

# NaDEET Centre: Frequently Asked Questions

**\* Please make copies for all participants \***

## **NaDEET's Mission:**

To protect the natural environment of Namibia by educating its citizens to practice a sustainable lifestyle.

## **WHO ARE WE AND WHAT DO WE DO?**

NaDEET Centre is an environmental education programme that teaches sustainable living to Namibians of all ages. We address four core environmental issues: energy, water, waste, and biodiversity. We utilise the unique desert environment to engage participants in hands-on, experiential outdoor learning. Our Centre's philosophy is "We practice what we teach".

## **WHAT CAN I EXPECT TO GAIN FROM MY VISIT AT NaDEET CENTRE?**

- To become more aware and understand environmental issues in Namibia.
  - Understand climate change, deforestation and other related environmental problems
  - Investigate energy sources (renewable and non-renewable)
  - Explore the Namib Desert and its biodiversity
  - Explore environmental ethics and values
- To gain skills in sustainable living practices
  - Extensive experience in solar cooking
  - Construction of solar ovens and fuel-efficient stoves
  - Assembly of solar cookers
  - Making of recycled paper fire bricks
  - Environmental auditing including energy, water and waste
- To lead a more environmentally friendly lifestyle
  - Integrate theory and practice on how to implement sustainable living in your community
  - Learn how to improve your local environment and your own living standard
- To gain ownership of sustainable living technologies and literature
  - Each group of 20 community members will receive 5 parabolic solar cookers for their community
  - Each participant will construct and take home their own fuel-efficient stove
  - Each participant will make and take home their own recycled fire bricks
  - One participant will win a solar oven in a raffle
  - Each participant will receive environmental literature including "Its Time to Solar Cook" and "Its Time to be Efficient"

## **WHAT DO WE EXPECT FROM YOU AT NaDEET CENTRE?**

The success of the programme highly depends on your involvement. We expect you to:

- Actively contribute during all activities, including meal preparation and clean-up
- Work together in your assigned teams
- Share your viewpoints and experiences with the group
- Be on time for all activities.

## **WHERE IS NaDEET CENTRE LOCATED?**

NaDEET Centre lies in a dune valley on NamibRand Nature Reserve in the Namib Desert. It is 150 km west of Maltahöhe.

## **WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT ARRIVING AT NaDEET?**

We ask you to arrive at least 2-3 hours before it is dark. This will allow the group to walk to the Centre, learn about the facilities and move into their accommodation when it is still light outside. NaDEET staff will meet you at our parking area. The group's luggage will be transported to the Centre by a bakkie as the rest of the way is thick sand. The group will walk together with a NaDEET staff person over the dunes to the Centre which is approximately 10-15 minutes away from the parking area on foot. *Appropriate walking shoes should be worn by all upon arrival.*

## **WHAT ARE THE CENTRE FACILITIES?**

There is one main building and eight accommodation houses including bucket showers and long-drop toilets. The accommodation houses are made of wood and have shade cloth windows and roofs. Although this protects you well from the intense sunlight and heat it can get *sandy* and *wet* (if it rains)! The main building has a corrugated iron roof. All of our electricity is generated with solar energy. There are lights in the main building, accommodation houses and showers.

**NaDEET, P.O. Box 31017, Pioneers Park, Windhoek, Namibia**

**Tel: 063 693012**

**Fax: 063 693013**

**Email: [admin@nadeet.org](mailto:admin@nadeet.org)**

**Website: [www.nadeet.org](http://www.nadeet.org)**

### **WHAT IS THE WEATHER LIKE?**

Temperatures can vary dramatically as it can be both very cold and very hot depending on the time of the year. Please make sure to bring warm clothing for unexpected cold temperatures (primarily from May to September).

### **WHAT CLOTHING SHOULD I BRING?**

Men and women should bring clothing and shoes that are appropriate for outdoor activities. T-shirts, pants, sandals and or closed outdoor shoes are more than appropriate. We are going to be both inside and out during the workshop and wish for all of you to be as comfortable as possible. Evenings become cooler during the winter months (May to September), please bring a warmer layer i.e. sweatshirt or jacket. In addition please bring the following:

- Bedding: a sheet, pillow and blanket (A mattress and extra blanket will be provided.)
- Personal toiletries and towel
- Hat, sunglasses and sun protection cream
- Torch
- **Optional:** camera, binoculars, and N\$60 for a t-shirt and N\$5 for solar cooking sticker

### **DO WE BRING OUR OWN FOOD?**

NaDEET Centre will provide breakfast, lunch and dinner for all groups. If you would like to have additional snacks or drinks, please bring them with you. Please do not bring alcohol with you.

