

This trip is a fast and dirty, rally-style, wild ride along long flat sebkha and up high dunes. Just as the Raptor SVT likes it!



Driving fast on dirt tracks is where the Ford Raptor shines - this is what it has been designed and bred to do: and the results are impressive! This is the best off-road vehicle for these kinds of tracks that I have ever driven, and I've been writing motoring since 2004. No contest, the Raptor beats them all.



Born out of the Baja rallies in northern Mexico - these are the Paris-Dakar of North America - the Ford F-150 is used as a base for a serious desert-racing machine. Besides the awesome power of the big 411 hp 6.2 L V8
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engine, the suspension is the most amazing feature of this truck. The [specs](#) are incredible.

I hit bumps at speeds that were previously unthinkable - truly mind-boggling; try it if you get the chance.



The suspension is simply amazing and high speeds off-road are possible. The secret of the Raptor's success lies in professional-grade racing suspension components: the front is coil-on-shock, long-spindle double-wishbone independent, aluminum lower control arm, forged-steel upper arm, FOX Racing Shox; and the rear is a Hotchkiss-type non-independent live, leaf springs and outboard shock absorbers, also running FOX Racing Shox.

From the camel racetrack just south of Al Wagan, heading due west, a very wide and open sebkhah (flat gravel plain) will take you all the way through a valley in between very high dune ranges. It ends at a fence far to the west, so roam as far and wide as you like, and then to exit just head east until the tarmac.

With a suspension as good as this, drivers can hardly refrain from jumping motocross-style:

And, if you're interested, view the Ford SVT Chief Engineer, Mr. Jamal Hameedi, explain:



Download the KML file for your GPS by clicking [here](#). Once downloaded, you can import the file into your GPS device and take it on the road, or double-click that file and it will open automatically in Google Earth if you have that installed (all adventurers should! [Google Earth](#)).

And here is an interactive map of the route.

View [weekendUAE trip to Al Wagan with Ford F-150 SVT Raptor](#) in a larger map

As you see on the map, the track takes you far and fast on the flats - but the high dunes are there for a quick diversion and to gain some height for great views!



The Raptor has a large pick-up bed, with a handy divider and extender. It also comes with a step and a folding handle to help you step up and back out.







While this trip is about the drive, not the destination; the scenery is marvelous open desert and its inhabitants. This is a drive for the hardcore desert drivers!



Weekend Trip to Al Wagan with Ford Raptor SVT

My disclaimer is [here](#).