

RUB AL KHALI, THE EMPTY QUARTER

Arabia Sands, Empty Quarter, Rub Al Khali... So many mysterious names for the great desert of Arabia. Spend 5 days and 6 nights to experience this so special environment...

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)*

✓ **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 4 (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 5 (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 6 (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 7 (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 - Thumrayt (2 hours 30 - 175 Km)**

 **Transfer Thumrayt - Salalah (1 hour - 100 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 8 (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...

✓ **Visit of Job's Tomb (0 hour 30)**

We stop on the way to visit Job's tomb, located in the mountains north of Salalah.

✓ **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.

✓ **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

① 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