

Omaruru history

The Founding of Omaruru

Although often visited by big game hunters Axel Eriksson, Frederick Green, J.J.L Smuts and many others who began to use Omaruru as a base for hunting expeditions by 1857. Known at this time as Okozondjie, the place of the scorpions in Otjiherero, it was renowned in the area because its bubbling springs and the Eiseb river close by (later known as the Omaruru River) which ran year-long, made it the ideal location for a settlement. On the northern banks of this river Charles John Anderson built a temporary camp, in an area ceded to him by the Herero chief in 1858 because when cattle ate the grass there, their milk was sour, which is the direct meaning of the word "Omaruru".



In 1867 Wilhelm Zeraua with a large group of Herero and a Rhenish Missionary and Daniel Cloete with a large group of Damara moved in, although by 1869 Daniel Cloete moved on to Springbokfontein. In 1868 the Rhenish Mission employed Wilhelm Redecker (at Farm Omburo) to move from Otjimbingwe and plant the first "Kaffircorn" because of the richness of the soil and

presence of water year round. Missionary Gottlieb Vieh moved to Omaruru from Otjimbingwe, founding the mission station the 22nd of June, 1870.

The date of the founding of Omaruru has never been officially established. There are reasons to place it at 1867 with the arrival of the Herero and Damara chiefs, or 1870 with the establishment of the Mission Station and settlement of Axel Eriksson as trader.



Annual events:

- March: Biking
- June: Mountainbiking, Schlachtefest
- July: Reittunier, Choir Festival, Bridge
- October: White flag day, Octoberfest

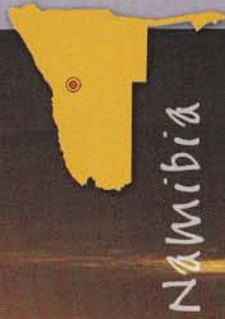


Omaruru art

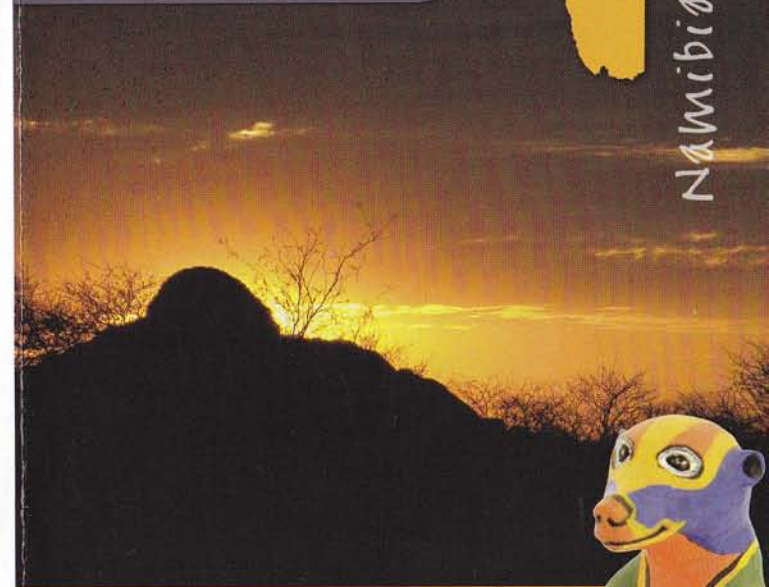


OMARURU

A creative centre



NAMIBIA



Visitor's guide 2006



1907

This guide is sponsored by the Namibian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Omaruru Branch



Numbers for Omaruru town, map 1

- 1 - 5 Bed & breakfast
- 6 Bank
- 8 Car repair / tyres
- 9 Chocolate manufacturing
- 10 Clothing
- 11 Coffee house
- 12 Computers
- 13 Estate agents
- 14 Fuel
- 16 Hairdresser
- 17 Hardware
- 18 Hotel
- 19 Manufacturing - Namib stone and marble
- 20 Meat / biltong
- 21 Medical practitioners
- 22 Restaurants
- 23 Supermarket
- 24 Stationery
- 25 Tour operator
- 26 - 27 Welfare organisation
- 28 Winery
- 29 Security



