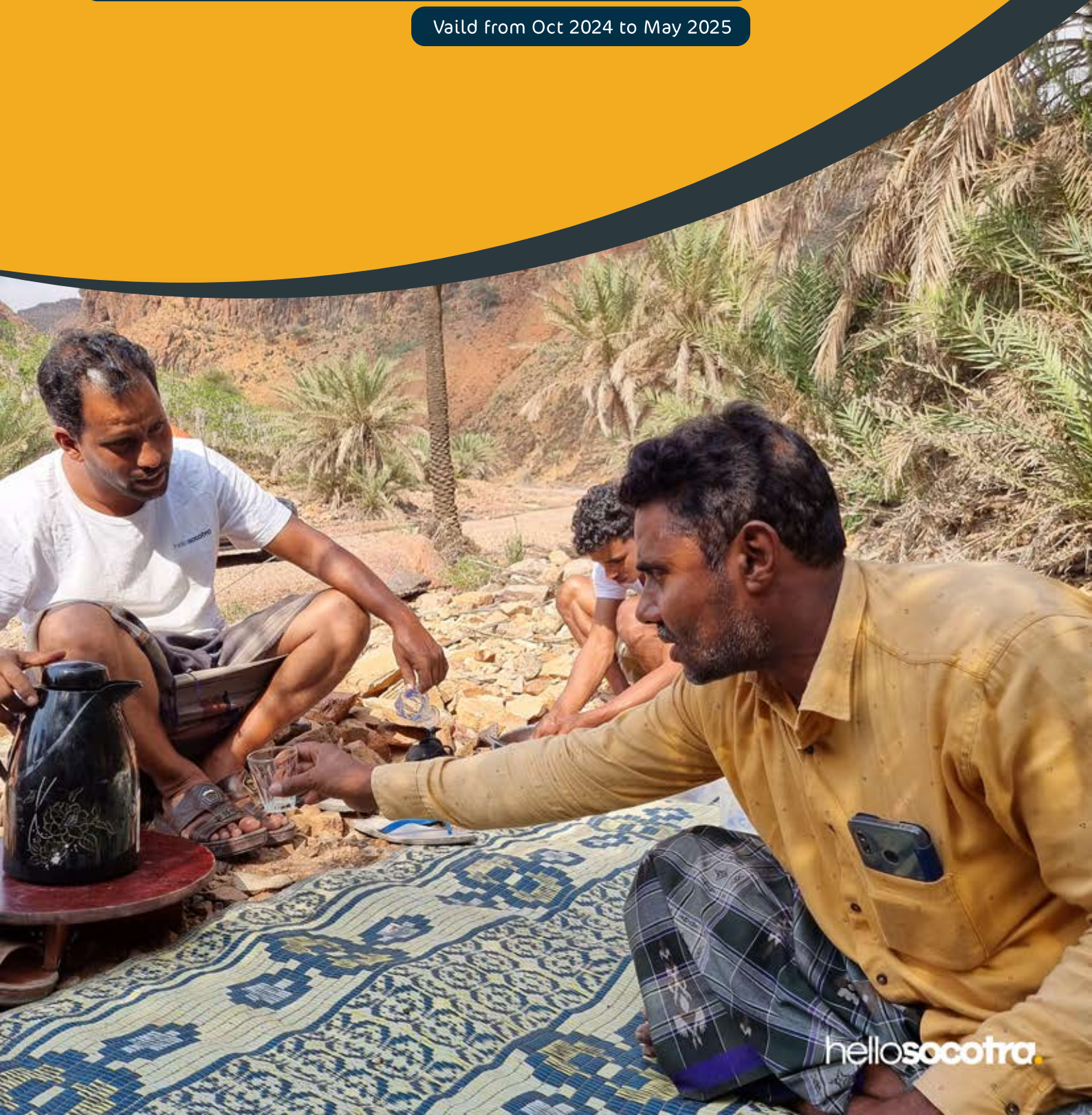


HELLO

# SOCOTRA

Six-Days Tour Itinerary | Service Guide

Valid from Oct 2024 to May 2025







## DAY 1 – THE GIANT SAND DUNES

- Meet and assist at Socotra airport. Your tour guide will be holding the “HelloSocotra” sign at the arrival terminal right behind the passport control counter. At the terminal, it can get very warm and chaotic around the baggage carousel with all incoming passengers, so your patience is appreciated.

Once you have cleared immigration and collected your luggage, we will head east to Arher area where the giant sand dunes, great beach, and freshwater wells. Snacks, dinner, and breakfast will be provided.

### WHERE TO SLEEP

- At the hotel

### WHAT TO SEE & DO

- Fishing and snorkeling.
- Climb or sandboard the giant sand dunes
- Swim at the Arabian sea and shower at the freshwater wells.
- You can go for long walks along the beach
- You can explore some caves in the area (*speak with your tour guide*)

### AREA GUIDE

- Sandy area, easy to walk around, suitable for everyone.
- No mobile coverage is available in the area
- Mind your steps when walking around the sand from sharp fishbones.
- Toilets and showers are available in this location
- Before heading to Arher, we suggest you wear light clothing, sandals or flip-flops



## DAY 2 – THE NATURAL POOL

- After breakfast, put your swimming wear-on and hiking shoes because we will head to the protected area of Homhill, which is home to an endless number of the Socotri endemic plants such as Dragon’s Blood Tree, Frankincense, Desert rose trees, etc. It’s about a 1.5-hour drive from the hotel and 30 minutes of walk along a selection of trails, one of which takes us to a viewpoint where there is a natural swimming pool and a view of villages below on the plain and of the Arabian Sea.
- After Homhil, we will head to another exciting area called Dihammri protected area. Here, you can snorkel and dive in the marine protected area, home to dozens of species of colourful marine life and one of the richest coral reefs on the archipelago.

