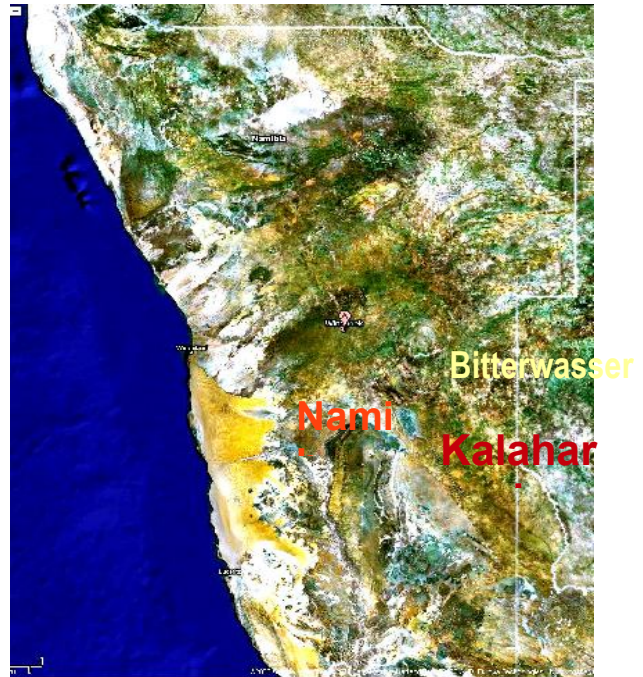
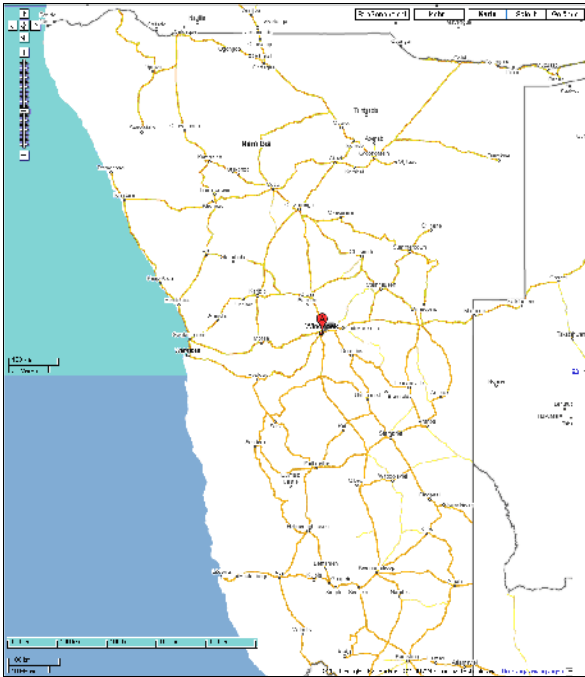


2008 Glider in Namibia & living on a farm with the German name Bitterwasser.

Bitterwasser is located in the Kalahari desert in the the south of Namibia and offers the exiting opportunity to fly between the Kalahari and the Namib desert. With Desert we understand basically very dry ..but not this year. The Farmers are very happy about the unusual amount of rain which is for sure not the preferred choice of glider pilots. Nevertheless I was lucky to get some nice flights. Besides flying living in a house in the savanna of southern Africa is a special experience. So let me start first with some introduction about Namibia, the geography and how to get there.



Namibia is located on the west site of South Africa populated with very view people. Just take a look on the streets which are mainly off road, a very limited number of villages and a limited number of gas stations.

The geography of Namibia is very interesting and the Namib is one of the oldest deserts. The gliding area is located in the southern part of the country.

way to Bitterwasser: dusty, rattling.....long



The Bitterwasser farm is located 200km south of the capital Windhoek. The farm is about 55skm, which means rather small. The whole infrastructure consists of the big farm and guest area and there is also a small house on the opposite of the pan: the so called Dune house. The advantage of the Dune house is the surrounding nature which is always and immediately present. Nevertheless living in the dune house is somehow exiting and needs persistent precaution. The nature around is a paradise of animals. The farmland is wild savanna. Besides cows there is antelope like Oryx, Spring bock, Kudu in the direct neighborhood.. A wide variety of birds, snakes, insects is a miracle to discover.

