

Socotra Advisor Tours Company
adventures with expert local guides

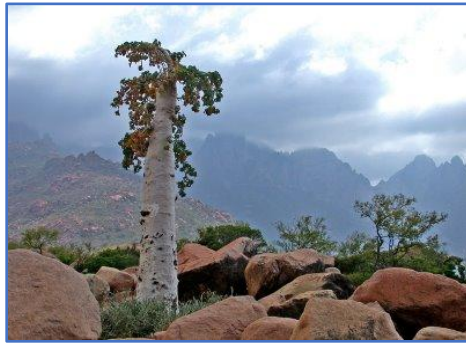


Socotra expedition - one week itinerary

Socotra is a wild jewel of the Indian Ocean, nestled south of Yemen—a place where time seems to stand still. Its landscapes are home to a surreal collection of rare plants, ancient trees, curious insects, exotic reptiles, vibrant birds, and unique animals found nowhere else on Earth.

We invite photographers, explorers, and beauty seekers to capture breathtaking images—perfect for travel magazines, coffee table books, art pieces, framed prints for hotels, restaurants, and homes... or simply to share online and reveal Socotra's magic to the world.

With our knowledgeable and authentic Socotri guides, every hidden corner of the island will be uncovered and experienced in full, following a thoughtfully crafted itinerary.



Day 1: Arrival in Socotra – Hadibo – Delisha lagoon- Arher beach

You will depart on an Air Arabia flight from Abu Dhabi. Upon arrival at Socotra's airport, you will meet your local team, ready to explore the island. First, we will assist you with immigration and customs procedures—please have a copy of your Yemeni visa ready for inspection upon arrival. After lunch in Hadibo, the capital of Socotra, we will drive to Delisha beach, known for its pristine white sands teeming with crabs. Here, you can unwind while swimming in both the sea and a freshwater lagoon. Later, we will travel to Arher, a breathtaking camping spot on the northeastern coast. This unique location features a fresh creek emerging from a crack in a granite mountain. You can relax by the creek, swim in the sea, or, if you're up for a challenge, climb the towering sand dune—over 100 meters high—for an incredible panoramic view. Watching the sunset from this vantage point is truly unforgettable.

Dinner and overnight stay: Camping at Arher Beach.



Day 2: Arher beach - Hoq cave – Ras Irisseyl – Arher beach

Today, you'll begin your journey early with a drive to the base of **Hoq Cave** in **Terbak village**. Before the sun becomes too intense, you'll hike up to the cave entrance. Stretching over three kilometers, the cave features a serene water pool at its far end. Inside, you'll encounter magnificent **stalactites, stalagmites, and crystalline formations** within vast chambers that resemble an ancient cathedral. Later in the afternoon, as the

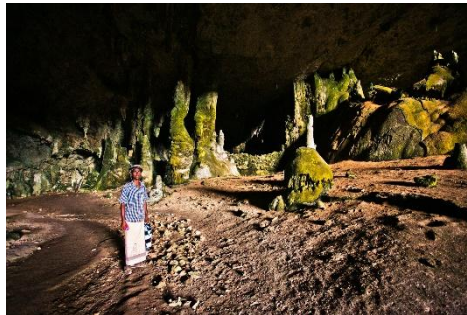


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tide recedes, you'll travel to **Ras Irisseyl**, Socotra's easternmost point, where the **Indian Ocean** and the **Arabian Sea** converge. Here, you'll find a small fishing village, where locals return with their afternoon catch. You'll also visit "**Crab City**", a fascinating beach inhabited by thousands of sand crabs, which construct small castle-like structures above their burrows during low tide.

Dinner and overnight stay: Camping at **Arher Beach**.



Day 3: Arher beach - Homhil national park – Dihammri Protected Area

After breakfast, we will head north to **Homhil**, a natural zone teeming with endemic plants such as the **Dragon's Blood Tree**, **Frankincense Tree**, and **Desert Rose**. In Homhil, we will walk along several scenic trails, one of which leads to a breathtaking **viewpoint** featuring a natural **swimming pool** and a panoramic vista of the villages below, stretching toward the **Arabian Sea**. Here, you can take a refreshing swim while soaking in the stunning scenery, making you feel as if you're in a natural infinity pool—just like every moment in **Socotra**. Along the way, you may encounter local children selling **dragon blood resin** and **frankincense** from nearby villages, adding to the authenticity of the experience. The landscape is nothing short of otherworldly—this is **Socotra**! After lunch, we will explore **Dihammri**, an extraordinary snorkeling site. Here, you can **swim, snorkel, and dive** in one of the richest coral reefs in the archipelago. Dihammri boasts more than **200 fish species** and **four of the five coral species** found on the island. The shallow reef makes it accessible even for beginner snorkelers, allowing them to appreciate its beauty. Among the fascinating **marine creatures** you may encounter are **parrotfish, moray eels, rays, turtles**, and more. **Diving and snorkeling gear** can be rented from the **Dihammri Diving Center**.

