



Socotra Island in the northwest Indian Ocean near the Gulf of Aden, is 250 km long and includes four islands and two rocky islets which appear as a prolongation of the Horn of Africa. The site is of universal importance because of its biodiversity with rich and distinct flora and fauna: 37% of Socotra's 825 plant species, 90% of its reptile species and 95% of its land snail species do not occur anywhere else in the world. The site also supports globally significant populations of land and sea birds (192 bird species, 44 of which breed on the islands while 85 are regular migrants), including a number of threatened species. The marine life of Socotra is also very diverse, with 253 species of reef-building corals, 730 species of coastal fish and 300 species of crab, lobster and shrimp.

About the fishing, Socotra may be considered one of the best wild destination for popping on the planet, due to the quantity and size of the GT found here with an average weight of more than 40 kg, and the bigger ones reaching up to 60 kg!!!

TARGET SPECIES



The GT's are the target here, present in high numbers and massive sizes! The perfect destination for your wild adventure looking for that monster GT bite in topwater!

Beside the GTs, there are many other species that can be caught on popping and spinning tackle, like huge Red Snapper, Groupers of all types, Coral Trout, Emperors, big Spanish Mackerel, Barracuda, Golden Trevally, Yellow-spotted Trevally, Blacktip Trevally, Amberjacks, Jobfish, Sailfish, Mahi Mahi, Yellowfin Tuna, Wahoo and Marlin.

The best season to target fish in Socotra is autumn and spring because in summer and winter the winds are very strong and the sea very rough, being October & November and March & April the best months. The best time to target Sailfish and Spanish Mackerel are October and November, the other fish are always present and jigging is awesome all year.

The shore fishing offers also interesting possibilities for Bonefish and Striped Threadfin if somebody wants to try for them in some extra free days.

ACCOMMODATION



Our camp is based at the Northern east of the island at Ras Iresal or at Ar-ar Beach, where the Indian Ocean and the Arabian sea meets.

The camp consists of 2 large tents for six people, one as a dining room and one as camp kitchen, and for sleep, every fisherman has a comfortable and clean double tend equipped with mattresses, sheet and pillow. Fresh water it's provided by one tank of 2000 liters that connects with a shower box where you can take your shower twice a day, and we have a big rod holder for your gear. An interpreter, satellitae phone, laundry service and a Jeep are always available.

About the food, Socotra has a limited variety of ingredients, but our chef will prepare delicious food consisting of pasta, rice, fresh bread cooked everyday, beans, eggs, different vegetable sauces, fresh caught fish, lamb and chicken, along with some amazing desserts. During the fishing season it is possible to get some lobster. Soft drinks are included and alcoholic beverages are allowed but not for sale.

Be ready for adventure!!!!

BOAT



These local fishing boats are about 8 meters long, equipped with a 40-60 HP outboard engine and are quite comfortable for up to 2 anglers per boat.

The perfect boat for this sea and to fight the strong currents of this waters.

SURROUNDINGS



Yemen has a rich history that stretches back to the Palaeolithic era and is one of the oldest centres of civilisation in the Middle East. With its strategically placed ports, Yemen has been coveted through the ages by empire builders and regional players, a role that continues today. Over the centuries travellers returned from the Indian Ocean isles with bizarre tales of trees yielding dragon's blood and cucumbers, forest of frankincense, and towering pinnacles in the mist. Now a fuller picture has emerged of the four semi-desert islands, portraying a rich and unique flora and fauna with over a third of plants found nowhere else in the world, a diverse landscape of plateau, plain and mountain, all safeguarded by a people living sustainably in a challenging but amazing environment.

Socotra is one of the most isolated landforms on Earth of continental origin, meaning it is non-volcanic but a fragment of the ancient southern supercontinent of Gondwana. Socotra is globally important for biodiversity conservation because of its exceptionally rich and distinct flora and fauna. To date over 835 vascular plants have been recorded from the Archipelago, of which 308 are found nowhere else on Earth. Meaning an impressive 37% of plants are endemic. Socotra's fauna is fascinating too, with the island being home to 225 species of birds, 6 of which are endemic (Socotra sparrow, Socotra Cisticola, Socotra Starling, Socotra Sunbird, Socotra Warbler and the rarest Socotra Bunting). Because of such high diversity and endemism in plants, the islands have been declared a UNESCO World Natural Heritage and UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserve.

Socotri people 50.000 people who have coexisted with this rich natural environment and been its careful guardians. For millennia they have lived off the island's resources and have developed complex, traditional rules to manage the environment, which have played a vital role in maintaining the biodiversity we celebrate today. This makes Socotra unique. In most parts of the world this kind of traditional expertise is already lost or disappearing faster than the plants themselves.

OTHER ACTIVITIES



There's a lot to do in Socotra beside fishing and all of it is nature-driven. If you're a hiking enthusiast, you can enjoy unique paths involved with magical landscapes and flora. The Dragon Blood Trees are the endemic ancient trees Socotra is well known for. Of course, you can't leave the island without seeing them. These trees grow in altitudes over 800 meters, so you must go to the highlands, preferably to the Diksam Plateau. In the Fermahin Forest, you will find the biggest Dragon Blood Tree forest in Socotra.

If time allows, hike along or down the Dirhour Canyon while at the Dixam Plateau it's also an amazing experience.

