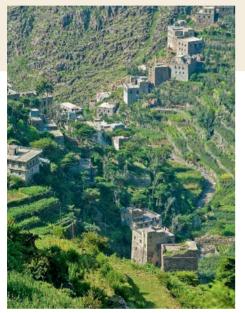


## Yemen:

## a unique destination for adventure tourism

Sana'a - Khalid Al-Dhababi Photos-Mohammad Al-Saiaghi

> Yemen has huge potential in the field of adventure tourism, including large natural assets. This is not exaggeration or disinformation but a dream that has actually materialized.



Villages on the slope

قرى على السفوح



Enjoying the flight

التمتع بالطيران

ountain climbing is a sport and a form of tourism with an international dimension which is becoming increasingly popular. In recent years Yemen has started to attract mountaineers.

The search for adventure tourism in Yemen begins with its high mountains ideal for climbing, glider flying and other sportsrelated tourism. The whole country is a nature wonderland whose beauty and splendour increases as we approach it.

The topography is diverse: high mountains, vast valleys and gorges, golden sands and beautiful beaches, all encourage tourists to revisit many times. There is also the desert which has tremendous potential for the development of adventure tourism.

Yemen's Ministry of Tourism is paving the investors from various nationalities to invest in the tourism sector, which is beginning to see noticeable growth and prosperity, as evidenced by the increase in the number of visitors to this great country. The New York Times reported that Yemen was chosen as the best tourist destination in



The friendly locals watching the flight

الأهالى يتابعون المغامرة





traditional festivals and hear about Bedouin customs including their legendary hospitality. There are also endless stories about the love of desert life despite the harsh conditions.

organising safaris, hiking and cruises on board traditional sailing boats. They have integrated adventure tourism into their programmes and began to promote it through various media. The trips usually last two weeks: they begin from Dubai, via Oman, following the route of the historic trade routes of incense, frankincense and myrrh. Visitors travel through the Empty Quarter and the green valley of Hadhramawt, to finish in Maarib which is rich in archaeological sites and historical monuments. They can also spend nights in tents and Bedouin camps, take part in

2007 for lovers of adventure tourism and

Travel agencies were geared towards

for families on low incomes.

Mountain climbing can start with the Haraz mountains covered with greenery, from an altitude of 2200m. They are found 115 km from the capital Sana'a. This is a real paradise for lovers of hiking From the summit, one can observe a multitude of Yemeni villages with their unique traditional architecture: they are like fortresses surrounded by beautiful agricultural fields. Fans of scuba diving, can find beautiful coral, fish and turtles. Unique Dragon's Blood trees and migratory birds, are on the magical island of Socotora.





Flying away



Freedom of the skies

شعور بالجرية



وتمت المغامرة بسلام



End of adventure