



higher education & training

Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL CERTIFICATE TOURIST DESTINATIONS N5

(22030115)

**8 October 2020 (X-paper)
09:00–12:00**

OPEN-BOOK EXAMINATION

Candidates are allowed to take student portfolios, notes and assignments/projects, prescribed textbook(s), an atlas, maps, travel guides, brochures and a GSA into the examination venue.

This question paper consists of 14 pages and two addenda of 7 pages.

207Q1B2008

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
NATIONAL CERTIFICATE
TOURIST DESTINATIONS N5
TIME: 3 HOURS
MARKS: 200

INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION





1. Read all the questions carefully before starting to answer the questions of your choice.
 2. Number the answers according to the numbering system used in this question paper.
 3. Start each section on a new page.
 4. Use only a blue or black pen.
 5. The question paper consists of TWO sections: SECTION A and SECTION B.
 6. All the questions in SECTION A are COMPULSORY with a total of 40 marks. QUESTION 1 comprises MAP WORK (ADDENDUM A).
 7. SECTION B consists of FIVE questions, of which any FOUR must be answered for a total of 160 marks.
 8. QUESTION 2 (NAMIBIA – ADDENDUM B) and QUESTION 3 (INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS) are COMPULSORY.
 9. Choose TWO other questions from QUESTIONS 4, 5 and 6.
 10. QUESTION 4
AFRICAN SECTION: Choose ONE (Morocco – Addendum C, OR Mozambique, OR Botswana).
INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS SECTION: Madagascar (Addendum D)
 11. QUESTION 5
AFRICAN SECTION: Choose ONE (Zimbabwe, OR Uganda, OR Malawi).
INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS SECTION: Mauritius
 12. QUESTION 6
AFRICAN SECTION: Choose ONE (Zambia, OR Kenya, OR Tanzania).
INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS SECTION: Choose ONE (Seychelles OR Réunion).
 13. Write neatly and legibly.
-

SECTION A

All the questions in this section are **COMPULSORY**.

QUESTION 1

Refer to a map of Africa in your World Travel Atlas or in your own resources. Identify each of the features/capitals/countries. Write only the question number and answer in the ANSWER BOOK, for example 1.25 Italy.

- 1.1 Name the country that lies south of Angola.  (2)
- 1.2 Name the landlocked country that lies east of Botswana. (2)
- 1.3 Name the country in which Kampala is the capital. It lies east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. (2)
- 1.4 Name the country where one will find Lake Malawi. It lies east of Zambia. (2)
- 1.5 Name the Indian Ocean Island that is the **FOURTH** largest island in the world. It lies east of Mozambique. (2)
- 1.6 Name the country that lies south of Ethiopia and west of Somalia. (2)
- 1.7 1.7.1 Name the **LATITUDE LINES** that cross through Namibia, Botswana, South Africa and Mozambique.  (1)
- 1.7.2 Name the **LATITUDE LINES** that cross through Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Congo and Gabon. (1)
- 1.8 Name the **INLAND DELTA** that is located in Botswana. (2)
- 1.9 Name the **TWO** deserts that can be found in Namibia. (2)
- 1.10 Name the highest mountain found in Africa. (2)
- 1.11 In which country will you find the highest mountain of Africa? (2)
- 1.12 Name the lake that is situated between Zimbabwe and Zambia. (2)
- 1.13 Name the largest lake in Africa.  (2)
- 1.14 Name the archipelago that lies between Mozambique and Madagascar. (2)
- 1.15 Name the **SECOND** highest mountain in Africa. (2)
- 1.16 Name the capital of Morocco. (2)
- 1.17 Name the capital of Mauritius.  (2)
- 1.18 Name the capital of Réunion. (2)

- 1.19 Name the capital of Mozambique. (2)
- 1.20 Name the capital of Botswana. (2)
- [40]**

TOTAL SECTION A: 40



SECTION B

Answer any FOUR of the five questions in this section. QUESTION 2 and QUESTION 3 are COMPULSORY.