Socotra has several amazing sand dunes zones across the island thanks to the windy weather that carries a lot of that sand from mainland Africa. Archer Beach and Zahik Beach are surreal, with mountains cliffs covered by giant dunes on one side (towering up to 300 meters in height), and on the other beautiful turquoise water beaches.

Houq Cave is the largest cave discovered in Socotra, where you can explore up to two kilometers covered with beautiful rock formations like stalactites, stalagmites, and columns. Though the cave is empty now, archaeologists found petroglyphs there.

For windsurfers and kite surfers, you can practice those watersports during the monsoon season.

Swimming with dolphins or whale sharks at Shouab Beach, one of the most beautiful beaches in Socotra, is another activity you can do while in the Island, along with scuba diving, stargazing, and amazing cultural visits in one "off their off the beaten track" villages.

USEFUL INFORMATION



Yemen's 2011 Arab Spring protests lit the fuse that blew the country's ongoing conflicts into full-scale violence. Since 2014, when the Houthi rebel group captured Sanaa, Yemen has descended into civil war. A coalition force led by Saudi Arabia began a campaign of aerial bombardments while Al Qaeda took advantage of the chaos to gain control of some eastern areas. Meanwhile, a vast humanitarian crisis was unfolding, and a widespread cholera epidemic was gripping the country. Yemen was in crisis, mired in a civil war, its infrastructure and economy was destroyed, and the violence was taking a desperate toll on most of the population, with famine conditions in the worst-hit regions. Caught between warring factions and with the nation's infrastructure and economy in tatters, Yemen's people have suffered the full brunt of the country's descent into civil war. Malnutrition was and it's still affecting more than seven million people.

Off the coast, the island of Socotra has always escaped the mainland's turmoil. Travel is now again possible but we will have to carefully weigh up safety considerations. On this trip we will go from Egypt or Dubai straight to Socotra, to avoid landing in Yemen mainland where we will not stay in any case. Due to the cancellation of all scheduled flights due to the war and the pandemic, the island of Socotra had been cut off from travellers for the past few years. Today, the island is completely safe and pirates free.

About health, in Socotra there aren't tropical diseases like yellow fever or typhus, and malaria has been extinct. Anyway, customers must be covered by their own travel and medical insurance including evacuation.

The currency is the Yemeni riyal (YR), the language is Arabic, and the population it's 28 million, despite Socotra it's almost uninhabited. The time it's the Arabian Standard (GMT/UTC + 3), and the power plugs and sockets are of type A, D and G, so bring an universal adapter.

Socotra is not the easiest place for fishing because you have to fight with really massive fish near the coral reef, rocks and really shallow waters. We recommend super powerful set ups, PE8 to PE10 capable of supporting 15 to 20Kg of drag. For the leader, 150 to 200lb twist leader or 300lb mono shock leader. For the hooks, BKK GT Rex, BKK Raptor, Gamkatsu GT Recorder, Decoy, Owner, or big single jigging hooks like Shout, Proberbos, Spinoza, etc, rigged with heavy split rings. Poppers must be between 120 to 280gr, stickbaits between 100 - 230gr, and for the Jigging, PE8 with 130 to 150lb fluorocarbon leader with jiggs weight between 100 up to 300gr, and a medium set up around PE6 with 80 to 130lb fluorocarbon leader with jiggs weight between 100 to 200gr.

WHAT TO BRING



- All your best fishing gear with a lot of replacements
- All your fishing apparel, hats, gloves, belt, sunglasses, etc
- Your beach clothes, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, flip flops, etc
- Insect repellent & your medicines
- Electric adapter (type A, D and G) & a power bank
- Comprehensive travel & medical insurance, including evacuation
- Trekking shoes
- Passport with more than 6 months of validity
- Camera
- Cash (in € or USD) & Visa

MEDIA & GUIDING



As a Professional Freelance Audiovisual Producer & Fishing / Spearfishing Guide, my job is to promote the best trips around the world, operated by the best companies I work with, always offering the best quality and compromise. I will, simply, bring you the best destinations, personally known, that offer you all the guarantees and adapts to your necessities. If you are a group, great! If you are alone, don't worry, I will find more people to join you! Whatever you want, from hardcore fishing to family holiday, I will provide Expert Coaching, advices & knowledge in the field, to make you catch that "one in a life-time" fish, that sometimes can be so elusive and challenging.

I know where & when to find them, and how to get you on them!

I'm also a professional cinematographer & photographer, and I will be capturing footage of your experience so you can have high quality content of memories that will last a lifetime. My gear allows me to film from the sky, underwater and outside, with the best quality, so forget about the videos & photos, I will be there to capture every moment while in the water.

WHAT'S INCLUDED & WHAT'S NOT



Included

- 8 days, 7 nights (6 in the Beach Camp and 1 at the Hotel in Hadiboo the last day before departure, with all meals included)
- 6 full days of guided fishing with drinks & meals aboard
- All transfers from and to Socotra airport / Beach Camp
- Breakfast & dinner in the Beach Camp with soft drinks included
- Guide & assistance 24/7
- Fishing license
- Basic Insurance

Not included

- Flights
- Visa (\$100 USD)
- Day trips (available upon request)
- Other meals not included in the program
- Tips