

# Namibia, Botswana and Falls

## 14 days | Windhoek to Victoria Falls



### SMALL GROUP ACCOMMODATED

**SAFARI:** Embark upon an amazing two week overland adventure in Southern Africa, staying in comfortable lodge accommodation. From Windhoek take in the highlights of Namibia and Botswana, en route to Zimbabwe's spectacular Victoria Falls. Travel through incredible landscapes, scale the towering Sossusvlei dunes and encounter wonderful wildlife on safari in Etosha and Chobe National Parks. Explore the waterways of the Okavango Delta, cruise the Chobe River and much more along the way.

### HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

#### Trip Highlights

- Namib-Naukluft National Park - scramble up the giant dunes of Sossusvlei, explore Deadvlei and hike through the Sesriem Canyon
- Swakopmund - stroll around this charming German colonial town and join an optional dolphin cruise or scenic flight

- Damaraland - take in the spectacular scenery of this wild, mountainous region
- Etosha National Park - spend two days exploring Namibia's premier game reserve and head out in search of lions, elephants and more on game drives
- Okavango Delta - explore the network of watery pathways through the delta on guided nature walks, mokoro and boat excursions
- Chobe National Park - search for wildlife on safari and enjoy a cruise on the Chobe River to spot crocodiles and enjoy a magical sunset
- Victoria Falls - finish your tour in this charming Zimbabwean town which is home to the spectacular Victoria Falls

#### What's Included

- 13 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 10 dinners
- 13 nights mid-range (3-4 star) lodges with en suite facilities
- Windhoek Hosea Kutako International Airport transfer on day 1
- In 2023 a Victoria Falls International Airport departure transfer will be included on day 14. In 2022 it can be booked for a supplement.
- Etosha - afternoon game drive in a 4x4 open vehicle and one game

drive in our overland lodge vehicle (4x4 open vehicle in 2023)

- Okavango Delta - mokoro trip, scenic boat tour and game walks
- Sesriem - 5km guided walk to Dead Vlei
- Chobe National Park - morning game drive and afternoon Chobe River Cruise
- Transport in a 16 seater overland lodge vehicle
- Services of an experienced local guide/driver
- Etosha and Chobe National Park entrance fees

#### What's Not Included

- International flights and visas
- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture
- Optional activities, additional meals and drinks
- Victoria Falls NP entrance fee and excursions

#### Local Payment

ZAR/NAD 2500, to be paid in cash

### DETAILED ITINERARY

#### Day 1 : Windhoek

Welcome to Namibia! Upon arrival at Hosea Kutako International Airport, you'll be met and transferred to our start

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 UK 020 4571 1381 USA 866 616 5394  
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hotel in Windhoek. The rest of the day is free to relax or head out and explore Namibia's capital city.

Accommodation: Safari Court Hotel (or similar)

## Overnight - Windhoek

### Days 2-3 : Sossusvlei & Sesriem



Windhoek - Sesriem. Our journey on day 2 takes us south through ever-changing scenery to our accommodation located on the edge of the Namib Desert. The following morning is an early departure for Sossusvlei, stopping in the dune belt to witness the changing colours of the world's highest sand dunes. We enjoy a leisurely 5km walk to Sossusvlei and Deadvlei, and in the afternoon there's a short hike through the Sesriem Canyon.

Day 2 distance: 520kms (7hrs)

Accommodation: Desert Quiver Camp (or similar)

**Overnight - Sesriem (2)** (B:2, D:2)

### Day 4 : Swakopmund



Sesriem - Swakopmund. Leaving the desert behind, we reach the coast at Walvis Bay and enjoy lunch while viewing the many flamingos feeding.

Arrive in Swakopmund and spend the afternoon and the following morning exploring this German colonial town or booking one of the numerous optional excursions (own expense).

Activities available include dolphin cruises or scenic flights over the vast Namib Desert.

