

ERONGO MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES



ACTIVITIES - HIKING TRAILS - BIRDING - SCENIC DRIVES

All activities can be accompanied by a knowledgeable guide, who is able to provide detailed information with regards to the Fauna and Flora or lead the way to the small miners on the Boulder Forest Hike.

Take along your binoculars and camera! Our game is not "tied down", the diverse landscape offers many different feeding areas, enabling the game to move freely across the vast area.

Our hiking trails take you through sandy riverbeds, to ancient camelthorn trees, past bizarre granite structures, over mountainous areas or to old Damara dwellings in the surrounding of the lodge.

On the trails you are likely to spot Giraffe, Springbok, Oryx, Red Hartebeest, Baboon and many others, whilst enjoying the spectacular landscape.

The shortest trail is the **DAMARA TRAIL**, commencing from the terrace of the main building. Follow the sign posted route along the dry riverbed to the rocky outcrop. The trail turns right and then offers two options. One option takes you up to the two granite boulders, offering rock climbing possibilities as well as a fantastic panoramic view. The view across the valley at the foot of the Hohenstein is as spectacular as towards the west across the plains with the Spitzkoppe outcrop in the background.

The second option takes you into the valley past the old Damara dwellings. After approx. 300m the two paths meet again and the route takes you in a northerly direction. You walk across a rocky outcrop along the Kainachab across the farmland. On the mineral miners route you walk behind the small mountain range opposite the lodge to the pump station at the dry riverbed. From here the main road takes you back to the lodge.

Duration approx. 1 - 2 hours 3,5 km

The **KUDU TRAIL** takes you further along the foothills of the Kainachab, far north across the farm area offering lovely views across to the lodge and the Hohenstein. The walk takes you to the farm border, up the hills of the Kainachab, then down into the valley crossing interesting dry riverbeds. It then again takes you up gigantic granite plates. Take a break under a shady tree, before this trail joins up with the farm road that is also used for the scenic drives.

The trail offers you views across the most beautiful areas of the surrounding. Spectacular vistas vary from views across to the Hohenstein and over vast plains, where you may spot Springbok or other antelope. The diverse landscape is evident from big trees growing in the riverbeds to rocky plains with thorny bushes growing amongst soft flowers.

Duration approx. 2,5 - 3 hours 8,5 km

Entering the center of the property, surrounding the widely visible hill northeast of the lodge, the **ORYX-TRAIL** is the trail that runs through the middle of the farm. And because of its lower slopes, it's also ideal for a morning jog.

Starting below the lodge, the path turns off to the right and follows the farm road east of the mountain between the lodge and the Hohenstein. Arrived at the 'backside', you leave this road. Then the way leads up and down the farm-grounds with lots of views to the lodge, the Spitzkoppe and the vastness of the surroundings. Finally, you will reach the Rivier, where the road leads back to the lodge along with the Kudu Trail.

Duration approx. 2-2,5 hours 6,5 km

By combining the different walking trails you are offered an insight into the diverse facets of this spectacular landscape. Our knowledgeable guides will gladly accompany you offering interesting information on the Fauna and Flora.

As in many places in the Erongo, there are also some **ROCK PAINTINGS** on this farm. A short path leads from the parking at Boulder Forest to the nearest spots

BIRDING: Birds can be found in the farm area of the Hohenstein Lodge in large numbers and with a great diversity of species. At a distance of a few hundred meters from the lodge, there is, under trees, a

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spacious hide for bird watching. Protected you can sit there and discover many different species at the waterhole. The paths are well marked so that you can go on your own to photograph and observe the species-rich birdlife of Namibia.

PANORAMIC DRIVES: Experience various excursions in the natural landscape accompanied by our guide. A ride with the 'game driver' in the early morning or in the evening before sunset is particularly appealing for the observation of the wild animals. An evening sundowner drive through the fascinating varied landscape and vegetation brings unforgettable moments when giraffes, wildebeests, springboks, hartebeests, oryx and other animals encounter us on their rambles. Let yourself be invited to a sundowner drink and enjoy the simply fantastic African sunset from the sundowner platform.

NATURE EXCURSION ON THE FARM GROUNDS OF HOHENSTEIN LODGE

The guide will provide guests with detailed information and will determine the difficulty of the excursion, which lasts 3-4 hours (starting time varies from summer to winter according to daylight)

This afternoon excursion starts with a 20minutes drive on a game drive car to the starting point of the guided hiking tour and leads to the most interesting landscape of the farm, characterized by spectacular rock formations and fascinating vegetation. The experienced nature guide will explain the geological highlights of the Erongo mountains as well as the special vegetation of the area. The minerals found on the mountain - semi-precious stones like tourmaline and aquamarine are mined here - are just as much a subject as the rock paintings of the Bushmen. With some luck, giraffes, various antelope species or other animals can also be spotted.

On the way back, spectacular views including the sun setting behind the majestic Spitzkoppe mountain and amazing photographic opportunities are waiting. After having a sundowner on a beautiful place, another twenty minutes drive leads back to the lodge.

The excursion will take place in the afternoon (from two persons), if not otherwise desired by the guests and by arrangement. The guide speaks English and the duration varies according to the fitness and interest of the guests. Water and sundowner drinks are included

Duration approx. 3 - 4 hours

The **FILM** DOCUMENTATION 'small miner' about the mineral miners can be seen on the Youtube channel of ONDILI
We are happy to offer you the opportunity to watch the movie at the lodge!

TAKE THE BIKE!

Hohenstein Lodge offers four mountain bikes on a first-come first-serve base for sportive nature excursions on the farm roads

EXCURSIONS IN THE VICINITY are ideal for those who stay several days at Hohenstein Lodge.

Our neighboring farm AMEIB is famous for its granite rocks called 'Bull's Party' and the rock paintings in 'Philipps Cave'. Day guests can visit the farm for an entrance fee.

The SPITZKOPPE Massive can be reached within an hour by car. There you can climb, hike or just look around at the solitary mountain range.

The Usakos crystal market is an EU-sponsored project where various traders in a community market offer their minerals for sale.

The Erongo 'living museum' of the San shows the traditional way of life of the San.