

Yemen's

Tourist Guide

1999 Yemen Times

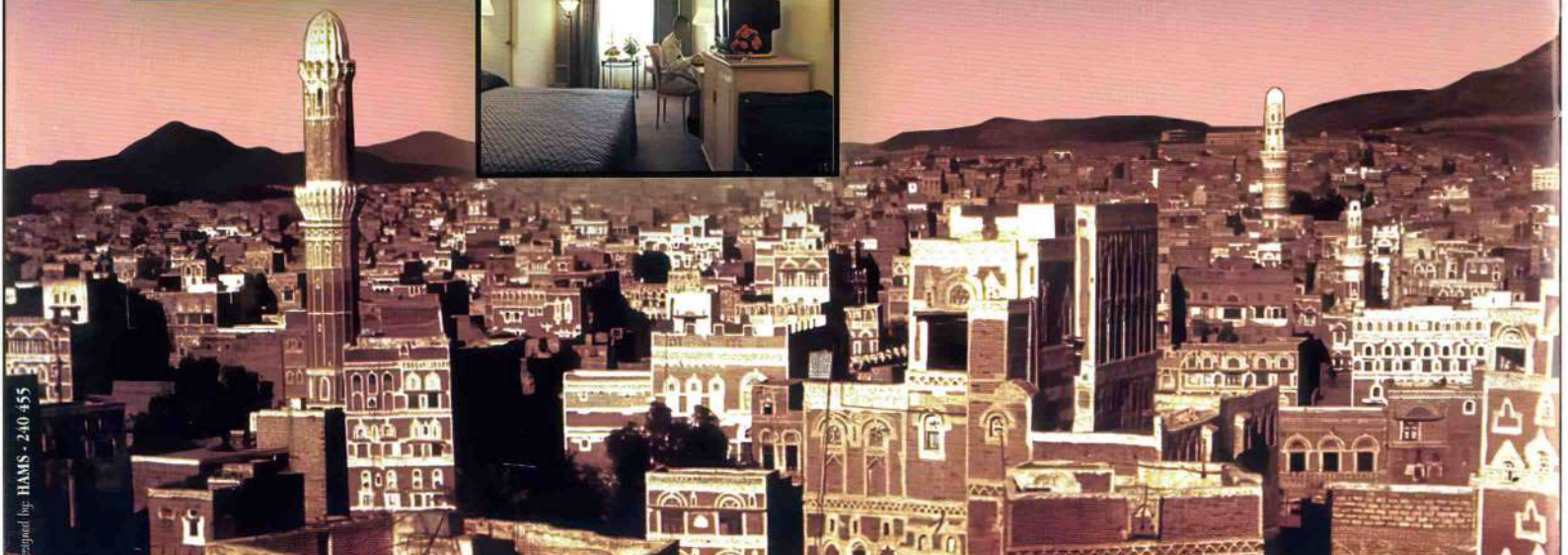
YEMEN

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Taj International Hotels



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PREFACE

*Abdulmalik Mansour
Minister of Tourism*

Without doubt, the contribution of the Yemen Times in issuing a tourist guide, indeed, is a good step, which must be appreciated. This guide will definitely establish greater and wider horizons to its already broad informational activities. While reviewing this guide, we can find that it creates a connection between the official and public activities in an effort to renew and develop the means of advertising. The guide's main objective is to promote tourism in our country. As the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, we welcome and appreciate activities such as of the Yemen Times, which help us develop the tourism informational services. This guide would also bring new ideas of ways in which these services can be presented to the tourist.

We always seek to offer support to whomever wishes to bring high quality material through the different kinds of touristic means. We consider this new issue of the Yemen Times Tourist Guide as one of these tourist information resources.

We are confident that this guide will help recognize the tourist infrastructure of our country because tourism has become one of the most important sectors for development. It has become a sector which produces a significant portion of the national income. It is also considered as a means of transformation that connects between the different cultures and civilizations. Thereupon, any activity which can participate in the development of tourism in our country will get encouragement and support. We embody these activities by the direct instructions of our President Ali Abdullah Saleh, who has given the tourism sector great interest. He continuously emphasizes the importance of promoting tourism and instructs the government to facilitate and offer all possible services to tourism investments in all the governorates of the Republic of Yemen.

All a Tourist Should Know About Yemen (Travel Hints)



Yemen in brief

Official Name: Al Jumhuriyah al Yamaniyah (Republic of Yemen)

Location: in the south-west corner of the Arabian Peninsula (South-west Asia)

Population: 16 million

Area: 555,000 sq km with altitude of up to 3,700m (over 12,000 ft).

Capital: Sana'a population: 900,000; altitude 2,300m

Largest Cities: Sana'a, Aden

Population Growth Rate: 3.7%

Head of State: President Ali Abdullah Saleh

Government: Republic headed by a president and a vice president

Official Language: Arabic

Ethnic Group: Arab

Religion: Islam

Currency: Yemeni Riyals (YR)

Exchange Rate: YR 161 = US\$ 1 (as of October '99)



Location

The Yemen Republic is located in the south-west corner of the Arabian Peninsula (Southwest Asia). It is situated between the 12th and the 20th northern latitude and between the 41st and 45th eastern longitude. Yemen is bordered by Saudi Arabia in the North, by the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Aden in the South, by the Sultanate of Oman in the East and by the Red Sea in the West.

Time

Yemen is three hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT +3).

Climate

The diversity of the climate here, is another advantage, where it is always fresh with sunshine all round the year. The climate in Yemen is various and depends on the different altitude of the regions. In the mountains, it can be cool (at night & early morning, otherwise warm days) and moderate on the coast of Indian Ocean and the Red Sea in winter. In summer, it is fresh and moderate in the mountains and can be hot but bearable on the coasts & the

deserts. More specifically, Yemen's climate could be classified under three climate zones: Tihama and the south coastal strip - the hot and humid coastal strip

In winter, the climate in the coastal area is relatively moderate. Occasional rains in the summer are caused by the monsoon coming from the Indian Ocean. These rains decrease the high temperatures in the coastal area during the summer. The weather in the mountain areas is moderate in summer and relatively cold in winter. During winter, it becomes especially cold in the night and in the early morning, with pleasant sunny days.

Entry regulations

Entrance visas to Yemen are available very easily from all Yemeni embassies or consulates in your home country on payment of certain fees. Where Yemeni diplomatic missions do not exist, visitors may get a transit visa valid for 96 days - possibility to renew - at the entrance port. Every official visitor to Yemen receives immediately upon arrival a permit to stay one month. Within this period, you do not need to register with the police or to get a departure permit. However, there are departure taxes which all persons leaving - Yemeni or foreigners - must pay at the port of departure.

Holders of EEC passports & the G8 can now obtain entry visas at the boarder or the airport. For countries where Yemen has no diplomatic representation, visas can be arranged locally. This service is usually available at travel agencies in Yemen. Travelers to the Republic of Yemen require a passport that is valid for at least six months. Visas are valid for three months from the day of issuance. Passports bearing Israeli visas are not accepted.

You need a passport which is valid for six months after your application and two photos. The maximum stay is one month. Price depends on the kind of visa and your nationality:

- +/- 30 US\$ for a tourist visa single entry
- +/- 60 US\$ for a double entry visa

Your visit to the country has to be paid within three months of your application.

Entry ports and places

It is possible to enter the Republic of Yemen through all international airports of Sana'a,

Aden, Al-Hodeidah, Al-Rayan and Taiz. Furthermore someone may enter through the seaports of Al-Hodeidah, Al-Makha on the Red Sea, Aden on the Gulf of Aden and Al-Mukalla and Nashtun on the Arabian Sea. Also it is possible to enter after travelling by cars through the three entrances: Haradh and Al-Buq' in the North (border to Saudi Arabia) and Habrut in the East (border to Oman).

Airports

Sana'a International Airport: 15 km from city centre.

There are international & domestic airports in Taiz, Aden, Riyan, Seyun, Hodeidah, Al-Ghaida, Al-Beidah, and Socotra.

Tourism Seasons

High season - First week of October to end April.

Peak season - 20th December to 5th January.

Low season & shoulder months - May to September.

Currency

The currency in the Yemen is the Rial. One Rial is 100 Fils. The Rial is available in bank notes and coins. There are 1000, 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10, and 5, bank notes in circulation and have English and Arabic numerals. There are also 10, and 5 rial coins.

Foreign currencies can be exchanged at banks, hotels and money exchange offices. The rate of exchange varies YR 161 = US\$ 1 (as of October '99).

It's advisable to take the majority of your money in US\$ traveler cheques and dollars. Dollars are widely accepted by banks, hotels and money exchangers.

Credit cards (only American Express and Visa Card) and traveler cheques (also in banks) are only accepted in the some hotels. Therefore, visitors need cash money.

The US dollar has the best exchange rate and the money exchangers prefer new Dollar notes.

Small American Dollar notes may be needed for buying souvenirs and giving tips for services.

Shopping requires cash. Thomas Cook and American Express traveler cheques can be exchanged in very limited places.

Customs regulations

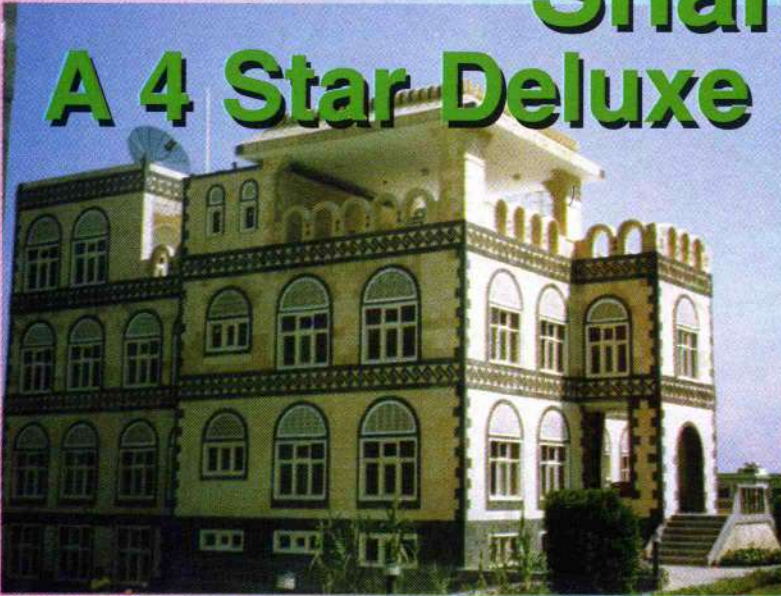
There are no restrictions on cameras. No special declarations are needed. There are no restrictions on the amount of foreign currency or traveler checks brought into the country. However, only 2 liters of alcohol (for non-Muslims) & 200 cigarettes are allowed in entry.

Health

It is a requirement for visitors who are coming from certain countries (registered by international health organizations) that they have an accepted vaccination certificate for epidemic diseases. Children under the age of one year are excluded. Visitors should be careful about the strong sun and the extreme changes of the altitude while traveling in the country. A protective sun lotion and a chap stick are of great help against dryness. Drinking water must be purified with sterilizing tablets but bottled mineral water, tea, fruit juices, soft drinks and but-

Shahran

A 4 Star Deluxe Hotel in Sana'a



The Universal Group has opened its new four star deluxe hotel. The Shahran Hotel is ready to welcome its guests and to greet them with a warm and friendly hospitality.

Description of Shahran Hotel:

The new hotel, located near Bait Bous, is categorized as a four

internet and email.

- Conference room able to accommodate 20 to 30 persons.
- Car rental (Hertz).
- In addition to the normal electric power supplied by the city, the hotel has its own electric generator.
- Large area for parking.



