

DISCOVER DHOFAR

An easy discovery of the region of Dhofar : the Empty Quarter and its singing dunes, the mountains which receive moonson's rains in summer and host an original wildlife, and the archeological site of the ancient Arabia Felix...

DAY 1 *(- Lunch - Dinner)*

 **Transfer Salalah - Thumrayt (1 hour - 90 Km)**

 **Transfer Thumrayt - Shisr (Ubar) (1 hour - 100 Km)**

✓ **Visit of Ubar ruins in Shisr (1 hour)**

We stop on the way to visit the ruins of what is believed to be Ubar, this mythical city located 'between Hadramaut and the trees of Oman'. This city was partly destroyed when a subterranean cavity collapsed to form a sinkhole. The main tower and traces of fortifications remain visible. We'll visit them as well as a small museum about how the site was discovered.

 **Transfer Shisr (Ubar) - Our Camp in Rub Al khali (2 hours - 110 Km)**

✓ **Short walk in the sands to see the sunset (1 hour)**

We go have a walk across the high dune of the Rub Al Khali (Empty quarter in arabic), the huge and arid desert of Saudi Arabia that crosses Oman's border. We'll walk up a dune to see sunset in this unbelievable landscape...

- **Level 2***

- **Walking time : 1 to 2 hours**

- **Height difference : +150m/-150m**

 **bivouac in the Empty Quarter**

We set our camp at the foot of the huge dunes of the Rub Al Khali
Individual camping tent

DAY 2 *(Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner)*

✓ **Hiking in Rub al Khali (6 hours)**

Morning, we start walking from our camp. We climb several high dunes which surround us : the ascent is sometimes exhausting, but the descent is quick and fun and gives us sometimes the opportunity to have the dune sing. Around noon, we walk back to our our camp and have lunch and rest under a shady place. Late afternoon, we climb another huge dune to get to its summit and enjoy a wonderful sunset at the top.

- **Level 3***

- **Walking time : 4 to 5 hours**

- **Height difference : +150m/-150m**

 **bivouac in the Empty Quarter**

We set our camp at the foot of the huge dunes of the Rub Al Khali
Individual camping tent

DAY 3 *(Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner)*

✓ **Morning walk in the dunes (2 hours)**

this morning, we climb one of the big dunes and enjoy a last view over this sea of sand...

- Level 2*
- Walking time : 1 to 2 hours

 Transfer Our Camp in Rub Al khali - Shisr (Ubar) (2 hours - 110 Km)

 Transfer Shisr (Ubar) - Above Al Hautah Bowl (5 hours - 250 Km)

✓ **Short walk on the top of the corrie of Al Hautah (2 hours)**

We walk on a nice trail used mainly by cows and camels going grazing. We are around 1000m high and overlook the corrie of al Hautah. The landscape is bucolic with grazing lands, high trees, and numerous birds...

- Level 1*
- Walking time : 1 to 2 hours

 **Bivouac in the high grazing lands**

We camp about 1000m high in the middle of the grazinglands and with views over the sea
Individual camping tent

DAY 4 (Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner)

 Transfer Above Al Hautah Bowl - View Point (0 hour 20 - 20 Km)

✓ **View Point (0 hour 15)**

We stop at a view point : we are 1000m high and down the cliffs is the sea. During moonson time the clouds hit the cliffs which get lush green.

 Transfer View Point - Fizayah (1 hour - 40 Km)

✓ **Swimming on a white sandy beach (2 hours)**

We enjoy a swim in the indian ocean on one of the numerous beaches of the bay.

 Transfer Fizayah - Salalah (1 hour - 70 Km)

✓ **Visit of Souq Al Husn (2 hours)**

Al Husn Souq is Salalah popular market. It is above all famous for the sale of frankincense, perfumes, and omani shawls. It is for the moment under renovation und therefore limited in size.

 **Salalah Beach Villas**

We spend the night in this nice hotel. The hotel is located in Al Dhariz, facing the sea, and has a swimming pool

Sea View Room

Comfortable room with A/C, fridge, and private bathroom. breakfast at the hotel

DAY 5 (Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner)

 Transfer Salalah - Khor Ruri (0 hour 30 - 45 Km)

✓ **Visit of Khor Rori and Sumharam ruins (1 hour 30)**

Khor Ruri Wadi Darbat's estuary. Seabirds are numerous there. Above the estuary are the ruins of Sumhuram, that was an important port during the Antiquity. It was located at the far east of the kingdom of Hadramaut, zone of production of frankincense, resin taken from a tree that was once more valued than gold.

 **Transfer Khor Ruri - Jebel Samhan (0 hour 45 - 60 Km)**

✓ **Stop on the top of Jebel Samhan (0 hour 30)**

We stop on the top of Jebel Samhan from where we have wonderful point of view over Mirbat and the Indian Ocean. We also have a look at the dragon's blood trees, these very special trees which are plenty on Socotra Island. Jebel Samhan is also believed to be the only place in Oman where the Arabian Leopard still lives...


 **Transfer Jebel Samhan - Wadi Darbat (0 hour 30 - 30 Km)**

✓ **Short hike in Wadi Darbat (3 hours)**

Wadi Darbat is one of the most famous wadis in Oman. During Khareef (between July and September, the monsoon time) it is a favorite place of Omani tourists who come here to enjoy the greenery and nice river. We'll hike up the valley.

- **Level 1***

- **Walking time : 1 to 2 hours**

 **Transfer Wadi Darbat - Salalah (0 hour 30 - 50 Km)**

 **Salalah Beach Villas**

We spend the night in this nice hotel. The hotel is located in Al Dhariz, facing the sea, and has a swimming pool

Sea View Room

Comfortable room with A/C, fridge, and private bathroom. breakfast at the hotel

DAY 6 (Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner)

✓ **salalah Food Souq (1 hour)**

Salalah food souq is worth a visit : it is very lively! We find there wonderful fishes, meat, vegetable, fruits, dates, and traditional medicines...

- **Level 1***

✓ **Discover the fruits stalls of Salalah (1 hour)**

Salalah is a modern city but still having many agricultural fields in the middle of the city. On the streets there are numerous stalls selling the fruits produced here : coconuts, banana, papayas, sugar cane, etc...

✓ **Freetime at the house (4 hours)**

We enjoy some rest at the house : you can read a book in the garden, have swim in the swimming pool, or even watch the numerous birds which visit our garden...

✓ **Visit of Al Baleed Archeological Site (1 hour)**

This archeological site lies in the city of salalah, facing the sea. This city was previously known as Dhofar (which is now the name of the region). The area was inhabited since since 4000 years BC, but the remainings date from the 10th century AD. Its position made it an important port in the region. Next to the site is a museum with a hall about history and another about boats.

 Salalah Beach Villas

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Sea View Room

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 Difficulty level Trekking & Easy Walking

- Level 1** No difficulty. Easy and short walks. Appropriate for anyone walking occasionally
- Level 2** Easy hikes with elevation gain of less than 300 meters with no big terrain difficulty
- Level 3** Hikes with an elevation gain from 300 to 800 meters. Appropriate for those who are used to walk in the mountain. The hikes mentioned Level 3 with a lesser elevation gain present terrain difficulties
- Level 4** Hikes with an elevation gain from 800 to 1100 meters. For fit mountain hikers
- Level 5** Long hikes with an elevation gain of more than 1000 meters and may require scrambling or easy climbing in some parts of the trail