

Why has...

stopped its

2000?



**FORT SESFONTEIN**  
LODGE & SAFARIS

**Hoanib Tours**  
until X-mas

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## To Our Guests And Partners In Tourism

Dear Guest to Sesfontein and Business Partner of Fort Sesfontein Lodge & Safaris!

The elephants in the Damaraland and Koakoveld areas have made the headlines quite a couple of times recently. Regrettably, not in a positive way for themselves.

And this due to the fact that we human beings always see everything from our very egocentric point of view as headlines tend to state

'ELEPHANT TRAMPLED TOURIST TO DEATH'

and not

'TOURIST CHARGED ELEPHANT MOTHER WITH CAMERA  
- THE DEFENCE OF HER CALF LEFT TOURIST DEAD'

Fact is, that this very touristic high light of our beautiful Namibia has brought a pressure on itself that is not bearable for it anymore, neither from a human nor from a nature or ecological point of view.

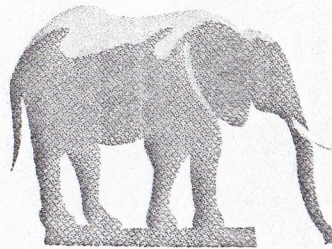
On a recent meeting of the stake holders of the Sesfontein area several steps, measures and plans were evaluated, both with immediate effect and for future activities.

One of them is that the we, Fort Sesfontein Lodge & Safaris, as a private sector stake holder, have committed ourselves - on a voluntary basis - to refrain from tours into the Hoanib River for the next couple of weeks.

Dear tour operator, we are certainly aware that this step is of negative effect to your business as much as it is to ours! But farsighted partners will certainly agree with us, that this immediate damage will most probably be to the benefit of our future business development!

This is why we try to explain and convince all visitors to Sesfontein with the intention of going to the river, why not to do so.

And we hope to get your support in this effort by explaining the reasons to your guests in a positive way and emphasising the other highlights of our region such as the big variety of cultural (i.e. the Sossos bushman paintings), scenic (i.e. the Girabis Vlake with game in herds of hundreds) and geological (i.e. semi precious stone mining) specialities.



**The Desert Elephants In The  
Hoanib Need Some Peace**

Dear Guest at Fort Sesfontein Lodge and the Sesfontein Area!

We know that one of the reasons you came to visit our beautiful area is the well known desert elephants.

Many publications, TV shows and magazine reports have made them popular far beyond our borders.

There have been extensive reports in the South African magazine GETAWAY and a South African TV station ran a sequence of 10 films just about our area and its highlights only a short while ago.

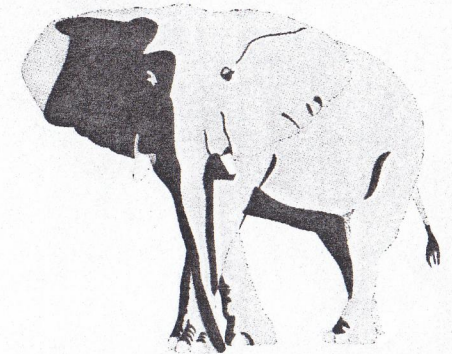
Through this the desert elephants have recently received an amount of attention that they are certainly not happy about.

Just at a time when they had their young ones up and running, the amount of disturbances (= cars) in their very restricted habitat exceeded anything they had ever before experienced.

Bearing in mind that their favourite habitat in our area is the Hoanib River, a narrow

river environment where there are few retreats to give them their peace, it is obvious that the animals become very nervous just through the simple presence of us two-legged intruders.

Wrong behaviour towards the elephants due to lack of knowledge from some and environmental hooliganism from others add to the stress that is placed on this rare and endangered species. Now the stake holders in this area have jointly decided to keep out of the river for the next couple of weeks and to encourage their visitors to do so as well and refrain from spoiling one of the highlights of a Namibia visit for the sake of the desert elephants.



**PLEASE SUPPORT THIS EFFORT AND GIVE  
THE HOANIB ELEPHANTS SOME PEACE!**