### **CAN I SMOKE?**

We would like to discourage all visitors from smoking. However if you must, there is no smoking inside any of the buildings! There will be designated discard spots provided by staff. Please discard of your cigarette butts appropriately.

### **IS THERE CELL PHONE COVERAGE?**

No, there is no cell phone coverage. The closest telephone is 1 kilometre away at the NaDEET office. The telephone is strictly for emergencies; **do not** expect to have access to the phone. We have radio communication at all times in case of an emergency.

### **CAN I BUY ANYTHING?**

We **do not** sell any cigarettes, food, or cool drinks. You may buy NaDEET t-shirts (N\$60) and solar cooking stickers (N\$5).

### **WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY FREE TIME?**

This is an opportunity for you to enjoy the beauty and magic of Namibia's namesake, the Namib Desert. We have many educational resources such as reading materials as well as surrounding land perfect for an evening walk. You are not coming to a lodge with a swimming pool, TV and radio.

### **IS IT SAFE?**

Yes. It is of utmost importance to NaDEET that our facilities and activities are upheld and conducted in a safe manner at all times. Although all precaution is taken, participants may encounter wildlife and plants such as snakes, scorpions, bees, solifuges and spiky ostrich grass. We recommend groups to bring their own first aid kit in case of emergency.

### **WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THE GROUP ON DEPARTURE DAY?**

On the morning of your departure it is a requirement that the participants assist in the cleaning of the Centre facilities. Therefore we ask you to leave no earlier than 9:30 am.

### **SUGGESTED PRE-VISIT PREPARATIONS**

We encourage you to spark interest within your group through activities relating to environmental topics. This could include discussions on:

- Environmental concerns in your community
- Energy use, alternative energy and energy efficiency
- Water use, recycling and reduction
- Waste: Reduce, Reuse & Recycle

**\*\*\* Before your visit, check out more information about NaDEET on our website!**

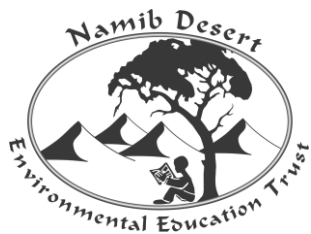
**NaDEET, P.O. Box 31017, Pioneers Park, Windhoek, Namibia**

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# NaDEET Centre Map and Directions