Distance: 380kms (6hrs)

Accommodation: The Delight Swakopmund (or similar) **Overnight - Swakopmund (B)**

### Day 5 : Damaraland



Swakopmund - Damaraland. After a leisurely morning we depart at lunchtime and drive inland through the Damaraland region with its vast and rugged terrain. Its mountain ranges are intercepted by wide gravel plains, which run into sandy, vegetated riverbeds and hot, dry valleys. The views along the route are spectacular, and we stop to meet some of the native Herero tribe and shop at a Herero market.

Our lodge is located on top of a mountain with spectacular views of the surrounding area. Spend the late afternoon taking in the incredible setting.

The lodge provides a unique African experience with friendly staff and delicious cuisine that will make visitors feel at home. Indulge in the breathtaking view while enjoying a refreshing drink and the overwhelming experience of bathing in a splash pool constructed in the natural rocks at the

top of the mountain surrounded by unspoilt valleys and bush.

Distance: 380kms (6hrs)

Accommodation: Ugab Terrace Lodge (or similar) **Overnight - Damaraland (B, D)**

### Days 6-7 : Etosha National Park



Damaraland - Etosha National Park. On day 6 you'll proceed to Etosha National Park and enjoy our first game drive in open 4x4 vehicles from our lodge, located just outside the park entrance. The park's main characteristic is a salt pan so large it can be seen from space. Yet there is abundant wildlife that congregates around the waterholes.

Etosha is one of the most important reserves and game sanctuaries in Africa, home to thousands of wild animals such as blue wildebeest, springbok, zebra, kudu, giraffe, cheetah, leopard, lion and elephant.

Day 7 is spent game driving through the park from west to east. We spend the night at the Mokuti Etosha Lodge, which is housed in a private 4,000-hectare game reserve.

Day 6 distance: 200kms (3hrs)

Accommodation (day 6): Etosha Village (or similar)

Day 7 distance: 150kms

Accommodation (day 7): Mokuti Lodge (or similar)

**2023 itinerary change:** In 2023 we will spend both nights in Etosha at Etosha Village and on day 7 the full day game drive will be in open 4x4 vehicles from the lodge.

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## Overnight – Etosha South (1), Etosha East (1) (B:2, D:2)

### Day 8 : Okavango River

Etosha National Park – Rundu. Today we depart Etosha and enter the Caprivi Strip where we spend the night at a lodge set amongst the lush vegetation overlooking the Okavango River and Angola.

An optional afternoon boat cruise on the river is available. Our accommodation tonight is the Hakusembe River Lodge. The lodge is located 16km west of Rundu on the B 10 (Okavango). It is a lush green oasis on the banks of the Okavango River.

Distance: 420kms (6hrs)

Accommodation: Hakusembe River Lodge (or similar)

## Overnight – Rundu (B, D)

### Days 9–10 : Okavango Delta



Rundu – Okavango Delta (Botswana). Continuing further into the Caprivi Strip, we cross into Botswana and travel by road to our lodge, located on the banks of the Okavango River, in the Okavango Panhandle. Day 10 sees us boarding a mokoro to explore the waterways of the delta. Our mokoro and boat excursions are in the back channels of the Nxamasire area of the delta. Nature walks are also offered on the smaller islands in the area subject to the water levels of the delta.

Day 9 distance: 300kms (4hrs)

Accommodation: Swamp Stop Chalets (or similar)

## Overnight – Okavango Delta (2) (B:2, L:1, D:2)

### Days 11–12 : Chobe National Park



Okavango Delta – Chobe National Park. On day 11 we cross back into Namibia and continue travelling through the Caprivi Strip, crossing back into Botswana via Chobe National Park. Our lodge at the edge of Chobe National Park is situated in Kasane, on the banks of the Chobe River. Right on the doorstep is the meeting of four African countries: Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

On day 12 we enjoy a morning game drive in Chobe National Park, and in the afternoon we spot wildlife on a sunset boat cruise along the Chobe River, looking out for elephants, crocodiles, hippos and other animals coming to drink.

Day 11 distance: 540kms (9hrs)

Accommodation: Chobe Safari Lodge

## Overnight – Chobe National Park (2)

(B:2, D:2)

### Day 13 : Victoria Falls



Chobe National Park – Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe). This morning we travel across the Zimbabwean border to the town of Victoria Falls. The afternoon is free for you to visit the thundering Victoria Falls, without doubt one of the greatest and most spectacular

sights in Africa (park entrance not included). You can also browse the local craft markets and experience the many optional activities on offer in the adrenalin capital of Africa. Optional activities include helicopter flights over the falls or a sunset cruise to the foot of the cascade (book and pay locally).