Vincent Dias,
Shahran GM

star-deluxe accommodation. Built especially to *We assure you that we will make your*

At SHAHRAN You Will Find All You Require

cater to the needs of its guests, the hotel, which is cradled in the unique landscape of Yemen, provides a peaceful atmosphere and absolute comfort. it contains 36 rooms, which include 6 junior suites and 2 senior suites.

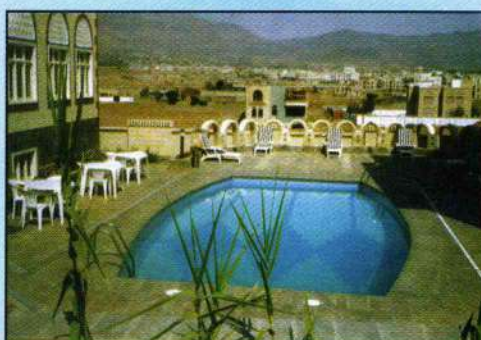
stay both comfortable and pleasant



Full Fledged Facilities:

- Stylishly furnished rooms.
- Both local and international calls can be made.
- Color Television with satellite dish.
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- Laundry services.
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E-mail: Shahran@y.net.ye



Continued... Hints for the Tourist

ter milk are easily available. Mineral water is available everywhere, even in the remotest areas.

Traditional handicraft

There are a lot of traditional handicraft industries in Yemen with many different branches and professions that have been in existence for generations. You may notice their beauty and their charm especially when you see the quality of the art work in fields like architecture, jewelry, traditional weapon production, weaving production, stone and clay pottery, leather production, the production of articles made from palm leaves, and rugs made of goat/sheep fur. Traditional souvenirs and monuments include colorful pots, baskets & incense burners. Small packets of incense and spices can be bought from the 'Souq' (the local traditional market.) Other unique souvenirs are prints and paintings (water - color and oil) produced by a number of Yemeni artists. All the products of these industries are available in the traditional markets of the towns, villages and in all the different provincial weekly markets.

Clothing

Because of the mild and warm climate it is recommended to bring light, loose cotton clothes with you. Women and men should cover their upper arms and legs. Furthermore everybody needs solid footwear and head cover because Yemen is a mountainous country. In the winter months, during night and in the early morning the temperatures in the mountain areas are relatively cold. Therefore, a pullover or a jacket should be included in your baggage.

In the desert areas such as Marib, Hadramout and Tihama, light clothes are preferred. But it is also advisable to wear warmer cloths during long tours since temperatures in high mountains can drop to zero. It is also advisable to use sunglasses during your tour.

It is preferable for men & women not to wear shorts because of traditional reasons. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended. Due to the strong sun (especially in the mountains), tourists should wear some kind of head-gear, a hat, cap or scarf. WATER - Tap water in the major cities is drinkable, bottled table water is recommended to drink in the countryside.

Official working hours

The government offices are open daily from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. except Friday (weekend). Private institutions and offices are open from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. except Fridays. Almost all private shops and stores are open during the day until late in the evening.

Administrative divisions

Yemen consists of 17 provinces and its capital is Sana'a. Each province is organized in several districts and each has several centers. The provinces are Sana'a, Aden, Taiz, Al-Hodeidah, Hadhramaut, Saada, Al-Djof, Marib, Al-Mahra, Shabwah, Abyan, Al-Baidha, Dhamar, Ibb, Lahdj, Al-Mahweet and Hajjah.

Geographical divisions

The Republic of Yemen could be divided according to its natural geography in five

regions: highland, high plains, coastal plains, the desert (al-Rub' al-Khali), which is the Arabic meaning of the empty quarter and Yemeni islands.

Photography

Yemen is an interesting, beautiful and extremely photogenic country. Therefore it is recommended that you bring enough films - especially slight films - with you. It is only possible to buy films in the big cities (slide films can only be bought in Sana'a).

However, taking pictures should be restricted mainly to landscapes & buildings. Permission should be taken before photographing men. As far as possible, tourists should avoid taking photographs of women, military, police personnel & installations. Standard print films are easily available, but transparency films are restricted to a few studios in Sana'a.

Using video cameras to capture films, sometimes requires permission from the tourism department and can be arranged by our office.

Electricity

The voltage in Yemen is 220v. Five star Hotels provide both options i.e. 110v or 220v. Travelers using electric or electronic equipment also need adapters for the sockets, because there are different kinds of sockets.

Alcohol

Yemen is a traditional Islamic country. Therefore, alcohol is prohibited. Visitors should respect this ethic value.

Every guest may bring with him one liter of alcohol. Alcoholic drinks are only served in the big hotels, (Sana'a - Sheraton & Taj Sheba Hotels, Aden - Movenpick Hotel (and most hotels), Taiz - Marib Hotel, Hodeidah - Ambassador and Bristol Hotels). It is recommended and requested not to drink alcohol during the day tours.

Flight connection

The following airlines fly to Yemen from abroad:

- Yemenia from Frankfurt, London, Paris, Rome
- Lufthansa from Frankfurt
- Royal Jordanian from Amman
- KLM from Amsterdam
- Egypt Air from Cairo
- Emirates from Dubai
- Gulf Air from Bahrain & Abu Dhabi

Public holidays

Weekend: Friday.

Fixed:

- 1 May (Labor Day)
- 22 May (Unity Day)
- 7 July (National Victory Day)
- 26 September (National Day)
- 14 October (National Day)
- 30 November (National Day)

Moveable:

Islamic holidays:

- Eid al-Adha
- Eid al-Fitr (Immediately after Ramadhan)
- Hijra new year
- Prophet Mohamed's birthday

Ramadan

The 9th lunar month during which Muslims fast all along daylight hours. Ramadan is the holy month for the Muslim community. Fasting

means to neglect food, drinks and all other pleasures between dawn and sunset in order to commit oneself to God. Non Muslims are asked to respect those fasting by refraining from eating, drinking and smoking in public places.

All daily activities like markets in the cities and in the countryside will continue as usual. Therefore sightseeing is unrestricted. Tourist will probably get the impression of the Magical Arabian Nights because the night life in the urban places in Ramadhan will go on until sunrise. The official institutions change their working hours to 11 am - 3 p.m. Even though it is recommended for visitors not to drink, eat and smoke in the public, the hotels and the local rest and guest houses will provide all services unlimited for the traveler's need.

Ramadan dates for the next three years:

- (one or two days may vary [±2])
- 09.12.1999 - 06.01.2000
- 28.11.2000 - 26.12.2000
- 17.11.2001 - 15.12.2001

Cuisine

International standard service of European and Oriental food is available at major hotels. A small number of good quality touristic restaurants operate in the main cities. Hundreds of typical Yemeni restaurants, very simple and inexpensive, serve traditional meat and fish dishes all over the country. Food at these restaurants are fresh, healthy, and delicious.

Starters

- Zahaweg Askary: (A spicy sauce made from fresh tomatoes, green peppers and spices)
- Zahaweg Jobn: (A spicy sauce made from fresh tomatoes, green peppers and spices and Yemeni goat cheese)
- Shafuut : (Bread with yogurt, mint, spices and herbs)
- Hulba : (Sauce made from various spices and herbs)
- Bent Assahn: (Puff pastry covered with honey)
- Buraik : (Puff pastry stuffed with minced meat)
- Sabaya : (Yemeni bread covered with honey)
- Shorbat Adas: (Lentil Soup)
- Shorbat Khudhar: (Vegetable Soup)
- Shorbat Borr: (Barley Soup)

Main Courses

- Marag Lahm: (Meat Soup)
- Hanid: (Lamb meat cooked in typical oven with spices)
- Kabsa: (Rice with Lamb meat)
- Agda: (Lamb meat cooked with vegetables, tomato sauce and spices)
- Mohkbatat Sayd: (Fish cooked in typical oven with a spicy tomato sauce)
- Fattat Marag: (Dry bread with meat soup)

Vegetable

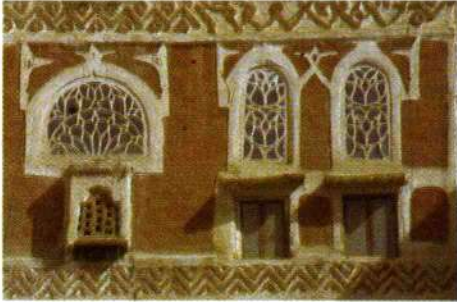
- Foul: (Broad Beans)
- Fasuulia: (Beans)
- Mushakkal: (Mixed vegetables)
- Adas: (Lentils)

Bread

- Kudam: (10 different types of whole meal flour)
- Meluuj: (Wheat Flour)
- Shaeer: (Barley Flour)
- Ruumi: (Maize Flour)
- Kafua' Bilsen: (Lentils Flour)
- Khobz: (Wheat Flour)

Yemen (AL-YAMAN) has been known in the historical books with several names. The old geographers titled Yemen as "Arabia Felix". In the Old Testament, Yemen was referred to as the South, the Queen Sheba, the Queen of the South, and Queen Timna. It is said that the word AL-YAMAN derives from the name of the ruler, AYMAN IBN YA'RUB BEN QAHTAN. The old Arabic legend. Many Yemenis say that AL-YAMAN derives from the word AL-YUMN (blessing and prosperity). This meaning agrees with the name "Arabia Felix". Others say the classification AL-YAMAN derives from 'yumna' (right from the Kaaba...). The Arabs orient themselves towards the right direction, because the right side is a symbol of fortune. Still some Yemenis always express with the word "AL-SHAM" the North and with AL-YAMAN the South. Today Yemen is called "Republic of Yemen".

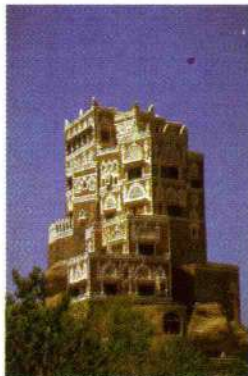
Places of Interest



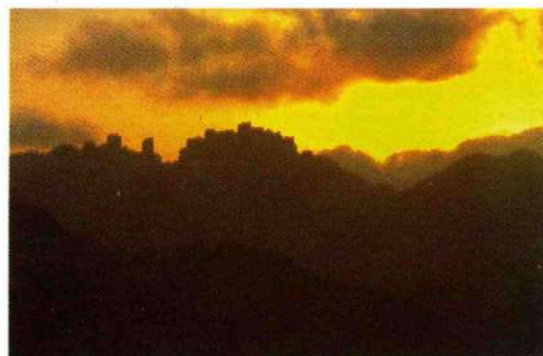
Windows of Sana's house



Dawn-Time for the first paryer



Dar Al-Hajjar



Silhouette of fortress Al-Hajjarah

Old Sana'a

One of the oldest urban settlements of mankind probably founded by Shem - son of Noah. Shem had come to Yemen from the north, seeking somewhere to settle, and he chose the place shown to him by a bird. His name is reflected still in Sanaa's nickname 'Sam City.' Since 1984 declared by UNESCO as "World Heritage of Mankind", sightseeing of the old city, the souk with its different branches, visit of the National Museum. With its unique and marvelous architecture, Old Sanaa is in itself a live museum. The beauty of the city had inspired many writers, poets, architects, and even tourists. One cannot but imagine the talent and taste of the original architects of such a magnificent city. The old city contains several traditional markets, including the Jambia market, qat market, silver market, spices market, and more.

Al-Rawdha

Lies 8km north of Sanaa and can be seen on the right hand side while driving to the airport. Al-Rawdha is also called the garden city of Sana'a. There are interesting architectures of the Imam Gasim Mosque from the 17th century in this area. It also has rural houses made in the Sana'a style and the vineyards. Al-Rawdha is famous for its traditional Sunday market, and green gardens.