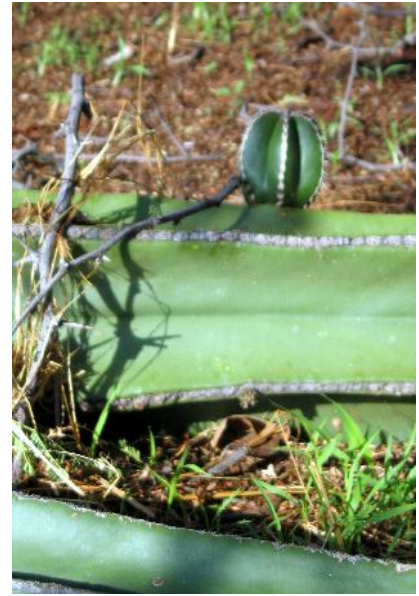


Sunset on the dune house



Around the dune house is nature pure. Just step out and take a look into the trees. One of the first impressions are the sometimes gigantic nests of the so called Weber bird. The Weber bird show an interesting way to build his nest. The male bird is constructing the nest , the female will judge if the nest is suitable. If not the female will destroy and the constructions starts again. Mother nature I think could also find an other solution. Some species of the Weber bird life in big colonies which comprises hundreds of individuals. I still like the thermal birds, flying with them in the same upwind is always exiting. They enjoy flying in the same way then we do. They don't fear the big glider birds. They join the upwind when they see the upwind is good .We join there upwind whenever we see they are there because they usually knew better then I.



