



A fantastic trip for those who want to experience the complete peace and solitude of the Musandam mountains and the desert of the Emirates. We will spend 3 nights wild camping on the Musandam Peninsula, climbing to the peak of Jebel Sham and traveling by boat to idyllic and secluded fishing villages to meet the people who inhabit this wild corner of the Middle East. We then cross the border into the UAE and spend time hiking through the sand dunes before sleeping out under the stars. We finish the trip with a guided tour of Dubai, visiting ancient souks and futuristic skyscrapers.

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the rugged wilderness of Musandam
- Climb to the summit of Jebel Sham
- Enjoy a guided tour of Dubai

- Trek
- Transfer
- Boat



ITINERARY

DAY 1

ARRIVE IN DUBAI

On arrival in Dubai a member of the Kandoo team will meet you at the airport. We transfer by private vehicle to Khasab on the Musandam Peninsula and check in to our hotel. Tonight you can meet your guide and the rest of your group and there will be a briefing before we start our adventure in the morning.

Accommodation: **Hotel**

DAY 2

KHOR ASH SHAM

After breakfast we prepare our equipment and set off by boat to Sham Bay. We arrive at a sheltered cove with a beautiful sandy beach and set up our camp. The remainder of the day is spent swimming in the warm waters and relaxing on the beach followed by our first night sleeping out under the stars.

Accommodation: **Camping**

Meals included:

Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 3

THE RIDGES OF HABALAYAN

We leave camp this morning and begin an ascent up bare, rocky ridges to reach a high point overlooking the Bay of Habalayan and the Indian Ocean. We descend to the shore at a spot where green turtles are very common and have the opportunity for a swim. On the way back we pass through the pretty village of Maqlab and stop to chat with the local villagers before continuing back to camp. On our return we will do some angling and hopefully supplement our evening meal with some fresh fish!

Hiking time: **5 - 6 hours**

Accommodation: **Camping**

Meals included:

Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 4

JEBEL SHAM

An early start today as we dismantle our camp before sunrise. A boat picks us up in the early morning and a short transfer take us to the start of today's trek, Jebel Sham. We ascend 900m to the summit of the mountain, taking care to take plenty of breaks while the day is at its hottest. The views from the top are superb, our position dominates the entire peninsula and we can see the arc of Iran's southern coast in the distance. We descend and set up camp on a beach at the foot of the mountain.

Hiking time: **6 - 7 hours**

Accommodation: **Camping**

Meals included:

Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 5

THE HEIGHTS OF KUMZAR

In the morning after breaking camp, we board a speed boat and head north up the peninsula. Our destination is the isolated village of Kumzar. Leaving the boat, we take some time to explore the village and greet the local people. Climbing up out of the village we reach a plateau where goats graze amidst the ruins of an old settlement. We cross the plateau and begin to descend again, eventually reaching the shores of Sham Fjord and continuing to Khasab. We check in at our hotel and enjoy our first shower in 3 days!

Hiking time: **4 - 5 hours**

Accommodation: **Hotel**

Meals included:

Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 6

THE QUADAH WADI HIKE

We transfer to the village of Quadah from where a wadi (canyon) of several kilometers emerges from the mountains. We begin climbing up the canyon on a sometimes narrow and vertiginous trail. Time and water have sculpted the rock here in to strange shapes and highly polished surfaces. We eventually emerge on a plateau and discover a recently abandoned village where everything possible has been done to try and harvest the rare rainfall water. There is the option of climbing up to a small summit (200m ascent) for spectacular views of the area. On our way back down the canyon we follow a ledge in the cliff face just 2m across, overlooking the void. We return to our hotel in Khasab by vehicle.

Hiking time: **5 - 6 hours**

Accommodation: **Hotel**

Meals included:

Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 7

THE DESERT OF THE EMIRATES

Today we depart for the deserts of the United Arab Emirates, passing through the high mountains of Musandam and nearby their highest peak, Jebel El Harim at 2081m above sea level. We cross the border into the UAE and enter the Kingdom of the dromedary. We will spend some time hiking through the vast sand dunes and enjoying the silence of the landscape before setting up camp in time to watch the sunset. In the evening we enjoy some local entertainment and prepare dinner on the camp fire. This is our final night sleeping out under the Arabian stars.

Accommodation: **Camping**

Meals included:

Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 8

DUBAI CITY TOUR

A Full day dedicated to exploring the incredible city of Dubai. We visit the souks with their enticing jewelry, spices, textiles and old clay houses. Then we appear to fast forward through time as we visit a futuristic city of soaring skyscrapers including the world famous Burj Khalifa.

We enjoy a final meal at a city restaurant in the evening before transferring to the airport for our journey home. If your flight is not until the next day or if you would like some more time to spend in Dubai, we can arrange extra hotel accommodation for you.

Meals included: **Breakfast / Lunch**

PLEASE NOTE

The details in this programme are regularly updated but unforeseeable and unpredictable circumstances may result in inaccuracies. In order to provide the adventure which is best suited to your demands, the weather and the operational conditions, changes to the itinerary may be made. For safety reasons, we reserve the rights to interrupt your participation at any time if your technical level or fitness is deemed unsuitable or if you are seen as a danger to yourself or to those around you. Under no circumstances would this give rise to a refund or compensation.

TRIP INFORMATION

DIFFICULTY

This adventure is of moderate difficulty. You will be required to hike on steep, rocky and sometimes loose terrain for several days. Although we will be careful to avoid the hottest times of day, the temperatures will be high and staying properly hydrated is essential for your health and safety. Some trails will be narrow with large drops and care is needed to avoid slips and trips.