Dinner and overnight stay: Camping in the **Dihammri Marine Protected Area**.





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Day 4: Dihamri marine P.A. – Daburk waterfall – wadi Kalisan – Momi plateau – wadi Defarhu – Hayf and Zahek dunes – Omak beach

Today we drive through a series of dirt roads to the far south-east of the island. At Daburk we will photograph an impressive waterfall and you will be able to swim in the pool. Next, we drive to the Kalisan. It's a deep swimming wadi, replete with numerous crystal-clear freshwater pools and waterfalls. The hike down (and back up) takes about 45 minutes and you'll pass Bottle Trees along the way. We will meet a hermit who lives in a nearby cave. He will demonstrate how he calls his goats and he will show us how he milks them. Finally, we will drive to Momi plateau for new amazing views over the sea. Momi plateau, is home to Frankincense trees, cucumber trees, and bottle trees.

In the late afternoon, as the sun begins to set, you'll visit the "sea of sand" at Omak beach /Hayf and Zahek. There you can wander this incredible landscape, climbing between the dunes all the way to the sea. Finding pieces of ancient pottery is not uncommon here, as much of this area was under the sea not too long ago.

Dinner and overnight: camping in Omak



Day 5: Omak beach - Duogab cave - Shebon viewpoint - Firmin forest - Dixam plateau

After breakfast you will visit Deogab cave, facing on the Ocean. Later we will drive to Dixam in the Hajhir mountains. The Dixam plateau is home to nomadic Bedouin herdsmen who move from one site to another with their goat herds. You'll then visit the Dixam middle and high school, where you will visit classrooms, meet teachers and students, and if you'd like, volunteer to teach an English class.

You will trek to the Firmin Forest, which is the last woodland comprised of Dragon's Blood trees. Nowhere else in the world can one find Dragon's Blood trees in such density. Nur, a local goat herder, will show you how they used to collect-- and still collect on a smaller scale-- the precious red resin of the tree. You will continue hiking down into the Derhur canyon, where we will see unusual rock formations and can swim in freshwater pools. Later in the afternoon, from Shebanon view point you can watch the sunset amongst the Dragon's Blood Trees and canyon below.

Dinner and overnight: camping in Dixam.





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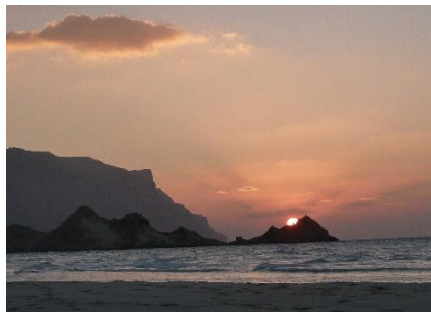


Day 6: Dixam plateau – Qalansiah – Detwah lagoon

We will drive to the northwest of the island to the old city of Qalansiah, the second largest settlement on Socotra. It is near by the Detwah lagoon, a marine protected area renowned for its magical landscape and incredible coastline for swimming.

You'll be charmed by a white sandy peninsula jutting out into the sea surrounded by turquoise waters, where you can swim. There is also an array of sea birds and marine wildlife to be seen in the lagoon. There, you'll meet Abdullah the Caveman and he'll take you exploring for marine wildlife from his cave over the lagoon.

Dinner and overnight: camping at Detwah beach



Day 7: Detwah lagoon – Sha'ab beach – Ayhaft canyon - Hadibo

After breakfast, after a short drive to Qalansiah, we will hire local fishing boats to take you to see spinner dolphins and go snorkelling in the warm turquoise waters off Shu'ab beach on the west coast of the island. You'll relax on the beach for a while, and head back to Detwah for lunch. After lunch there is still time to relax and enjoy this amazing part of the island, before moving to Ayhaft canyon National Park. In the canyon (valley), you will enjoy large fresh water-pools where you can swim or soak. All around you, there will be variety of endemic plants like Dessert Rose, Tamarind trees, Cucumber trees and a wide variety of birds such as Socotra Sparrow, Socotra Sunbird and both Socotri and Somali Starlings.

We finally move to Hadibo, the only "city" in Socotra, where you will arrive in time for shopping: some local clothes and products if interested at the Woman's association shop.

Dinner and overnight: hotel in Hadibo



Day 8: Hadibo – airport

After breakfast, before driving to Socotra Airport for your flight back to via Abu Dhabi, there is still time for a short visit to the Dragon's Blood Tree nursery where young trees have been growing since 2006. Since goats were introduced to the island, many of the young trees have been destroyed by the goats when their leaves are still soft, so it's essential to grow new trees in protected environments.



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