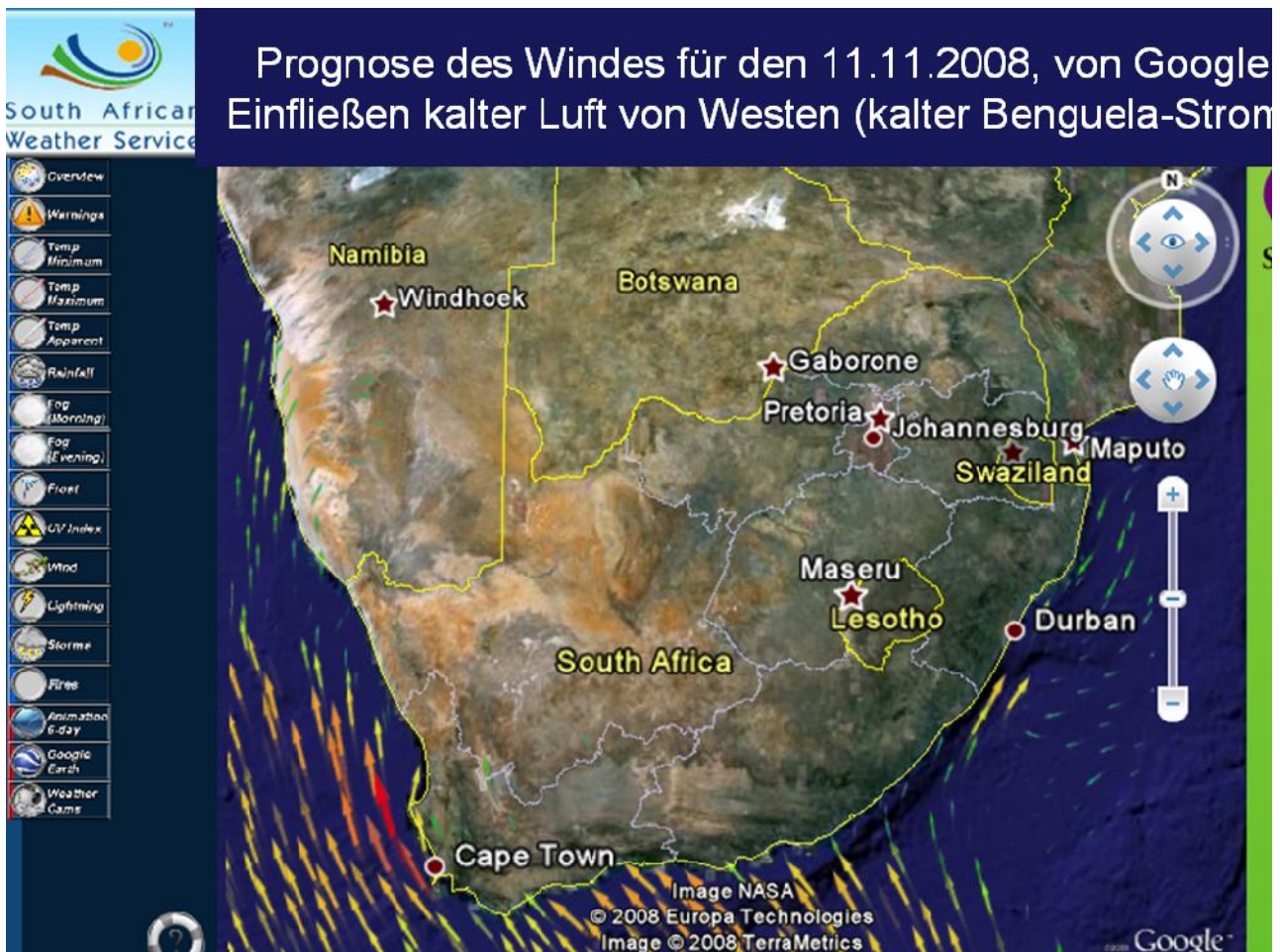


The Cactus is a must in a desert and also offers an home to many insects living in the colony of the plant. The December offers the rare chance to see the cactus blooming for a view days. Even the butterfly's use the chance to catch some sweet nectar from the blossom.





Sigi installs the new weather station for improved weather analysis and prognosis. For me impressing was his strong analysis. Sigi presented new ways to forecast much more precise the beginning of thermals and demonstrated that the temp flights are not longer needed.



Unterwoessen / Bavarian team



Herman, Juergen (left pic) , Ali talking with Brigitta from Bodensee (right pic)
Hans and me on one of the next pages.

