



## Kunene Birding Tour 2027

### “Kunene Specials: Namibia’s Most Wanted Birding Tour”

#### Primary Targets:

- Angola Cave Chat
- Cinderella Waxbill
- Rufous-tailed Palm Thrush
- Grey Kestrel
- Red-necked Spurfowl (*afer* subspecies)
- Kunene Francolin
- Meve’s Starling (*violacior* race)
- Ansonge’s Firefinch

#### Additional Regional Specials & Highlights:

- Herero Chat
- White-tailed Shrike
- Bare-cheeked Babbler
- Hartlaub’s Spurfowl
- Rüppell’s Korhaan
- Monteiro’s Hornbill
- Violet Woodhoopoe
- Carp’s Tit
- Rockrunner
- Dune & Gray’s Lark
- Damara Red-billed Hornbill
- Rüppell’s Parrot
- Rosy-faced Lovebird

Namibia’s remote north-west offers one of southern Africa’s most rewarding and least-explored birding experiences. From the stark beauty of the Namib Desert to the lush Kunene Riverine woodlands and the rugged Erongo Mountains, this tour is designed to showcase the region’s highly sought-after near-endemics and specials.

Travelling north from Swakopmund through Damaraland to the Kunene River, we explore a range of habitats that support Namibia’s most elusive species. Highlights include the Kunene specials — Angola Cave Chat, Cinderella Waxbill, Rufous-tailed Palm Thrush, and Grey Kestrel — alongside coastal desert gems such as Dune Lark and Gray’s Lark.

In the Erongo Mountains, we target localised species like Rüppell’s Parrot, Hartlaub’s Spurfowl, Rockrunner, and White-tailed Shrike, while the journey through Damaraland offers the thrilling possibility of spotting desert-adapted wildlife, including elephant and black rhino.

This small-group tour combines expert guiding, carefully timed birding sessions, and comfortable lodges to maximise both species encounters and overall experience, making it a truly immersive Namibian adventure.

Seasonal conditions and local knowledge will guide our daily approach, ensuring the best possible chances of encountering these species.



Grey Kestrel



Cinderella Waxbill



Bennett's  
Woodpecker



Rufous-tailed Palm  
Thrush



Angola Cave Chat



White-tailed Shrike



Red-necked  
Spurfwowl



Rockrunner



Rosy-faced  
Lovebird



Herero Chat



Hartlaub's Spurfwowl



Dune Lark

### **Habitats & Birding Experience**

This tour traverses a remarkable diversity of habitats:

- **Kunene Riverine Woodland** – lush linear habitat supporting key specials
- **Mopane Woodland** – productive and species-rich
- **Rocky Escarpment & Mountains** – ideal for near-endemics
- **Namib Desert & Gravel Plains** – stark but surprisingly rewarding
- **Coastal Lagoon Systems** – excellent for waders and waterbirds

The combination of these ecosystems ensures not only strong target species potential, but also an impressive overall bird list.

### **Transport**

- Fully guided in a comfortable safari vehicle
- All road transfers included
- Collection and drop-off at Walvis Bay International Airport

### **Pace & Style**

- Early morning and late afternoon birding sessions
- Midday breaks where appropriate
- Moderate travel distances balanced with dedicated birding time

### **Why Travel with The Naturalist Collection**

At The Naturalist Collection, we specialise in immersive, expertly guided natural history tours across Namibia and beyond.

#### **What sets us apart:**

##### **Deep Local Expertise**

Based in Namibia, we have extensive on-the-ground knowledge of birding sites, seasonal movements, and species behaviour — critical for finding highly localised species like the Kunene specials.

##### **Specialist-Guided Experiences**

Our tours are led by experienced guides who understand not only identification, but also habitat, calls, and bird behaviour — maximising both sightings and overall experience.

##### **Carefully Designed Itineraries**

Every route is crafted to balance **target species success**, travel comfort, and habitat diversity.

##### **Small Group Advantage**

Limited group sizes ensure flexibility in the field, better guiding, and a more personal experience.

### Comfortable Accommodation

We make use of well-located lodges that provide comfort without compromising access to key birding areas.

### Multi-Disciplinary Knowledge

While bird-focused, our guides also bring insight into Namibia's landscapes, mammals, reptiles, and flora — enriching the overall journey.

### Itinerary Overview

Day	2027	Accommodation, Destination	Meals
1	06.07	Pension Rapmund, Swakopmund	D
2	07.07	Hobatere Lodge, Western Etosha	B, L, D
3	08.07	Kunene River Lodge, Kunene River	B, L, D
4	09.07	Kunene River Lodge, Kunene River	B, L, D
5	10.07	Kunene River Lodge, Kunene River	B, L, D
6	11.07	Damara Mopane Lodge, Khorixas	B, L, D
7	12.07	Ameib Guest House, Erongo Mountains	B, L, D
8	13.07	Lagoon Lodge, Walvis Bay	B, L, D
9	14.07	Depart from Walvis Bay Airport	B

#### Cost per person sharing:

3 people: N\$ 66,446.00

4 people: N\$ 59,120.00

5 people: N\$ 54,572.00

6 people: N\$ 50,253.00

7 people: N\$ 46,835.00

Single Supplement: N\$ 3,200.00

#### The above quote includes:

- Accommodation and meals as per above itinerary
- Vehicle, fuel and passenger liability
- Daily mineral water in the vehicle while travelling
- Specialised birding guide
- Birding checklists
- Airport transfers

#### The above quote excludes:

- Flights, visas, travel insurance
- Gratuities, laundry, telephone calls and other items of a personal nature

- Drinks
- Pre- or post-tour expenses
- Any pandemic-related expenses

## **Terms & Conditions**

### **1. Prices & Tour Costs**

- All prices quoted are based on current costs and exchange rates. Should there be unforeseen increases in tour-related costs (including fuel, park fees, taxes, or supplier rate increases), we reserve the right to adjust prices accordingly.
- For set departure tours, rates are based on group tariffs. If a set departure tour does not reach the minimum required number of participants, a small group supplement may apply.
- Tailor-made tours are priced individually based on the agreed itinerary and number of participants.

