

## Oman, Land of 1001 nights and just as many fish!

In the southwest of the Sultanate of Oman lies the city of Salalah from where we, in cooperation with our local partner, offer this beautiful destination. This location is a gem in terms of environment, accommodation, hospitable people and fish species! Here you can find a large number of species such as Giant Trevally (GT), grouper, stingray, mahi mahi, bonito, sailfish, king mackerel, jacks, barracudas, yellowfin tuna, bluefin trevally, golden trevally, amberjacks and much more. During the season from September to April wonderful challenges await the adventurous fisherman.



The Sultanate of Oman is located in the southeastern part of the Arabian Peninsula. Bordered by the United Arab Emirates in the northwest, Saudi Arabia in the west and Yemen in the south west and by the Arabian Sea in the east and south. The country itself consists mainly of desert but in the north and south there are several mountain ranges which are split up by valleys and wadis where most cities are located. These are for example Muscat in the north and Salalah in the south.

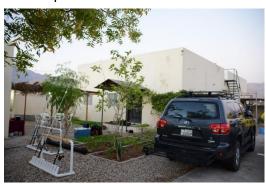


Oman offers a quantity of beautiful landscapes that look like they have been used for the film of the 1001 Arabian nights. High mountains, deserts overlooking the Arabian Sea, 1300 kilometres of coastline with lagoons. In addition, Salalah and its surroundings offer you a rough and pure nature. The beauty of the coastline and the favourable climate create a green environment with palm trees and typical frankinsence tree. During the monsoon period even the mountains become green and waterfalls and streams appear on the mountain sides. In the dry season the landscape colours beautifully between the orange of the beach and the deep and azure blue of the sea. All these ingredients give this region around Salalah its unique charm and make it a true experience. Here you can still sit on a deserted beach and be alone with your fishing buddies and your fishing rod and compete against big unknown fish!



# Lodging

To stay here there is a luxurious and comfortable lodge. You will be picked up at the airport of Salalah and taken to the lodge in Hasik by 4 x 4 all-terrain vehicle in a 2.5 hour drive. Here there are three bedrooms each with 2 king size single beds available. The rooms are air-conditioned and all bed linen and towels are included. Furthermore, there is a large living room with air conditioning and outside there is a dining area where breakfast and dinner are served daily. Fresh products are used daily and western tastes are taken into account. Each room has its own private shower and toilet and you will not be short of anything at this location (except sleep ). It is also possible to make contact on the spot via 3G and 4G network. This can be done by the local guide for you.













It is also possible to camp outside at night on location or on an uninhabited island. For guests staying 7 nights or more this is a free option to experience 1 night. This is possible for both shore and boat fishing. A good reason to do this is that the larger specimens often come close to the shore at night between midnight and 4 am to find food. So you are at the right place at the right time. For camping all materials are available on site and you don't have to bring your own. However, it is important to arrange it in advance so that any preparations can be made, as food will have to be provided on the spot.



Please note: During your stay in Oman there is NO alcohol available. However, you can buy it at the stopover in Qatar at the airport. Its use will be permitted at your location but drunkenness will not be tolerated. So please drink alcohol wisely and respectfully.

### **Fishing**

You can choose between two types of fishing here:

- Lure fishing (jigging & popping) from the boat around the islands of Hallaniyat,
- Shore and shore fishing in a radius of 70 km around Hasik







## Boat fishing around the AI Hallaniyat islands

The five islands collectively known as the Al Hallaniyat islands form an archipelago about 20 kilometres off the coast of Hasik. Some local fishermen live here and the archipelago is known for its rich underwater flora and fauna. The largest island Al Hallaniyat is a protected area for many species such as dolphins, whales and turtles but also for many bird species. This nature reserve impresses by the beautiful (nocturnal) landscapes and the high cliffs that are up to 600 meters high. The island itself is 15 kilometres long and 8 kilometres wide.

A typical fishing day lasts between 9 and 10 hours. The departure is from Hasik and the set up epends on the type of fishing you would like to do. Here you can pop, jig, troll and fish with (life) bait. This can be done with medium as well as heavy material and in all cases you will get nice results. However, the majority of anglers opt for popping and jigging.

There are two boats available at this location.

- 1. The 32 foot long custom made fishing boat with 2 x 200 HP engines. The boat has a spacious fishing deck where three men at the front can fish and 1 at the back.
- 2. A 31 foot long fishing boat that is used for 3 to 4 people and this boat is also equipped with 2 x 200 HP engines.









