

# “Museum Day” in Windhoek

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## Best Way to Find Out the History

**Destination:** National Museum of Namibia and TransNamib Railway Museum

**Available Dates:** Monday to Friday - on Request

**Time:** 9:00 - 12:30 or 13:00 - 16:30

**Duration:** 3,5 hours

### **Destination Info:**

**National Museum of Namibia:** Alte Feste, Windhoek's oldest surviving building, dates from 1890-92, and originally served as the headquarters of the Schutztruppe, which arrived in 1889 under the command of Major Curt von François. Today it houses the historical section of the National Museum of Namibia, which contains memorabilia and photos from the colonial period as well as indigenous artifacts. There is plenty to engage your attention in Windhoek which is steeped in African and Germanic influences with its architectural, cultural and market attractions but one activity that should not be missed is a visit to the National Museum. Amongst its many wonders, one can see Bushman displays to show how they survived in the harsh Namib desert, as well as items for everyday use such as baskets, earthenware pots or traditional games which provide insight to the Namibian culture. Also included in the displays, you will find amongst other countless treasures, the rest of the Gibeon Meteorites that were found in Gibeon, Namibia. Some of these meteorites are also on display near the Post Street Mall and consists of 33 of these meteorites that fell to the earth over 600 million years ago.

**TransNamib Railway Museum:** The TransNamib museum is located in historical Windhoek Railway station building. The museum was officially opened on 1 July 1993. The exhibition consists of wide range of railway equipment, maps and related items date back to German colonial times and South African administration. Outside of the museum you can see old locomotives including the first diesel locomotive in the country.

Another part of exhibition is dedicated to Namibian Airways history and Namibian Maritime history. You can also see the crockery and cutlery used in the dining cars of South African Railways in Namibia, telecommunication and electrical equipment.

The building is an interesting monument itself. Built in 1912 by German Railways, it was enlarged (the northern wing of the building was added) in 1929 by South African Railways. The addition was made in the same style that now you can see no difference between two parts of the building. The sign at the entrance contains altitude information of the location: "1652 meters above sea level".



**Tour Itinerary:**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Tour Info.</b>
9:00	Leave from Roof of Africa Hotel	
9:10	Arrive National Museum of Namibia	
9:10 - 10:40	Learn the history of Namibia	A visit to the National Museum will encourage development of historical awareness of Namibia of where it has come from and what it is today.
10:40	Transfer to TransNamib Railway Museum	
10:50	Arrive TransNamib Railway Museum	
10:50 - 12:20	Visit TransNamib Railway Museum	Some very interesting facts are revealed in documents in museum's collection. For example, the railway workshops in Karibib already had an electric lighting in 1902, and that the National Transport Corporation of South West Africa/Namibia started its operation in 1988, replacing the operations of South African Transport Services.
12:20 - 12:30	Transfer back to Roof of Africa or drop off in Town	
12:30	End of tour	