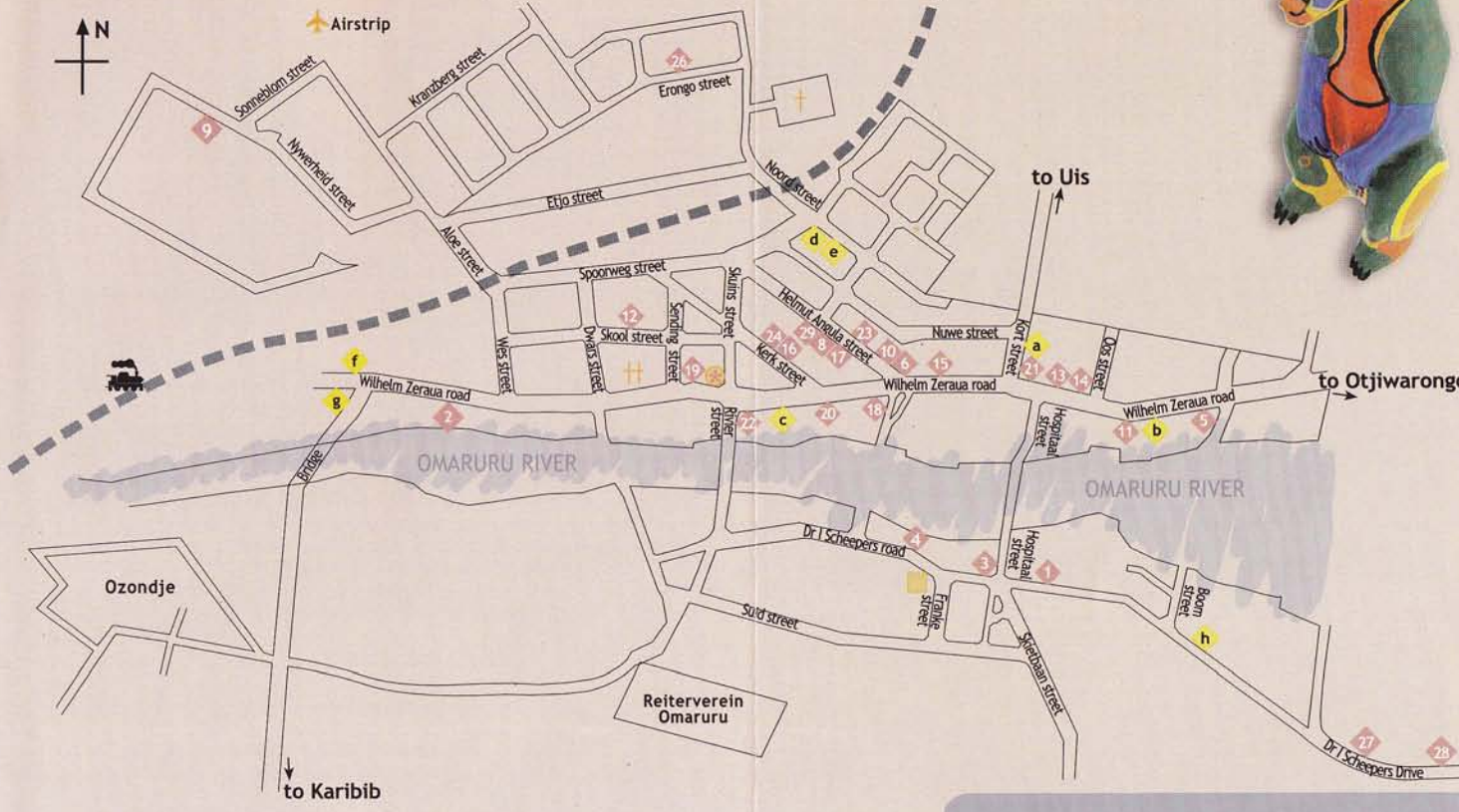
a - h ARTISTS: see inside

- P Air strip
- † Cemetery
- Ⓜ Police Station
- Ⓜ Franke Tower
- Ⓜ Herero Cemetery

Numbers for Omaruru region, map 2

- 1 Camping
- 2 - 4 Guest farm
- 5 Hunting farm
- 6 - 9 Lodges
- 10 Self-catering

OMARURU TOWN - MAP 1



OMARURU REGION - MAP 2