Safari in the dunes

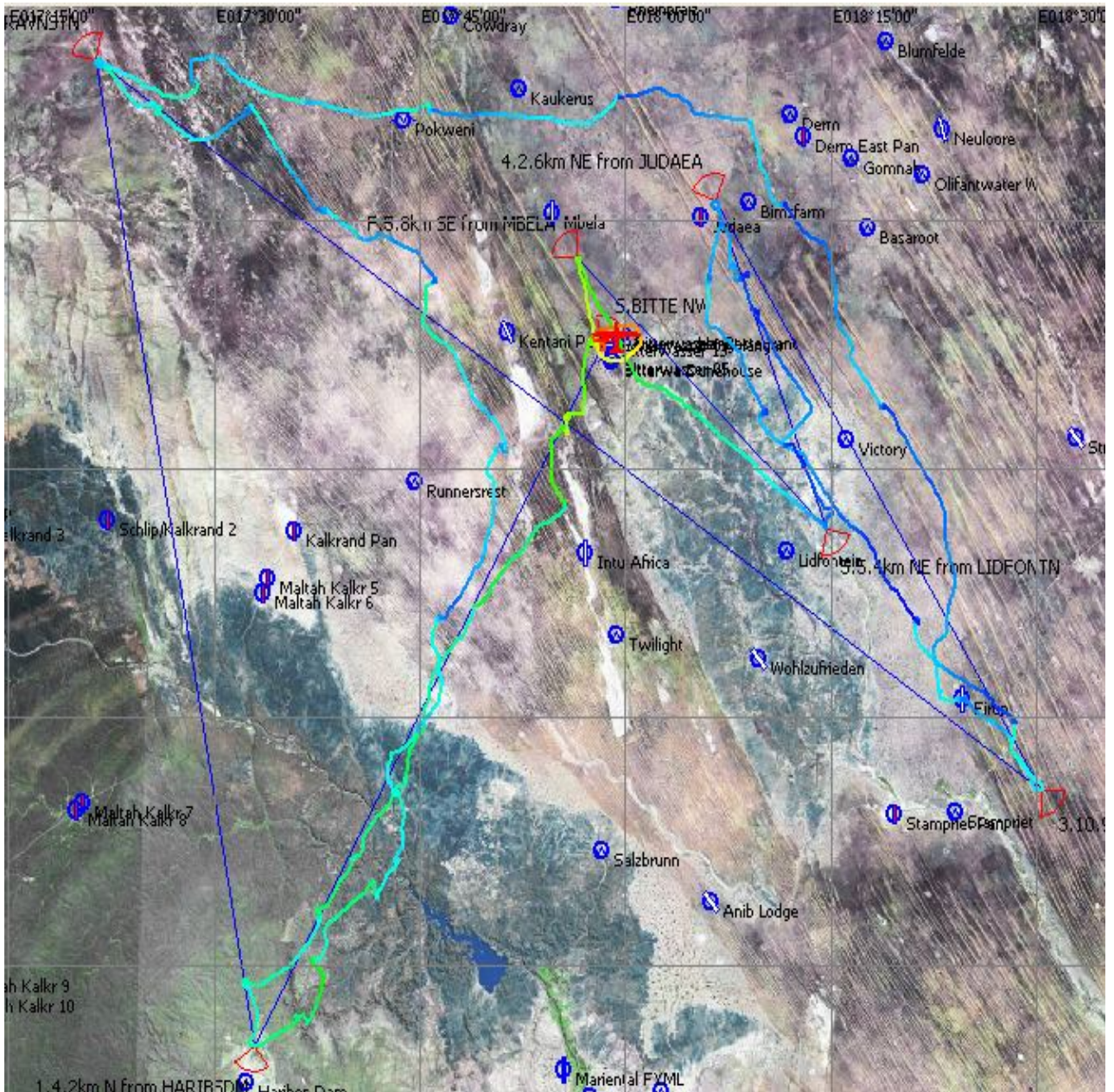


Bad gliding Weather leads to different activities Safari in the Kalahari...watch the animals

