



ROVOS RAIL STATEMENT

Dear Valued Travel Partners

On Sunday 1 March 2026 at 04h45, one of our trains travelling southbound from Windhoek was involved in an accident at Naute in Namibia, approximately 285km from Ariamsvlei at the South African border. The cause was a washaway of the last span of a bridge resulting in the loss of two locomotives and two utility coaches. The automatic brake system stopped the train, which prevented further damage.

While no injuries were sustained by any passengers or crew, it is with profound sadness that we confirm the loss of our Rovos Rail Locomotive Driver and the TransNamib Locomotive Pilot. We extend our deepest condolences to their families, friends and colleagues.

Our guests were disembarked and transported to Upington for the night. Today, they were flown to Cape Town and met by our COO, Tiffany Vos-Thane. We organised an alternative programme for them until the journey's original end on 4 March, after which guests will proceed with their onward arrangements.

We have consistently travelled on the TransNamib line for 28 years and have never had any serious incidents. We are fully cooperating with the investigation being led by TransNamib, the national rail services operator in Namibia.

All our services remain fully operational as scheduled. Please rest assured that our safety protocols remain stringent and our team resolute in their principal.

During our 37 years of operation, Rovos Rail has continued to comply with all rail safety regulations. We pride ourselves on the experience we provide for our guests, which is underpinned by safety for all on board. The well-being of our guests and staff remains our top priority, and we are committed to maintaining the high standards of safety and service for which we are known.

If you or your clients require direct assurances, please be sure to reach out to us. Rohan, Tiffany and our communications department are on hand. Should you have any queries, please contact Liezl Maclean at communications@rovos.co.za.

We are grateful for all your messages and thank you for your support during this time.

Rovos Rail Tours

ROVOS RAIL • ST JAMES
+27 (0)12 315 8242 • reservations@rovos.co.za



Copyright © Rovos Rail Tours Pty Ltd 2026

[Back to Rovos Rail](#)