Wadi Dhar

A leisure place for the people of Sana'a (12km away from Sanaa), which is famous for its rock palace of the Imam and its fruit gardens. Tourists can witness traditional wedding dances on the plateau, visit of the palace, and have small walking trips through the Wadi and the village Al-Gabel.

Shibam/Kawkaban

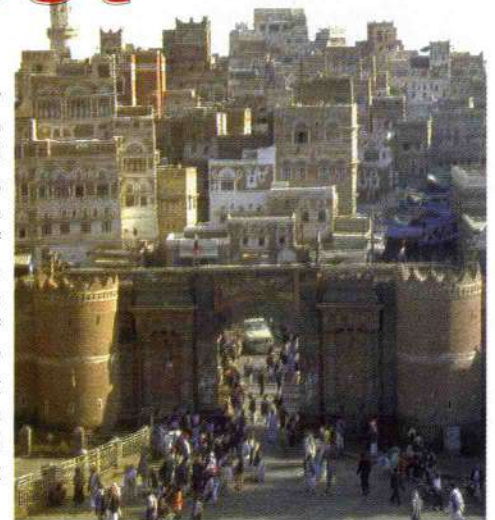
36km away from Sanaa, the Shibam, Kawkaban, together with Thula Himyarite capital of the Yafur dynasty until the beginning of Islam (7th/8th century). It was the retreat place of the imams in the 16th century during the First Ottoman Conquest. Tourists can visit the fortress town Kawkaban and enjoy the marvelous scenery, which is an open view over the whole surrounding area. Many tourists enjoy the walks in this mountainous area where they can walk downhill to Shibam.

Thula

Just two kilometers before reaching Shibam, the road branches to the right leading to the remarkable town of Thula. It is the fortress town of the imams in the 16th century. Tours to Thula are common and include an extensive look at the archetypes of the Yemeni stone architecture.

Manakhah, Al-Hoteib, Al-Hajjarah

The town, which is 135km away from Hodeidah was an important straight for the Ottoman Empire. Many tourists prefer to walk from Al Hoteib, which was the pilgrimage place of the Ismaeli section. After passing through the Kahel



Bab Al-Yemen - main gate of the old city of Sana'a Entranc to the market (souq)



Fortress Kawkaban



Alabastar (moonlight) window



Inside the fortress Al-Hajjarah

village, tourists can fortress Al Hajjarah, Manakhah, which is the center of the Haraz region with the 2940m high mountain, Djabal Shibam.



Production of water bubble pipes - Friday market Bait Al-Faqih



Typical hut- coastal area of Tihama



Iskander Mosque in Zabid

The city is also famous for its citadels.

Khokha

Fishing village with palm woods along the Red Sea, swimming is possible, facultative boat cruise in the Red Sea, diving is also possible.

Al-Makha

Also known as Moka, Al-Makha is the former coffee port of the Yemen. The most impressive feature of the area are the ruins of a minaret, and the landscape along the coast between Al-Khokha and Al-Makha.



Ruin of minaret in Al-Makha

Taiz

Taiz is the third major city in Yemen (250km from Sanaa). It was the capital of Yemen just before the 1962 revolution. The city's most significant feature is the 3000m high mountain Djabal Saber. The city is also famous for its beautiful mosques from the 13th/14th century.

There are several tourist sites in the city including the souks and the National museum and the historical Ashrafyah-mosque. Tourist drives upon the mountain Djabal Saber are preferred by most tourists.



HILLTOWN SANA'A HOTEL

The Most Welcome Name in Hospitality



Welcome to Hilltown Sana'a Hotel, the only four star hotel located in the heart of Sana'a city, the most famous, oldest and most unique city in Arabian peninsula and the world!



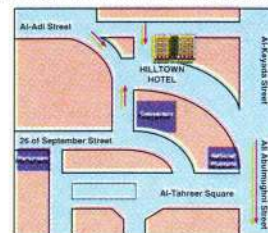
FACILITIES

- 65 Guest Rooms
- Local and International delicious food
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Ahmed Al-Daylam, Chairman of Al-Daylam Investment Co.



Ahmed A. Al-Alimi, Assistant & Commercial Manager

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Domes of baths-Al-Djanad Mosque

Al-Djanad Mosque

This mosque, located 6km north of Taiz, was built in the lifetime of the Prophet Mohamed. It is a courtyard mosque and together with the Great Mosque in Sana'a are among the oldest mosques of Islam. Both mosques are built after the model of the Kaaba-mosque in Mecca.

Yafrus

Ibn Alwan, a holy person and teacher of Sufism, built this courtyard mosque with a Quranic school in the 13th century. The mosque has an impressive architecture and stands

majestically in the landscape. This holy place is together with Al-Djanadyah - mosque a place of pilgrimage, both are located in southern Taiz



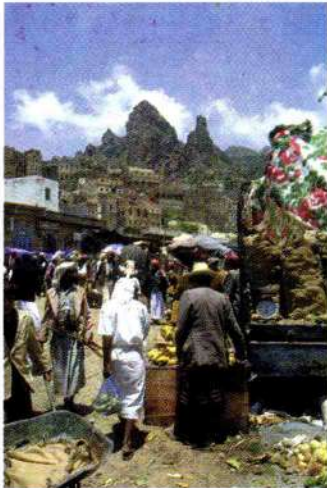
Al-Ashrafiyah Mosque in Taiz



Ibn Alwan Mosque in Yafrus

Wadi Dhabab

This fertile subtropical oasis is situated between Taiz and Yafrus. Every Sunday, the villagers of this region meet each other here at the market. On Fridays, people from Taiz drive out to this wonderful place for recreation and picnicking. It is a beautiful valley with a real brook at its center that carries water all year round. There are several subtropical plants and fruit trees, and tourist admire the natural taste of these fruits, which are planted and grown without the use of any pesticides and are purely 100% natural.



Market in Djiblah

Djiblah

Djiblah is the beautiful village several kilometers in the north of Taiz. It was once the capital of the Yemen in the 11th century under the Islamic rule of queen Arwa bint Ahmed. The village is situated on a green mountain which tourists like to visit, and even climb. Going through Djiblah is like walking through the 1000-year-old town. One of the most spectacular places to visit in Djiblah is the perimeter of the Queen Arwa Mosque and her grave.



Queen Arwa Mosque in Djiblah



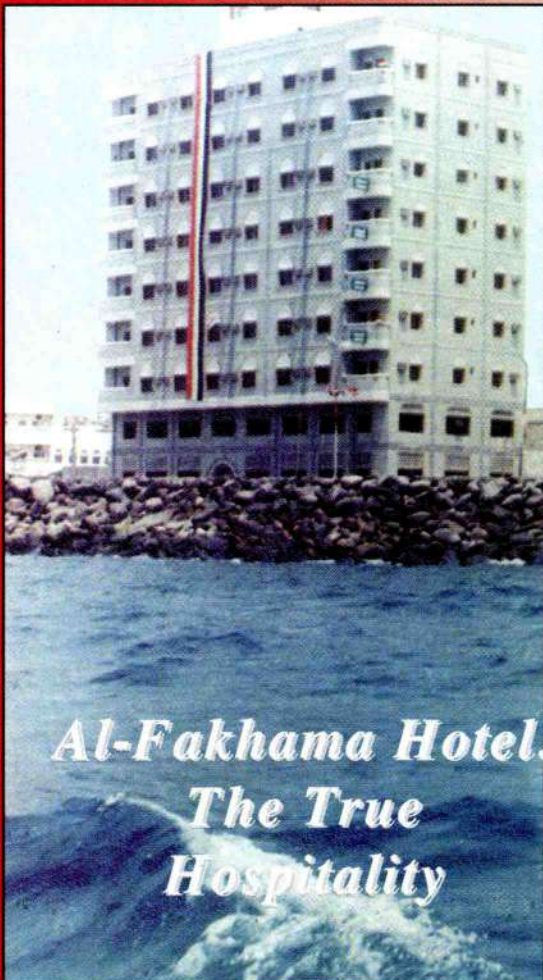
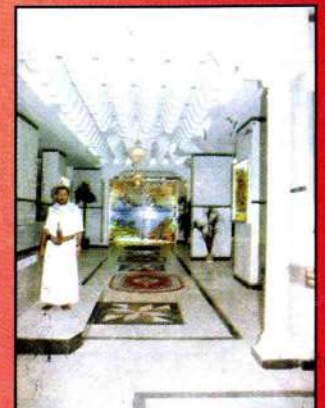
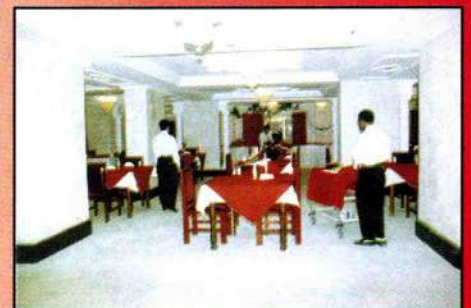
AL-FAKHAMA HOTEL

Hodeidah - Tel: 253554 - 247881/2/4/5/6 Fax: 213008

The Hotel is located in the face of bride of the Red Sea of Hodeidah, the only four star hotel over looking a panoramic view of the Red Sea making it ideal for both business and leisure.

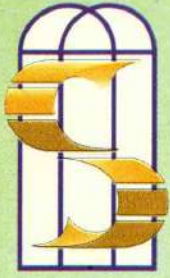
Facilities

- 77 Guest rooms
- Red sea restaurant serving all type of food.
- Room services, 24 hours, laundry, color satellite TV, and Air - conditioning.
- Round the clock security.
- Car parking



*Al-Fakhama Hotel
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Camel-riding in Wadi Hadhamaut

Wadi Hadhramaut

In ancient times, Hadhramaut, which is the biggest province in Yemen, was called the "Holy Land". Located in the south east of Yemen, Wadi Hadhramaut means the valley of Hadhramaut. Many graves from pre-Islamic prophets (ex. HUD in Quran = Eber in Old Testament) and

other saints still reflect those times. The Wadi Hadhramaut can only be entered through Rub Al-Khali desert/Marib and the mountain plateau Al-Djol /Al-Mukalla -is a fertile oasis surrounded with date-palms and majestic sand-rock mountains. Situated in this cultural landscape are the three cities Shibam, Sa'yun and Tarim.

Shibam



Shibam-Hadhramaut

Famous for its ancient skyscrapers, Shibam, founded in the 3rd century, was the capital of the ancient kingdom of Hadhramaut after the fall of the town Shabwah. It is a town with unique clay houses and impressive art work on wooden doors and windows. Words cannot express the beauty of the town when viewing it at sunset and sunrise.

Tourists are encouraged to join the trips to the area where they can walk along the mountain situated opposite the town in order to enjoy the skyscraper-silhouette in the sunset hours.



Former palace of the Kathiri sultans in Sa'yun

Sa'yun

Center of the Wadi Hadhramaut and former residence of the Kathiri sultans, The palace of the sultan has fabulous folklore and an archaeological museum. The palace has amazing architecture and fabulous view from its upper floors. A special visit to the local market, the handicraft market and the palace with its museums is a must for a tourist who wants to enjoy his day in this historical Islamic town.

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seafood and serves a capacity of 80 people.

For the enjoyment of our patrons, the village also has a large circular diwan, where they can unwind and relax by watching the satellite television, or the many board games that we have available.