Distance: 100kms (3hrs)

Accommodation: Cresta Sprayview Hotel (or similar) **Overnight – Victoria Falls (B)**

### Day 14 : Victoria Falls

Our overland adventure comes to an end after breakfast and hotel check out today.

**Please Note:** In 2023 a departure transfer to Victoria Falls Airport will be included. In 2022 it can be booked upon request for a supplement. We can also book post tour accommodation upon request.  
(B)

## BEFORE YOU GO

### Please Note

**This Handpicked tour is operated by a trusted partner and you will join travellers who booked through different tour operators, not solely On The Go Tours.**

Namibia, Botswana & Falls is a small group, lodge accommodated overland safari. This safari operates with a minimum of 4 and maximum of 16 passengers, accompanied by a tour guide who is also the driver.

**Important:** This tour is recommended for healthy, active participants looking for an adventurous holiday.

### COVID-19 Vaccination requirements

As of 01 November 2021 it is a condition of travel, as detailed in our Terms & Conditions that all travellers over 18 years provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination.

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We recognise any vaccine that has been authorised for use in the country where the vaccine was administered. This includes vaccines such as AstraZeneca, Covaxin, Johnson & Johnson, Moderna, Pfizer-BioNtech, Sinopharm, Sinovac and Sputnik.

In all instances, you must be fully immunised. This means you must receive the full dosage of the COVID-19 vaccine and allow a minimum of 14 days before travelling in order for immunity to take effect. Each COVID-19 vaccine has different dosages and timeframes for immunisation, so please check the related medical advice associated with your vaccine. Children under 18 years are not required to provide evidence of vaccination to travel at this time.

If you are unable to be vaccinated due to medical reasons, you may apply for an exemption. Exemptions will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. To apply, you must provide supporting documentation from a medical professional.

Proof of COVID-19 immunisation must be provided to us **no less than 4 weeks prior to travel**. We accept COVID-19 digital certificates, NHS Covid Pass or Vaccination Record Cards e-mailed to [info@onthegotours.com](mailto:info@onthegotours.com) or you can upload your vaccination history yourself via our traveller login. <https://www.onthegotours.com/Login>

The information you will need to upload includes: Administering national authority or government, document No, name of Vaccine, date/s of vaccination.

## Passports & visas

Please ensure that you have at least two blank pages in your passport, plus an additional blank page for each visa/ African country you are visiting.

Please also note that your passport must be valid for a minimum of six months from the end date of your trip.

Visa requirements and fees are subject to change. It is essential that you check the current entry requirements with each relevant embassy/consulate prior to departure. Visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not of On The Go.

## Optional Activities

During your tour there will be various optional excursions available to you. Please note these optional activities are operated by independent third-party suppliers. Some of these activities involve outdoor adventure, and as such contain an element of risk. You should only participate in activities that you feel comfortable you can handle. Please remember to check if your travel insurance covers these adventure activities. On arrival there will be a detailed description of each activity to read through before booking.

Please note rates quoted below are a guideline only and are subject to change. Payable locally with cash or debit/credit card.

### NAMIBIA

- Okavango River Sunset Boat Cruise – ND\$355pp (1.5 hrs)
- Swakopmund Township Tour ND \$600pp (3 hrs)
- Swakopmund Dolphin Cruise ND \$1045pp (3 hrs)
- Swakopmund Living Desert Tour ND \$850pp (4-5 hrs)
- Swakopmund Scenic Flights: (minimum 2 pax – cost reduces as numbers increase with max 5)
  - Skeleton Coast North Flight (2-5 pax) – ND\$4800pp to ND\$12,000pp (2hr 15min)
  - Coastal Impression Flight (2-5pax) – ND\$2520pp to ND\$6300pp (1 hr)
  - Sossusfly Flight (2-5 pax) – ND\$4800 – ND\$12,000 (2hr 15min)