To ask about your suitability for this trip and what you can do to prepare please feel free to give us a call.

FOOD & DRINK

We love the local cuisine in Oman! It is not always easy to carry fresh products when trekking in remote areas but we are proud of the hearty and varied menus we deliver each evening.

Fishing enables us to provide for ourselves during our adventure so expect to eat fresh fish very regularly (possibly caught by you). You can also expect buffet style lunches, hot evening meals and local products including houmous, pita breads and fresh fruit.

If you have special dietary requirements please call and let us know as soon as possible before departure. We will do everything possible to accommodate your needs.

ACCOMMODATION

Whilst trekking through the Musandam wilderness you will be wild camping in secluded locations. You will be provided with a mattress and a 3 man dome tent to share with one other person. All eating utensils such as plates, cups and cutlery are provided.

Our hotel in Khasab is an apartment hotel with comfortable twin or double rooms and shared bathroom facilities. There is also a swimming pool and free WiFi is available in public areas.

LUGGAGE

Whilst trekking through the Musandam Peninsula you will be carrying a small daypack with your water, spare clothing and any personal items. Your main luggage will be stored in the boats that we use to transfer around the peninsula. There is also the option of leaving some of your belongings in Khasab while we explore Sham Bay. Your main luggage should be packed in a flexible duffel bag (preferably waterproof) and not a rigid suitcase.

HOW DO I GET THERE?

You will need to arrive at Dubai International Airport (DXB) on day 1 of your itinerary.

Dubai is one of the busiest transport hubs in the world and it is the base for Emirates Airlines so booking a suitable flight should be very easy.

If you are travelling from the UK, Emirates and British Airways both have direct flights to Dubai from London Heathrow. Emirates also offer direct flights from Manchester and Birmingham. The travel time is roughly 7 hours.

From the US, Emirates have direct flights from New York and Boston with a travel time of roughly 12 hours. Turkish Airlines offer convenient indirect flights from Los Angeles and San Francisco with a short stop in Istanbul.

Regardless of where you are travelling from, you should find reaching Dubai very straightforward.

Once you have arrived in Dubai, cleared immigration and collected your luggage, please look out for a member of our team in the arrivals area. They will be holding a large "KANDOO" sign.

BUDGET & CHANGE

The currency in Oman is the Omani Rial (OMR). In Dubai the currency is the United Arab Emirates Dirham (AED). For the latest exchange rates please see www.xe.com

On the Musandam Peninsula the United Arab Emirates Dirham is commonly used. We recommend using Dirham rather than Rial. ATMs are widely available or you can exchange money at Dubai Airport.

TIPS

Tipping is always appreciated - it is not obligatory and should be left to the discretion of each individual. We recommend an amount between \$35 and \$45 per participant based on the service you feel you have received.

FORMALITIES & HEALTH

PASSPORT

Most travellers will require a passport valid for at least 6 months after your return date. It is your responsibility to check your specific visa requirements.

VISA

To enter Oman most people will need to purchase an electronic visa at <https://evisa.rop.gov.om> Tourist visas are valid for 1 month from the date of issue, so do not apply too early. Visas for the UAE can be acquired in country and are free of charge.

VACCINATIONS

Recommended vaccinations include: Hepatitis A and Typhoid. Hepatitis B, Rabies and Yellow Fever vaccines are also advised. It is your responsibility to check the latest advice before departure.

INSURANCE

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are fully and adequately insured for the duration of your trip. Please ensure that all activities, excursions and destinations in your itinerary are included in your travel insurance policy, in addition to your regular cover for cancellation and medical expenses. We ask that you keep a copy of your policy summary (containing policy number and the emergency contact number for your insurer) in your day sack at all times, so that we can access this information should we need to contact the insurer on your behalf.

MEDICATION

Your guide carries a first aid kit at all times but we recommend you carry the following items: - Painkillers - Sunscreen for lips and skin - Moisturising cream (for sunburn) - Elastic bandage, regular bandages and Blister bandages - Sanitary products

EQUIPMENT & CLOTHING

EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED BY KANDOO ADVENTURES

- Tents (1 tent per 2 people)
- Comfortable sleeping mats
- Plates, cups and cutlery

CLOTHING TO BRING

- Solid walking boots with good ankle support
- Sun hat with wide brim for protection
- Sun glasses
- Long sleeved t-shirts
- Short sleeved t-shirts
- Lightweight trousers and shorts
- Suitable quick drying underwear
- Warm jumper or jacket for evenings by the sea
- Waterproof and windproof lightweight jacket
- Sports sandals (great for in the water and camping on beaches)
- Pajamas, travel towel and toiletries
- Swimming costume / shorts
- Comfy shoes and socks for short hikes

EQUIPMENT TO BRING

- Lightweight sleeping bag with a comfort rating of 10°C
- Head torch and spare batteries
- Reusable water bottle(s) minimum 1 litre

OTHER USEFUL KIT

- Camera
- Power bank (no electricity while camping)
- Small dry bag for person items
- Wet wipes and hand sanitiser
- Plastic bags for wet/dirty clothing
- Snorkel / mask / flippers

HOW TO BOOK THIS TRIP

1 CHOOSE YOUR DATE AND CHECK AVAILABILITY

A full list of available dates can be found on our website.

2 CONTACT US

Contact us by phone, email or through our website. We will answer any questions you may have and send you a personalized itinerary and quote.

3 COMPLETE BOOKING AND PAYMENT

When you are ready to book, we will send you a link to our online booking forms and participation agreements. We accept all major credit and debit cards and require a low 20% deposit to secure your place.

