’s Magazine. In 2014, she was chosen out of 4000 people to be nominated for the “Best Humanity Work of the Year”, and was invited to the Gala of the Year from the Kleine Zeitung.

WHO ARE WE?



ANITA
NANGOMBE

Founder&CEO



LOWNAN
NANGOMBE

Project Manager



HOPE &
RAMBO

Security Manager

Volunteering with Flyinternship

Overview

Flyinternship can accept volunteers to Namibia aged between 18 and no limit of age. Volunteers can usually experience 2 placements while in Namibia, although some projects do like volunteers commit full time.

The Host situation is in general at the Ezimo accommodation in Windhoek. The accommodation is central to all the projects.

Public transport is not very well developed in Namibia. We are working with a private transport company together who drive our volunteers from home to the project and back. For more transport we will assist the volunteer in choosing the best private and safe transport solution e.g. private cab, buying car, etc.

The volunteers should be able to move around independently, be open to other cultures and try out things they would have never done before. Only with trying and being open your volunteer experience will be a success. We ask our volunteers to please not compare European countries with Namibia.

Language will be one of the main obstacles you may have to overcome in order to really live and understand our culture. Most Namibians speak English, all the projects are also english speaking. It would be a big advantage for you to gain a basic understanding of English grammar and pronunciation before leaving your country. If you would like to learn a local language, some languages offer courses.

What you can expect from Flyinternship

Flyinternship will make your stay in Namibia unforgettable. You will feel like you have a second family in Namibia. We will support you as best as we can but will also make sure that you feel safe and secure enough to be as independent as possible .

You will learn a lot about the different cultures in Namibia and you will have a lot of contact with locals as well as international people. We will guide you through the do's and don'ts. In the projects you will be supported and guided through and you will meet people from all around the world.

First the first month the transport will be organized for your so that you can get an overview about everything and for the ongoing month we will support you and will find together with you the best transport solution for your, depending how settled you feel.

Travel

We as Flyinternship would recommend you that you travel as much as possible, so that you can see the variety of Namibia. Off days you will arrange with your project individual. Weekends are the majority of the time off depending on what project you are. We recommend to do small tours over the weekends. Longer tours please inform early enough the project supervisors so that they can make the planning accordingly. If there are any challenges you can also talk to the Flyinternship team so that they can assist you in planning your unforgettable journey.

Finance & Pocket Money

Please Note that Flyinternship does not assist with any pocket money. Flyinternship is registered as a CC in Namibia and payments can be done directly on the namibian account or Flyinternship also has an austrian bank account what can be also used. Please be aware that volunteers in Namibia are not allowed to earn any money since the visa is only valid as a volunteer and not an employee. Please make sure that you have enough money to cover your costs throughout the stay. All common Credit Cards (Visa, Mastercard) are working in Namibia.

Finance & Pocket Money

Free Wifi is available at EZIMO accommodation. In some of the project an internet connection is available some of them dont have. Each volunteer will get a Flyinternship Starter package where a loca namibian sim card will be provided. Phone numbers can be exchanged before the volunteer arrives in Namibia.

Communication

Free Wifi is available at EZIMO accommodation. In some of the project an internet connection is available some of them dont have. Each volunteer will get a Flyinternship Starter package where a loca namibian sim card will be provided. Phone numbers can be exchanged before the volunteer arrives in Namibia.

Travel/Tickets

Volunteers must also organize their own change of date for their flight that must be done in a timely manner. Flyinternship volunteers can arrive any day of the week and any time. If not a Flyinternship team member will pick you up from the airport then our transport company we work with will pick you up.

What to Bring

We recommend bringing:

Sunhat or cap – very important for the summer months

Sunglasses

Raincoat

Set of good clothes and a set of old clothes

T-shirts

Warm jacket

Swim suit

Warm jersey/sweater/fleece top

Good walking shoes and sandals

Jeans/track-pants/shorts

Towel

Sleeping bag

Typical things of your country to be shown at the International Evening party

Photos and information about your family and country

English dictionary (if required)

Mosquito Spray

Mosquito Net

Important Documents

Passport

Visa

Return airline ticket

Health Certificate

Medic Alert Bracelet (if you wear one)

Police Report

International Drivers Licence/Drivers Licence

ADDENDUM 1: VISA PROCESS

Flyinternship will apply for your Visa in Namibia. Volunteers need in Namibia a Work Visa what we will apply for your. Visa costs are only applicable when the Visa is confirmed. Flyinternship will update you on the Visa status and on the costs. Visa costs are depending how long you stay in Namibia.