




Walvis Bay Yacht Club

P.O. Box 851, Walvis Bay, Namibia

 wbyc@iway.na

VISITING YACHTS TO WALVIS BAY, NAMIBIA

Arrival Procedures & Useful Information

 Call Port Control on **VHF Channel 12 or 14** for permission to enter the port.

Proceed to **Walvis Bay Yacht Club** on the Southern Side of the port and anchor

General Process:

As appointed by the **Port Captain of Namport, Walvis Bay Yacht Club** is the agent for all *visiting yachts* to Walvis Bay.

To check in, you will need to report to **Antoinette** at The Yacht Club. An agent fee of **N\$500.00** is payable **per person** (excluding children under the age of 12), this includes:

1. Completion of Documents required for Immigration & Customs
2. Reporting of arrival to:
 - Port Health
 - Water Wing Police
3. Transporting you to Immigration and Customs by car for inward and outward clearance
4. Assisting with Car Rental Arrangements
5. Collection and delivery of laundry, or use of the Yacht Club's laundry facility (at a small fee)
6. Providing transportation to and from shops, the hospital, or doctor's appointments if needed
7. Trash Disposal
8. Free Potable Water available at the end of the WBYC jetty
9. Tie-up at yacht club jetty for your dingy
10. Contact with Yacht Club Support Members or other suppliers for any repairs

Additionally, this fee offers a temporary membership, providing you with a high-quality membership card that is valid as long as your visa is valid. This grants you access to the club facilities, including hot showers, and a 10% discount on food and beverages at the Yacht Club Restaurant (Rojo's) during your visit.

Office Hours:

The Walvis Bay Yacht Club office is **open daily** from **09:00 - 16:00**.

Clearance for both arrival and departure can also be arranged for up to 21:00 and during weekends with **advance notice**.

- **Saturday's: 09:00 - 12:00**
- **Sunday's: Closed** (open with prior notification of ETA)

DEPARTURE:

After outward clearance is done, call Port Control on **VHS Channel 14 or 16** for permission to exit the harbour.

Last updated: March 2024

Docking at Walvis Bay:

Anchoring:

All boats will be anchored in designated spaces for visiting vessels. There are limited swing moorings available. Additional mooring is available at the Marina floating concrete jetty, which has fresh water. These moorings are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, as only the northern side is suitable.

The anchorage area is just past the southern end of the commercial harbour. Space is somewhat restricted due to dredging, but the holding is good. There is a minimum depth of three meters between Pelican Point and the Yacht Club, so it is not necessary to use the main shipping channel.

It is highly recommended not to enter the harbour area during the night. Instead, anchor near Pelican Point until the next morning. Be aware that the prevailing southwesterly wind can sometimes change to a strong northerly wind, creating a significant swell in the anchorage and harbour, with occasional breaking waves. Mornings tend to be calmer, with the wind picking up in the afternoons.

The pelicans and seals here are abundant and lively, please respect them in their natural habitat.

Mooring:

All mooring space is limited and allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. The visible mooring balls are mostly privately owned. The Yacht Club does have a swing mooring available for N\$150.00; location upon request.

The Marina's sheltered mooring is available for visiting yachts at a cost of N\$230.00 per day for mono-hulls and N\$460.00 per day for catamarans. Fresh water is available for purchase, but there is no electricity. It is a 10-minute walk from the marina to the Yacht Club.

Antoinette, the Yacht Club secretary, asks that anyone planning to visit Walvis Bay to email the Yacht Club before setting sail at wbyc@iway.na or WhatsApp at +264 81 229 9300.

Dinghy Docking:

The Walvis Bay Yacht Club has a small floating dock at the end of our jetty for a dingy tie up.

Ashore:

Visiting yachts in Walvis Bay have access to nearly everything they might need. Repairs, including diving, small sail repairs, and machine shops, are readily arranged.

While the town centre is a long walk from the yacht club, it is considered safe.

Taxi services are available upon request.

Security:

Walvis Bay is generally safe both on and off the water. While incidents of theft are rare, it's important to remain vigilant, as most crimes are opportunistic in nature. The Yacht Club advises against leaving valuables in the dinghy, as there is no 24-hour security to safeguard your belongings. Always exercise caution when using your credit card or PIN number, as card cloning incidents have been reported in Namibia.

Walvis Bay Yacht Club Services & Advice:

Wi-Fi is available at the WBYC restaurant and at many other restaurants in town. Some signals can be accessed from the anchorage, though cell reception on the water and at the club ranges from fair to poor. The local mobile company, MTC, offers prepaid services, SIM cards and airtime can be purchased at various outlets.

Exercise caution and vigilance when using ATMs, although credit cards are widely accepted.

The historic town of Swakopmund, located about 40 km (25 miles) north of Walvis Bay, boasts a large Food Lover's Market with a wide selection of fresh produce. In Walvis Bay, deals can be found on packaged food, meat, and alcohol. As a major port, there is even a wholesaler where cruisers can receive discounts on bulk purchases. Provisions in Walvis are superior to those in Luderitz.

Health services are good. A registration fee is required at the state hospital, but treatment and medications from the hospital pharmacy are free, or one can opt for treatment at the Private Hospital.

If visiting Etosha National Park to see lions, cheetahs, giraffes, elephants, and wildebeests, precautions against malaria are essential. This includes using appropriate medication/prophylactics and carrying lotion or spray repellents. Local advice should also be sought from retail pharmacists.

There are good road and rail links between Walvis Bay, Swakopmund, and Windhoek, although public transport within Walvis Bay is limited. Local taxis are available.

Renting a 4WD car in Walvis Bay is somewhat restricted; however, roads are manageable with a 2WD vehicle. The WBYC office can provide assistance in this regard. Taxis to and from the Yacht Club are reasonably priced.

Scheduled flights are available from the airport to Johannesburg and Cape Town.

Visitors are encouraged to explore Goanikontis Oasis in the Moon Valley and Swakopmund for its colonial architecture, aquarium, Crystal Gallery, and breathtaking sand dunes.

A wide range of sports activities are available, including sandboarding, kiting, and surfing, to mention a few.