QUESTION 2 (COMPULSORY): NAMIBIA



Refer to ADDENDUM A, as well as your own resources, to answer the following questions:

- 2.1 How long is this tour (days and nights)? (1)
- 2.2 What kind of accommodation will be provided for the duration of the tour? (1)
- 2.3 The tour costs R12 250 per adult, excluding VAT. What is the current percentage of VAT that will be added? (1)
- 2.4 Calculate how much it will cost to take a child under 10 years on this tour. (1)
- 2.5 What is the e-mail address of the tour operator? (1)
- 2.6 The tourists will drive themselves. Name the kind of vehicle that is required. (1)
- 2.7 Name TWO things that are excluded from the tour price. (2)
- 2.8 The tour will start in 'the historic town of Swakopmund'. Name TWO historic attractions/buildings in Swakopmund. (2)
- 2.9 Swakopmund is referred to as the 'adventure capital'. Name TWO kinds of adventure activities from which tourists can choose. (2)
- 2.10 On day 3, the tourists will visit Seal Point, where they can see the Cape fur seals. Who planted the cross at Seal Point? (1)
- 2.11 The Brandberg Mountain will be visited on day 4. What is its height above sea level? (1)
- 2.12 Describe who or what the famous 'White Lady of the Brandberg' is. (2)
- 2.13 Name the natural attraction that the tourists will see near the Burnt Mountain. (1)
- 2.14 Name and briefly describe the only UNESCO World Heritage Site of Namibia that will be visited on day 5. (1 + 2) (3)

- 2.15 On day 7, the tourists will visit the Skeleton Coast National Park. Where does the name originate from? Quote from the Addendum. (2)
- 2.16 Describe the location of the Skeleton Coast National Park.  (2)
- 2.17 What does the landscape of the Skeleton Coast National Park include? (3)
- 2.18 Name THREE rare animals that can be seen in the Skeleton Coast National Park. (3)
- 2.19 Name THREE animals that can be seen quite often in the Skeleton Coast National Park. (3)
- 2.20 Describe the Etosha Pan.  (4)
- 2.21 Name THREE kinds of big animals that live permanently around the Etosha Pan. (3)
- [40]**

QUESTION 3 (COMPULSORY): INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS SECTION

Various options are given as possible answers to the following questions. Write only the letter (A–D) next to the question number (3.1–3.20) in the ANSWER BOOK. Your own map could be useful.

- 3.1 The Aldabra atoll is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, found in ...
- A Mauritius.
B Madagascar. 
C Réunion.
D the Seychelles.
- 3.2 The large Victoria Regia water lilies can be found at the Pamplémousse Botanical Garden in ...
- A Mauritius.
B Madagascar.
C Réunion.
D the Seychelles.
- 3.3 Cirque de Salazie is situated in ...
- A Mauritius.
B Madagascar. 
C Réunion.
D the Seychelles.

3.4 Madajazzcar is a festival celebrated in ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar.
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.



3.5 Isalo National Park is found in ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar.
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.

3.6 Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport is situated in ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar.
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.



3.7 Fête du Miel is a festival celebrated in ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar.
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.

3.8 The Black River (Rivière Noire) is a natural attraction found in ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar.
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.



3.9 Antananarivo is the capital city of ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar.
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.

3.10 The Vallée de Mai Nature Reserve with its Coco-de-Mer palm is a UNESCO World Heritage Site found in ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar.
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.



3.11 This island is administered by France:

- A Mauritius
- B Madagascar
- C Réunion
- D The Seychelles



3.12 St Denis is the capital city of ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar.
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.

3.13 The Safiko Musik Festival is celebrated in ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar.
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.



3.14 Rodriques belongs to ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar.
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.

3.15 Nosy Be is a popular tourism island off the coast of ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar.
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.



3.16 The Piton des Neiges is the highest point on this island:


- A Mauritius
- B Madagascar
- C Réunion
- D The Seychelles

3.17 The Subios Festival of the Sea can be celebrated in ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar.
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.




3.18 The Roland Garros Airport is found in ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar. 
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.

3.19 A lemur is an animal found in ...

- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar.
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.

3.20 The seven Coloured Earths of Chamarel are found in ...



- A Mauritius.
- B Madagascar. 
- C Réunion.
- D the Seychelles.

