## **DISCOVER DHOFAR**

A nice tour to visit the region of Dhofar, which has a long history and enjoys a special climate since it receives the monsoon's rain. Several days in the desert of Rub al Khali and an exploration of the coast east and west of Salalah.



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Level 2	Quite easy tours with easy hikes (no more than 4 hours walking and 300m height difference). These tours might include swimming but no aquatic hike nor canyoning. There is always the option, for the participants who wish it, not to do the walk; when possible, an alternative program can be offered to them; otherwise, they will wait in a beautiful spot.
Length	12 Day
Doable in	JANUARY - FEBRUARY - NOVEMBER - DECEMBER
ಥಾಥಾಥ	5 Nights in accomodations (hotel, guesthouse, lodge, etc)
浴浴浴	6 Nights wild camping (with tents, thick mattrass, mats, dishes, cooking dear), comfortable (but with no toilets) with the assistance of vehicules. Usualy tarticipants pitch their tent by themselves while we set up the collective camp
Start	Salalah
Ends	Salalah
GUESTS	PRICE PER PERSON 1500 OMR 3926 USD
3	1150 OMR 3010 USD
4 5	1000 OMR 2617 USD 980 OMR 2565 USD

880 OMR

840 OMR

790 OMR

2303 USD

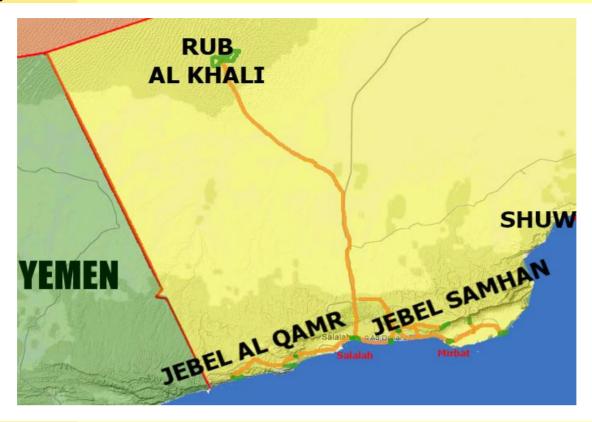
2198 USD

2068 USD

DISCOVER DHOFAR 2 / 13

**Itinerary** 

Salalah - Rub Al Khali Desert - Jebel Samhan - Jebel Al Qamr



Nota sobre la transportacion del equipaje

We have vehicule pack while hiking.

We have vehicules; so luggages are always transported by car. You only have to carry day-pack while hiking.

#### **About Desert**

We usualy go for a hike of 3 to 5 hours in the morning. Heat and soft sand can make it a bit difficult. Late afternoon, we go for another walk around the camp from 1 to 2 hours.

It is always possible for someone not to do the walk and stay at the camp or go for a shorter walk.

On the other hand, the ones who want to walk more can go erlier in the afternoon and do a longer tour alone.

In the desert, we'll have one single camp site for 4 nights.

On the camp, we set up a big tent (pictures below) to have shade at noon and to protect us in case of sandwind.









DISCOVER DHOFAR 3 / 13

DAY 1

## ✓ Salalah Food Souq (1 hour )

₽ Salalah

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

Transfer to our campsite in Rub al Khali (4 hours 15 - 310 Km)

#### ✓ Short walk in the sands to sea the sunset (1 hour )

Rub Al Khali Desert

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 landascpe...

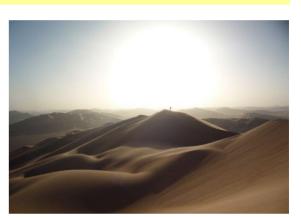
- Level 2\*
- Walking time : 1 to 2 hours
- Height differrence : +150m/-150m

## Camping in the desert

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







- Lunch - Dinner







DISCOVER DHOFAR 4 / 13

**DAY 2-4** 

## Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

## ✓ Hiking in Rub al Khali (8 hours )

Rub Al Khali Desert

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 2 & 3\*

- Walking time : 4 to 6 hours - Height differrence : +250m/-250m

## Camping in the desert

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













DISCOVER DHOFAR 5 / 13

DAY 5

Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

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

Rub Al Khali Desert

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

- Level 2 & 3\*

- Walking time : 1 to 2 hours- Height differrence : +150m/-150m

Transfer to Mirbat (4 hours 30 - 345 Km)

## 🗗 🗗 🗗 Hotel Appartments

A standard hotel in a great location, facing the sea and near to the port Standard Appartment









DISCOVER DHOFAR 6 / 13

DAY 6

Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

Transfer to a wadi on the slopes of Jebel Samhan (1 hour - 50 Km)

## ✓ Discover of a wadi at the foot of Jebvel Samhan (3 hours)

₽ Jebel Samhan

A nice short walk at the foot of the cliffs of Jebel Samhan along a wadi which flows all year long (also during dry season), at an height of 500m. It's also the opportunity to discover the territory of the breeders of coows, goats, and camels.

