

Targeted Tourism Revival Strategy

Submitted by:



Aim: To reopen the Namibian borders for incoming visitors in a safe and responsible manner, without putting the Namibian nation as well as visitors or tourism staff at unnecessary risk, while at the same time restarting the tourism sector to prevent further economic decline.

All recommended measures are also subject to Covid-related health developments within Namibia.

General criteria, which define to which countries Namibia should open its borders:

- Rate of new infections per 100 000 inhabitants calculated as a moving 7-day average. **Only countries that have 30 or less new infections per 100 000 inhabitants are eligible (0,0003% odds of infected person).**
- Countries that have reliable health and Covid data available and effective Covid management measures in place (as defined by the Ministry of Health and in line with recommendations from the CDC (Centres for Disease Control, USA)).
- Travel to be allowed to any citizen or permanent resident from those countries that meet the above-mentioned criteria.
- List of eligible countries to be published through the Ministry of International Relations or other mandated government agencies in bi-weekly cycles (every 14 days).

PHASE 1: Starting 15 July 2020

Specific country criteria in this phase

- Direct access to Namibia (via road or air access) or via max 1 additional airport, of a third country that also meets the above-mentioned minimum criteria for new infections per 100 000 inhabitants.

Multiple layers of screening to ensure minimum risk

At source (originating country):

- Only residents originating from countries that meet all the above-mentioned criteria are allowed to enter Namibia in this initial trial period.
- Negative PCR Test not older than 72 hours at the time of arrival in Namibia required before boarding the plane.
- Have valid medical travel insurance that will cover cost of medical care in Namibia and repatriation if necessary. Medical cover must include all Covid-related medical costs.

Air and Land Travel:

- Airline to adhere to ICAO, IATA and/or other regulating bodies defined guidelines specified for safe operating during the Covid-19 health crisis
- Allow air travel only into HKIA
- Land border posts only open for leisure tourism to bordering countries that meet the above requirements. Border posts to be Covid-ready as per required health measures as defined by the Ministry of Health.

Upon arrival in Namibia:

- Namibian Airports Company to ensure general operations at HKIA are Covid-ready as per recommendations of Airport Council International or other relevant authorities and Namibian special Covid-related health measures and regulations.
- Arriving tourists to undergo screening at the airport / port of entry. This entails temperature check and completion of a basic health questionnaire.
- Full travel itinerary to be submitted with the arrival form to border officials. The travel itinerary must include full name and contact details of all travelers, contact details of all booked accommodation establishments for all nights in Namibia, contact details of organizing tour operator and/or car rental company. Tourist must be able to readily present the full itinerary to any Namibian Law enforcement agent or medical professional at any given time during the stay in Namibia (ideally this could be achieved by a predefined form that could be sent to the visitor prior to departure).
- Tourist contact details must include a Namibian mobile phone number, to be obtained on arrival and under which the tourist can be reached during his/her stay in Namibia.
- Tourist signs confirmation form that he/she agrees to adhere to the social distancing protocols and health measures in place as per currently applicable regulations during his/her stay in Namibia.
- In case of planned self-drive tour it is mandatory that at least one person per rental vehicle downloads the to be defined Travel Buddy App, which allows tracing of his/her movement. Tourists have to confirm that they are obliged to present the app on their phone to any law enforcement agent, if requested to do so and failure to have the app will result in a fine.
- No mandatory supervised quarantine if all of the above criteria are met.**

During the stay in Namibia

- All tourism suppliers to strictly adhere to the special Covid-related Standard Operating Procedures as they have been published through the NTB (attached to this document as well).
- Tourists to adhere to the same social distancing protocols as Namibians as per currently valid health regulations.
- Tourists to be rebooked onto alternative routes and/or accommodations if health emergencies require that parts of the country, which are in their planned itinerary need to be cordoned off to prevent virus spread. If the tourist is within such a region or area they agree to follow the same imposed regulations for that specific area as any Namibian residing in that area at their own cost.