(20 × 2) [40]

QUESTION 4



AFRICAN SECTION: Choose ONE of the following countries: Mozambique OR Botswana. Write the country of your choice on top of the next page. Keep the numbering as it appears in the question paper.

4.1 MOZAMBIQUE

- 4.1.1 What is the currency used in Mozambique? (1)
- 4.1.2 Name the museum in Maputo where you can see the history of currency. (1)
- 4.1.3 Who designed the famous Polana Serena Hotel in Maputo?  (1)
- 4.1.4 Name FOUR of the cultural attractions that can be seen in Maputo. (4)
- 4.1.5 Name the third largest city of Mozambique which is the major port city. (1)
- 4.1.6 Name the province in which Beira is located. (1)
- 4.1.7 Name the national park that is closest to Beira, where you can see the Mount Gorongosa.  (1)
- 4.1.8 Name and briefly describe the appeal of the FOUR islands of the Bazaruto archipelago. (4 × 2) (8)
- 4.1.9 In which bay is the Inhaca Island located? (2)



[20]

OR**4.2 BOTSWANA**

- 4.2.1 Describe the climatic conditions that can be experienced in Botswana in January.  (2)
- 4.2.2 Name FOUR major products mined in Botswana. (4)
- 4.2.3 Name the busiest border crossing from South Africa to Botswana. (2)
- 4.2.4 Name FOUR air charter companies found in Botswana. Refer to your GSA. (4)
- 4.2.5 Give the approximate travel times, in hours and minutes, from Gaborone to Kasane by road. (2)
- 4.2.6 Describe THREE things that a tourist can see at the Matsieng Footprints, a cultural heritage site, north of Rasesa.  (3 × 2) (6)

[20]**AND****4.3 INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS SECTION: MADAGASCAR**

Refer to ADDENDUM C: Madagascar: The wild one.

- 4.3.1 How was Madagascar formed? Quote from the extract given. (2)
- 4.3.2 What was the first name given to Madagascar by the Portuguese in the 1500s?  (1)
- 4.3.3 Name the FOUR different cultures that create the 'melting pot' population. (4)
- 4.3.4 Describe the location of Nosy Be Island. (1)
- 4.3.5 Describe why Nosy Be is such a popular tourist destination. (3)
- 4.3.6 The writer refers to the ylang-ylang plantations. What are these plantations used for?  (2)
- 4.3.7 One of the animals that is endemic to Madagascar is the lemur. Describe what a lemur is. (1)
- 4.3.8 Name THREE species of lemurs one can see on Madagascar. (3)
- 4.3.9 Where is the Alley of the Baobabs situated on Madagascar? (1)
- 4.3.10 Name TWO types of fish one can try to catch when doing game fishing/deep-sea fishing. (2)




[20]

QUESTION 5

AFRICAN SECTION: Choose ONE: Zimbabwe OR Uganda OR Malawi.


5.1 ZIMBABWE

Choose a description from COLUMN B that matches an item in COLUMN A. Write only the letter (A–V) next to the question number (5.1.1–5.1.20) in the ANSWER BOOK.


COLUMN A		COLUMN B	
5.1.1	Lake Chivero Recreational Park	A	third largest city 
5.1.2	Victoria Falls	B	Matobo National Park
5.1.3	Heroes' Day	C	SA embassy
5.1.4	Dialling code	D	11 August
5.1.5	Misty Mountain	E	4
5.1.6	Elcombe Street	F	Troutbeck Sun
5.1.7	Bulawayo 	G	Ambula Safaris & Tours
5.1.8	Mount Nyangani	H	the highest point
5.1.9	Heroes' Acre	I	00263
5.1.10	Mana Pools	J	border post
5.1.11	Largest national park	K	Chizarira National Park
5.1.12	Nyanga	L	Torwa dynasty
5.1.13	Houseboating	M	Hwange
5.1.14	The most remote and difficult to reach	N	Shona
5.1.15	Khami Ruins	O	Harare
5.1.16	Language	P	Lake Kariba
5.1.17	Plumtree	Q	second largest city
5.1.18	Great Zimbabwe National Monument	R	Bvumba 
5.1.19	Helicopter charter	S	12 August
5.1.20	Cecil John Rhodes' grave	T	Elephant Hills Resort Hotel
		U	Masvingo
		V	Lake Mcllwaine (now Lake Chivero)

