



Swakopmund Packing List

Desert, fog and the cold Atlantic: everything you need for Namibia's coast

Swakopmund can be 14 °C and foggy at breakfast and 30 °C in the dunes by lunch. Pack in layers, protect yourself from sun and sand, and leave space for a warm jacket even in summer.

Documents & money

- ☐ Passport (valid 6+ months, 3 blank pages)
- ☐ Visa / e-visa confirmation if required
- ☐ Return or onward ticket
- ☐ Travel insurance details (incl. medical evacuation)
- ☐ Driving licence + International Driving Permit (self-drive)
- ☐ Credit/debit card with chip & PIN, plus a backup card
- ☐ Cash in N\$ or rand for fuel, tips and the visa counter
- ☐ Printed copies of bookings and passport

Clothing (layers!)

- ☐ Warm fleece or jumper
- ☐ Windproof / light waterproof jacket
- ☐ Long trousers + one pair of shorts
- ☐ T-shirts and a long-sleeve sun shirt
- ☐ Warm layer for desert nights (Sossusvlei, Spitzkoppe)
- ☐ Comfortable walking shoes
- ☐ Closed shoes for dunes (sand gets hot)
- ☐ Sandals or flip-flops
- ☐ Swimwear
- ☐ Beanie or buff for foggy mornings

Sun, sand & desert

- ☐ Sunglasses (UV protection)
- ☐ Wide-brim hat or cap
- ☐ Sunscreen SPF 50 + lip balm
- ☐ Refillable water bottle (1 L+)
- ☐ Small daypack
- ☐ Dust-proof bags for camera & phone
- ☐ Moisturiser (the air is very dry)

Activities

- ☐ Clothes you don't mind getting sandy (sandboarding, quads)
- ☐ Light gloves for quad biking
- ☐ Binoculars (Walvis Bay lagoon, seals, flamingos)
- ☐ Seasickness tablets for boat cruises
- ☐ Quick-dry towel

Health & safety

- ☐ Personal medication + prescriptions
- ☐ Basic first-aid kit and plasters
- ☐ Rehydration sachets and painkillers
- ☐ Insect repellent (and malaria advice if travelling north)
- ☐ Hand sanitiser and wet wipes
- ☐ Head torch

Tech

- ☐ Phone + charger
- ☐ Power bank
- ☐ Plug adapter type M (South African, 3 round pins) + D
- ☐ Offline maps downloaded
- ☐ Local SIM or eSIM plan
- ☐ Camera + spare battery + memory cards

Self-drive extras

- ☐ Car charger / 12 V adapter
- ☐ Tyre pressure gauge
- ☐ Extra water (5 L+ per person) for gravel roads
- ☐ Snacks for long drives
- ☐ Cool box
- ☐ Paper map as backup

Tip: mornings on the coast are cool all year. A fleece and a windproof jacket are the two items people most often wish they had packed.

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