



P.O. Box 328 Opuwo, Tel: +264 81 355 4955/ +264 81 488 1484, MR122 Road (Litananga) 16km

Half Day Culture & History Excursion

Visit Uukwaluudhi Royal Homestead, and the impressive Ombalantu Baobab Tree and learn how Namibia gained its Independence.

The Uukwaluudhi Royal Homestead situated in the Tsandi Village where the local King Josia Shikongo Taapopi lives. The King now lives in a modern house, but the old residence complex has been kept and it is possible to visit the homestead and learn more about the people's culture, traditions and history.

Uutapi (also Outapi) village was part of an old military base during the former South African army occupation in Namibia. The village is very close to Angolan and was strategic in the years while the bush-war was raged against "PLAN" (Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia).

The town is well-known for the 'Ombalantu Baobab Tree' which has had a very important role as Post Office, Chapel and even prison in earlier years.

The Baobab itself is interesting for the many uses it has had. We learned that it was carved in the inside (it still is) and had a hole at the top. As a kind of static 'Troy horse', it could keep groups of warriors hidden inside, ready to surprise the enemy.

Currently it is under the management of the Ombalantu Baobab Tree Heritage Centre.

Oral story telling by the village guides shed more light on the history of the tree and struggle for independence.

A wide range of handcraft, baskets and clay pots can be found at the open village market.

To the west of Tsandi is the historic site where the first shots of the liberation struggle were fired. August 26, 1966, marked the start of nearly 30 years of violence in Namibia. On this day, the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) attacked a group of forces from the South African Colonial Apartheid regime at Ongulumbashe. For the next 24 years, the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) and the South African Colonial Apartheid regime were at war. On March 21, 1990, Namibia officially gained independence from South Africa. To honor those who lost their lives fighting for national freedom, Namibia has designated August 26 as Heroes' Day. On this day, thousands of Namibians gather at Ongulumbashe to celebrate with traditional praise songs and dances and the re-enactment of the battle of Ongulumbashe, which concludes with the raising of the Namibian flag in the same manner as the real fighters did after each triumph during the war.



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Explore the core of the Omusati region

- Culture groups consist of Owambo; Herero; Himba; Dhemba and San people.
- Languages spoken are mainly Oshiwambo; Otjiherero and Himba.
- Topographical features are typical flat landscape of savannah, woodland and small hills dotting the landscape.
- Annual rain fall for the region is approximately 350 to 400 mm.

Activity specifications

- Departure time - after breakfast at 07h00
- Duration of activity – 6 hours
- Return to the lodge for lunch
- Total distance – approximately 280km
- Travel in comfortable air-conditioned vehicle – max 20 pax
- Minimum - 2 persons on activity
- Activity includes soft drinks and bottled water on board
- Entry and guiding fees at the villages are included

Total Nett Price: N\$713.00 per person (Inclusive of VAT).