(20 × 1) (20)


OR**5.2 UGANDA**


- 5.2.1 Name the largest game sanctuary in the country. (1)
- 5.2.2 Give a brief overview of the national park identified in QUESTION 5.2.1, referring to its location, general appeal and attractions. (4)
- 5.2.3 Describe what a visit to the Kabaka Tombs entails. (4)
- 5.2.4 What kind of animal can be viewed in the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park? (1)
- 5.2.5 Describe the location of the Ssesse Islands in detail.  (3)
- 5.2.6 Name FOUR of the crater lakes found near Fort Portal. (4)
- 5.2.7 Name the public holiday in June. (1)
- 5.2.8 Give the currency and currency code of the country. (2)
- [20]**

OR**5.3 MALAWI**

- 5.3.1 Describe the exact location of Malawi, referring to its neighbouring countries and natural borders. (4)
- 5.3.2 Name and briefly motivate a visit to FOUR cultural attractions found in Lilongwe.  (4 x 2) (8)
- 5.3.3 Give TWO examples of typical souvenirs or gifts which a tourist would buy in Malawi. (2)
- 5.3.4 List any THREE outdoor activities and also mention where a tourist could participate in these activities in Malawi. (3 x 2) (6)
- [20]**

AND**5.4 INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS SECTION: Mauritius**

- 5.4.1 What is the Trou aux Cerfs?  (2)
- 5.4.2 Give the dimensions of the answer in QUESTION 5.4.1 (i.e. its height and depth). (2)
- 5.4.3 Name the town situated closest to the Trou aux Cerfs. (2)
- 5.4.4 What is the Grand Bassin? (2)



- 5.4.5 Which religious group regards the Grand Bassin as a sacred place? (2)
- 5.4.6 Briefly describe why the Grand Bassin is sacred to this group. (4)
- 5.4.7 During which month is the annual religious festival celebrated, called Maha Shivratri, which pays tribute to Lord Shiva.  (2)
- 5.4.8 Briefly describe the Black River Gorges National Park. (2)
- 5.4.9 Describe the 'rainbow earth of Chamarel'. (2)
- [20]**

QUESTION 6

AFRICAN SECTION: Choose ONE of the following countries: Zambia OR Kenya OR Tanzania.

6.1 ZAMBIA



Indicate whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE by writing only 'True' or 'False' next to the question number (6.1.1–6.1.10) in the ANSWER BOOK. Correct the statement if it is FALSE.

- 6.1.1 In Zambia, motorists drive on the left side of the road.
- 6.1.2 Livingstone is the political capital of Zambia. 
- 6.1.3 The currency code of Zambia is ZMK.
- 6.1.4 The area in which copper and cobalt mines are found is known as the Cobalt Belt.
- 6.1.5 Sinazongwe is a resort town situated on the banks of Lake Kariba.
- 6.1.6 The Kalambo Falls is the second highest waterfall in Africa.
- 6.1.7 Kasanka National Park is situated on the northern side of the Bangweulu Wetlands.
- 6.1.8 The Railway Museum is found in Livingstone.
- 6.1.9 Unity Day is celebrated on 5 July. 
- 6.1.10 The Caprivi Strip located in Namibia forms the north-eastern border.
- (10 × 2) (20)

OR

6.2 KENYA



Indicate whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE by writing only 'True' or 'False' next to the question number (6.2.1–6.2.10) in the ANSWER BOOK. Correct the statement if it is FALSE.


- 6.2.1 In Kenya, motorists drive on the left side of the road.
- 6.2.2 Nairobi is the political capital of Kenya. 
- 6.2.3 The currency used in Kenya is the Kenyan shekel.
- 6.2.4 Karen Blixen's house is situated in Nairobi.
- 6.2.5 Malindi is a coastal town at which Bartolomeu Dias called at in 1498.
- 6.2.6 The Guru Falls are found in the Amboseli National Park.
- 6.2.7 The Meru National Park is situated in southern Kenya.
- 6.2.8 The National Museum is found in Mombasa.
- 6.2.9 Independence Day is celebrated on 12 December. 
- 6.2.10 Somalia is the neighbouring country to the east of Kenya. (10 × 2) (20)

OR

6.3 TANZANIA


Indicate whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE by writing only 'True' or 'False' next to the question number (6.3.1–6.3.10) in the ANSWER BOOK. Correct the statement if it is FALSE.