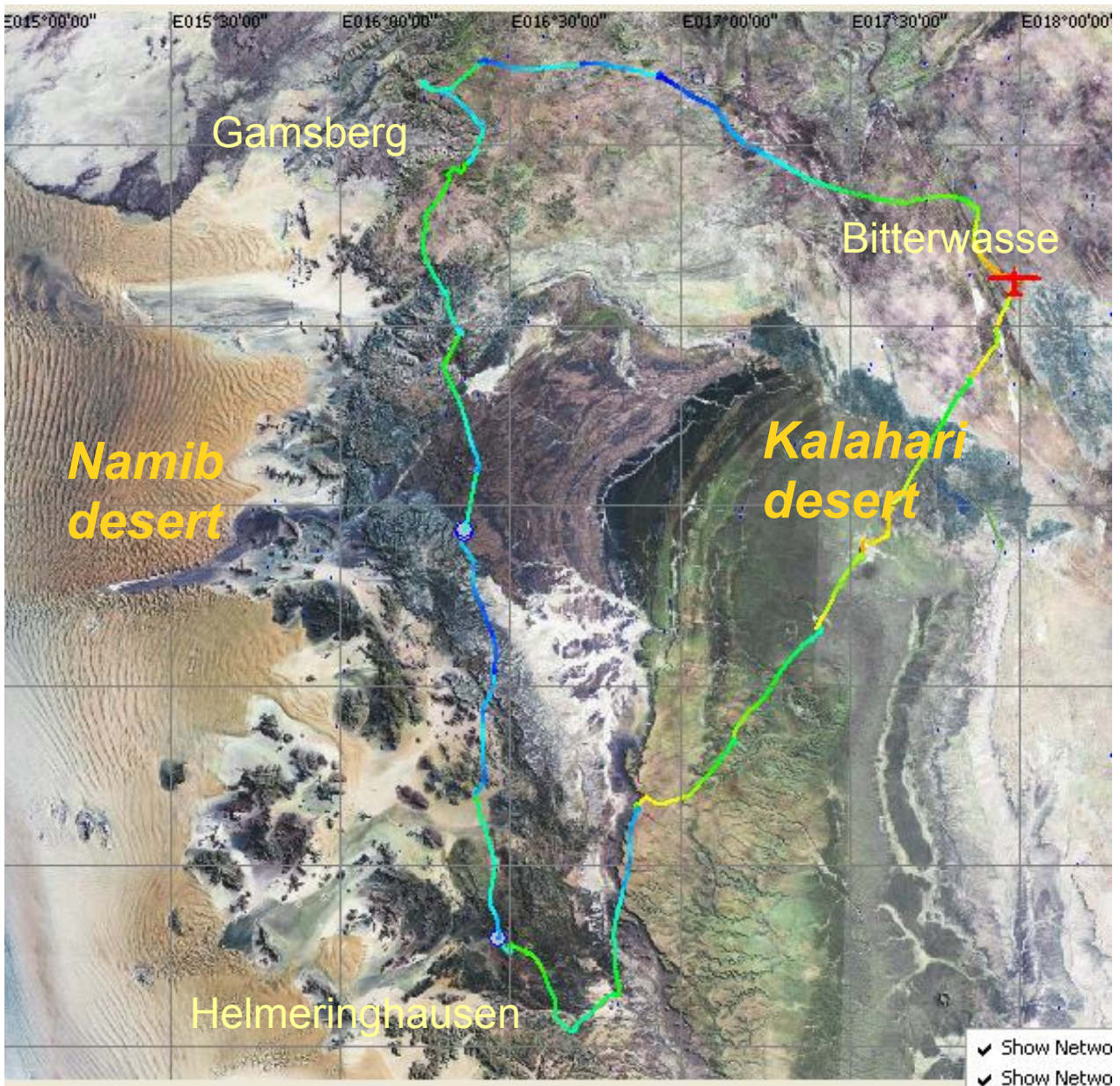


some left over from Lions breakfast ,....so tourists are invited to take photo





Flight on Duo T with Hans to the out landing fields



the Flight on Nimbus into the convergence zone (Peter Hochstetter, Reiner)
 The convergence zone is located on the track between Helmeringhausen and the Gamsberg. Here comes the Namib air and the air from East together and develops a marvelous upwind area under a 300km long cloud street.





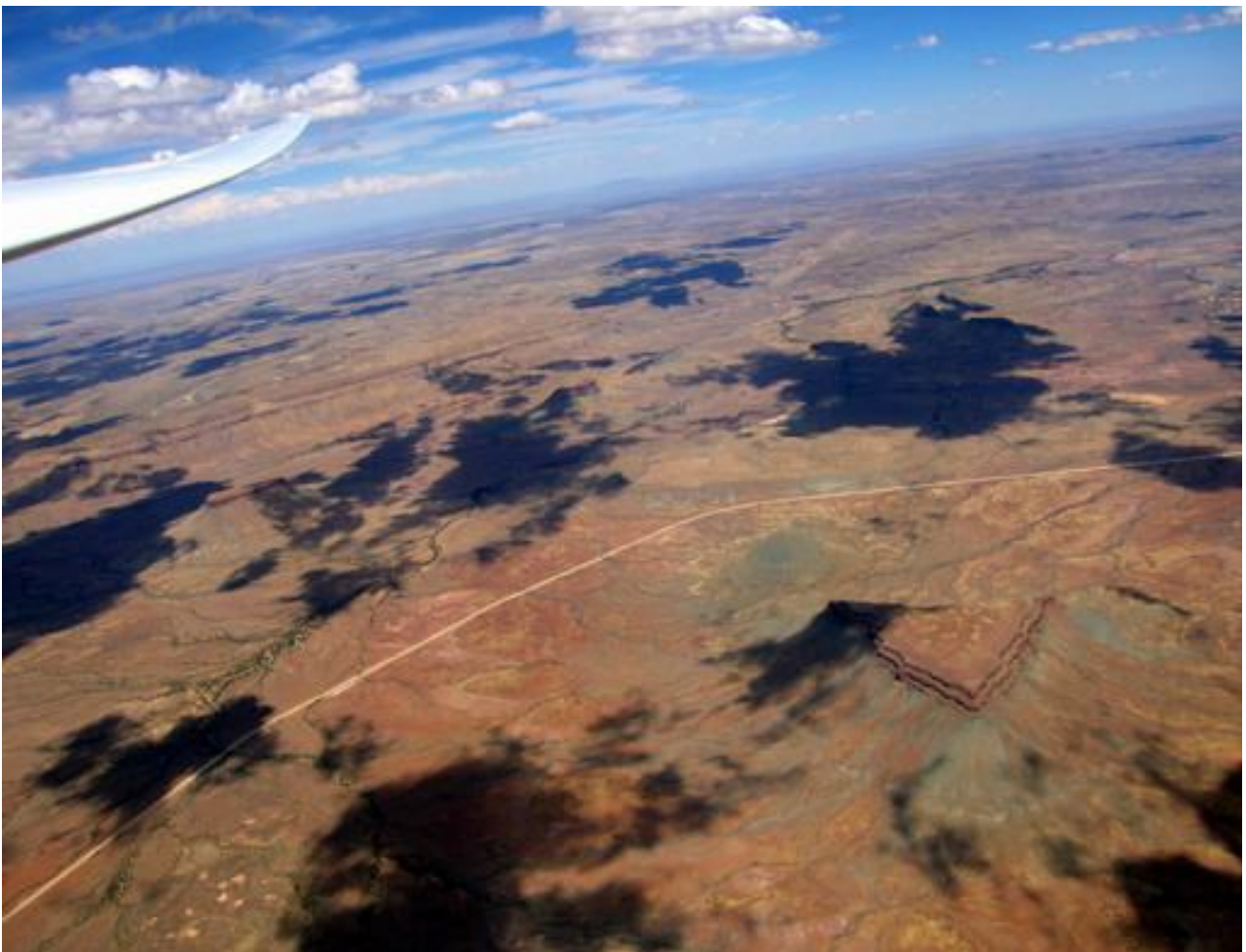
Over the mountains on the border to the Namib



