

Rhino trek Namibia

In March 2023, a group of 16 people set out to walk 130 km from Save the Rhino Trust's (SRT) headquarters in Palmwag, Damaraland, across the arid desert to the Skeleton Coast. Led by Tim Holmes, they fundraised for rangers at SRT.

Tim Holmes | Patron and former Trustee

Following a visit to SRT's HQ in November 2019, I was keen to organise a group trek to raise funds that could help build a new block for SRT's brilliant rhino rangers. Black rhino can be seen all the way from Palmwag up to the Skeleton Coast, but no one had walked the desolate route for at least 10 years, as there is very little water, temperatures are higher than 35°C, and there are plenty of dangerous animals along the way.

Our idea was parked throughout the Covid-19 pandemic but, in 2022, following a visit from SRT's CEO, Simson Uri-Khob, a group of 15 of us from Cambridge, UK, were galvanised.

Here are a few photos to share from our journey.



Our 15-strong team set off from the UK on 19 March 2023, enjoying one last night of luxury at the Palmwag Lodge before embarking on our trek.

Along the route, we were escorted by an armed police officer and four rhino scouts as we walked into the Uniab Valley. Each day, we would aim to go at least 20 km.

By lunchtime, the heat would climb to a scorching 38°C.



ALL IMAGES TIM HOLMES





We approached the coast on day four, not long after a lioness was seen walking directly towards our camp! The rangers expected she had recently been at the coast preying on seals and was now on her way back to the desert.



On day two, temperatures crept to over 40°C, but we were rewarded with the fantastic sight of a mother rhino (cow) and calf. The baby was touchingly named Tish after one of the team, as a thank you for our fundraising efforts.



The last day was the most gruelling of all, walking in deep sand over the dunes. The main road marking the last kilometre was a much-welcomed sight by all of us! In total, we walked 125 km in six days, raising more than £12,500.

A huge thanks to the entire team and everyone that's supported this challenge.

**Inspired by Tim's story?
Want to do a trek or challenge?**

Get in touch with us:
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