- 6.3.1 In Tanzania, motorists drive on the left side of the road.
- 6.3.2 Dodoma City is the business capital of Tanzania.
- 6.3.3 The currency code of Tanzania is TC. 
- 6.3.4 The Great Rift Valley stretches from the Dead Sea to Mozambique.
- 6.3.5 Mwanza, the second largest town in Tanzania, is located on the shores of Lake Tanganyika. 
- 6.3.6 Bagamoyo has links with the slave trade.
- 6.3.7 Jozani Forest is a wildlife sanctuary for the endemic and endangered Zanzibar red colobus monkeys.

- 6.3.8 Mount Meru is a volcanic mountain. 
- 6.3.9 Independence and Republic Day is celebrated on 9 December.
- 6.3.10 The Sunshine Coast of Zanzibar is situated in the south and west. (10 × 2) (20)

AND**6.4 INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS SECTION**

Answer all the following questions about ONE of the following countries: Seychelles OR Réunion. Write the country of your choice in CAPITAL LETTERS on top of the next clean page.

- 6.4.1 Name TWO languages spoken in your country of choice. (2)
- 6.4.2 Name the capital of that country. (1)
- 6.4.3 Recommend TWO hotels found in the capital of the country. Refer to your GSA. (2)
- 6.4.4 List THREE tourist attractions that can be viewed in the capital city. (3)
- 6.4.5 List THREE shopping items you can buy. (3)
- 6.4.6 Do South African passport holders require a visa for a short holiday to the country of your choice? Refer to your GSA and answer only YES or NO. (1)
- 6.4.7 List the time zone of the island of your choice. (1)
- 6.4.8 State the date of Independence Day of the island of your choice. (1)
- 6.4.9 Give TWO examples of endemic birds to be found on the island. (2)
- 6.4.10 Name ONE UNESCO World Heritage Site found on the island. (1)
- 6.4.11 Name the highest point on the island.  (1)
- 6.4.12 Give the full name of the international airport as well as its IATA code. (2)

[20]

TOTAL SECTION B: 160
GRAND TOTAL: 200

ADDENDUM A**Spectacular Namibia: Adventuring along the Skeleton Coast and through Damaraland and Etosha**

2018-05-04 08:55 - In partnership with Bhejane Adventures

A visit to Etosha, Damaraland and the Skeleton Coast is an experience never to be forgotten for the connoisseur of scenery, atmosphere and the unusual.

The adventure

Our adventure starts in the historic town of Swakopmund in Namibia. We spend a full day in Swakopmund, enjoying some of the many adventure activities on offer. From the adrenalin capital, we head north to the spectacular Brandberg, drive through the desolate Skeleton Coast National Park, spend time in the rock desert of Damaraland and end up game viewing for four days in the magnificent Etosha National Park.

We visit the controversial White Lady of Brandberg and the numerous other rock engravings and paintings left by the prehistoric folk who once lived in this region.

From Brandberg, we travel north and, along the shores of the Atlantic, we encounter a place that was known to early Portuguese seafarers as the 'Sands of Hell'. This place has been associated with famous shipwrecks and stories of sailors walking for hundreds of kilometres through this barren landscape in search of food and water.

The Skeleton Coast National Park stretches from the Kunene River in the north for approximately 500 km to the Ugab River in the south. The landscape includes sand dunes, canyons and mountain ranges. Springbok, oryx, hyena and ostrich are fairly common, while the rarely seen Namibian desert elephant, black rhino and lion may be found in the dry riverbeds.

Into the tribal trust land of Damaraland, one of the most scenic areas in Namibia, prehistoric watercourses with open plains and grasslands, massive granite koppies and distant mountains create the Damaraland landscape. Game species in this area include the desert elephant, black rhino, ostrich and springbok, and the local community provides guided rhino and elephant tracking safaris. The proceeds from these safaris go towards the preservation of these unique animals.