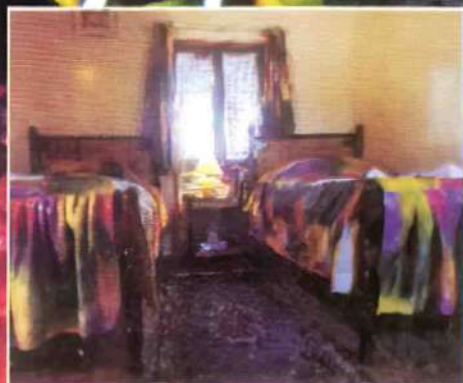
The diving center is fully furnished with the most neoteric and modern equipment available, including two air compressors, on-site certified thrill-seekers.

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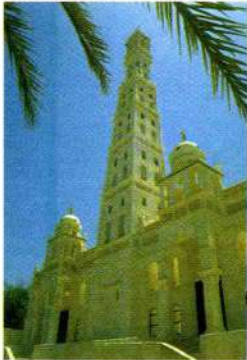
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Minaret-Al-Mihdar Mosque in Tarim

Tarim

Spiritual center of the Hadhramaut since the 10th century. It is a romantic town with many palaces and mosques. Tourists are encouraged to walk through the city and witness the spectacular places in this town. A complete tour is not complete without visiting the Ahgaf library, which has very old manuthe Qurans.

Wadi Doan

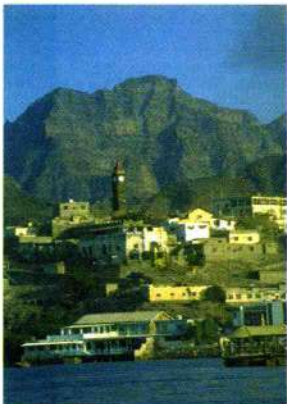
A tropical valley deriving from the Wadi Hadhramaut - surrounded by date-palms. The two old clay towns, Khoreibah and Al-Hajjarein are the end-points of the Wadi.

Al-Mukalla

Capital of the governorate Hadhramaut, a costal port situated on the shores of the the Indian Ocean. Special visits of the old city and the souqs are recommended. The old houses still have artistic work on the wooden doors and windows. Many locals consider this city a calm place to share wonderful times along the coast and away from the crowd of the main cities.



Al-Mukalla



Little Big Ben in Tawahi-Aden

Aden

An urban settlement since ancient times. The legends say, that Cain and Abel founded Aden, natural harbor and economical center of the Yemen in the future. Tourists are advised to visit of the impressive ancient cisterns, "The Tanks", the palace of the sultan, the Aideroos-mosque, the house of Rimbaud, the Tawahi quarter, the Gold Mohur coast, and the market. Special tourist activities such as board cuisine, diving to explore the deep underwater world of the Indian ocean, and swimming are among the most preferred for all tourists.

A Tour in Aden cannot be complete without a visit to Al-Taweela's group of historical cisterns. This impressive group of 18 cisterns with a total capacity of 20 million gallons of water is situated in the district of Crater, in the middle of the Taweela Valley. Archeologists date these cistern back to the first century AD during the reign of the Himyarite dynasty, as indicated by the Yemeni historian Hamza Loqman in his book "The History of Aden and



Elephant Bay in the dusk-Aden

SUZUKI YEMEN



We wish all the guests of Yemen and all visiting tourists a nice stay and a happy journey in the Arabian Felix, and wish them enjoyment while witnessing the most ancient and spectacular sites in this fabulous country. We also wish them to spend lovely times along the beautiful beach of the warm and hospitable city of Aden.



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Sarcophagi inside the Aideroos Mosque-Aden

Southern Arabia." The majority of these structures were carved out of solid rock. They were dug into a sloping site, and connected to one another by means of canals running along the valley.

At the top of the valley, a dam was built to prevent rocks and silt from going into the cisterns and blocking the canals. The lake behind the dam is known as Burkat (pool) Anbar. The first of this series of cisterns is known as Abu Silsila. It has a staircase leading into it, and decorated columns adorning its rim. A gypsum lining runs around the cistern's inner rim. It has miraculously survived the beating of nature's elements. Various tombs are mosques are also worth visiting in this city.



Al-Taweela cisterns in Aden, one of the most magnificent and intelligent creations of man



Ruins of old city of Marib

Marib

Without doubt, Marib has the best ancient sites in the whole country, making it the main destination of tourists for decades. Situated on the beginning of the Rub Al-Khali desert, Marib is the former Capital of the ancient empire of the Queen of Sheba. Ruins of the powerful kingdom of Sheba are still evident today, including the bars that stand tall in the face of time. Sheba is the Hebrew spelling of Saba, the name of an ancient southwest Arabian kingdom roughly corresponding to the modern territory of Yemen. Linguistic and archaeological evidence suggests that Sheba was originally settled by Semites from western or cen-

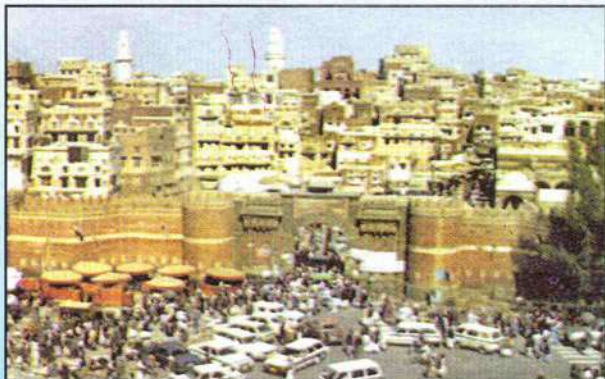


Temple of the moon god (Mahram Bilqis) in Marib)

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Traditional cloh (Traditional Museum-Sana'a)

tral Arabia during the middle of the second millennium BC and that by about 1200 BC the Sabeans were trading with nations in the northern zones of Arabia, Palestine, and Syria. Thereafter, Sheba formed a vital southern terminus for trade routes originating as far north as Mesopotamia; during the 1st millennium BC it dominated Red Sea and Indian Ocean trade. Even until today, several ancient monuments are being discovered, and many think that what has been found until now is nothing compared what is yet to be discovered.

Marib city is located near the big oil fields. Tourists should never leave Yemen without paying a special visit to the old city where the ruins are still evident. There are several ancient monuments which can be viewed, besides the temples, the remains of the 3000-year old Dam, and the new dam.

Baraqish

Former capital of the ancient kingdom Ma'een, caravan station on the ancient incense road. It has a 2400-year old city wall with inscriptions, excavation of a temple. It is a great place to enjoy magical moments of sightseeing.

Bir Ali

Former ancient incense port Qana on the Indian Ocean. Being on a beach and in a remote area away from the crowd of the cities, it is one of the most preferred place for diving and swimming.

Habban

Former Jewish silversmith settlement in the outer Hadhramaut, impressive old clay houses. A visit to the old city would be interesting to know more about its history and get a glimpse of how life has changed over the years.

Hajjah

Was the fortress of the imams in the 16th and 20th century. It is considered to be one of the most beautiful mountain landscapes of the Yemen between Kohlan and Hajjah. Tourists are always amazed of how Yemeni people could build their houses upon such high mountains. It shows the passion of Yemenis for height and how this helped them keep alerted of their lands, and assisted them in the days of war, etc. Tourists can get the most out of this trip by a sightseeing tour.

Saada

Foundation of the Imamate in 892, with interesting clay architecture. Special tours are arranged for tourists to walk on the city wall, and to view the ancient rock drawings and pictures. The clay villages in the surrounding of Saada are also worth seeing.

Shaharah

A place of escape for the imams in the 19th century, 2800m above sea level. Walking tours downhill over the famous bridge which connects the two peaks Fish and Amer are arranged. This bridge is considered one of the beauties of the area which clearly describes how intelligent and hard working the old Yemeni architects were.

Al-Tawilah

It is a town built upon a mountain. It is surrounded with one of the most beautiful terrace landscapes of the Yemen. A visit to the city's interesting old stone houses and souq is recommended.

Socotra

The most promising touristic site of Yemen. One could call it "The Yemeni untouched Island." Read the following article, and you will definitely fall in love with this beautiful untouched island.



Typical Arabian head cover



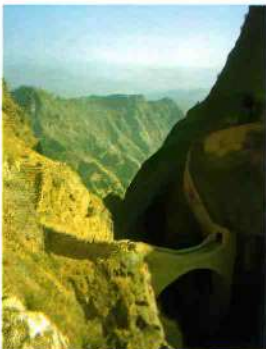
Almost all men from the norther parts of Yemen wear the traditional Jambia



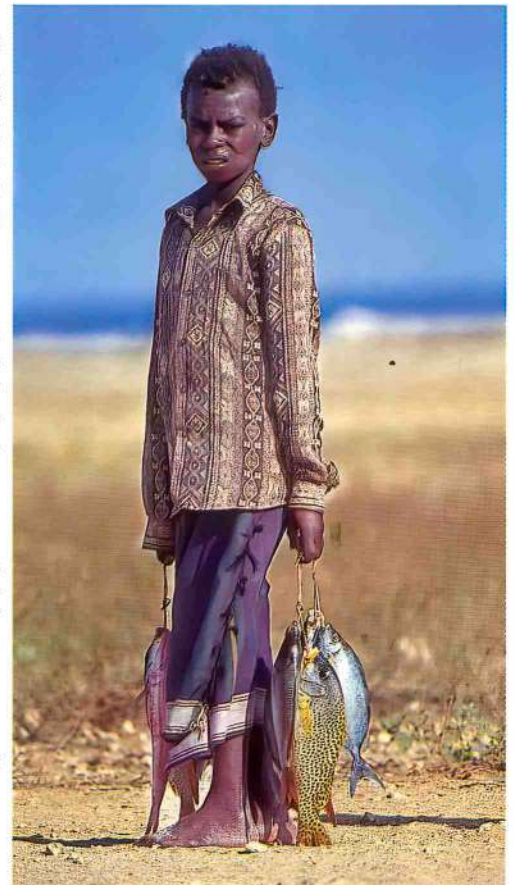
Beach in Bir Ali (ancient incense port Qana)



Clay house in Sa'ada



Shaharah bridge



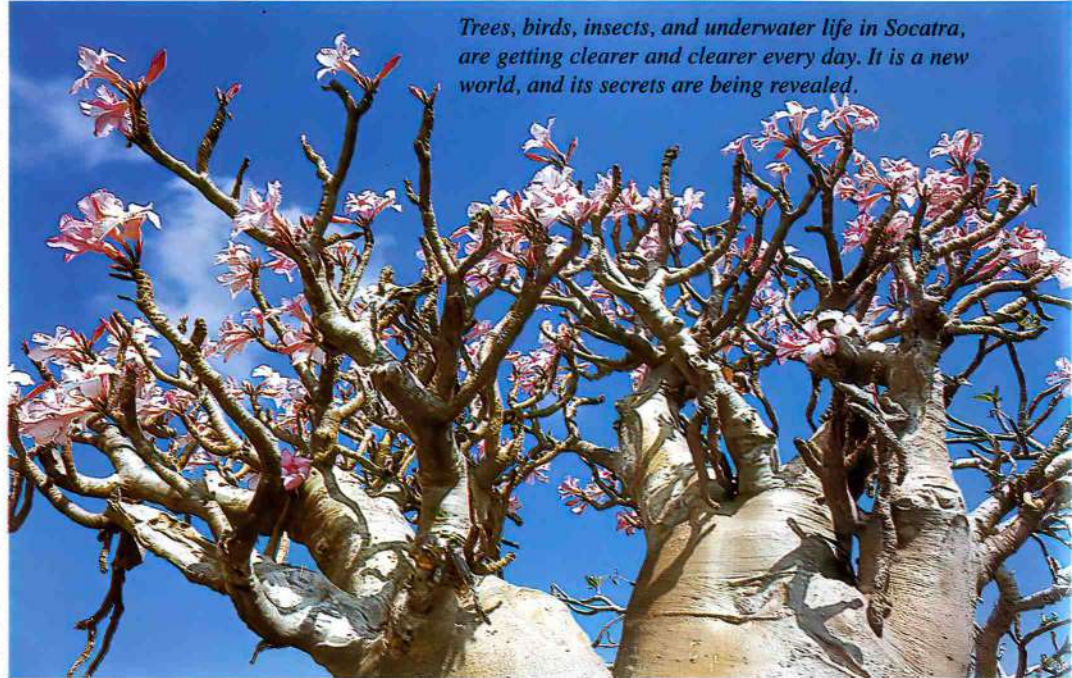
A young boy from Socotra

SOCOTRA

The Secret Revealed

Yemen's best-kept secret isn't really a secret. Everybody has heard about Socotra, but few people have ever been there or can imagine what it is really like. We've all seen pictures of the Dragon's Blood Tree, but Socotra has far more to offer than just strange plants.

