



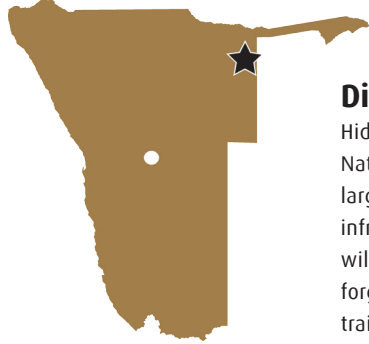
*Khaudum is wilderness; quintessential Kalahari woodland wilderness.  
Feel it!*

# Khaudum National Park

PARK INFORMATION

NAMIBIA'S NATIONAL PARKS





## Discover the Khaudum National Park

Hidden away in Namibia's Kavango East Region, the Khaudum National Park is not to be taken lightly. Rarely visited, very large, extremely wild and with only a rudimentary tourist infrastructure, it could be described as Namibia's 'forgotten wilderness'. If you have an adventurous streak, however, forgetting it would be a big mistake! Master the rugged 4x4 trails that weave through plains and thick Kalahari forests. The trails may come as a shock to those used to 'the path well travelled' – the park receives fewer visitors than elephants in a year. Relax at one of the viewing platforms and enjoy watching the wildlife that congregates around the waterholes. The Khaudum National Park is home to large herds of elephants and the African wild dog (Africa's most endangered large predator).

## An open park

Few physical boundaries exist in Khaudum National Park. This open-park system ensures that wildlife can pursue hereditary migratory routes to and from the water-rich Kavango River and floodplains, including the Okavango Delta, a mere 150 km from the park boundary. Wildlife migratory routes link Namibia, Botswana and Angola under a protective legislative coat. In addition, Khaudum NP is the only park in Namibia that protects the Northern Kalahari Sandveld biome, portrayed as forest savannah and woodland. Interspersed with flat, clay pans and a series of *omiramba*, a Herero word meaning 'vague river beds' that provide water for a few months in the year, the park attracts wildlife and visitors year round. Khaudum National Park is also one of the few refuges in which rare and endangered species such as roan antelope and African wild dog can roam freely, underlining the important conservation status of the park.