- Level 2 & 3\*

- Walking time : 1 to 2 hours- Height difference : +200m/-200m

Transfer to Mirbat (3 hours - 120 Km)

## 🗗 🗗 🗗 Hotel Appartments

A standard hotel in a great location, facing the sea and near to the port Standard Appartment













DISCOVER DHOFAR 7 / 13

DAY 7

Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

Transfer to the heights of Jebel Samhan (0 hour 45 - 60 Km)

#### ✓ Walk on a balcony trail along the cliffs overlooking the sea (2 hours)

A nice and easy walk. We are around 1200m high and we walk on a rocky outcrop just under the cliff and enjoy superb views over the coast of the Indian Ocean. We come back the same way...

- Level 2\*
- Walking time: 1 to 2 hours
- Transfer to Wadi Darbat (0 hour 30 30 Km)

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

₽ Jebel Samhan

Wadi Darbat is one of the most famous wadis in Oman. During Khareef (between july and september, the monsoon time) it is a of the favourite place of omani tourists who come here to enjoy the greenry and nice river. We'll hike up the valley.

- Level 1\*
- Walking time : 1 to 2 hours
- Transfer to the archeological site of Khor Ruri / Sumhuram (0 hour 15 15 Km)

#### ✓ Visit of Khor Rori and Sumhuram ruins (1 hour 30)

₽ Salalah

Khor Ruri Wadi Darbat's estuary. Seabirds are numerous there. Above the estuary are the ruins of Sumhuram, that was an importanat 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 to Salalah (0 hour 30 - 45 Km)

#### 🗗 🗗 🗗 Hotel at the beach

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

Standard Direct Sea-view room

breakfast at the accomposation













DISCOVER DHOFAR 8 / 13

DAY8

**№** Salalah

**№** Salalah

Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

#### ✓ Salalah Food Souq (1 hour )

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

#### ✓ 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 salls 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.

#### Hotel at the beach

We spend the night in this nice hotel. The hotel is located in Al Dhariz, facing the sea, and has a swimming pool. Standard Direct Sea-view room

breakfast at the accomodation













DISCOVER DHOFAR 9 / 13

DAY 9

Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

Transfer to wild beaches in Jebel Al Qamr (1 hour - 70 Km)

## ✓ Short walk on the coast (3 hours)

**₽** Jebel Al Qamr

We have a short walk in a rocky blockfield facing the sea. Some clocks have very strange forms and some of them even have trees growing on them... The see is beautiful. Here, we are below the clouds during the moonson, which make the best climate for frankincense trees (Boswelia Sacra) and Desert Roses (adenium obesum). Finally we reach a nice sandy beach.

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

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

₽ Jebel Al Qamr

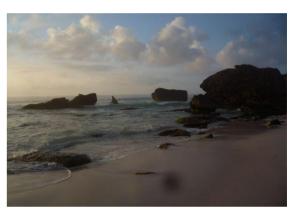
We enjoy a swim in the indian ocean on one of the numerous beaches of the bay.

# ំ ំ ំ ំ Camping on the beach

We camp on a splendid sandy white beach Individual camping tent













DISCOVER DHOFAR 10 / 13

**DAY 10** 

Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

#### ✓ Short hike along the coast (3 hours)

₽ Jebel Al Qamr

We start walking where the tracck ends and head to a wonderful beach. On a good path we follow the coast until a small valley where frankincense trees grow next to the sea. We come back the same way and enjoy a swim before getting to the cars.

- Level 2\*
- Walking time : 1 to 2 hours
- Transfer to the viewpoint (1 hour 40 Km)

#### ✓ View Point (0 hour 15)

₽ Jebel Al Qamr

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 to the heights of Jebel Al Qamr (0 hour 20 - 20 Km)

## ✓ Short walk on the top (2 hours)

₽ Jebel Al Qamr

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

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

# ്റ്റ്റ് റ്റ്റ് Camping 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













DISCOVER DHOFAR 11 / 13

**DAY 11** 

Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

#### Transfer to Dhalkut (1 hour - 60 Km)

## ✓ Discover the westernmost coast of Oman (3 hours )

₽ Jebel Al Qamr

On our way to Dhalkut, last big village before the Yemeni border, we use tracks to go down from the mountain and reach a beatiful coast and small villages like Rakhyut and Al Hautah. Here, the mountain slopes are the more wooded in Oman. It's a little visited region but of big interest.

- Level 2\*

- Walking time : 1 to 2 hours - Height differrence : +100m/-100m

#### 🔊 🗗 🧗 Simple hotel

Standard Room



DISCOVER DHOFAR 12 / 13

**DAY 12** 

# Boat trip to a wild estuary (3 hours )

₽ Jebel Al Qamr

We leave from the port on a fisherman's boat. The coast seen from the boat is very nice and wild: wooded mountain slopes, cliffs, and several tiny coves... We land on a long beach and walk in the estuary to discover freh water pools, giant trees, wild palm trees, many birds, sometimes also camels and cows grazing, archeological ruins, and even stone paintings! We enjoy this idyllic place and come back by boat

Transfer to Salalah (3 hours - 170 Km)













DISCOVER DHOFAR 13 / 13

	Difficulty level Hiking & Easy Walking
Level 1	No difficulty. Easy and short walks. Apporpriate for anyone walking occasionaly
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