

Namibia 2006

After the first successful study abroad program to Namibia in 2005, the word has spread amongst students and in the second year, a total of 14 students have registered. A few changes had been made to the itinerary to accommodate previous student's recommendations and to upgrade the academic standard. Students were exhilarated about this great program and it was an even greater success.

On the 2006 study abroad program, we were extremely fortunate to have witnessed the effect of a very good rainy season that has ended a month earlier. In this dry land, and especially in the desert, a high rainfall up to three times above normal, resulted in unusual sightings seen only once in about 50 years. The desert had turned into a grassland and students initially could not believe that we were actually in a desert. The high abundance of food (grass seeds and insects) was exploited by thousands of birds. Many dry river beds still had some trickles of water. A small stream in one of the ravines of the highest mountain in Namibia, was still flowing strongly. This stream has been dry for the last 40 years. The timing, from an ecological perspective was perfect.



Testimonials 2006

“Being woken up in the middle of the night from the vibration of a lion’s roar in your tent is an incredible and indescribable feeling. Experiencing a culture and environment so completely different from my own was an amazing and humbling experience I will remember forever.”

Bethany, Natural Resources



The trip to Namibia was of a valuable asset to my career and academic goals, as well as my personal goals. I learned a greater deal by actually being there, amidst of what I was learning about day to day. Seeing the native wildlife, ecosystems, and the conservation efforts for them, served as a window into a world closed off by text books. Seeing the wildlife management of Etosha, helped reiterate the principles of wildlife management gained during the trip’s lectures. In addition meeting people and gaining contacts throughout the trip might come to value in career goals. The overall trip was an experience that will prove to be beneficial to my future in this field.

Nathan, Zoology

Dr. Dörgeloh, the trip to Namibia was one of the best things that I have ever done. Thank you for planning a trip of this nature to allow people like me to share in the joys of the beautiful

landscape and animals of Africa. Namibia fulfilled almost all of my wildest dreams. Africa was an animal lover's heaven. The entire trip kept me on my feet ready to do the next amazing thing. I never would have imagined I would ever do and see the things that I did while in Namibia; from climbing the dunes to watch the sunset, walking along an uncrowded beach, watching wild lions walk around nonchalantly, almost having our boat knocked over by a humpback whale, watching rhinos mating at the watering hole; these memories can never be erased. I also made lifelong friends with the members of the group; we were virtually a family for 3 weeks. I hope that you continue to run this trip with Study Aboard. I would recommend Namibia to anyone that enjoys the outdoors and is ready for an adventure. I enjoyed every minute of the trip and I want to go back for 6 months to a year soon. I would love to live in Africa. I feel that everything I experienced during the trip has helped me to grow mentally and physically as a more knowledgeable person in my studies of veterinary medicine and for the ways of the world.

Stacy, Animal Science