History and Ecology of NAMIBIA
15-16 hour flight
This time, first class!
History and Ecology

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History

• First Europeans to explore were from Portugal in 1400’s
• Colonized by Germany in 1884
• Known as German South-West Africa
• Following first world war, assigned by League of Nations (now the United Nations) to South Africa to administer
• Then known as just South-West Africa
History

• In 1966, uprisings by the South-West Africa Peoples’ Organization (SWAPO) against segregation
• United Nations demanded that South Africa grant independence
• South Africa refused because of major communist presence (500,000 Cubans backed by Soviet Union) in Angola
History

• Communists not so interested in Namibia
  - more in South Africa
• Substantial military activity of South African forces along Angolan border for years
• Full independence from South Africa in 1990 - Elections mediated by UN, USA and Russia
Geography & Demography

• Population: 2.1 million
• A bit larger than Texas
• Most sparsely populated country in the world, after Mongolia
• 15% of adults infected with HIV
Geography & Demography

• Borders on Angola and Zambia to the north, Zimbabwe and Botswana to the east, and South Africa to the South
• Windhoek is capital city - 233,000
• High altitude - 5,600 ft (mile - high)
Geography & Demography

Economy:
- Ranching/herding and agriculture
- Tourism
- Mining – diamonds, uranium, gold, silver and base metals
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Presidential palace built by North Korea & China!
Presidents of Namibia and China meeting in China, June 2011!
New Chinese embassy in Windhoek opened in 2011
**Roads**

- Excellent paved main roads, partly due to efforts by South African military
- Other roads are dirt, but in good condition
- Often warning signs for wildlife
- Fidel Castro street in Windhoek!
- Also Robert Mugabe Street!
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Oryx – national animal

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Namibian Coat of Arms
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MOKUTI SAFARI LODGE
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ROY'S CAMP
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BUFFET
Kudu Steak
Chicken Stir Fry
Savoury Rice
Veggies
Salads

DINNER

Dessert
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NGEPI CAMP

and

OKAVANGO RIVER
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BEWARE...  
Croc's + Hippo's in the river

Swim at own risk...
NO URINATING IN THE POOL
(Or you will be drinking it later in your coffee!)
CHOBE SAFARI LODGE (BOTSWANA)  
And  
VICTORIA FALLS (ZIMBABWE)
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History and Ecology of Sable Antelope (Hippotragus niger)

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NAMIB DESERT
And
LODGE
History and Ecology of AANAMIB

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THE END