PHASE 2: Starting 15 August 2020

Specific country criteria in this phase

- Any country that meets the above-mentioned general minimum criteria for eligible countries, as long as their travel route does not go via a non-eligible third country.

Multiple layers of screening to ensure minimum risk

- All requirements as in Phase 1 are applicable

Special Regulations for Namibian Citizens

- Namibian citizens travelling from a country that meets all the minimum criteria as defined for Phase 1 and Phase 2 are allowed to enter the country under the same regulations as the tourists.
- A quarantine will only be required if the Namibian citizen can not prove his/her negative Covid status and/or returns back to Namibia from a country that does not meet the minimum requirements for eligible source countries as defined under Phase 1 or Phase 2. PCR test kits to be available at ports so that returning Namibians can be tested upon arrival at their own cost to prove their Covid status.
- Namibian citizens returning home during Phase 1 or Phase 2 must also submit valid contact details to border officials upon entry that will ensure traceability during the next 14 days.

Countries that are potentially eligible to open up to during Phases 1 and 2 (green and orange):

(based purely on the rate of new infections as on 26 June 2020, not taking any of the other criteria as stated above into account)

Country	Av. Rate of new infections per 100 000 inhabitants	Annual tourism revenue (estimated, pre-Covid) *	Access to Namibia
Botswana	1	N\$ 462 Mio	Direct road access
Ethiopia	1	No detailed arrival info	Direct flight route Addis Abeba - Windhoek
Germany	4	N\$ 6,663 Bln	Direct flight route Frankfurt-Windhoek
Finland	1	No detailed arrival info	Flight route Helsinki-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Norway	2	No detailed arrival info	Flight route Oslo-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Switzerland	3	N\$ 892,5 Mio	Flight route Zurich-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Italy	3	N\$ 475,6 Mio	Flight route Rome-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Austria	3	N\$ 433,7 Mio	Flight route Vienna-Frankfurt-Windhoek
The Netherlands	3	N\$ 1,255 Bln	Flight route Amsterdam-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Iceland	4	No detailed arrival info	Flight route Reykjavic-Frankfurt-Windhoek
France	4	N\$ 1,331 Bln	Flight route Paris-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Spain	5	N\$ 504 Mio	Flight route Madrid-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Denmark	6	No detailed arrival info	Flight route Copenhagen-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Poland	6	No detailed arrival info	Flight route Warsaw-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Czech Republic	6	No detailed arrival info	Flight route Prague-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Belgium	6	N\$ 424 Mio	Flight route Brussels-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Canada	6	N\$ 307 Mio	Flight route Toronto-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Luxembourg	10	No detailed arrival info	Flight route Luxembourg-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Bulgaria	10	No detailed arrival info	Flight route Sofia-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Great Britain	11	N\$ 1,120 Bln	Flight route London-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Egypt	11	No detailed arrival info	Flight route Cairo-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Romania	11	No detailed arrival info	Flight route Bucharest-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Turkey	11	No detailed arrival info	Flight route Istanbul-Frankfurt-Windhoek Possibly even Istanbul-Windhoek
South Africa	59	N\$ 2,764 Bln	Direct road and air access
USA	69	N\$ 1,225 Bln	Flight route New York-Frankfurt-Windhoek
Qatar	269	No detailed arrival info	Flight route Doha - Windhoek

* Annual tourism revenues are based on the following calculations:

- Intl. visitor average daily spent (N\$ 2617,-) multiplied by average length of stay and total amount of visitors during 2019
- Africa/Regional visitor average daily spent (N\$ 632,-), multiplied by average length of stay and total amount of visitors during 2019

Recommendations:

Countries marked in green are the recommended countries to open up to first during Phase 1 (from 15 July onwards)

Countries marked in orange are the recommended countries to which borders should be opened during Phase 2 (from 15 August onwards), in addition to the countries to which borders were already opened during Phase 1 if their risk assessment status stays unchanged.

Countries marked in red do not meet the minimum requirements for border opening for normal leisure tourism purposes at this stage.