### BOTSWANA

- Okavango Delta Scenic Helicopter Flights (3 pax per flight)
  - 30 mins USD200pp
  - 45 mins USD270pp

- Chobe NP Game Drive: USD46pp + USD12 park fees (3 hrs)

### ZIMBABWE – Victoria Falls

Below rates exclude national park entrance fees

- Adventure Pass – USD302pp + park fees:
  - Any 2 of the following Wild Horizons Activities & a sunset cruise for almost free! – ‘Big 5’ Night Drive + Dinner, Half day Highwire Pass, 13 min Helicopter Flight
  - Guided Tour of the Falls – USD21pp + USD30 entrance fee
  - 12-13 min helicopter flight – USD150pp + USD15 park fee
  - 25-30 min helicopter flight – USD284pp + USD15 park fee
  - 15 min microlight flight – USD150pp + USD15 Government fee
  - Sunset Cruise – USD45pp + USD10 River fees
    - Ra-ikane, Luxury Sunset Cruise – USD75pp + USD10 River fees
    - Wild Horizons Malachite Dinner Cruise – USD86pp + USD10 River fees
    - Flying Fox – USD50pp + USD3 park fees
    - Zip Line – USD80pp + USD3 park fees
    - Gorge Swing – USD100pp + USD3 park fees
    - Canopy Tour – USD61pp + USD3 park fees (2-2.5 hrs)
    - Bungee Jump – USD160pp excl transfers
    - Horse Riding Zambezi National Park USD95pp + park fee (2.5-3 hrs)
    - Bicycle Tours USD45pp (2hrs)
    - White Water Rafting (grade 5 rapids) including lunch
      - Low Water (10 Aug – 25 Dec) – USD120pp + USD10 River fees (7 hrs)
      - High Water (26 Dec – 09 Aug) – USD120pp + USD10 River fees (6.5 hrs)
    - Livingstone Island (Jul – Nov) in Zambia
      - L/stone Island Breakfast Breezer – USD115pp
      - L/stone Island Lunch – USD180pp
      - L/stone Island High Tea – USD155pp

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## Travelling Times and Distances

All travelling times are affected by road conditions, border crossings, detours and weather conditions, therefore on certain days travelling times may be longer than anticipated especially where there is a lot of distance to be covered. Please keep in mind that the time it takes to travel 100 km in your home country is not equivalent to the time it takes to travel 100 km on African roads, therefore we encourage you to sit back and enjoy the spectacular scenery Africa has to offer. Where possible additional stops will be made to ensure your travelling comfort at all times.

## Insurance

It is compulsory for all travellers to have insurance covering their personal requirements, medical expenses and personal possessions. This is to be arranged before leaving your home country.

## Botswana Country Guide

### Vaccinations

You should seek medical advice before travelling to Botswana from your local health practitioner and ensure that you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As a guide Polio, Diphtheria, Hepatitis A and Tetanus is strongly recommended. Rabies may also be recommended. There is the risk of malaria in certain areas of Botswana so it is very important to check with your doctor before you go, to see whether malarial medication is required for the areas you are visiting. A valid Yellow Fever vaccination certificate is also required if travelling into Botswana and you have previously been in an infected country.

### Currency & Banking

The currency of Botswana is the Botswana Pulas (BWP) 1 Pula = 100 Thebe. Notes are in denominations of BWP10, 20, 50 and 100.

Coins are in denominations of BWP1, 50, 25, 10, 5, 1.

There are no restrictions on the import of local or foreign currencies, provided they are declared on arrival. Export of local currency is limited to BWP50 and foreign currencies up to the amount declared on arrival. It is easy to change most forms of currency including US \$, GBP, Euros and South African Rand. The best place to change money in Botswana is the bureau de changes as banks charge commission to change either cash or travellers cheques. ATMs are available in all main towns, cities, shopping centres and most petrol stations. MasterCard, Visa, American Express and Diners Club are all widely accepted.

Travellers cheques should be in US Dollars or Pound Sterling to avoid additional exchange rate charges. Proof of identity may be requested in some instances, so it's useful to carry a passport or some form of photo identification. In large cities travellers cheques can incur a high surcharge.