Over the mountains along the Namib



The mountains on the border to the Namib: Gamsberg



The triangle mountain



Kalahari with red dunes in the Evening. Sun light changes the colors of the desert



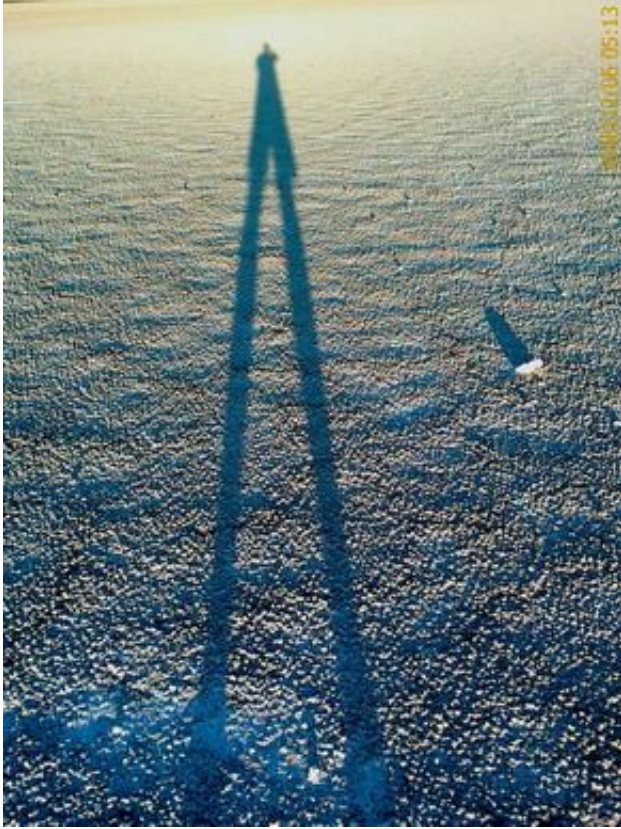
Thunderstorm over the Kalahari before sunset



nice thermals in the evening



evening and thunderstorm



Reiner ..jogging in the morning
in the first sun light with a long
shadow



Nama girl "Lusanne"



Ovambo girl "Magnum"



The service team with a spontaneous performance



the dinner opening



BBQ with chief cook

The dinner is always very delicious , vegetables and salads are very fresh. And the Afrikaans cooking and BBQ is excellent. The meat comes mainly from the farm itself . The wild meat is basically Kudu, Oryx, Spring bock. Obambi, ombucha (in hereo language). The Ovambo and (also the Italians) eat donkey.



Performance ..nama people are excellent singer