From Damaraland, we head north east toward the Etosha National Park. A massive mineral pan, the floor of which was formed around 1 000 million years ago, dominates Etosha. Today, the pan rarely has water, as it is supplied mostly from rainfall, but with high evaporation, the water quickly disappears.

The verges of the lake are, however, well treed and grassed, with several springs providing water to the numerous animals and birds living permanently around the pan.

A visit to Etosha, Damaraland and the Skeleton Coast is an unforgettable experience offered only by the 'dorsland' of the Kalahari and the Namib.

Here's what you need to know:

- When: 1 to 12 September; 14 to 25 September
- Where: Namibia
- What: 11-night/12-day adventure (tented accommodation)
- Cost: R12 250 (ex VAT) per person (children under 10 @ 50%)
- Contact: Tel/Fax: 044 535 9033 or bookings@bhejane.com

The team

Your tour leader is an experienced nature conservationist and adventure guide. He will be in radio contact with you at all times and impart a wealth of biological, cultural, historic and four-wheel drive knowledge.

Three meals a day will be prepared by our experienced bush chef in his mobile kitchen, with fresh salads, potjiekos, braais and many other surprises appearing on the menu. The good old coffee pot will be on the fire from six till late.

Our logistics crew will pitch and take down the tents at all the overnight stops we visit. Tents and tables are provided by Bhejane Adventures.

The route we will be negotiating will be tough at times. However, our tours have not been designed to be 'vehicle breakers'; should you experience any difficulty, the Bhejane crew do have the expertise and recovery equipment to assist with off-road problems.

Though our bush-camps will be rustic and interesting, you will be safe at all times, and the crew will spare no effort to make you comfortable, provide you with good wholesome food and, most importantly, see that you have a great time.

What Bhejane Adventures supplies:

- All camp fees
- All park entrance fees
- All advertised activities
- All tents, cutlery and crockery
- Three meals a day
- Tea and coffee from 6 till late every day whilst in camp
- Professional guides and tour leaders
- Two-way radio communication

What you need to bring:

- Your vehicle and fuel
- Your own bedding (mattresses and/or stretcher and sleeping bags and pillows)
- Your own fold-up chairs
- Your own drinks and in-between snacks
- Your own out-of-country/medical emergency and evacuation insurance cover
- Your own border crossing fees and road taxes

Your 12-day itinerary

Day 1:

The group meets in the afternoon at the Alte Brücke Campsite in Swakopmund where, on your arrival, the team will be waiting to welcome you. Our accommodation is in tents for the evening. Once you have settled in, we get together to enjoy dinner around the fire, and your guide will make use of this opportunity to chat about what you can expect to see and do over the next twelve days.

Day 2:

We spend today exploring the town of Swakopmund. A number of activities can be chosen from, including skydiving and sand-boarding, dolphin and whale watching and the all-time favourite, quad biking in the desert. Your tour leader will provide you with all the relevant information and make the necessary arrangements. (Please note: All extra activities are for your own cost.) Because we are camping on the coast, our chef will prepare freshly caught fish for supper.

Day 3:

After a leisurely breakfast, we leave Swakopmund and head for the Brandberg region via Seal Point where the Cape fur seal colony is found and we enjoy a picnic lunch en route. Entering the Dorob National Park area, we travel on roads constructed from gypsum and brine before arriving at camp, where the crew will be ready for us and the pots will be on the fire.

Day 4:

After an early breakfast, we take a guided walk up into the Brandberg Mountain to visit the famous White Lady and the numerous other bushman paintings that can be seen in this sacred canyon. Along the way, we will enjoy a picnic lunch.

We return to our camp and spend the afternoon relaxing around the pool. Late afternoon we travel in our vehicles to the foothills of a giant koppie where we enjoy a spectacular desert sunset while sipping sundowners.

Day 5:

Leaving the Brandberg region, we drive north to visit impressive geological and archaeological features. We will visit the nearby Burnt Mountain with its eerie charred mound of volcanic debris and the bizarre volcanic rock formation known as the Organ Pipes. We will also have the opportunity of getting up close and personal with the rare Welwitschia plants.

We visit Twyfelfontein, well known for its prehistoric paintings and rock engravings, as well as the Petrified Forest, with its 30-metre-long petrified tree trunks deposited by prehistoric glacial flooding.

