### **TAKE BETTER PHOTOS IN NAMIBIA** 5 Secrets To **STUNNING WILDLIFE & LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHS** n Namibia

**BY CLAUDIA & WYNAND DU PLESSIS - NAMIBIA NATURE PHOTOGRAPHERS** 







IT'S NO

- THEY HAPPEN WHEN - THOROUGH PREPARATION - INSIDER KNOWLEDGE - CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY & - PERFECT TIMING **MEET IN A SINGLE MOMENT.**

#### LET'S HELP YOU MAKE THIS MOMENT HAPPEN.

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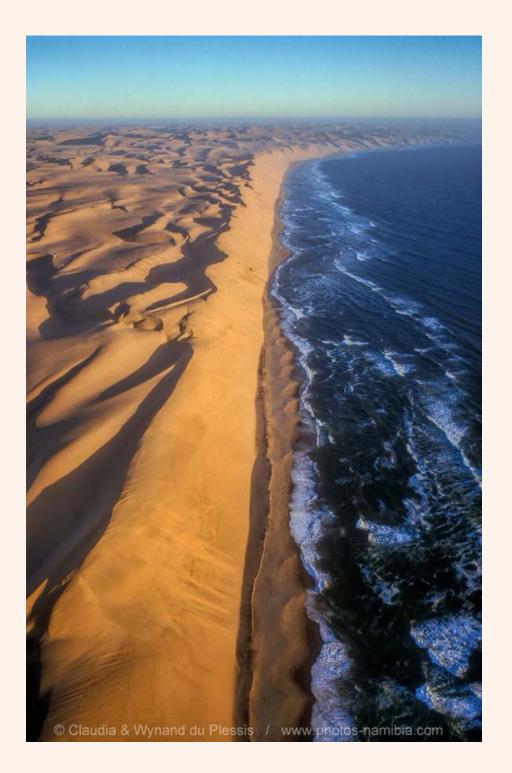
# COINCIDENCE ...

**AMAZING WILDLIFE & LANDSCAPE PHOTOS USUALLY DON'T HAPPEN BY CHANCE.** 

### SECRET 1 - WHERE TO GO Photo Hot Spots in Namibia



### HOT SPOTS



#### **NAMIBIA: COUNTLESS PHOTOGRAPHIC HOT SPOTS**

It's for a good reason that Namibia has been featuring on the MUST-SEE list of every renowned and passionate nature photographer.

Wide open landscapes, untouched wilderness and rich fauna, including the African Big Five, make it a dream destination for anyone with an itch for capturing wild nature at its best.

The variety of scenery, including rough seascapes along the Atlantic ocean, endless sand dunes in the Namib Desert, African savannah in Etosha and riverine forests along the Kavango, offers grand possibilities.

Where will you go?

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TIP 1: SELECT.

TIP 2: STAY.

TIP 3: PLAN.

Namibia is a huge country. Trying to visit all hot spots in one visit is impossible, unless you stay months. It's best to pick your favorites and return for more later.

Visit for as long as you can, but for a minimum of two weeks, ideally three weeks or longer. We also recommend staying at least three nights at one photo destination to allow for repeat excursions into the area and a better chance for a variety of moods.

Plan your travel time between overnight destinations generously – Namibia's gravel roads are slow – so that you arrive in time for your first sunset photo shoot.

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## SO MANY CHOICES ...

### Our resources to help you decide on your favorite places



Feel Namibia A Travel Guide for the Soul

50 WAYS to Feel & Experience the Magic of Namibia with All Your Senses



#### FEEL NAMIBIA - A TRAVEL GUIDE FOR THE SOUL

This free FREE ebook shows you '50 Ways to Feel & Experience the Magic of Namibia with All Your Senses' [available on Amazon]



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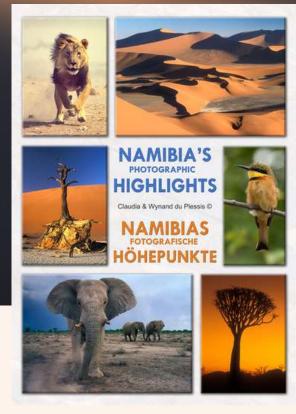
**ONLINE PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE** Claudia & Wynand du Plessis

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WE HELP YOU MAKE YOUR DREAM PHOTOS IN NAMIBIA COME TRUE BY SHARING OUR INSIDER KNOWLEDGE, PHOTO KNOW-HOW, CREATIVITY TIPS AND MANY UNKNOWN SECRETS OF NAMIBIA'S GRAND WILDERNESS WITH YOU IN THIS COURSE

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#### NAMIBIA'S PHOTOGRAPHIC HIGHLIGHTS

A photographic guide about Namibia's best places to photograph – with overview maps & more than 200 images



#### SECRET 2 - WHEN TO GO

### The Right Season

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### DRY VS. RAINY SEASON

#### LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY

Namibia's grand landscapes are worthy of photography all year round.

The dry season with its intense heat, sharp sunlight and dryness reveals the wilderness at its hardest: extremely hot, dry, barren, even bleak. Playing with the natural elements visually offers many opportunities for captivating images. Reduced to an array of pure earth colors, the landscapes exude a special beauty, that especially the low light at sunrise and sunset brings out beautifully.

