

## Socotra Eco-tours: Ten-Day Trekking Tour

### Socotra Island – Unforgettable holidays with Socotra Eco-tours



#### Day 1: Dubai- Socotra- Ayhaft National Park- Delisha Sandy Beach

You will take a direct (non-stop) flight with Yemenia from Dubai on Sunday. You will departure from Dubai at 08:10 AM and arrival to Socotra by 09:25 Am. We will pick you up at the airport and transport you to an eco-lodge near the island's capital, Hadibo. After you refresh yourself we will take you for a trip to Ayhaft Canyon National Park. In the canyon (wadi), you will enjoy large fresh pools where you can swim or soak. All around you, there will be tamarind trees, cucumber trees and a wide variety of birds such as Socotra sparrow, Socotra sunbird and both Socotra and Somali starlings. Ayhaft is a natural nursery due to its large abundance of endemic trees, plants and birds.

In the afternoon, we will visit Delisha beach with pristine white sands full of crabs. You can relax while swimming in the sea and/or in a freshwater lagoon. You can climb a huge sand dune overseeing the beach and try to surf it down. If you want to stay longer there may be a fabulous sunset to watch from Delisha.

*Overnight will be at Delisha beach*



#### Day 2: Wadi Daneghan-Kishan-Adoho Dema'alah

After an early breakfast, we will drive to Wadi Daneghan, the start point of the trek. After loading our stuff on a camel, we will hike for 3 to 4 hours. On the way to Kishan, we expect to cross wadies and walk among the endemic plants such as croton socotramo, Adinum, pass by a granite wadi. Lunch in Kishan. After picnic, we will carry on to Adoho Dema'alah at some 600 meters. Dinner and overnight in Adoho Dema'alah



#### Day 3: Adoho Dema'alah - Fa'arah Da'arho

In the morning we will trek to the highest peak called Fa'arah at 1525 meters to have a nice view of Hadiboh. Of course that place is full of vegetation although the peak high up is naked granite. We continue trekking to Wadi Da'aharoh.

Dinner and camp in Da'aharoh.



#### Day 4: Da'arho-Firmhin Forest - Wadi Derhur

The Firmhin forest is the last *dragon's blood* woodland. Nowhere else in the world can one find *dragon's blood trees* in such density. Local people will show us how they used to collect - and still collect on a smaller scale - the precious red resin of the tree. We will continue hiking to Derhur canyon (wadi) where we will see unusual yet beautiful rock formations and can swim in the pool. Dinner and overnight at Wadi Derhur.



#### Day 5: Diksam Plateau – Ameq sandy beach, Dagub Cave

In the morning we hike up to Diksam plateau, we meet the car and we head to the south, to Ameq sandy beach, where we can swim in the clear water of the Indian Ocean. Lunch at Dagub cave, which overlooks a scattering of traditional villages below. The cave has many stalactites, stalagmites and pools of water. We visit the colossal sand dunes of Hayf and Zahek, pushed up against the mountainside by the seasonal winds of Socotra. Dinner and overnight at Amaq Beach.



#### Day 6: DIHAMRI MARINE PROTECTED AREA

We will drive to nearby Dihamri marine protected area. It boasts with one of the richest coral reefs on the archipelago. You can relax on the beach in palm leaf huts and swim and snorkel in Dihamri Bay. Snorkeling gear can be hired there. Marine species you will see underwater include: Parrotfish, Moray eel, Rays, Sea urchins, if you are lucky you will meet turtles. Divers can also use the services of Dihamri Diving center and go for a dive in Dihamri or another of superb diving spots of Socotra.



#### Day 7: ARHER FRESHWATER CREEK AND BEACH

We will drive to Arher where a fresh creek coming out from granite massive is meeting sea water on the beach. You can relax on green grass around the creek, swim in the sea or if you feel fit you can climb a huge sand dune to get a fantastic view over this charming spot. Arher is one of the best spots for Paragliding and thus you can paraglide if you have your own paragliding equipment.



Dinner and overnight at Arher

#### Day 8: HOQ CAVE- HOMHIL TERRESTRIAL PA- ARHER FRESHWATER CREEK AND BEACH

We will make an early start to drive to the base of Hoq cave in Terbak village. Before the sunshine gets too hot, we will walk up to the entrance of the cave. It is more than 3 km long with a water pool at the end and holds a wealth of Socotri history. Inside, you will see stalactites, stalagmites and crystalline formations. Ancient writings on the cave walls and also what appears to be a picture of an old trading ship have been preserved over the ages by a calcite



glaze.

In the afternoon our destination is Homhil, a protected area with fabulous sceneries that give you a kind of prehistoric feeling. We will stop at Qaria lagoon en-route. It is the largest lagoon on the island and we will hopefully see flamingos, herons and greenshanks.

Once at Homhil, we can choose from a selection of walking trails. You will be astonished by the prehistoric atmosphere of the landscape rich with dragon blood trees and bottle trees. You will be addressed by local children who sell dragon blood raisin and frankincense. One of the trails leads to a viewpoint with a natural pool with almost freezing green and blue water.

*Dinner and overnight will be camping at Homhil.*

#### Day 9: QALANSIA –DETWAH LAGOON

We drive to the west of the island to a little fisherman's town of Qalansiya. It consists of traditional Socotri houses, narrow alleyways and a beach full of fishing boats ready to set off for today's catch or to take you to Shu'ab beach. We will continue to Detwah lagoon, a marine protected area renowned for its magic landscape. You will be charmed by a white sandy tongue surrounded by turquoise waters of the bay. You can swim there and enjoy the paradise. There is also an array of sea birds to be seen in the lagoon.

Dinner and overnight at Detwah.

#### Day 10: GOLDEN BEACH OF SHUAB

After breakfast in Detwah, we will go for a boat trip to Shu'ab. We will surely meet some spinner dolphins along the way with cormorants flying over our heads. Once at Shu'ab, we visit a mangrove area. We will have a lunch on the long and clean Shu'ab beach. In the afternoon, you can swim in this pristine place. In late afternoon, we take a boat ride back to Qalansyia. Line fishing is possible from the boat if you want to catch your dinner.

Dinner and night in Adeeb eco camp near Hadibo

#### Day 11: DEPARTURE FROM SOCOTRA-DUBAI

After an early breakfast, we will drive you to the Socotra airport. You will take the Yemenia direct (non-stop) flight from Socotra. Departure from Socotra at 10:30 and arrival to Dubai at 12:55

#### Services included in the tour Package:

- Dubai-Socotra-Dubai Air-tickets
- Visa fees
- Welcoming and a transfer from and to Socotra airport
- Camels and Cameleers
- Accommodations; Hotel *any day you want*, eco-lodges, campsites and wild camping
- Food (3 meals a day); we do cater also vegetarians
- Sufficient amount of bottled water throughout the trip
- English speaking local experienced guide
- Local trekking guide at specific places
- Protected Area entrance fees and all other fees
- Boat Ride to Shu'ab



Services not included:

- Personal insurance
- Guide's and driver's tips

With thanks and regards,

Best regards

Abduljameel

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