The fact that Socotra lies closer to Africa than it does to Arabia lends this strange island a unique, hybrid flavour. Known to ancient Romans as *Diascorida*, Socotra has been coveted, conquered, and/or colonised by many nations for its strategic location and the valuable incenses that have been harvested there for millennia. Each culture has left its mark in the blood and customs of the people, in their legends, or in some material way. In spite of intense interest in the island over the centuries, Socotra is still one of the



Trees, birds, insects, and underwater life in Socotra, are getting clearer and clearer every day. It is a new world, and its secrets are being revealed.

Look at the proportion between the standing man and the iconic dragon's blood tree. A Unique view that can only be seen in Socotra.

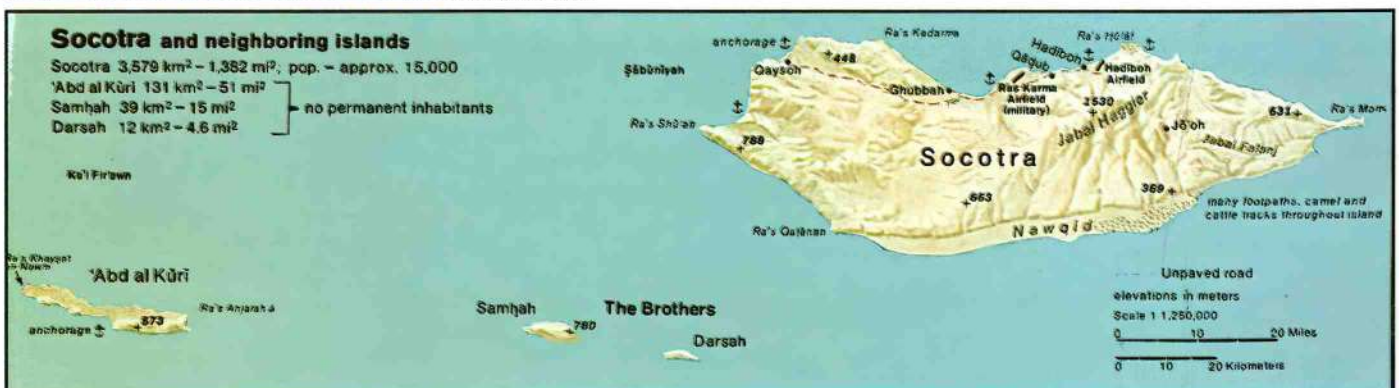


least developed places on earth and remains as shrouded in mystery as its granite peaks are shrouded in mist. With the recent inauguration of the newly surfaced airstrip, however, this weird land is poised on the edge of calamitous change.

Situated in the south-eastern reaches of the Gulf of Aden, Socotra bears the full brunt of summer monsoon winds. Locals speak of sustained 80 knot winds that traditionally have closed the island to air and sea traffic for up to half the year. The new runway at Mori now enables larger flights to land all year round although, since Socotra lacks a good deep-water port, its sea traffic will continue to be seasonal.

In spite of a hostile climate and its isolated location many people have colonised Socotra over the years. The first verifiable mention of the island is in the *Periplus of the Erythraean Sea*, an anonymous text from the 1st Century AD. It is believed that Christianity was brought to Socotra 3 centuries later by Greek colonists. The island has subsequently been settled by Arab, Indian, and African groups.

Portuguese occupation of Socotra commenced in 1505, but the surviving colonists were ordered to evacuate in 1511, as the occupation had proven fruitless. Arab stewardship of the island tended to be centred in Oman or Al Mahrah. The British contemplated using Socotra for a coaling station in the early 19th century, but due to the lack of a good natural harbour, coupled with the relentless winds of the monsoon, they decided to conquer Aden instead.



Birds Unique to Socotra, the untouched wildlife of Socotra has brought tangible international attention



Native Socotrans tend to be small, dark people with mixed African and Arab roots. In spite of their Christian history most Socotris are now devout Muslims; the women veil fastidiously, and the men often sport luxuriant beards. Most inhabitants speak Socotri, an ancient tongue with its roots in the language of Bilquis. For most Socotris Arabic is a second language, although it is not spoken well by all. English is widely taught in the schools, although fluent English speakers are rare on Socotra. Despite their scarce resources, and a rather precari-

Bottle Tree, one of the plants unique to Socotra



ous economy, Socotris tend to be hospitable and unobtrusive people. This may change as tourism on the island begins to mushroom, but for the present it is almost impossible to visit Socotra without being showered with warmth and generosity. Near Ras Momi a young Socotri once offered me life. "Milk, salt, meat...I've got it all," he said, as if there was nothing else that a person could want or need.

While the people help make Socotra a haven in a hostile world, the island is also a natural wonderland. From the aqua lagoon at Qalansiya to the snow-white dunes at Ras Momi, from the alpine meadows of the Haggier Mountains to the desolation of Nowged, Socotra is a land of surprising contrasts. Rising to over 1700 meters, the Haggier Mountains loom over Hadibo, Socotra's administrative capital. The red granite of the peaks has been stained a ghostly grey by the lichens, which grow thickly above tree line. Perennial streams radiate from the misty heights, green ribbons of life teaming with endemic fish and freshwater crabs. Limestone plateaux fan east and west, providing alkaline soils for the iconic Dragon's Blood Tree. Bottle Trees grow in such profusion that entire hillsides turn pink following winter rains. Cucumber trees, statuesque relatives of the melon, provide fodder for starving animals during times of drought. Socotra is home to more than 800 species of plants, some 240 of which are endemic to the island, and there are certainly many plant species that have yet to be discovered. For example, Dr. Tony Miller of the Royal Botanical Garden in Edinburgh recently collected the first known specimens of a tiny carnivorous plant, which grows on moist tree trunks in the higher reaches of the Haggier mountains.

There may also be many undiscovered species of insects on Socotra. Because of the persistent monsoon winds, many Socotran insects have evolved relatively small wings, an adaptation, which prevents them from being blown out



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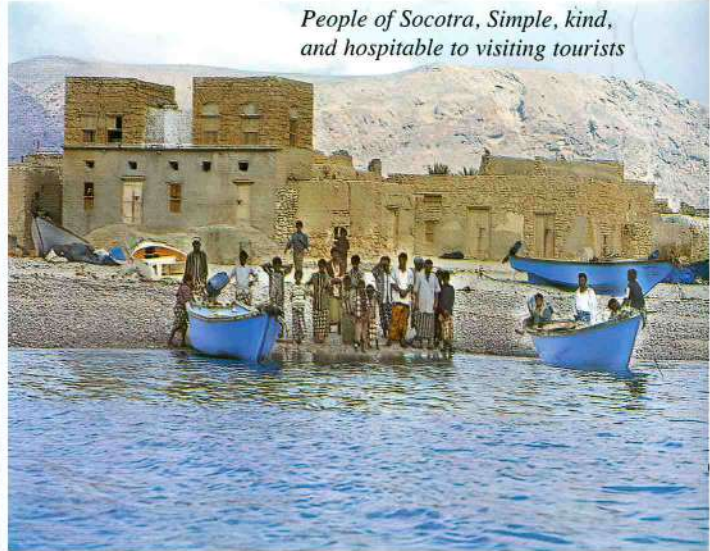
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to sea. Other arthropods include immense centipedes which can reach a length of more than 20 centimetres and give a nasty pinch, at least two species of freshwater crabs, and huge spiders which spin yellow webs across woodland gaps; harmless to humans, but intimidating nonetheless. At least 80% of Socotra's reptiles are endemic, and herpetologists believe that there are still several undiscovered

People of Socotra, Simple, kind, and hospitable to visiting tourists



species on the island. About 140 species of birds have been recorded here with new species being found every year. The Socotra Bunting, Socotra Starling, Socotra Sunbird, Socotra Sparrow, Socotra Warbler, and Socotra Cisticola are six species that can be found nowhere else. Ornithologists believe that more detailed study of the ten endemic subspecies will lead to the splitting of some to full specific status. The most obvious bird to the visitor, however, is the ubiquitous Egyptian Vulture, known locally as Al Baladiya Socotri for its habit of cleaning up everything from kitchen waste to human faeces. Outside of Hadibo, Socotra is a wonderfully clean place, thanks in large part to these active scavengers.

Few terrestrial mammals live on Socotra although there are some bats and a species of genet. The sea surrounding the island teems with whales and dolphins, however. Sperm Whales, Short-finned Pilot Whales, Spinner, and Bottle-nosed Dolphins have all been spotted close to shore. Socotran waters also abound in fish, ranging from tiny, brightreef dwellers to great spotted Whale Sharks more than 15 meters long. Crystal clarity makes this a diver's dream.

Because of its biodiversity and the high level of endemism, Yemen authorities take the preservation of Socotra very seriously. Strict laws regarding the importation of plants and the export of wildlife are fastidiously enforced. Visiting the island is not easy, though, since permission must first be obtained from the Yemen Environmental Protection Council. Also there are no hotels outside of Hadibo and transportation can be difficult to arrange. For those with a taste for adventure and a bit of persistence, however, a Socotran sojourn is well worth the effort.

David B. Stanton
Chairman,
Yemen Ornithological Society
PHOTO CREDITS: Mathew Kurien,
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Entrance in front of rest hall



Main Entrance (from inside)



Conference Hall (front)



Conference Hall (back)



Rest Hall



Main Entrance (from outside)



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Tel: 280 300; 281 552, 291321. Fax: 283 951
E-mail: intraveltours@yenet.com

Magellan Tours

PO Box (1206),(4197), Harat Al Gasmy Old City, Sana'a
Tel: 276 183, 288253. Fax: 273 878
E-mail: magellan.tours@y.net.ye

Manar Travel & Tours

PO Box 18195, Sana'a
Tel: 219 322; 219 323
Fax: 206 907
E-mail: mtt@y.net.ye

Marib Travel and Tourism

PO Box 161, Sana'a
Tel: 272432 / 272435 / 272436
Fax: 274199
E-mail: yahyas@y.net.ye

Moka Tours

PO Box 1049, Sana'a
Tel: 276 711. Fax: 276 713
E-mail: mokatours@hotmail.com
**** See page 13**

Rashed Travel & Tourism Agency

P.O. Box: 714
Tel: 272503/4 ; 279210
Fax: 272505
**** See page 25**

Shibam Tourism Agency

PO Box 3235, Sana'a
Tel: 203 912. Fax: 219 155.
E-mail: shibam-to.y.net.ye
**** See page 25**

Sindbad Tours

Alomam Almuttahida, St. 33-1
PO Box 19872, Sana'a
Tel: 207 231. Fax 214 736
E-mail: sindbad-tours@y.net.ye

Sky Travel and Tours

PO Box 1632, Sana'a
Tel: 266 273; 260932, 260946.
Fax: 266 258
E-mail: sky-trvt@y.net.ye

Soqatra Tours

PO Box 4177, Sana'a
Tel: 280 212. Fax: 280 213

United Travel & Tourism

PO Box 8038,2632, Sana'a
Tel: 278 668. Fax: 278 669
E-mail: alsunidar-group@y.net.ye

Universal Travel & Tourism

PO Box 10473, 71 Zubairi Street, Sana'a
Tel: 248 151; 248 152, 260742/3, 267929
Fax: 240 040

Wings Travel and Tourism

PO Box 17016, Sana'a
Tel: 267 411/2/3
Fax: 267 416
E-mail: wings@yenet.com

Yemen Explorer Tours

P.O. Box 23091
Zubeiry St, Sanaa

Republic of Yemen
Tel: 203 119 - Fax: 209 225
E-mail: yestours@y.net.ye
Website: www.al-bab.com/yet
**** See page 28**

Yeman Tours

P.O. Box 8192, Al-Qiada Street, Sana'a
Tel: 270 786, 289694.
Fax: 324 530, 278875.
E-mail: Yeman-Tours@y.net.ye

Yemen Arab Tourism Agency

PO Box 1153, Sana'a
Tel: 224 236; 224 277;
231797, 322027, 332348.
Fax: 251 597, 332293.