The rainy season on the other hand transforms Namibia's deserts into fairy lands, displaying soft pastel colors of beautiful grass carpets and flower beds. However, these transformations are difficult to predict as they occur very localized after isolated rain storms and last for a short period only.

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#### WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY

Namibia's wildlife lives very much in accordance with the seasonal changes.

This is especially evident in the wildlife areas of Etosha and North-Eastern Namibia, where higher rainfall causes a dramatic change between the seasons.

The dry season in essence is a time of scarcity and survival, especially at the height of the dry season, between September and December. Then temperatures soar, plant food becomes scarce and thirst drives the wildlife daily to the permanent waterholes.

But with the onset of the rainy season, mostly in January, everything changes. Rain water pools and fresh grass draw the animals away from the permanent waterholes. Consequently their daily movements, feeding behavior, drinking patterns and social interactions also change, as they make the most use of the abundance of food and water all around them.



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#### **RAINY SEASON HIGHLIGHTS**

- Spectacular storm clouds, storms and sunsets
- <sup>~</sup> Lush vegetation, grass and flowers
- ~ New life with lambs, foals, calves and pups
- <sup>~</sup> Large herds on green grass plains
- ~ Large flocks of migratory birds



#### **DRY SEASON HIGHLIGHTS**

Blue sky, lots of sun, eternal 'summer feeling' Large concentration of animals at waterholes Elephant herds with young visit waterholes daily Lion sightings close to waterholes ~ Atmospheric scenes with lots of dust

### Our Resources to help you choose your best season

included in

the course





Etosha. Rhythms of an African Wilderness (Illustrated Book)

OUR COFFEE-TABLE BOOK TAKES YOU DEEP INTO THE WONDERS OF THIS AMAZING WILDLIFE PARADISE AND LEADS YOU THROUGH THE FASCINATING CHANGES BETWEEN THE SEASONS

[available on Amazon]







WE HELP YOU MAKE YOUR DREAM PHOTOS IN NAMIBIA COME TRUE BY SHARING OUR INSIDER KNOWLEDGE, PHOTO KNOW-HOW, CREATIVITY TIPS AND MANY UNKNOWN SECRETS OF NAMIBIA'S GRAND WILDERNESS WITH YOU IN THIS COURSE

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#### **SECRET 3 - WHAT TO BRING**

### Essential Photo Gear

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### **ESSENTIAL PHOTO GEAR**

#### CAMERA

#### Sturdy camera with

- good image quality
- <sup>~</sup> fast autofocus esp. for wildlife
- <sup>~</sup> image stabilization / vibration reduction
- dustproof camera bag

#### LENSES

- For landscape photography:
- wide-angle (e.g. 16 35mm)
- medium & long telephoto lenses

For wildlife photography:

- ~ telephoto zoom lens of 100–400 mm (or longer)
- standard or wide-angle lens (optional)

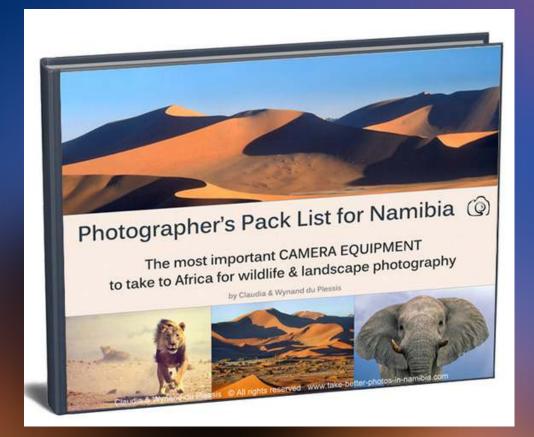
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#### ACCESSORIES

- ~ memory cards (3 cards of  $\geq$  64GB)
- batteries (3 per camera)
- battery charger
- USB and charger cable
- power adapter for Namibia
- camera / lens cleaning stuff
- laptop / external hard drives
- beanbag (+ tripod optional)
- binoculars

### Our Resources to help you pack the right equipment



#### TAKE BETTER PHOTOS IN NAMIBIA



ONLINE PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE Claudia & Wynand du Plessis

#### Photographer's Pack List For Namibia (eBook)

THE MOST IMPORTANT CAMERA GEAR TO BRING TO AFRICA FOR WILDLIFE AND LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY



#### Take Better Photos In Namibia - Online Photography Course -

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#### **CAMERA EQUIPMENT**

A comprehensive **eBook** on the **essential requirements of camera equipment** to meet your specific photographic needs in wildlife & landscape photography!



#### Camera Equipment (eBook)

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS OF YOUR CAMERA EQUIPMENT TO MEET YOUR SPECIFIC PHOTOGRAPHIC NEEDS IN WILDLIFE AND LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY



**SECRET 4 - HOW TO SHOOT** 

### Creative Photography

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### **COMPOSING CREATIVELY**





#### TIP 1: CREATING DEPTH.

Choose objects in your image with different heights or at different distances. This creates a sense of depth that allows the viewer a 3D experience.

