

# Yemen

## Socotra Archipelago



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**Declaration date:** 2003

**Surface area:** 2,681,640 ha

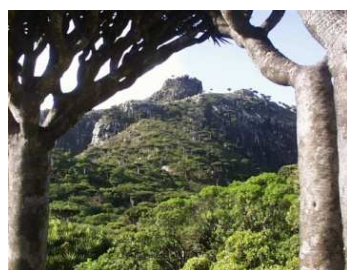
**Administrative division:** The Socotra Archipelago is divided into two administrative districts, Hadibo and Qalansiya, which also includes the islands of Abdul Kuri, Darsa and Samhah. Both districts come under the administration of the Governor of Hadramaut in al-Mukalla, Yemen

### Human activities:

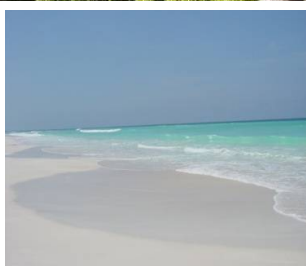
- Controlling of extraneous species.
- Ecotourism Management :interpreter / guiding, clean up campaign, visitor safety, camping equipment rental.
- Environmental monitoring programs.
- Environmental education

### Protection classifications:

National protected area & Zoning plan were developed

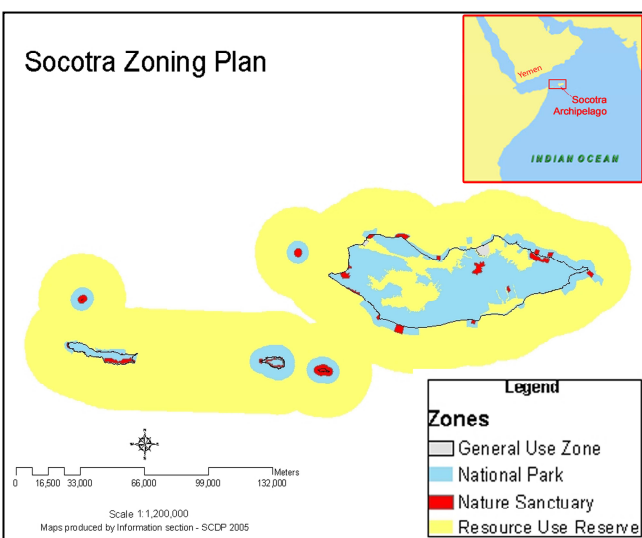


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### Ecological characteristics:

Socotra is the world's tenth richest island for endemic plant species. And the biggest island in the Middle East 125 kilometers in length and 45 kilometers across. The most significant feature of the island where there are about 900 plant species including 307 species of endemic plants such as dragon's blood trees (*Dracaena cinnabari*), or the tree of patience and other. Socotra's fauna is just as fascinating. Among the land birds Socotra Island is home to 180 species of birds 6 species are endemic. There on the island of Socotra about 14 species of mammals, including the types of wild and domesticated species, including pets, or is wild (civet cat). There are 190 species of butterfly and with a large number of endemics. The reptilian and insects fauna is also very rich 600 species of insects with 90% with high proportion of endemic. The reptilian fauna is also very rich with 19 out of a total of 22 species regarded as endemics. Socotra Island is home to more than 680 species of fishes are comparable to those of the Red Sea. and about 230 species of hard corals (five are endemics) and 30 species of soft corals. In addition to 300 species of crustacean (nine are endemics), 490 species of mollusks, and 230 species of algae. Sea-turtles also nest on the north of the island. An endemic fresh-water crab, *Potamon socotrensis*, is common in the temporary water-courses.



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