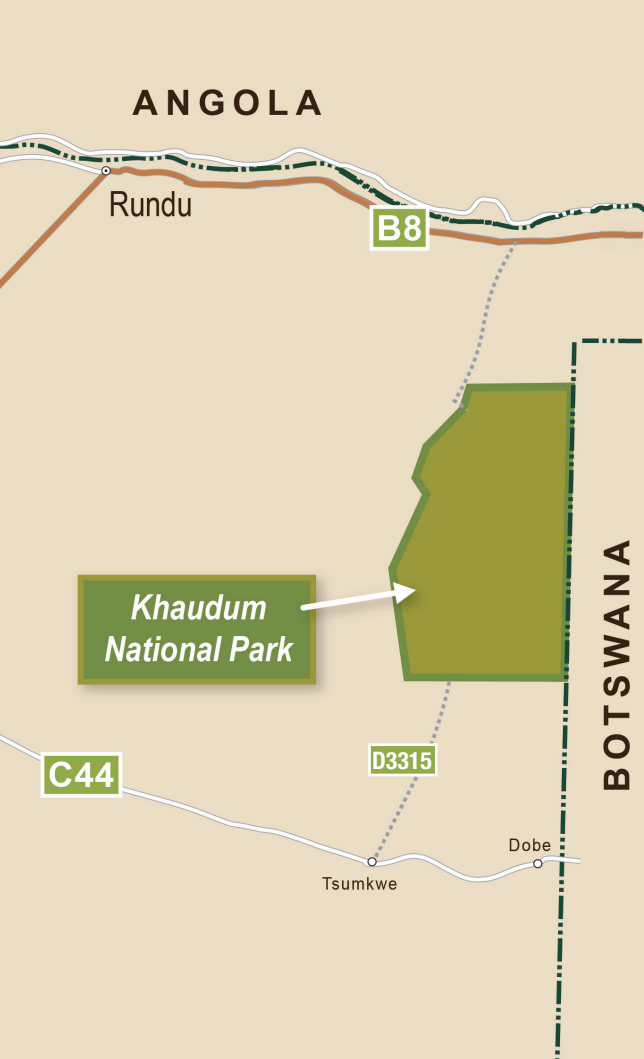
## A long, varied history

For millennia, the land in and around where the Khaudum National Park now stands has been home to clans of hunter/gatherers. With the disruption of traditional social systems, these groups inhabit a cultural hinterland in conservancies and villages around the park that blends ancient and modern. Hunting within park boundaries is prohibited but conservation-driven community development is fuelled by the existence of the Khaudum National Park. The absence of fences allows free movement of wildlife into locally owned land, enhancing tourism potential and providing much-needed income to communities. The Gciriku Traditional Authority, Muduva Nyangana and George Mukoya conservancies to the north of Khaudum, and the Nyae Nyae conservancy to the south, benefit directly from the two tourist camps within the park, Sikereti Camp in the south and Khaudum Camp in the north. Entering an age of conservation where the protection of wildlife and the support of rural communities goes hand in hand, these camps are privately run in conjunction with the local conservancies.

## Off the beaten track

The Khaudum National Park is all about adventure, and half of the adventure is simply getting there! The Ministry of Environment and Tourism recommends a minimum of two vehicles per party, provisions for three days and 100 litres of water per vehicle per day. Travel is slow, heavy on fuel, and your 4x4 must be constantly engaged. Within the park, tracks tend to follow *omiramba* or link several waterholes together. There are two access points to Khaudum National Park. From the south you can enter via the Tsumkwe road. From the north, use the Katere road. All roads, including the access points, require 4x4 vehicles, due to heavy, loose sand. Visitors are advised to reduce tyre pressure by at least 33% to cope with the soft sand. There is no fuel available in the park. The closest fuel stations are Grootfontein (350 km from Sikereti camp), Tsumkwe (52 km from Sikereti Camp), Rundu (170 km from Khaudum Camp) and Bagani/Divundu (150 km from Khaudum Camp). There is a state clinic on the Katere-Khaudum camp road that is approximately 37 km from Khaudum Camp.

“ *The Khaudum National Park was established with conservation in mind, and not for cash generation. This simple guiding characteristic gave birth to the true wilderness feel that embraces one’s soul when visiting the park. It is wild, and we want to keep it like that.* ”

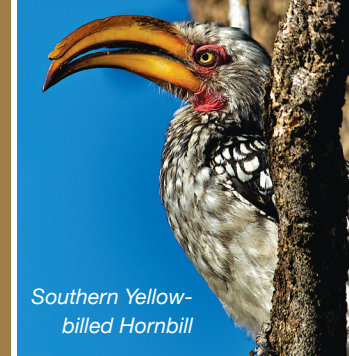


## Environmental Care Code

Please adhere to the following:

- Be cautious of elephants and keep well away from breeding herds.
- For your own safety, travel in the park with a minimum of two 4x4 vehicles.
- Remove all your rubbish from the park.
- Light fires only in designated camping areas.
- Stay on established roads and tracks.
- Keep to the rules and regulations listed on your permit.

*Enjoy the adventure!*



*Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill*

## Facilities:

Khaudum campsite is privately run by Namibia Exclusive Safaris. Namibia Exclusive Safaris has also built a luxury lodge at Khaudum. Very basic camping facilities exist at Sikereti. Keep in mind that for supplies the nearest places are Grootfontein and Rundu. No fresh produce is available within Khaudum or surrounding villages. The water at both Khaudum and Sikereti is suitable for drinking. At Tsumkwe the medical infrastructure is limited to a nurse.

## How to get there:

The park can be accessed via the D3315 from Tsumkwe in the south, or from the Katere 4x4 track which turns off of the B8 some 114 km east of Rundu or 87 km west of Divundu.

## Fact File:

- Proclamation date: Khaudum Nature Reserve was proclaimed in 1989. In February 2007, the reserve was given national park status.
- Size: 3 874 km<sup>2</sup>
- Rainfall: Approximately 500 mm of rain annually, starting November and lasting up to April.
- Temperature: Average minimum 6°C during July (winter) and average maximum 38°C. Temperatures can reach 45°C during summer.

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