Banking hours: Mon-Fri 0900-1530, Sat 0830-1100.

### Time & Voltage

Time Zone - Botswana is 2 hours ahead of GMT. Daylight saving time is not observed.

The standard voltage is 220 - 240V. Primary sockets require a 'Type M' - South African, electrical plug which has three thick circular pins. You will need a voltage converter, and plug adapter in order to use U.S. appliances.

### Climate

Botswana's climate is mainly temperate. During the summer months (October-April) the weather can be very hot with daytime temperatures of around 30 Celsius and higher. The rainy season (typically lasting from January to March) can be hot with temperatures still in the mid 30's and only dropping to around

the mid 20's overnight. Winter (May-September) brings a cool change yet is still reasonably warm and mostly pleasant with an average temperature of around 25°C. Early mornings and evenings may be cold and frosty especially in the Kalahari region. The amount of rainfall decreases the further you travel west or southwards during the winter and rainy season months.

### Travelling with children in Botswana

The Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs informs the general public that it has imposed requirements for minors (children under 18) travelling through the county's ports of entry.

Effective from the 1st October 2016 minors travelling through the country's borders will be required to produce certified copies of unabridged birth certificates in addition to their valid passports. In the event that one parent is not travelling with the child, the other parent's affidavit consenting to such travel should be availed. However, an affidavit will not be required if the father's name does not appear on the child's birth certificate."

To summarise the above, should families be travelling with children below the age of 18 they will require the following:

- Valid Passports
- Certified unabridged birth certificates for all minors below the age of 18
- An Affidavit signed by the non-travelling parent should the minor be travelling with one parent

Unfortunately these regulations are very strict therefore we urge all parents travelling to Africa with their children to contact all relevant embassies well prior to departure to ensure they have the correct documentation as if you do not, there is a high chance you will be denied entry.

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## Namibia Country Guide

### Health & Vaccinations

You should seek medical advice before travelling to Namibia from your local health practitioner and ensure that you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As a guide Polio, Diphtheria, Hepatitis A & B and Tetanus is strongly recommended. Rabies may also be recommended. There is the risk of malaria in certain areas of Namibia so it is very important to check with your doctor before you go, to see whether malarial medication is required for the areas you are visiting. A valid Yellow Fever vaccination certificate is also required if travelling into Namibia and you have previously been in an infected country.

### Currency

The currency of Namibia is the Namibian Dollar (\$NAD) 1 \$NAD = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of \$NAD10, 20, 50, 100 and 200. Coins are in denominations of 5, 10, 50, \$NAD1, \$NAD5.

It is possible to change money and use ATMs in all sizeable towns. Bureau de Changes offer quicker and commission free service but are only found in Swakopmund and Windhoek. ATMs are widely accessible and very reliable and offer the best rates of exchange for cards.

The Rand and Namibian dollar are tied to each other on an equal level and as such the Rand and Namibian dollar can be used interchangeably in Namibia. However Namibian dollars are not accepted in South Africa.

All unused Namibian Dollars need to be exchanged to South African Rand before leaving Namibia. The Rand can then be used in Botswana or South Africa. Namibian Dollars can be changed to Rand at banks and bureau de changes and swapped over in some shops.

Banking hours: 09:00 to 15:30. Some close between 13:00 and 14:00

### Time & Voltage

Time Zone - Namibia is 2 hours ahead of GMT. Daylight saving time is not observed.

Standard voltage in Namibia is 220 - 230V. Primary sockets require a 'Type M' - South African, electrical plug which has three thick circular pins. You will need a voltage converter, and plug adapter in order to use U.S. appliances.

### Climate

Namibia's climate is typical of a semi-desert region, with hot days and cool nights. Namibia is blessed with an average of 300 days of sunshine a year. Temperatures are cooler along the coast and on the central plateau. Rainfall is typically low in Namibia and normally only occurs during the summer months from December to March, mostly in the form of heavy thunderstorms. During the winter months from May to September days are typically warm but temperatures can drop below freezing at night.