Yemen Travel

c/o Taj Sheba Hotel,
P.O. Box 773, Sana'a
Tel: 272 372. Fax: 274 129

Yemen Tourism Authority

PO Box 129, Sana'a
Tel: 967-1-252 319, 252321, 252320 Fax: 967-1-252 316
E-mail : mkt@yenet.com

ADEN (+976 2)

Universal Travel & Tourism

PO Box 5149, Madram Street, Aden
Tel: 243 475; 243 124, 241534, 240816. Fax: 221146

HODEIDAH (+976 3)

Universal Travel & Tourism

PO Box 4482,
26 September Street,
Hodeidah
Tel: 226 980, 226 958.
Fax: 217 849.

IBB (+976 4)

Universal Travel & Tourism

PO Box 325, Ibb
Telefax: 407 423/5, 410782.

TAIZ (+976 4)

Universal Travel & Tourism

PO Box 5324, Taiz
Tel: 225 383. Fax: 225 384

MUKALLA (+976 5)

Universal Travel & Tourism

P.O. Box 50059, October Zone, Mukalla
Tel: 354 843. Fax: 354 842

SEIYUN (+976 5)

Arabia Felix Tourist

Funduk As Salam, Seiyun

Universal Travel & Tourism

Qasr Al Sultan, Seiyun
Tel: 404 222 - Fax: 402 311

HOTELS

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Taj Sheba*****

500 m to old city, 10 km to airport restaurant, coffee-shop, night club rooms with bath, telephone, satellite TV, air-condition swimming pool, fitness center, sauna, garden, 2 conference rooms, business center, travel agency, barber shop, shop
P.O. Box 773, Sana'a
Tel: 272 372. Fax: 274 129
email: tshacc@y.net.ye

** See page 2

Sheraton*****

3 km to old city, 10 km to airport
3 restaurants, coffee-shop, night club, bar rooms with bath, telephone, satellite TV, air-condition swimming pool, fitness center, sauna, whirlpool, steam bath, 2 tennis courts, meadow, garden
3 conference rooms, business center, 3 shops, travel agency, barber shop
P.O. Box 2467, Sana'a
Tel: 237 500; 237 508. Fax: 251 521
email: sheraton3@y.net.ye

Shaharan****

5 km to old city, 15 km to airport, rooms with bath, telephone, satellite TV, air-condition, coffee shop, restaurant, pool and health club, business center, conference room.
P.O. Box 7202
Tel: 418320/1/2/3.
Fax: 418324
Email: shahran@y.net.ye

** See page 6

Hiltown****

Excellent location, luxurious rooms with bath, international telephone services, satellite TV, air-condition, coffee shop, restaurant, Meeting and Conference Hall can accommodate upto 100 persons.
P. O. Box: 10706
Tel: 278426/8/9/30
Fax: 278427

** See page 9

Alyamama Palace ****

P.O. Box 3297, Sana'a
Tel: 236 230. Fax: 229 863
email: alyamama.com@y.net.ye

Ramada Hadda****

5 km to old city, 15 km to airport restaurant, coffee-shop, rooms with bath, telephone, satellite TV, swimming pool, 2 tennis courts, games, fitness center, sauna, garden, 2 conference rooms, travel agency, 2 shops
PO Box 999, Sana'a
Tel: 215 214; 415 215. Fax: 412 543
email: haddahotel@yenet.com

Golden Dar ***

(Dar al-Dhahab) - traditional hotel in old city, restaurant, rooms with exterior bath
P.O. Box 212, Sana'a
Tel: 287220; 287298. Fax: 287 293
email: resv@almokalla.com

Ambassador ***

P.O. Box 3491, Sana'a
Tel: (03) 231 247/9. Fax: 231 028
email: ambassador@yenet.com

Al-Shamiri Plaza ***

P.O. Box 4278, Sana'a
Tel: 279 100 ; 279 798 - Fax: 272 604
email: shamiri@yenet.com

Al-Anwar

P.O. Box 530, Sana'a
Tel: 272843; 280317.

Arwa Hotel

Tel: 275153/4
P.O.Box: 1481.

Dar al-Hamd ***

P.O. Box 2187, Sana'a
Tel: 283119; 283054/55.

Al-Gasmy Hotel

Tel: 273 816
Fax: 271997; 273855.
P.O.Box: 20826

Luxor Tourist Hotel ***

P.O. Box 17505, Sana'a
Tel: 612 907. Fax: 612 905
email: luxor@yenet.com

Panorama Sana'a ***

Tel: 218971/2/3. Fax: 201 492
P.O.Box. 15120

Plaza Suites***

P.O. Box 15473, Sana'a
Tel: 209 964; 209 750; 402072/3/4. Fax: 204 431
email: plaza@yenet.com

Prince Hotel ***

Tel: 204 744; 204 043. Fax: 214176
P.O.Box. 15517.
email: prinshotel@yenet.com

Sam City ***

P.O. Box 3072, Sana'a
Tel: 270 752; 276294/5/7. Fax: 275 168

Shahara

Tel: 272844. Fax: 289588
P.O.Box: 1646

Sultan Palace

Tel: 273766, 289581. Fax: 276175
P.O.Box: 3839

Al-Zahraa

Tel: 279034/6. Fax: 279037.
P.O.Box: 204.

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Ms. Jamila Abed Awadh
Director

We handle different activities mainly for Danish, Dutch, German, English, Australian, French, Malaysian, Indonesian, Chinese and Hong Kong businessmen. A part from that we represent number of Companies in the field of dairy products, Plants & Equipment, Food Ingredients, Spare-parts, Technical know-how and lots more.

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Sana'a- Republic of Yemen

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Tel: 202055.; 201595.
Fax: 201082

** See page 33

Crescent Hotel (al-Hilal)****

P.O. Box 1364, Tawahi, Aden
Tel: 203 417.; 203471/2/3. Fax: 204597.
Rock (26 Sept)
Tel: 202 266

Aden Movenpick *****

P.O. Box 6111, Aden
Tel: 232 911. Fax: 232 947

Gold Mohur

Tel: 204 171. Fax: 204172. P.O.Box. 1288

Sailor Club**

Tel: 203209, 205296. Fax: 203559

Sun Hotel **

Tel: 202040 / 202500. Fax: 203 080
P.O. Box 1481

HAJJAH (+976 7)

Ghamdan***

1 km to old city, rooms with bath, telephone, satellite TV, restaurant.
P.O. Box 80043, Hajjah
Telefax: 220 421 / 220 420

HODEIDAH (+976 3)

Ambassador ***

P.O. Box 3491, Hodeidah
Tel: 231 247; 231250.; 231248/9. Fax: 231 028
email: hotelinfo@ambassador-ye.com

** See page 20

Al-Fakhama***

500 m to old city, beside Red Sea rooms with bath, satellite TV, air-condition, restaurant, coffee shop, business center, conference hall.
Tel: 247881.; 213009.; 253554. Fax. 213008.

** See page 10

Bristol ***

P.O. Box 4205, Hodeidah
Tel: 239 197; 239 158. Fax. 239991.

Al-Burj

Tel: 239336/ 239279. P.O.Box: 3254

Al-Ikhwa

Tel: 239432/ 247587. Fax: 239779

Hodeidah Hotel

Tel: 239101/ 239100. Fax: 212577
P.O.Box: 3712

Taj Awsan ***

1,5 km to old city, 2 km to Red Sea, rooms with bath, satellite TV, air-condition, restaurant, coffee shop, business center, conference hall
Tel: 212 570.; 212575/3. Fax: 212 577.
P.O.Box.3712.

MAHWEET (+976 7)

Mahweet Hotel

200 m to old city, with guest house for budget travelers, rooms with bath, satellite TV, restaurant.
P.O. Box 36085, al-Mahweet
Tel: 404 767/8. Fax: 404 591

MARIB (+976 6)

Ard al-Jannateyn

P.O. Box 2309, Marib

Bilqis Hotel ****

2 km to old Marib, rooms with bath, telephone, satellite TV, air-condition, restaurant, coffee shop, swimming pool, garden, tennis court, business center, conference room, shop
P.O. Box 97539, Marib
Tel: 302 372.; 302375/6 . Fax: 302 371.

MUKALLA (+976 5)

Hadhramaut Hotel ****

2 km to old city, 25 km to airport, restaurant, rooms with bath, telephone, satellite TV, air-condition, swimming pool, tennis court, diving center, fishing center, garden.
Tel: 302 060.; 303441 - Fax: 303 134.
P.O.Box. 50059.

** See page 14

Royal Hotel***

Royal Hotel, Rocko Street, Mukalla
Tel: +967 5 304665, Mob: 6950734

** See page 12

SEYUN (+976 5)

Samah Seyioun

2 km to old city, 2 km to airport, restaurant, rooms with bath , telephone, satellite TV, air-condition, swimming pool, conference room.
P.O. Box 2616, Sana'a (address is in Sana'a but hotel in Seyioun)
Tel: 285 865; 286 965. Fax. 289568
Email: bazara@y.net.ye

TAIZ (+976 4)

Sinan Hotel***

Near the Agricultural Research Center, Rowdha Neighborhood, Taiz
Tel: 233 523 (6 lines) - Fax: 222 595

** See page 12

Asia Hotel ***

1,5 km to old city, 15 km to airport, rooms with bath, satellite TV, air-condition, restaurant
P.O. Box 55221, Taiz
Tel: 222 948/ 228645
Fax: 227 846

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FAX: 272505 P.O. BOX: 714

تلفون: 272503/4 - فاكس: 272505
تلفون: 279210 - ص.ب: 714

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P.O. Box 3235, Sana'a
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E-Mail: shibam-to@y.net.ye
<http://www.y.net.ye/shibam-tours/>

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206613 8 lines - Fax: 215578, 205706 E-mail: watanibank@y.net.ye

LEARN USEFUL ARABIC PHRASES

Most Yemenis do not know English. Hence, it is always advisable to learn some simple phrases to get you along during your visit to Yemen.

The following are the most commonly used words and sentences in day-to-day life. Note that in Arabic, the phrases are dependent on the gender.