Damaraland roughly occupies the area from Swakopmund up to Sesfontein and inland from the coast to Omaruru and Outjo. It is one of Namibia's most scenic areas with mountains galore, petrified forests and organ pipes and game species such as the desert elephant, black rhino, ostrich and springbok – all of which frequent the dry riverbeds.

We travel on a gravel road to Palmwag through a region characterised by small hills and semi-desert scrub, nestled amid the red hills in the heart of Damaraland.

Once again, upon arrival at the campsite, the Bhejane crew are ready with our tents and have the pots on the fire.

Day 6:

From dawn to dusk, Damaraland, and everything this beautiful place has to offer, ensures a busy day ahead.

Driving through the Torra Conservancy, we follow the course of the dry riverbeds of the Huab and Uniab Rivers, where we hope to catch a glimpse of the magnificent desert-adapted animals. With luck, we will see the elusive desert black rhino and elephant. Upon our return to camp, we have the opportunity to refuel our vehicles.

Day 7:

We drive west to the formidable coast with its mists and powerful currents, entering a landscape of bare gravel plains and no rainfall.

We drive into the Skeleton Coast National Park where we visit Torra Bay and walk towards the Uniab waterfall where we will be enjoying lunch along the coast before heading back east to Palmwag.

Day 8:

We leave Palmwag and Damaraland via the Grootberg Pass, and on to Kamanjab and Outjo, where we refuel and shop at a well-stocked supermarket. Then on to Etosha! Once again, the Bhejane crew will be waiting to welcome us.

In the late afternoon, we leave camp to test our game viewing skills, either at a waterhole or on a drive around the edge of the pan. Back in camp, we spend the remainder of the evening observing the nocturnal activities at the floodlit waterhole in the camp.

Day 9:

We wake up early to another hearty breakfast as the sun rises over Etosha.

We can either spend the morning waiting for the action to come to us, whilst we park comfortably in the shade at the famous Ombika waterhole, or drive around on the Park's excellent road system, viewing game.

Will we see game? We surely will! The Park has an extraordinary bird life with 325 species identified and the animals living permanently around the pan number approximately 30 000 blue wildebeest, 25 000 springbok, 23 000 zebra, 5 000 kudu, 3 000 hartebeest, 2 600 eland, 3 000 oryx, 450 giraffe, 2 000 elephant, 260 lions, 200 black rhinos, and numerous smaller creatures.

Returning to camp for lunch, we spend the early afternoon enjoying the pool and the other attractions that camp has to offer. In the evening, we visit the mythical 'Sprokieswoud', a strangely localised forest of Moringa ovalifolia trees, also viewing game along the way.

Back in camp, and after enjoying another of our chef's culinary surprises, we once again spend the remainder of the evening observing the nocturnal activities at the floodlit waterhole.

Days 10 and 11:

These are our last two full days of the trip and, with Etosha being so vast, everybody has the chance to go off on their own on some game viewing experience. By now, you will know which part of the Park is your favourite and where you have had the most success.

The Bhejane guide will always be on hand with advice and, as on the other game viewing days, the catering team will be happy to supply those of you who are heading out for the day with a packed picnic lunch.

Once we have settled into our camp that evening, we enjoy a sociable evening around the campfire, reliving the exciting events of the day, and the 'night owls' can pay a visit to the floodlit waterhole for the last time.

Day 12:

After a lavish breakfast, we sadly say our goodbyes to our new friends and travel companions as we pack up and head home.

[Source: <https://www.traveller24.com/Explore/Bush/spectacular-namibia-adventuring-along-damaraland-skeleton-coast-and-etosha-20180504>]

ADDENDUM B

Madagascar: The wild one

2016-11-06 06:00 – Kate Turkington

If the Maldives is the pampered princess of the Indian Ocean islands, Mauritius the chic mademoiselle and the Seychelles the English madam, then Madagascar is the adventurous gypsy.

Madagascar had a cataclysmic birth when, about 160 million years ago, intense plate tectonics broke up the continent of Gondwana, and Madagascar started its slow drift south-east, away from the shores of Africa, to become an orphan stranded between India and Africa.