### Under 18s Travelling to Namibia

Parents travelling to Namibia with children (under 18) will be asked to show the child's unabridged (full) birth certificate which lists the child's details and both parents' details. The abridged (short) birth certificate which only lists the child's details won't be accepted. Uncertified copies of birth certificates will not be accepted.

Where only one parent is accompanying a child, parental or legal consent for the child to travel (eg an affidavit from the other parent or - if applicable - a death certificate) is required and there are other requirements for children travelling unaccompanied or with adults who are not their parents.

If you are travelling with children (under 18) it is essential that you contact your Namibian Embassy

for further information relating to these regulations. If you do not carry the correct documentation you will not be allowed to enter the country. Obtaining the correct paperwork is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours.

## Zimbabwe Country Guide

### Vaccinations

Seek advice from your doctor or travel clinic at least six weeks prior to departure about what vaccinations you require. Typically the list includes typhoid, tetanus, diphtheria, polio, hepatitis A and B (for stays over 4 weeks).

In Zimbabwe a malarial risk exists from November to June in all areas below 1200m and throughout the year in the Zambezi Valley. We strongly recommend that you take your anti-malaria medication. Other precautionary measures to prevent contact with mosquitoes include: insect repellent, cover up at sundown, sleep under a mosquito net and wear long sleeve clothing and long trousers in the evenings.

Yellow fever: A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travellers over one year of age coming from infected areas.

### Currency

The Zimbabwean Dollar was abandoned in April 2009. The country has adopted a multi-currency scheme; the US Dollar and South African Rand can be used for domestic transactions.

Zimbabwe is essentially a cash-only society now with ATMs pretty useless for the foreigner. Credit cards only used in a handful of places, however all major hotels will now accept this payment. We recommend bringing enough cash to cover your stay in Zimbabwe (in either USD or ZAR) especially in the smaller denominations (US\$1-20

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and ZAR10 – 200) as there is always a shortage of change and shopkeepers will often refuse larger bills. Please also be aware it is illegal to leave Zimbabwe with over \$1000 (or equivalent) in cash.

Zimbabwe introduced Bond Notes into circulation on 28 November 2017 which will be used alongside the US dollar and other currencies. These Bond Notes will be at a 1:1 parity with the US dollar. However, they are only legal tender within Zimbabwe and as such can only be used there. These Bond notes will be in \$2 and \$5 denominations and there will also be a new \$1 Bond coin.

Banking hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri – 0800-1500, Wed 0800-1300 and Sat – 0800-1130. In major towns/cities most banks have an ATM. American Express, Diners Club and Visa cards are widely accepted. Major foreign currencies can be exchanged at bureaux de change and banks at the official exchange rate. Please also be aware it is illegal to leave Zimbabwe with over \$1000 (or equivalent). As of June 2016 it is becoming increasingly difficult to withdraw money from ATMs in Zimbabwe. There is a cash limit of \$500 per day – however a lot of banks are not replenishing the ATMs. It is strongly advised that you bring enough money with you before you enter Zimbabwe and don't rely on getting any whilst there.

Travellers cheques are accepted at banks, these should be in US Dollars or Pound Sterling to avoid additional exchange rate charges. Most banks will want to see your passport and proof of purchase receipt before cashing your travellers cheques. Please Note: Travellers cheques can be difficult to cash so do not rely upon them as your sole source of funds.

## Time & Voltage

Standard voltage is 220-240V. Primary sockets require a 'Type G' – British plug, or 'Type D' – old English plug or Indian plug. You will need a voltage converter

and plug adapter in order to use U.S. appliances.

Zimbabwe is 2 hours ahead of GMT. Daylight saving time is not observed.

## Climate

Although located in the tropics, temperate conditions prevail all year round in Zimbabwe as the climate is moderated by altitude and the inland position of the country.

Zimbabwe has a rainy season from November/December to March, during this time days are hot and sunny with possible afternoon thunderstorms. By April and May most of the rain is gone, skies are clear and days are sunny and warm. Night time temperatures drop dramatically between June and August although daytime temperatures remain pleasantly warm. Late August sees the start of the hot and dry season which continues until October.

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