

DNHG GASTROPOD GULCH CAMPING TRIP **27th-28th November 2015**

'Gastropod Gulch' is a truly remarkable instance of gastropod fossils in the foothills of the Hatta mountains. The Cretaceous creatures have been preserved in their thousands here and the sight is well worth a hike.

This trip is limited to 8 cars and a 4 wheel drive vehicle is essential; you should also be able to hike across rough terrain

Meeting point: We will rendezvous on the Dubai-Hatta Road at **14:00 on Friday afternoon** and drive in convoy off-road to the camping area.

Itinerary: We will set up camp and then hike to the Gastropod Gulch around 45 minutes from camp, and will have ample time to look at the fossils. We'll return to camp before nightfall and have dinner.

The next morning, Valerie Chalmers has kindly offered to visit the site with us and help with identifying different fossils. There is also the possibility of a hike in the surrounding foothills, ably led by Richard Dennis, observing local flora and fauna.

We plan to leave the camp site by midday and after reaching the main road will make our way back to Dubai individually.

What to bring:

- Passports and vehicle documents showing proof of insurance in Oman; whilst we will not cross a border post we will pass a UAE security check point, usually an Emirates ID suffices, but you never know...
- Camping gear, including strong steel pegs for the tent
- Lamp or torch
- Barbeque if you plan to grill your food for dinner, gas stove for heating food and coffee or tea in the morning
- Firewood so we can make a camp fire on Friday evening
- Hiking Boots or sturdy walking shoes: the terrain is uneven and tough with sharp rocks. No hiking sandals!
- Hat – essential!
- Warmer clothes for the evening chill
- Sun block

Food & Beverage

- Dinner and breakfast
- Water (please bring at least 5l pp)

What NOT to bring

- **Strictly no hammers near the fossils please – we want to preserve the gulch for future visitors!**

Please e-mail Barbara Van Meir on barbaravmeir@hotmail.com to register for the trip.

Participants will be selected on a first-come first-served basis.