Here, we use the abbreviations
M: male (either you or the person you talk to)
F: female
P: plural (can be we, or you, depending on the meaning)

Greetings/Hello
As-salaam alaykum/Marhaba

Greetings/ Hello (reply)
Wa'alaykum as-salaam/Marhaba

Good morning
Sabaah al-khayr

Good morning (reply)
Sabaah an-noer

Good evening
Masaa al-khayr

Good evening (reply)
Masaa an-noer

Good night
Tusbih A'la Khayr (m) / Tusbihi A'la khayr (f) / Tusbihu A'la khayr (p)

Good night (reply)
Wa'anta min Ahlu(m)/ Wa anti min ahlu (f)/ Wa antum min ahlu (p)

How are you?
Kayf Haalak? (m)/ Kayf Haalik?(f)/ Kayf Haalukum?(p)

Fine, thank you.
Bi-khayr, al-Hamdu li-Ilaah.

O.K. / Alright
Tamaam/tayyib/kwayyis.

Thank you/Thank you very much
Shukren/ Shukren Katheeran

You are welcome
Afwan.

Excuse me/ Pardon me.
Min fadlak (m), min fadlik (f), min Fadlikum (p)

Finish! (when asking to end something)
Khalaas!

Good Bye / farewell
Ma'a as-salaama / fie amaan allaah.

Yes (also to respond to a call)
Ay'wa / na'am.

No
Laa.

I cannot speak Arabic
Ana ma'arifsh Arabi

I couldn't understand
Ana mush faahim (m)/ ana mush fahma (f)

I understood.
Ana fihimt.

What is your name?
Aysh ismak? / aysh ismik?

My name is george
Ismi George

Listen!
Ism'a! (m) / Isma'l (f)

Where are you from?
Min fayn inta?(m) / min fayn inti? (f)

I'm from England.
Ana min Ingiltra.

Can I take a photo?
Mumkin aakhud soora?

Yemen is a beautiful country.
Al-yemen balad jameel.

How much is this (price)?
Bikam hadah?

What do you want?
Eysh tishti?

Where is Hadda Street?
Feyn Shar'i Hadda?

Money.
Foloos.

A bit/ a little.
Shiwayya.

Little / (much / many)
Qalil / katheer.

Small / big.
Sagheer / kabeer.

Today / tomorrow / yesterday.
Al- yawm / bukra / amss.

Numbers Arqam

0= SIFR
1= WAAHID
2 = ITHNAYN
3 = THALAATHA
4 = ARBA'A
5 = KHAMSA
6 = SITTA
7 = SAB'A
8 = THAMAANIYA
9 = TIS'A
10 = ASHARA
20 = ISHREEN
30 = THALAAATHEEN
40 = ARBA'EEN
50 = KHAMSEEN
60 = SITTEEN
70 = SAB'EEN
80 = THAMAANEEN
90 = TIS'EEN
100 = MIYA
1000 = ALF



FOR EMERGENCY

Emergency Police	199
Accident (Traffic)	194
Fire Brigade	191
Water Problems	171
Electricity problems	177
Telephone enquires	118
Aljumphury Hospital	274285
Athawra Hospital	246366
Kuwait Hospital	283282/3
Red Crescent	203131/3
Tel-Yemen	7522202
Y.net	7522227

BANKS

Yemeni Banks:	
Central Bank	274310/1
Commercial Bank <i>Sana'a</i>	213662/6
<i>Hodeidah</i>	217040/3
Int'l Bank of Yemen	272920/3
National Bank of Yemen	275373
YBRD	271623/4
Watani Bank	206613

BRANCH OF FOREIGN BANKS:

Arab Bank Ltd.	276592/3
Bank Indosuez	272801/3
United Bank Ltd	272424

GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

Foreign Affairs	202544/7
Interior Affairs	252701/7
Immigration	250761/3
Tourism	254032
Inter-City Bus Co.	262111/3
TV Station	332001/2
Radio Station	282061

INSURANCE COMPANIES:

Y. I. & ReInsurance	Aden	273311
Marib Insurance	<i>Sana'a:</i>	206112/4
	<i>Aden:</i>	255668
	<i>Taiz:</i>	222162/3/4
	<i>Hodeidah:</i>	217370/1
Yemen General	<i>Sana'a:</i>	265191
	<i>Aden:</i>	241171
	<i>Taiz:</i>	221561
	<i>Hodeidah:</i>	239184
United Ins. Co.	<i>Sana'a:</i>	272890/2

	<i>Taiz:</i>	215012
	<i>Hodeidah:</i>	217292
Aman Insurance	<i>Sana'a:</i>	214093
	<i>Hodeidah:</i>	240354
Saba Yemen Insurance		
	<i>Sana'a:</i>	240894/908
	<i>Aden:</i>	253646
	<i>Taiz:</i>	233082
	<i>Hodeidah:</i>	226627

AIRLINES:

Air France	272895/6
Alitalia	273655
Austrian Airlines	272432
British Airways (Sana'a)	267929
British Airway (Aden)	241534
Cathay Pacific	272432
Egypt Air	275061
Emirates	244444
Ethiopian Airlines	272437
Gulf Air	265274/75
KLM	278747
Kuwait Airlines	272503/4
Lufthansa	213400
Royal Jordanian	275314/028
Russian Airlines	272540
Sabena	285865/925
Sudan Airways	279210
Syrian Airways	272543
Universal Travel (HO)	275028/9/30
Universal-Zubeiri	245888
Universal - Bonia	272861/2/3
Universal Aden	221146, 243475
Universal Taiz	225383/4
Universal Hodeidah	226980
Universal Mukalla	(05)354842/4/5
Bazara Travel	78093/270879
Ilias I. T. T.	273338/275554
Al-Nasim Travel	270750

YEMENIA BRANCHES: *See last page

Abdul-Mughni	274698
Haddah	204538/550
Shauob	250833
Zubeiri	260834/5
Head Office	232381/9
Reservations	250800/1
Airport	250868/831

COURIERS:

Aramex	<i>Sana'a:</i>	240741
	<i>Aden:</i>	255333
	<i>Taiz:</i>	213489
	<i>Hodeidah:</i>	218168
DHL		268551
American Express		272435 / 6
FedEX	<i>Sana'a:</i>	412604
	<i>Hodeidah:</i>	247422
	<i>Aden:</i>	232911
	<i>Taiz:</i>	232838
SkyNet		212698
UPS		416751



EMBASSIES & Consulates

Sana'a:

1. Embassies:

Algeria	209689/206350
Bulgaria	208469
China	275337/341
Cuba	417305
Czech Republic	247946
Djibouti	415985
Egypt	275948/9
Eritrea	209422
Ethiopia	208833
France	268888
Germany	413180/413174
Hungary	263586
India	243440/264872
Indonesia	414633
Iran	413552/3/4
Iraq	269571/4/5/6
Italy	269165
Japan	207356/208753
Jordan	413275/6/7/9
Kuwait	268876/9
Lebanon	203959/733
Libya	267636/4
Mauritania	264188
Morocco	247964
Netherlands	263323/4/6/3
Oman	208874/5
Pakistan	248812/3/4
Palestine	264236/66
Poland	413523/4
Qatar	269654/7/11
Rumania	205515/209003
Russia (FR)	278719/283142
Saudi Arabia	240429/30
Somalia	208864
Sudan	247885
Syria	414891/2
Tunisia	240458/9

Turkey	263476/241395
U. A. E.	248777/78
U. K.	264081/4
U. S. A.	238842/52

2. Honorary Consulates

Austria	266725
Belgium	286965
Canada	208814
Denmark (Taiz)	04-215170
Finland	207018/20/21
Greece	272218
North Korea	272987
Norway	272983
Spain	208745
Sweden	207595/470

3. International Organization

European Union	248495
FAO	207331/607
UNDP	415505/6/7
UNHCR	201856
UNICEF	211400/1/2
WFP	415199
WHO	252220
World Bank	413706/8/10
UNFPA	417713

Aden Consulates:

China	233115
Egypt	231270
Germany	232162
Libya	233611
Oman	233433/460
Russia (FR)	232792/232625
Saudi Arabia	233009
Somalia	241101
U. K.	232712/3/4/5

FREIGHTS:

AEI	285540	
GAS Aviation Services	412309	
ITS Agency	218142	
Pacford Int'l Forwarding	203375	
Red Sea Pac. & Gen. Services	26489	
Shebani Shipping and Clearing Corp.		
	<i>Hodeidah:</i>	212989
	<i>Sana'a:</i>	207028
	<i>Aden:</i>	243319
	<i>Taiz:</i>	219292
	<i>Mukalla:</i>	303913
Yemen Freight Agency (YFA)	272135	
YEMPAC	208898	

LOCAL TEL CODES

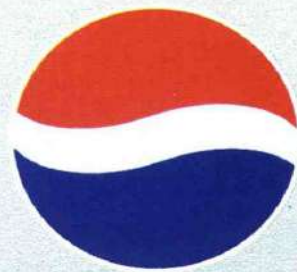
Sana'a	01	Al-Gayda	05
Aden	02	Al-Shuhr	05
Lahj	02	Soqotra	05
Al-Dhale	02	Dhamar	06
Yaf'e	02	Al-Bayda	06
Abyan	02	Marib	0630
Hodeida	03	Al-Jawf	064
Taiz	04	Mahweet	07
Ibb	04	Amran	07
Mukalla	05	Saada	07
Seyoun	05	Hajja	07
Attaq	05		



YEMEN EXPLORER TOURS

وكالة اليمن للاستكشافات السياحية

SANA'A - ZUBEIRY ST. - REPUBLIC OF YEMEN
P.O. BOX 23091, TEL. 00967-1-203119, FAX 209225
E-Mail: yestours@y.net.ye
Website: www.al-bab.com/yet



New at Pizza Hut

- Chicken wings
- Potato Wedges
- Chocolate Cake
- American Cheesecake



DHAMARAN

The Biggest and Most Prestigious Supermarket In Yemen



General Manager,
Abduljalil Jazem



Helmi Jazim
Vice Chairman



Abdullah Jasem
Vice Director-General

Dhamaran General Trading is a pioneer in marketing the best and top quality international brands for food supplies through Dhamaran Supermarket which is the biggest ever to be established in Aden. Currently it ranks the best in all Yemen.

The supermarket was inaugurated at the beginning of this year, 1999. It renders all services to people in terms of marketing. In the supermarket, you can find all kinds of supplies such as food stuffs, house equipment and luxuries such as perfumes, shampoos, dyes, etc. The supermarket is divided into different departments, such as the food supply, house equipment, make up department, gifts as well as antiquities department, electronic and electric department, and there even is a special department for children. Dhamaran Supermarket also provides door to door services through telephone calls. In addition, the supermarket provides facilities to different public as well as private companies that wish to open accounts for their employees and pay by installments provided that these employees keep visiting the center. It have special cards that are distributed to subscribers. They are also be given discounts in sales seasons.

Besides the supermarket, the company has an international agency for the Al-Shifa Saudi honey, Al-Sombolah, Bakery, SPC and Various Australian fruits and many other well-known brands in Yemen.

Add that to our special prize draws for our customers. Dhamaran Supermarket has monthly lucky draws for its customers. In short, Dhamaran Supermarket is the place to find whatever you are looking for.

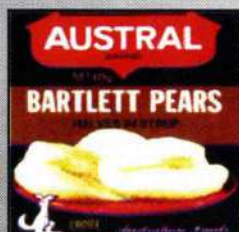
Mr. Abduljalil Jazem, General Manager of the Supermarket says, "Dhamaran Supermarket takes very well care of its foreign and tourist customers. That is through providing them with the brands and products that they are used to in their home countries. Also, the supermarket intends to open a special section for selling handcrafts, old stamps, and coins, which usually attract many tourists. Furthermore, deserves to be mentioned, the supermarket was given the international award for tourist, hotel, and catering industry, in Madrid, Spain in 1997."