- Please remember to phone us from the road.\*  
Our number: 063-693012

## FROM MALTAHÖHE TO NaDEET CENTRE (approximately 150 km):

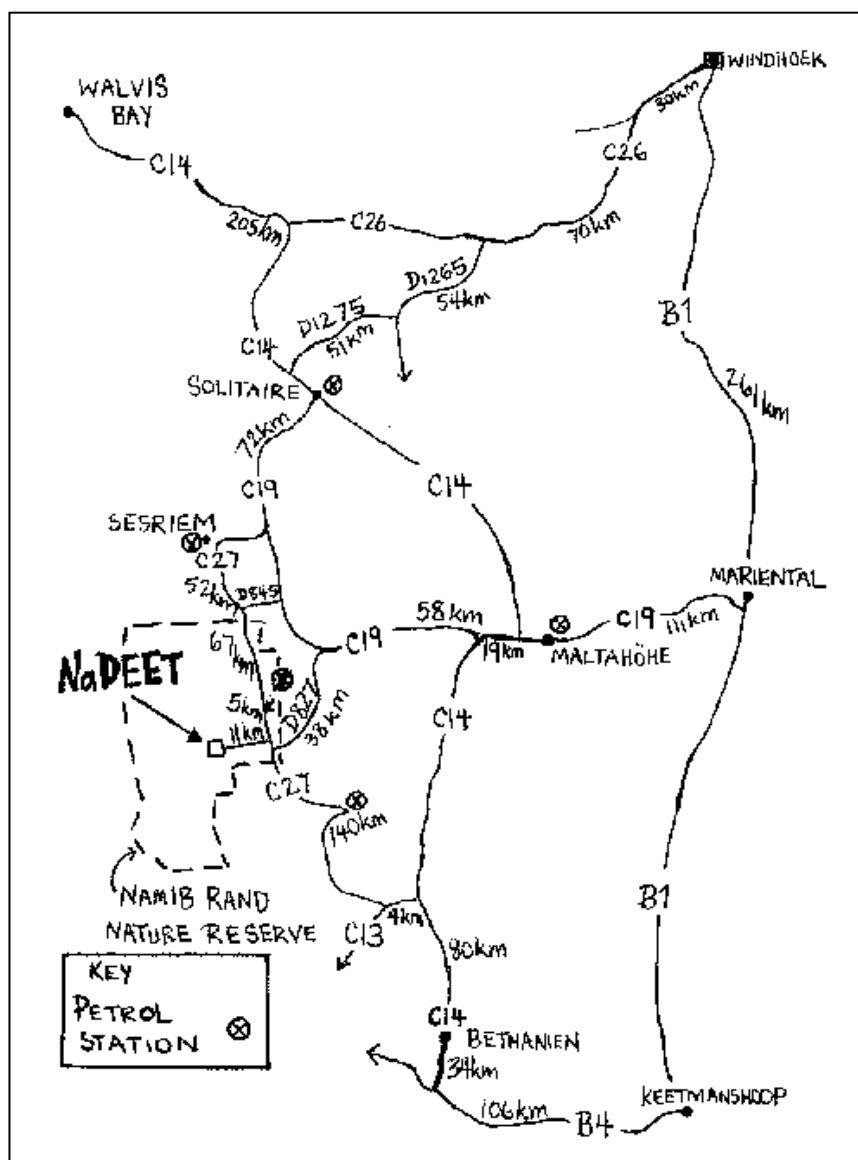
- 1) At the end of town, turn left onto the **C14** (gravel road) at the sign for “Sossusvlei-Helmeringhausen”
- 2) After 19 km, turn right onto the **C19** at the sign for “Solitaire via Zaris” (also a sign for Sossusvlei)
- 3) After 58 km, the road splits. Go left on the **D827** at the sign for “Tolou’s Lodge”
- 4) After 38 km, turn right. There is a green road sign that says “C27 ↑, D826 →” and a brown road sign that says “Wolwedans”. There is also an old farmhouse, windmill and scrap yard. Once you have turned right at this junction, there is another green road sign that says C27. (The D826 has been renamed the C27).
- 5) After only 400 metres, turn left at sign for “Tok Tokkie Trails, **NaDEET Centre**, Family Hide Out”.
- 6) Open gate and drive 10 km to the NaDEET Parking sign.
- 7) Park under the Camel-thorn Trees.

## FROM SOLITAIRE TO NaDEET CENTRE (approximately 230 km):

- 1) From the Solitaire petrol station, go south on the **C19** (sign “Sossusvlei-Maltahöhe”)
- 2) After 72 km, turn right onto **C27 (old D826)** at sign for Sossusvlei-Sesriem. (This road passes directly by Sesriem and makes a sharp turn to the left.)
- 3) After 43 km, turn right to stay on the **C27**.
- 4) After 67 km, turn right at sign for “Tok Tokkie Trails, **NaDEET Centre**, Family Hide Out”.
- 5) Open gate and drive 10 km to the NaDEET Parking sign.
- 6) Park under the Camel-thorn Trees.

## FROM BETHANIE TO NaDEET CENTRE (approximately 230 km)

- 1) From Bethanie drive north on the **C14** to Helmeringhausen.
- 2) At the T-junction in Helmeringhausen, turn left and drive 4 km.
- 3) Then turn right on the **C27** and drive for 100 km to the Betta Fuel Station T-junction.
- 4) At the junction, turn left (this is still the **C27**) and drive for 41 km.
- 5) Turn left at the “Wolwedans sign” and old broken down farmhouse.
- 6) After only 400 metres, turn left at sign for “Tok Tokkie Trails, **NaDEET Centre**, Family Hide Out”.
- 7) Open gate and drive 10 km to the NaDEET Parking sign.
- 8) Park under the Camel-thorn Trees.



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