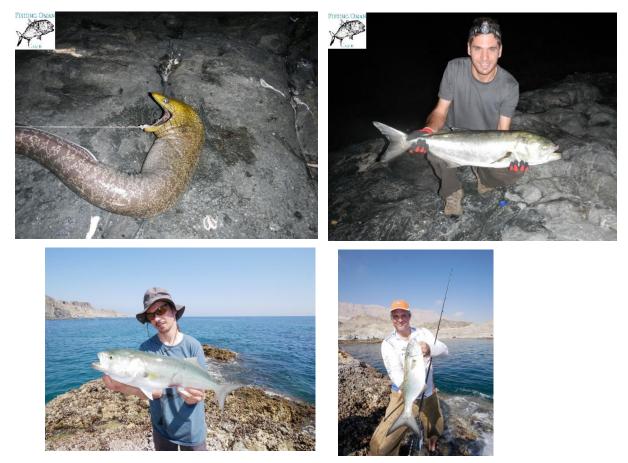


The boats are equipped with GPS and fishfinder and have all the necessary local permits. The trip to the first island, AI Hasikiyah, takes 30 minutes. Further to Sawda Island is another 20 minutes and from there it is another 10 minutes to AI Hallaniyat Island. The skipper is in constant contact with other and local fishermen so you will be immediately informed if a shoal of hunting fish is spotted. Through the years of experience of our local partner he has over 300 waypoints in the GPS with hotspots to support you in catching the fish of your life.

During the trips water, coffee, tea, soft drinks and lunch are included and this is served on board or at the camp.

### Shore fishing around Hasik

No fixed program is planned for this fishery. The fish are not "tied" to one location and it is wise to determine the fishing locations on the basis of the latest available information from the local fishermen. The fishing takes place in a radius of 70 kilometres around Hasik. Depending on your choice for surfcasting or active fishing from the shore, there are several spots.



Your guide is at your disposal 24 hours a day and will do everything in his power to help you catch the fish you want. It is advisable to follow his advice. He also takes care of transport with the 4 x 4 all-terrain vehicle, meals, drinks but also bait such as sardines, squid and smaller fish. The guide is in contact with the local fishermen and as soon as a school of bluefish is seen along the coast, for example, he knows. The guide speaks English and you will be amazed by the hospitality, friendliness and service-mindedness of the Omani people.



# <u>Material</u>

## Shore fishing

This fishing is carried out practically all year round and requires quite strong equipment. The average beach rod with 200 grams throwing weight is not going to be enough. We use beachrods with a throwing weight of 600 - 800 grams. Not necessarily to use the casting weight but more the robustness of the rod to get large rays, sharks well ashore. There are already sizes of 100 kilos plus caught. We use 100 to 130 lbs braided line on a Daiwa Saltiga, Shimano Stella or Cinnetic rayforce Devil 6500 with a thick mono (1.2 mm +) or steel leader and a long shank hook size 8 to 10/0. The leader must be at least 1 meter long. Bait for this fishery (squid and sardines) is provided by the local guides.

If you want to fish with live bait, the advised rod length is 2.2 to 2.4 meters with a force of 50 lbs. Again a braided line of 100 lbs and a reel of the better brands from 6000 +. The leaders from 1 mm and long shank hooks from 3 tm 10/0 Make sure you have enough leader because after catching 1 fish you often have to replace it.



For the lighter lure fishing we use a 2.4 to 2.7 meter long 100 gram casting weight rod with a 40 lbs dyneema line and a 4000 reel. The lure itself varies from 30 tm 50 grams to cover the right distances. The leaders are 60/100 mm.

For the heavier lure fishing the same length of rod is needed, but of 200 gram casting weight and a 60 lbs braided line and a 6000 reel. For this we use 70 gram + lures. Both floating and sinking stickbaits are important and a leader line of 1 mm.





## Boat fishing

This type of fishing requires a good popping rod. That is a 2.4 meter long 50 lbs long fishing rod with 100 lbs braided line and an 8000 reel or larger. For this we use 80 grams + lures. You have to be able to cast poppers up to 200 grams with this. The larger floating and sinking stickbaits and a 130 lbs+ leader are also important.