### WHERE TO SLEEP

- At the hotel

### WHAT TO SEE & DO

- Swimming at the natural pool of Homhil
- Explore wide range of Socotra native trees
- Snorkeling or diving in Dihammri (possible to do one dive on this itinerary)

### AREA GUIDE

- The difficulty is medium walking around Homhil area
- You can hire the diving equipment from the center in Dihammri
- Don't touch or step on the reef, if you need to rest, float on your back
- Toilets, showers, and mobile coverage is available in the area



## DAY 3 – THE INDIAN OCEAN

- After an early breakfast, we will head beneath the mountains of Momi, where the famous Wadi of Kelisan is a perfect spot to enjoy swimming in the natural pools. It will take around 20 minutes of walking, and we will have a breathtaking overview of the entire wadi.
- After our visit to Wadi Kelisan, we will have a quick picnic before continuing our way south, off-roading through the valleys to reach the dunes of Zahek. These dunes were created by the seasonal winds, pushing the waves from the ocean straight to the mountains. Then, we will head to our campsite, Aomak, on the Indian Ocean.

### WHERE TO SLEEP

- At the hotel

### WHAT TO SEE & DO

- Swimming in the Wadi of Kelisan
- Explore a wide range of Socotra native trees
- Camel riding (on-request) or Sandboarding
- You can go for long walks along the beach

### AREA GUIDE

- Walking to Wadi Kelisan is not recommended for those with knee, back or heart problems
- Keep your swimming wear if you want to swim in the India ocean after Kelisan
- Mind your steps when walking on the rocks around Wadi Kelisan
- Toilets, showers, and mobile coverage are available in the Aomak campsite





## DAY 4 – THE DRAGON BLOOD FOREST

- After breakfast, we will make our way to Dicksam plateau (approx. 700 m above sea level) and Shebahon's viewpoint. This area is home to an endless number of Socotra endemic plants, such as Dragon's Blood Tree and other trees. The Shebahon viewpoint gives a marvellous vista overlooking Daerhu Canyon, where we will see breathtaking scenery and unusual yet beautiful rock formations.
- We will then make our way down to the Dirhur wadi in the canyon for lunch and an easy-going walk to swim in the freshwater pools. Then we will continue our way up to Firmhen Point so you can explore the largest forest of the dragon blood trees

### WHERE TO SLEEP

- At the hotel

### WHAT TO SEE & DO

- Swimming in the Wadi of Dirhur
- Explore a wide range of dragon blood trees
- Long hikes, birdwatching and spider observing
- Learn about Dragon's blood and Luban (gum) extraction
- Close understanding of the people of Socotra mountains lifestyle

### AREA GUIDE

- Do not climb the dragon's blood trees
- We recommend showering in Dirhur Wadi before heading up to Firmhen
- Wear your hiking shoes, long pants and jumper. It gets cold during the night
- Mind your steps when walking around the sharp rocks
- Toilets and mobile coverage is available in Firhmen camping ground



## DAY 5 – A LITTLE PIECE OF HEAVEN

- On this day, you should be ready to go by 6:00 a.m. Our drivers will take you to the port of Qalansiyah to catch the boat, where an exciting day begins. We will head to the western side of Socotra to explore one of the most beautiful beaches in the world, Shuaab **Beach**, and the isolated town of Qabahen. You can swim in the magical crystal clear water and lay down in the white-snow sand.
- On the way to Shuaab, you will see a group of Spinner dolphins, and if you are lucky, you might spot a sperm whale during the months of March and April. That's why waking up early is important. You will also see a one of its kind Socotra cormorant birds in their natural habitat and many underwater caves. May of them are still unexplored, making it a great place for thrill-seekers and divers.
- If the time allows, you will meet Mr. Aliyah aka the caveman, the smartest man in Socotra who created his very own tourist attraction. Hundreds of tourists come to his cave to meet him and to enjoy listening to his stories on life in the cave.

### WHERE TO SLEEP

- At the hotel

### WHAT TO SEE & DO

- Swimming in Qalansiyah Detwah Lagoon and Shuaab beach
- You can go for long walks along the beach or hike the nearby hills
- Explore the town of Qalansiyah
- Sandboarding and snorkeling
- Meet the caveman Aliya

### AREA GUIDE

- Stingrays and buffer fish can be found in the lagoon. Mind your steps when walking there
- Avoid talking to locals if you are wearing a bikini
- The beach is huge and has no shade where to swim, make sure you take water with you
- Toilets, showers, and mobile coverage are available in the Detwah lagoon campsite
- Bring a dry bag to protect your electronic devices
- For your safety, we will need to cancel Shuaab tour if the sea currents are strong



## DAY 6 – WE WILL MISS YOU

- After breakfast, around 8 am, a quick tour of the market and the gift store for souvenir shopping in Hadibo. Then, we will drop you at Socotra airport to catch your flight back to Abu Dhabi.

### TOUR RATE – WHAT INCLUDED

- Transportation in air-conditioned 4x4 vehicles
- Five nights at Summerland Hotel
- 6 breakfasts, 5 dinners and 5 lunches.
- Drinking water, soft drinks, snacks, and chocolate.
- A boat rental to see the west side of Socotra.
- Entry fees for all protected areas and campsites.
- All government fees.
- Airport pickup/drop off

Private Tour

\$2120 pp

AUH- SCT Flight

\$1000 pp

Entry visa

\$160 pp