

Northern Explorer

Day 1

You are picked up from your hotel in Muscat and transferred to the Bander Rhowda Marina. Here you will depart on your boat to explore the dramatic coastline. You will see the sites of Muscat from the sea and hopefully see dolphins. You head for Bander Khayran which is full of secluded bays and sandy beaches, where your tents will be erected and you will have a chance to relax on the beach and snorkel before sundown.

O/N Camping L/D

Day 2

Heading out of Qantab, a village near your camp, you head south along the coast to the fishing town of Quriyyat where you are able to stroll along its promenade and visit its historic fort. Continuing along the coast, you will visit the Bimah sinkhole, one of the wonders of Oman and the twin wadi's of Tiwi and Shab. The afternoon is taken up exploring the wadi's, clambering over big boulders and swimming in their deep pools. You arrive late afternoon to White Beach at Fins for the night.

O/N Camping B/L/D

Day 3

Leaving the camp after breakfast and a quick swim, you arrive in Sur mid-morning. Here you have the opportunity to wander around this famous boat-building town. Home to the Arabian dhow, Sur is rich in tradition and it is possible to see the traditional boat building methods still being used today. Leaving the port you head towards Ras al Jinz where you will be staying the night. In the evening you will be escorted by a reserve ranger to view the Green Back turtles laying their eggs on the beach.

O/N Turtle Beach Resort B/L/D

Day 4

Today you leave the coast and head to the Sharqiya Sands region, home to the Wahiba Sands desert and Wadi Bani Khalid. You visit the old domed mosque at Jalan Bani Bu Ali near the town of Al Kamil. Proceeding alongside the desert you head into the hills and onto Wadi Bani Khalid. This wadi is one of Oman's finest and gives you a great opportunity to explore the depths of the wadi. You have an opportunity to just relax by the crystal waters, or swim through the different pools and clamber over the boulders into the heart of the wadi itself. Mid- afternoon you head into the sands. Driving through the sands you pass camels and Bedouin settlements on your way to your designated camping site some 25 kilometres in the sands. This evening you enjoy a magnificent sunset over the desert before dinner.

O/N Safari Desert Camp B/L/D

Day 5

Early risers get a chance to see the sunrise before breakfast. You head out of the desert and head north towards the Hajar mountain range. En route you visit the old settlement at Mizfa, near Ibra. You continue to the foot of the mountains, where you are able to wander around the deserted village of Birkat Al Mawz. You head through Nizwa and onto the highest peak in Oman, Jebal Shams. The views are quite spectacular from the summit, some 3000m above sea level. You enjoy a late afternoon stroll around the rim of the canyon before settling down in the Jebal Shams Camp.

O/N Jebal Shams Camp B/L/D

Day 6

Today you enjoy a picturesque walk to the abandoned village of As Sab on the top of the mountain. This walk is regarded as one of the most beautiful in Oman. On returning to the camp you have an early lunch and then have a short drive to your next walking location at Misfah al Breen. The walk takes you through the canyon and circumnavigates the massif, passing through two mountain hamlets before returning back to the date palm groves. Tonight you relax in the comfort of a 4* hotel in Nizwa. The trekking is not compulsory and other activities are available in these locations.

O/N Falaj Daris Hotel B/L/D

Day 7

After breakfast you begin your off-road drive through the Hajar mountain range. This drive is one of the best off-road drives in Oman and there are plenty of opportunities to stop and take in the views across the range and through the wadis below. You reach Nakhal on the far side of the range for lunch, and stroll around its beautiful fort before heading back to Muscat for late afternoon where tour arrangements end.

O/N N/A B/L

Departure Dates: 11th September, 18th September, 18th October, 23rd October, 20th November, 11th December, 18th December, 1st January, 5th February, 12th February, 5th March, 2nd April, 9th April, 16th April

Rack Rate: OMR699pp