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### About the Lodge:

Grootberg Lodge is perched on the rim of the Etendeka Plateau with views over the Klip River Valley that are sure to take your breath away. Situated on the #Khoodi-//Hôas Conservancy, which translates to "Elephants Corner" in the native Nama, this 8,808-hectare tract of pristine wilderness will ensure you see the best of this country.

The Conservancy has set aside this land and work alongside Journey's Namibia to preserve the area, conservation of the game, increase tourism and thus benefit the Conservancy, as well as join forces with private NGOs to resolve the long-standing issue of the human-wildlife conflict.

The lodge is the first mid-market establishment in Namibia that is 100% owned by such a conservancy and was recently awarded the Sustainable Tourism Award by Green Destinations, a landmark in the Namibian Tourism Industry. This award showcases our community-led approach to natural resource management, and Grootberg is proud to be listed on the World's Top 100 sustainable destinations.

Most of the staff on Grootberg are recruited from the local community, and as they are invested in the lodge, they offer both friendliness and fantastic service. They are happy to offer information on the area, give advice on activities, and assist with any query that you might have.

The cornerstones of our philosophy are conservation, securing the well-being of the local community through funds generated by the lodge, and the best guest service we can provide in such a remote area.

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### Location:

Just 97 kilometres from Kamanjab on the C40 gravel road, Grootberg Lodge is the ideal stop-over between Etosha National Park and Swakopmund or the Skeleton Coast. The lodge is in the north-west corner of Namibia, an untamed wilderness largely untouched by modern man, thus 4x4 vehicles are advised when taking this route.

Please do enquire for details on access to the Palmwag airstrip, should you be arranging a fly-in visit.

Lodge co-ordinates: 19.850686, 14.133396 / -19° 51' 2.47"





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## Facilities:

On arrival you will be greeted by our professional and friendly staff, with cold drinks and cloths on hand to wipe the dust away. Please do advise the staff on any additional personalised requirements that you might have during your stay in order for them to better assist you and make your stay a pleasure.

The main building of the lodge offers comfortable couches, fine dining, and a well-stocked bar. The veranda stretches the length of the entire building overlooking the Klip River Valley, with plenty of seating to enjoy the view from. On a second lower level, the pool offers cool water and loungers to stretch out on, with towels available on request from reception.

Wi-Fi and a charging station for electronic devices are available in the reception area, but due to our remote location connectivity cannot be guaranteed, and we do request that large uploads or downloads be limited due to this.

There is a curio shop with wares sourced from local vendors, where again Grootberg supports and gives back to the local community. This is the perfect place to purchase mementoes of your stay with us, or gifts for those at home.

Accommodations are cosy rock and thatch chalets, with views over the valley that make waking up a pleasure. Unfortunately, due to our location and the manner in which the lodge is constructed, we are not wheelchair friendly.

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## Accommodation:

There are 14 twin and 2 family chalets, set along the edge of the plateau to offer the best views over this untamed wilderness. Built from the natural stone and with thatched roofs, you can relax on your small private deck and watch the Black Eagles soar on the updrafts as they search for prey in the valley below.



The rooms have comfortable beds with crisp linens, bedside lamps, mosquito nets, a writing desk, and hanging space for your clothes. There is a safe for valuables, and you can obtain a key from reception on payment of a small deposit. Please also ask the staff for any assistance with this if required. Ensuite bathrooms include a shower, toilet and washbasin. Complimentary toiletries are available, and towels are supplied with each room.

There is a coffee or tea station for your comfort, but due to our remote location and limited solar electricity, there are no kettles in the room. Flasks of hot water can be requested from reception at any time of day.





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## Activities:

Please always confirm departure times with reception as these can change between summer and winter and double-check what you might need to take along with you, such as appropriate headgear or footwear.

### Desert Elephant Tracking:

This is one of the most popular activities at Grootberg Lodge. Accompanied by a knowledgeable guide and tracker, you get to explore the surrounding conservancy in search of the elusive desert-adapted elephants. Once considered a sub-species of the African Bush Elephant, this is now known to not be the case. Rather than being a different species, they have as their name suggests, adapted to life in the desert and have wider feet, longer legs and smaller bodies than their relatives.

Lunch will be served in the shade of a sprawling tree, before returning to the lodge around 14:00 or 15:00. Unfortunately elephant sightings are not guaranteed, but the outing in this paradise remains an adventure.

**Departure:** 06:00 in summer and at 07:00 in winter.

**Duration:** Half day.

**Note:** Minimum 2 guests per excursion and maximum 8 per vehicle. Children under 12 get a 50% discount.

### Black Rhino Tracking:

Another popular excursion, you will begin the adventure in an open 4x4 game-viewing vehicle and descend into rhino territory with your guide and tracker. Now endangered, every effort possible is being made to ensure their longevity and protection. As they roam free in this area, sightings are not guaranteed unfortunately.

This outing will take almost a full day of driving and walking in rough terrain, so ensure you have the appropriate gear on. A good level of fitness and endurance is required. Lunch and refreshments will be enjoyed under the shade of a tree.

**Departure:** 06:00 in summer and at 07:00 in winter.

**Duration:** ¾ day.

**Note:** Minimum 2 guests per excursion and maximum 8 per vehicle. For safety reasons, no children under 16 are permitted.

### Sundowner Drive:

Scenic drives on the Etendeka Plateau offer the possibility of seeing a variety of wildlife including zebra, antelope, jackal and occasionally leopard and lion. Springbok, kudu and oryx are a common sight and even the nervous and shy klipspringers are sometimes seen leaping from ledge to ledge on the steep cliffs of the mountain.

**Departure:** 18:00 in summer and at 17:00 in winter.

**Duration:** 1.5 - 2 hrs

**Note:** Minimum 2 guests per excursion and maximum 8 per vehicle. Children under 12 get a 50% discount.

### Damara Cultural Tour:

You will be guided through some surrounding conservancy farms and visit authentic homesteads of the Damara people. This gives you an exclusive opportunity to spend time with your local Namibian hosts, learn about their origins, cultures, traditions and their approach to farming in harsh desert conditions with the reality of the human-wildlife conflict.

The tour includes a stop at the #Khoadi-/Hôas Conservancy's office, an example of the positive impact and the benefits that the conservancy derives from its ownership of Grootberg Lodge. Lunch is served under the trees in a remote spot of the Damaraland wilderness.

**Departure:** 07:00.

**Duration:** 5 hours.

**Note:** Minimum 2 guests per excursion and maximum 8 per vehicle. Children under 12 get a 50% discount.





#### Moringa Guided Walk

This walk can take place either after breakfast or the afternoon tea and freshly baked cake and will take about two hours. It centres around the local fauna and flora, and the formations of the sedimentary and volcanic rock of the Etendeka Mountains. You might even encounter some wildlife on the plateau as you stroll through the bush.

**Departure:** 07:30 or 16:30.

**Duration:** 2 hours.

**Note:** Minimum 2 guests and maximum 8 per excursion. Children under 16 are not permitted for safety reasons.