For jigging a short rod of 1.6 to 1.9 meters length is fine. The casting weight is between 100 and 400 grams but since you use speedjigs from 150 to 400 grams it's wise to be able to fish the heavy types as well. The hooks are from 6/0 to 11/0. Imagine you come across an amberjack of 50 kilos .... You do want to bring that one up to the surface! The whole set up is finished off with a strong reel. Minimum size 8000 or more with a fast retrieve and a braided line of 100 lbs +.

You can also use this setup for fishing with live bait. Mainly bonito's are used for this. Also sporadic use is made of large shads. Usually once only because after 1 strike they are often pulled into pieces, but they do work.

For the lover of trolling it is also highly recommended to bring some nice big crankbaits.









# <u>Types</u>

There are a particularly large number of species of fish that can be caught in Oman's waters. It is therefore not possible to draw up an exhaustive list. Below you will find an overview of the most common and important species.

Barracuda: is caught during the dry season in specific locations.

GT: most frequently fished in the periods October/November and March/April.





Sailfish: best period is from December to February

Grouper: (spotted giant grouper) is caught throughout the dry season and is found in concentrated numbers.

Guitar and stingray: throughout the dry season.

Amberjack: caught throughout the dry season with a peak in September to October.

Bluefish: throughout the dry season with sometimes a peak in January and February.

Wahoo and Spanish Mackerel: are located along and close to the coast all year round from which they are also caught.

Yellow fin and long fin tuna: from September to May during the dry season.

And of course there are many other species like queenfish, permit, dorado, sea bream, other tuna species like albacore, bonito and bigeye, wolf herring, marlin etc.



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### Season and climate

Oman is divided into two climate zones. The north is mostly hot and dry while the south and also the region of Salalah and more tropical influence. The weather is above 25 degrees all year round and the nights are mild.

The climate is divided into two seasons. The first is the summer which is characterized by monsoon rains in the period from June to mid-September. On the coast, the rain is usually not so bad, but the sea is a bit more turbulent. And then we have the winter period from mid-September to mid-April. It is dry and that is the best period to come fishing here. The temperature then is around 28 to 30 degrees.

Salalah	Ave max temp (°C)	Ave min temp (°C)	Ave hours sun per day	Ave # days rain/ month	Ave water temp (°C)
January	27	16	9	1	25
February	27	18	9	1	25
March	30	20	10	2	26
April	32	23	10	3	28
Мау	33	25	11	2	27
June	33	26	11	9	29
July	30	24	10	7	28
August	29	23	9	2	27
September	30	23	9	1	27
October	31	21	10	1	28
November	30	19	10	1	27
December	28	18	10	1	26

### Other Material

Bring good and sturdy water / hiking boots to move comfortably over the rocks, along with longsleeved t-shirts, sun lotion and a hat / fish cap. Also don't forget the fishing gloves which is very handy when bringing in big fish to offer protection. Furthermore light summer clothing, a fleece jacket, a poncho or windproof jacket. Mosquito repellent is a handy addition against insects. A headlamp for night fishing (with extra batteries) and a fishing knife is also handy.

It is forbidden to carry pornographic material with you and also the public use of alcohol and drunkenness is (seriously) punishable in Oman.

To enter Oman you need a passport that is valid for 6 months upon departure. Before you go to Oman you need to apply for a visa at <u>https://evisa.rop.gov.om/</u>. This must be done in advance and can NOT be done on the spot. The costs for this are 20 Oman Rial which is 45 euro.

An multi purpose socket is required as in Oman the English electricity plugs are used. Bring next to the socket also a power strip so you can charge multiple devices at the same time. A travel and cancellation insurance is actually a must for these types of countries.

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## Travel & Price

In the basic package you will stay 8 nights in the lodge on the basis of a shared double room with single beds including breakfast, lunch, dinner and water / soft drinks. Return transfer from and to the airport, 6 days fishing, 4 x 4 with fuel at coastal fishing, boat with fuel at boat fishing, bait (sardines, octopus etc)

# persons Shore fishing Boat fishing

1	3300	6000
2	2300	3300
3	1800	2650
4	1700	2250

Prices in Euro's per person excluding flight, visa, vaccinations and tips. You best fly to Dubai or Doha where you take the onward flight to Salalah. This can be done with different airlines and together with the guests we will decide which is the best option for you. Of course we can also put together combined packages of coastal and boat fishing according to your own wishes. A combined trip must include at least 3 days of boat fishing.

Would you like to enquire about the availability of this group trip or would you like an offer, please contact us:

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