It's the fourth-largest island in the world (after Greenland, New Guinea and Borneo) and the oldest, but although it was peopled as early as the 7th century, it was only when the intrepid Portuguese arrived in the 1500s and called it Ile Saint Laurent that Madagascar became known to the wider world.

Because of its splendid isolation, Madagascar remains a kind of parallel universe where animals, birds, insects and reptiles flourish amid spectacular landscapes. It's astonishing to think that 80% of the species that exist there are found nowhere else on earth.

Vanila Hotel and Lemuria Land

I stayed for two nights on the northwest island of Nosy Be, one of Madagascar's top tourist destinations, at the elegant Vanila Hotel, which combines French chic with Madagascan laid-back charm. Situated on a beach of powdery sand, rooms are airy and spacious, and there are three lovely swimming pools, lush gardens and a great restaurant.

The population is a melting pot of Asian, African, European and indigenous cultures, and is very religious.

The Vanila Hotel partners with Nosy Be Original, an excursion company that offers experiences across the island, from horse riding, quad biking and golf, to beach picnics and trips to other islands in the archipelago.

One of the highlights of my trip (and it will be one of yours, I guarantee) was a visit to Lemuria Land, the home of some of Madagascar's unique fauna and flora. Claudio, my guide, showed me the ylang-ylang plantations, where the jasmine-like flower is harvested to make an essential oil used in aromatherapy and for perfumes such as Chanel N° 5. I'm reminded that Madagascar is one of the poorest countries in the world when I see young women selling 5-kg bags of the flowers to the on-site distillery for about R8 a bag.

But then we came across the lemurs – ah, the lemurs! They are what many people come to Madagascar for – such gentle, beautiful creatures with soft, soft fur and silky hands and feet. And, like so many other visitors, I fell in love immediately.

Constance Tsarabanjina island

It's an hour-long boat ride to tiny 35-hectare Constance Tsarabanjina, 70 km or so from Nosy Be. A private island comprising 25 thatched wooden bungalows, and a beach bar and restaurant, it's surrounded by dazzling coral reefs, millions of tropical fish, surfing hawksbill sea turtles and endless vistas of the Indian Ocean – it's barefoot luxury on steroids. You'll sleep in a wood-and-thatch cabin facing the Indian Ocean and be lulled to sleep by the waves breaking under a shimmering moon and billions of stars.

Dress is so informal here that all you'll need are a couple of swimsuits and shorts, some light cotton tops, a sun hat and flip-flops. Because of the island's remoteness, the talented chefs at Tsarabanjina use as much local produce as possible. Fishermen bring in their catches daily, from buckets of prawns and crayfish to big fish such as kingfish, capitaine and snapper. You can also try your hand at fishing, dawdling along in a boat with a hand-held line and a friendly crew, or even deep-sea fishing, where you can do battle with a fighting tuna or a barracuda.

A dazzling dive

When you go snorkelling, either off the beach or from a boat, expect to see some of the world's most dazzling marine life, including the Picasso triggerfish, melon butterfly fish, moorish idols, hawksbill turtles, manta rays and octopus. Even if you've not snorkelled before, it's easy to learn in these calm waters. The diving is even more spectacular, and divers come from all over the world to probe the pristine reefs in this protected marine area.

Walk along the beach to a tiny thatch hut on the rocks and enjoy a massage; take a walk around the island (it'll only take an hour); go birdwatching on Fish Eagle island and other rocky islets; visit Ankarea desert island with the unique Madagascar baobabs; stroll round a fisherman's village; or take part in a turtle release.

Baby turtles that didn't survive the hatching are picked up and cared for by Elena, Tsarabanjina's assistant manager, who is also a qualified marine biologist. When the babies are a couple of months old, guests may carry them back to the sea, swim out with them and send them off on what will hopefully be a successful life journey.

Disclaimer: Kate Turkington was hosted by Airlink, which has a direct flight from Johannesburg to Nosy Be once a week: flyairlink.com, Vanilla Hotel & Spa: vanila-hotel.com and nosybe-original.com, Constance Tsarabanjina: tsarabanjina.com as well Destinationsabuzz.co.za and originblu.com.

[Source: <https://www.traveller24.com/Explore/Islands/madagascar-the-wild-one-20161106>]