#### TIP 2: CELEBRATING SHAPES.

The shapes of the Namib Desert never seize to amaze. By isolating a dune formation using a long telephoto lens, you can bring the focus solely on the beautiful shapes.

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#### TIP 3: USING LINES.

Even in nature, such as here along the Atlantic coast, lines do occur. By using them creatively in your image, you can lead your viewer's eye into the image.

### **CREATING MAGICAL LIGHT**





#### TIP 4: INTO THE LIGHT.

At sunrise the light has an orange cast. When you shoot into the light with the sun behind your subject, such as the vulture here, you can create stark silhouettes.

#### TIP 5: SUNSET MAGIC.

Stay ready to take photos after sunset. Sometimes the sky turns bright pink, especially when there is much dust or smoke from natural fires in the air.

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#### **TIP 6: REFLECTIONS.**

You can use the sun's reflection off a water surface as your source of light. This creates beautiful silhouettes with an unusual backlight effect.

### Our Resources to help you photograph creatively

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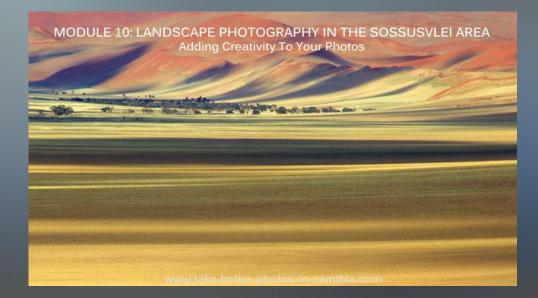
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MODULE 7: WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY IN ETOSHA Adding Creativity To Your Photos



**Course modules about** photographing creatively

SECRET 5 - RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TIME

The Perfect Moment



### **BEWHERE THE ACTION IS**





#### TIP 1: LIONS' PLAYGROUND.

Early morning and late afternoon are the times when lions are most active. When you also know where these super cats like to hang out at your time of visit, you've got the best chances for capturing unique moments in stunning images.

#### TIP 2: PIG FUN.

Knowing the wildlife's habits gives you an 'unfair' advantage. Warthogs for instance love mud baths at the hot times of year. Hanging out at their favorite mudhole will provide you with great photo opportunities.

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#### TIP 3: ELLIE TENDERNESS.

At the hottest time of year elephant herds, including their tiny calves, visit the waterholes daily. When you wait at the best spots and focus your attention and camera on the little ones you'll capture beautiful images.

### **CAPTURE THE PERFECT MOMENT**





#### TIP 4: YAWN HEAVEN.

Knowing lion behavior enables you to foresee when a lion is going to yawn. Repeated nose twitching and lip licking are signs, that a hearty yawn is imminent. Get ready and capture the perfect moment.

#### TIP 5: SQUIRREL SNACK.

The rainy season is also the time for baby squirrels. These cute rodents snack on fresh grass seeds quite openly next to the gravel roads, which allows you to observe and photograph them beautifully.



#### TIP 6: STRIPES ONLY.

In the dry season Burchell's zebras often line up nicely at the waterhole's edge to quench their thirst. When you position yourself well, you can also take this classical photograph.

### Our Resources to help you capture the right moment



7 Tips to Find & Photograph Wildlife in Etosha (eBook)

FREE ebook with insider tips

free download at: www.take-better-photos-in-namibia.com

#### TAKE BETTER PHOTOS IN NAMIBIA



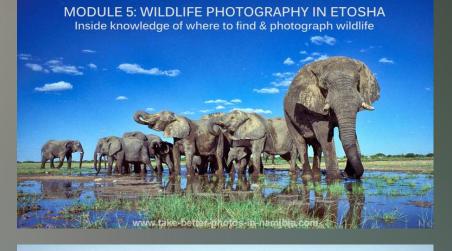
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MODULE 6: WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY IN ETOSHA Your Photographic Routine & Photo Gear Settings for best wildlife shots



WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY IN ETOSH



**Course modules about** capturing the right moment

### Keen for MORE ???

YES? That's fantastic! 'Cause we'd love to invite you to our special Namibia photography website: TAKE BETTER PHOTOS IN NAMIBIA at www.take-better-photos-in-namibia.com There we teach passionate photographers like YOU the secrets to outstanding nature photography in Namibia, so that you will experience the most photogenic moments in the wild and capture them in truly stunning photographs. See you there!

Photographers, authors ecologists, wilderness lovers and YOUR Namibia photography mentors: Claudia & Wynand du Plessis



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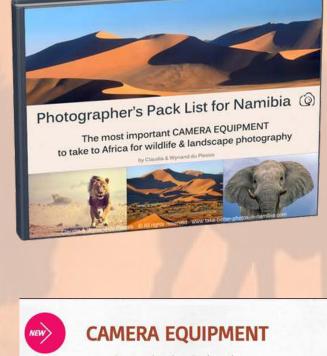
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7 TIPS TO FIND & PHOTOGRAPH

WILDLIFE IN ETOSHA

(NAMIBIA)



A comprehensive eBook on the essential requirements of camera equipment to meet your specific photographic needs in wildlife & landscape photography!