*Quality Products and Excellent Services are our top priority.
We Invite you to visit the biggest and greatest Supermarket in Yemen.
One Visit will make you our regular customer!*

Aden, Al-Mansoorah,
The Textile Factory's Crossroad
Tel: 346579 - Fax: 342223

All these high quality international brands are available at our supermarket, and there is much more. Visit us and you will see the difference.



Useful Internet Links for Tourists

The most superb site dedicated to Yemen (news, weather, informatin, etc.) is Al-Bab (Yemen Gateway) site, maintained by Brian Whitekar: <http://www.al-bab.com/yemen>

Be sure to pay a visit to it!

FIVE-MINUTE GUIDES

- Basic tourist information from "City.Net": <http://www.city.net/countries/yemen>
- More information for visitors from "Travel Notes": <http://www.travelnotes.org/MiddleEast/yemen.htm>
- A "virtual" tour of Sana'a with pictures (and sound, which may or may not work): <http://members.aol.com/yalnet/sanaa.htm>
- An idyllic view of Yemen as a tourist destination; fine pictures but slows to load: <http://www.nusacc.org/yemen/tourism.htm>
- Yemenite Virtual Museum: <http://www.geocities.com/baja/dunes/3147>
- Tourism in Yemen: a view by Jack Jackson (British-Yemeni Society Journal): <http://www.al-bab.com/bys/articles/jackson93.htm>
- Wildlife in Yemen - Jack Jackson describes the areas most worth visiting: <http://www.arabianwildlife.com/vol2.2/yem.htm>
- The Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh has a fascinating website with information about the flora of the Soqotran Archipelago: <http://www.rbge.org.uk/Arabia/Soqotra/>

TOUR COMPANIES IN YEMEN

- Al Kaff Travel and Tourist Agency: http://www.yemen-investments.com/al_kaff_travel_tourist_agency.shtml
- Al-Mamoon International Tours: <http://www.al-mamoon-group.com>
- Al-Mokalla Tours: <http://www.almokalla.com>
- Alzahra Tours: <http://www.al-bab.com/alzahra>
- Ashtal Travel and Tourism: <http://www.ashtalyemen.com>
- Atlas Travel and Tourism: Flights and accommodation, Guides, Cultural and historical tours, Desert and mountain tours, Diving, Religious tours, and more: <http://www.y.net.ye/yematlas>
- AZ.ABM Travel & Tourism & Trade: <http://www.azabm.com>
- Dubai-Tours: <http://www.al-bab.com/dubaitours>
- Future Tours Industries (FTI): <http://www.ftiyemen.com>
- Shibam Tourism Agency Classic round trips with cultural programme, Trekking and camel tours in the desert, -Expeditions to Soqatra, Diving, Bird watching, and more: <http://www.y.net.ye/shibam-tours>
- Universal Travel and Tourism: <http://www.universalyemen.com>
- Voyages au Yemen: <http://www.voyages-au-yemen.com.ye/>
- Yemen Explorer Tours: Specialists in cultural, adventure, language, diving tours, and more: <http://www.al-bab.com/yet>
- Yeman Tours: Offers a variety of tours and holidays, including paragliding: <http://www.al-bab.com/yemantours>

TOUR COMPANIES OUTSIDE YEMEN

- The following companies offer package tours in Yemen:
- Abenteuer-Reisen Large website with plenty of information for travelers (in German): http://www.abenteuer-reisen.de/worldguide/ye/wg06_00_01.htm
 - Explore Worldwide: <http://www.explore.co.uk>
 - Exodus Discovery Holidays: <http://www.exodustravels.co.uk>
 - Humanity Tours International : http://www.humanity.com/yem_svc.htm
 - Nomad-Reisen: German company specialising in small groups, mostly trekking and expeditions: <http://nomad-reisen.de>
 - Travelbag Adventures: <http://www.travelbag-adventures.co.uk>
 - Voyages Jules Verne: <http://www.vjv.co.uk/midlea2/sighye.html>

AL-RAYYAN RESTAURANT



This restaurant occupies a strategic location in the heart of Crater city, in Aden, the trade and economic capital.

This restaurant has all kinds of foods; orient, foreign, public and also the best services in marriages and invitations occasions. You can enjoy yourself by sitting in special family sections.



Different delicious kinds foods
- Excellent services Competitive prices.

We are waiting for your visit to enjoy the delicious food that we offer.

If quality is what you seek, we are your choice



Visit us at the following address:

Aden- Crater - Al-Maidan, in front of Al-Shaikh Othman's station.

Tel. 256756

Abu Nawas Tourist Restaurant

ABUNAWAS Restaurant



If you wanted to visit Aden and learn about the beauties and features of the city, do not forget to visit Abu Nawas Tourist Restaurant, which has a distinguished structure and a calm and romantic atmosphere. The restaurant provides all kinds of special and top quality tourist services. It has more than 50 types of food of all kinds, e.i., oriental, western, and fast food. The restaurant also has all kinds of fresh juices, desserts, and ice cream.

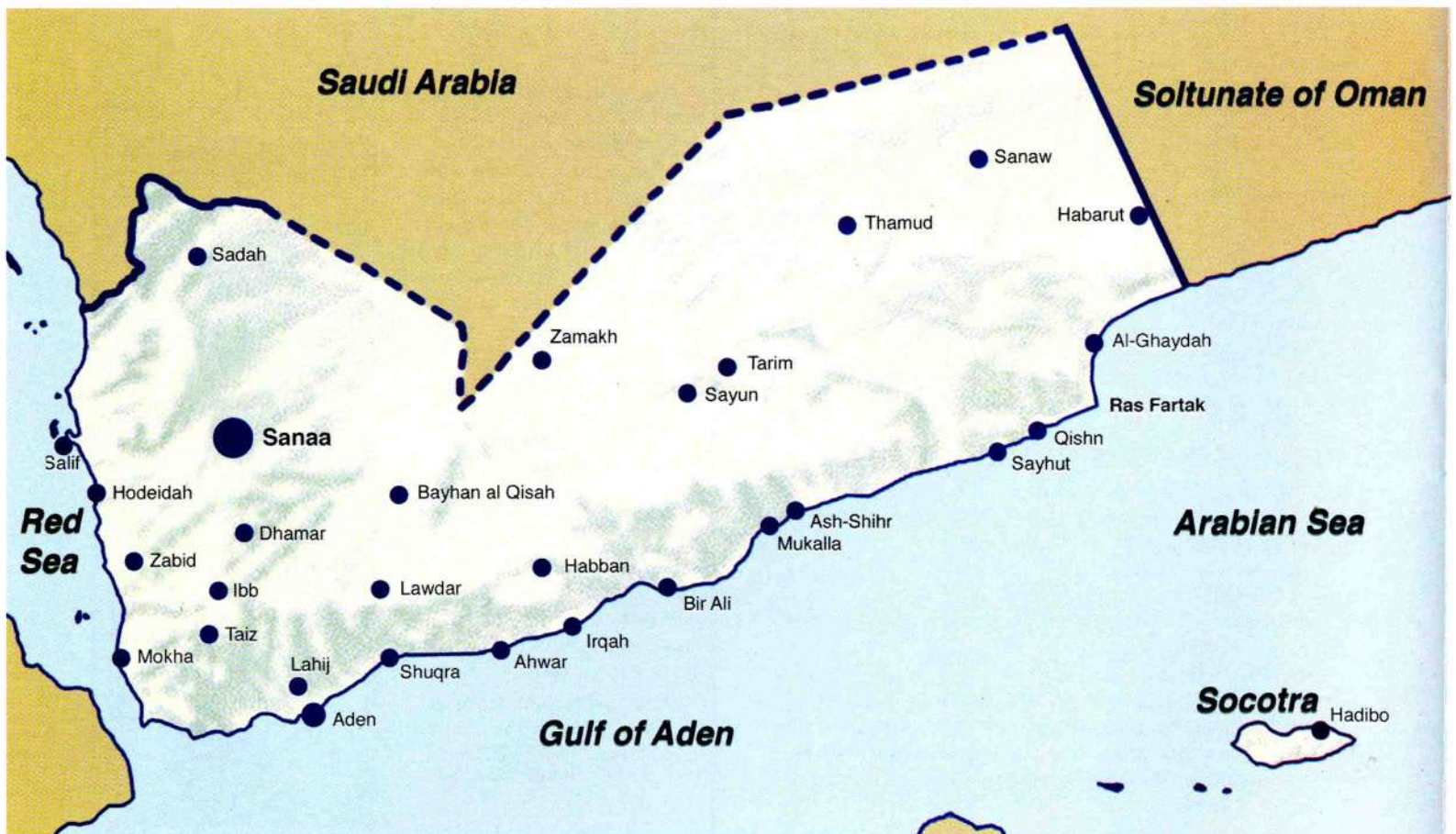
We at Abu Nawas Restaurant, are ready to serve you in special occasions through our special wings at the restaurant. All you have to do is visit us, and you will be quite impressed.

Khorsar, in front of Sahat Al-Oroodh (Al-Shabbat)
Tel: 02 232541
Fax: 02 232586
Aden



Books for travellers - Listed by Author:

- Chris Bradley, Discovery Guide to Yemen, Immel Publishing, London 1995
- Eric Hansen, Moting with Mohammed: Journeys to Yemen and the Red Sea. New York: Vintage Directions, 1992
- Fred Halliday, Arabia Without Sultans, Manchester 1974
- Freya Stark, The Southern Gates of Arabia. London: John Murray, 1936
- F. Varanda, Art of Building in Yemen, The MIT Press. Cambridge, England 1982
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- Xavier Richer, Tourism in Democratic Jemen, Paris 1976 and Boulogne 1976
- Yemen Tourist Company, Traveller's Guide to Jemen, Sanaa 1983



Elephant Bay Beach Resort - Aden

Elephant Bay Beach Resort is one of the best tourist resorts in Aden because it occupies one of the best tourist locations in the city. Lying on the beach, the resort is among the most attractive in Yemen for its unique location and magical beach.



Elephant Bay Beach Resort organizes entertainment parties, and hosts all sorts of the different

family celebrations and gatherings. There is a special equipped section for children and for different kinds of sports as such as swimming, football and tennis. You can say that we have all the entertainment means that attract tourists to come and see the dreamland city of Aden. Once you land in Aden, be sure that the best choice for a wonderful stay in Aden is the Elephant Bay Beach Resort, where you can always have wonderful times on the golden coast of Aden.



We are simply incomparable!

Tel: 00967 2 202 055 / 201 595

Fax: 00967 2 201 082, Aden

Republic of Yemen



YEMEN TIMES



This Tourist Guide is dedicated to the soul of Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, the founder of Yemen Times, and a noble person who was loved by all Yemenis and all lovers of Yemen.

*Until we meet
you in heaven,
you will
always be in
Our Hearts*

**Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf,
Founder of the Yemen Times,
(1952-1999)**

Acknowledgement

Yemen Times wishes to thank all whom contributed to the success of this guide:
Ibrahim Al-Attab, Yemen Explorer Tours, for information on sites
Edition VASCO, Germany - for their wonderful photos
Brian Whitaker, Yemen Gateway - for links, addresses, and other information

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Republic of Yemen**

نصف قرن

من الطيران الآمن



قبل أكثر من خمسين سنة ..

ومن على مدرج ترابي ...

أقلعت أول طائرة يقودها طيار يماني ،

نافضةً غبار التاريخ عن مهنة كانت الرمز الأبرز

للحضارات اليمنية المتعاقبة ..

ومنذ ذلك التاريخ ظل الطيران .. الآمن والمريح ..

هو الصفة الملازمة لكل الرحلات التي يقودها .. الطيارون اليمنيون !

اليمنية  Yemenia

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