### **2. Bookings & Payments**

- Namibia-based tours:  
A 20% non-refundable deposit is required to confirm your booking.
- Outbound international tours:  
A 50% non-refundable deposit is required to confirm your booking.
- The balance of payment is payable 45 days prior to departure, unless otherwise specified in writing.
- Once a booking is confirmed, cancellation penalties apply immediately.

### **3. Cancellations & Missed Services**

- The relevant cancellation policy applies should you fail to start or continue your journey for any reason, including airline delays, missed connections, illness, or personal circumstances.
- No refunds will be given for unused services.
- We strongly recommend comprehensive travel insurance to cover cancellations and curtailment.

### **4. Travel Insurance (Essential)**

All guests must have comprehensive travel insurance covering:

- Medical expenses
- Emergency evacuation and repatriation
- Trip cancellation and curtailment
- Personal liability and loss of luggage

Travel in remote areas involves risks, and medical facilities may be limited. Batis Birding Safaris cannot be held responsible for guests travelling without adequate insurance.

## **5. Medical Fitness & Health**

By confirming a booking, guests confirm that they are medically fit to participate in the tour and that they have disclosed any relevant medical conditions, allergies, disabilities, or special requirements at the time of booking.

Batis Birding Safaris reserves the right to prevent a guest from participating in any activity if, in the opinion of the guide or local operator, participation may pose a risk to the guest or others. No refunds will be given in such cases.

## **6. Inherent Risks & Assumption of Risk**

Travel in Africa involves inherent risks, including but not limited to:

- Wildlife encounters
- Accidents and injuries
- Illness or disease
- Rough road conditions
- Boat and light aircraft travel
- Weather-related disruptions
- Political or civil unrest

By confirming a booking, guests acknowledge and accept these risks and agree that Batis Birding Safaris cannot be held liable for any injury, illness, loss, damage, delay or inconvenience arising from such risks.

## **7. Itineraries & Changes**

Due to circumstances beyond our control, itineraries may need to be changed or adjusted at short or no notice. We will always endeavour to adhere as closely as possible to the original itinerary, but no refunds will be given for changes caused by weather, safety considerations, wildlife movement, or operational requirements.

## **8. Wildlife Viewing**

Wildlife sightings, including specific species, are never guaranteed.

No refunds will be given for missed sightings or activities affected by weather, animal behaviour, or park regulations.

## **9. Gorilla & Chimpanzee Tracking (Uganda)**

- Primate tracking permits (gorillas and chimpanzees) are strictly regulated and are non-refundable once issued.

- Guests must comply fully with all rules set by the Uganda Wildlife Authority, including age limits, health requirements, and guide instructions. Failure to comply may result in denied participation without refund.

#### **10. Charter Flights & Light Aircraft**

Charter and light aircraft flights are subject to weather conditions, airstrip availability, operational constraints, and strict luggage limits. Delays or changes may occur at short notice.

Batis Birding Safaris cannot be held responsible for missed connections or additional costs arising from charter flight disruptions.

#### **11. Third-Party Suppliers & Service Disclaimer**

Batis Birding Safaris acts as an agent for third-party suppliers such as lodges, transport operators, charter companies, guides, and activity providers. We do not own or control these suppliers and cannot be held liable for their acts, omissions, or failure to deliver services as contracted.

Accommodation suggestions are made with great care and professionalism, drawing on first-hand experience where possible and trusted industry partnerships. While we strive to recommend properties that meet the expected standards of comfort and service, accommodation quality and service delivery remain the responsibility of the individual providers.

The Company and Consultant cannot accept liability for variations in service, cleanliness, food quality, or facilities. Clients are advised to review the proposed accommodations prior to confirming the booking. Once the quote is accepted and reservations are made, any changes or upgrades requested thereafter may incur additional costs and are subject to availability.

The Company shall not be liable for any loss, damage, injury, or inconvenience caused by or arising from the acts or omissions of any third-party supplier.

#### **12. Guest Conduct & Group Harmony**

Our tours are designed to be safe, respectful, and enjoyable for all guests, guides, local communities, and wildlife. We ask all guests to behave responsibly and to follow the guidance of tour leaders and local regulations at all times.

In rare circumstances, if a guest's behaviour is deemed unsafe, illegal, or significantly disruptive, or places people, wildlife, or conservation efforts at risk, Batis Birding Safaris reserves the right to limit participation in certain activities or, as a last resort, remove the guest from the tour.

Any such decision will be made in the best interests of safety and group wellbeing. No refunds will be given in these circumstances.

#### **13. Passports & Visas**

Passports must be valid for at least six months after travel and contain at least three blank visa pages (not endorsement pages).

All visa requirements are the responsibility of the traveller. If you have any questions, please contact us prior to travel.

#### 14. Photography, Filming & Drones

Photography and filming may be restricted in certain areas. The use of drones is often prohibited or requires special permits.

Guests are responsible for obtaining any required permits. We cannot be held liable for confiscation of equipment or penalties imposed by authorities.

#### 15. Force Majeure

We cannot be held liable for delays, changes or cancellations caused by events beyond our control, including but not limited to extreme weather, natural disasters, epidemics, strikes, political unrest, border closures, airline failures, or government action.



Batis Birding Safaris | Desert Day & Night Tours | Namibian Naturalist | Braine Photography

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