



OMAN SELF DRIVE TOURS

اكتشف عمان بسيارتك

Tour "Secret deserts and wadis"

Discovery 4x4 self drive tour

8 days / 7 nights



After visiting Muscat, go off the beaten paths through little visited regions. Explore the deserts of Khaluf - known for its white dunes but including other treasures - and Wahiba Sands - a classic but offered here in small and authentic accommodations. Discover also the wild beaches of Masirah Island and the palm groves of wadis far from the tourist crowds.

Oman Self Drive Tours

اكتشف عمان بسيارتك

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Ministry of Commerce CR number 1276308

Understand your travel proposition

Self drive tour

The travelers themselves will drive along all the road transfers detailed in the program as well as along possible additional transfers to reach an activity place (except for transfers with driver or guide).

Program type: "Freedom discovery"

Each day, a number of possible activities - cultural discoveries and strolls - are proposed. It is up to the travelers, during their trip, to choose which activity they are interested in depending on their wishes and the time available. The times given for each activity and each transfer are intended to give an idea as accurate as possible of what can be done in one day.

Driving level: 4x4

The itinerary includes dirt roads without major difficulty but requiring a 4x4 vehicle. Under normal conditions, anybody can drive on these roads as long as he/she respects the basic safety rules. However, unpredictable events, especially weather-related, can make these dirt roads harder to negotiate.

Possible activity

Activity not requiring prior reservation. The travelers are free to go for them or not. Most of them are free of charge.

Optional / Included activity

Paying activity requiring prior reservation. If it is a guided activity, it may involve transfers. In this case, such transfers will be arranged by the guide or a driver, with their own vehicle.

Variant

Road transfer longer than the reference transfer but of a greater interest in terms of landscape or possible activity.

Accommodation with surcharge

Hotel not included in the standard package, proposed as an upgrade of the accommodation already included that day.

Key

Transfers

-  Road
-  Scenic road
-  Plane
-  Ferry

|30min| Approx. time of transfer

|4x4| Dirt road: 4x4 required

|4x4+| Difficult dirt road: 4x4 and experience required


Landscapes (transfers & activities)

-  Mountain
-  Village/palm grove
-  Wadi
-  Town
-  Sea
-  Desert

Activities

-  Culture
-  Shopping
-  Viewpoint
-  Scenic road
-  Strolling
-  Walking/hiking
-  Canyoning
-  Bathing/swimming
-  Nature
-  Cruise

|1h-2h| Approx. time dedicated to the activity

 **|10min|** Approx. time up to the activity place (one way)

Meals

- RO** Room only
- BB** Breakfast
- HB** Half board
- FB** Full board
- L** Lunch (during an activity)

OVERVIEW OF YOUR TOUR










DAY 1 - Muscat

-  Muscat International Airport to the Mutrah district | 30km-30min |
-  Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque (Ghubrah district) | 45min-1h30 |
-    Mutrah District : its corniche, souqs and fort | 1h-4h |
-    Old Muscat District : Sultan's Palace & National Museum | 30min-3h |
-    Bandar Khiran and the coast south-east of Muscat | 1h-3h |
-  Guesthouse (Mutrah district, Muscat) | BB |
-  Aparthotel *** (Ghubrah district, Muscat) | BB |
-  Guesthouse (Azaiba district, Muscat) | BB |







DAY 2 - From Muscat to the Sinaw region




-  Muscat to Fanja | 50km-45min |
-  Fanja to Birkat al Mouz : the Samail Gap | 90km-1h |
-   Wadi Qurai | 15min-2h |
-    Village of Birkat al Mouz | 15min-1h30 |
-  Birkat al Mouz to Khadra bani Daffa | 55km-45min |
-   Town of Manah : Oman Across Ages Museum & restored old town | 1h-4h |  20km-25min
-  Homestay (Khadra bani Daffa) | HB |

DAY 3 - From Sinaw to the Khaluf desert

-  Khadra bani Daffa to Sinaw | 40km-30min |
-   Sinaw souq | 30min-1h |
-  Sinaw to Mahoot (service station) | 195km-2h |
-  Mahoot (service station) to Khaluf | 55km-45min |
-    Village of Khaluf, between sea and desert | 2h-5h | 4x4 |
-  House (Khaluf) | RO |

DAY 4 - From the Huqf to Masirah Island

-  Khaluf to Mahoot (service station) | 55km-45min |
-    Southern Khaluf desert and the Sugar Dunes | 2h-8h | 4x4 |
-  Mahoot (service station) to the Shannah pier | 75km-1h |
-  Shannah to Hilf : crossing up to Masirah Island | 16km-1h |

-  Hilf to your seaside camp |40km-40min|4x4|
-  Beach camp (Masirah Island) |HB|
-  Hotel *** (Masirah Island) Room Premium |BB|

DAY 5 - Masirah Island

-    Masirah Island |2h-8h|4x4|
-  Beach camp (Masirah Island) |HB|
-  Hotel *** (Masirah Island) Room Premium |BB|




DAY 6 - Along the Indian Ocean, from Masirah Island to the Eastern Hajar

-  Your seaside camp to Hilf |40km-40min|4x4|
-  Hilf to Shannah : back to the mainland |16km-1h|
-  Shannah to Al Ashkharah : between sea and desert |175km-2h15|
-   Ras al Ruways : When the dunes meet the ocean |1h-1h30|
-   Al Ashkharah fishing port |15min-30min|
-  Al Ashkharah to Jaalan bani bu Hassan |50km-50min|
-  Jaalan bani bu Ali fort and Al Hamooda mosque |30min|  5km-10min
-  Desert camp ** (Jaalan bani bu Hassan) |HB|
-  Desert camp ** (Wahiba East) Room Sultan King Tent |HB|

DAY 7 - Wadi bani Khalid and Wahiba desert

-  Jaalan bani bu Hassan to Al Kamil |20km-25min|
-  Al Kamil to Bidiyah |60km-40min|
-   Lower Wadi bani Khalid : village and palm grove of Al Baatan |1h-3h|  15km-15min
-   Upper Wadi bani Khalid : Muqal pool |1h-2h|  30km-40min
-  Bidiyah to your desert camp (with a driver) |20km-30min|4x4+|
-  Walking in the Wahiba desert |30min-2h|
-  Desert camp ** (Wahiba North) |HB|
-  Desert camp ** (Wahiba North) |HB|

DAY 8 - From the Wahiba desert to Muscat

-  Your camp to Bidiyah |20km-30min|4x4+|
-  Bidiyah to the Wadi Khabbah |60km-1h|4x4|
-  Ismayiyah to Mihlah, along the Wadis Khabbah and Tayeen |40km-50min|

  **Wadi Tool : walk and swim in the Devil's Gap | 1h30-2h30 |**

   **Wadi Tayeen : Madbagah palm grove and Al Hammam castle | 40min-2h |**

 **Mihlah to Fanja (via the Wadi Dima) | 140km-2h |**

  **Wadi Dima and village of Ad Dyrah | 20min-1h30|4x4 |**

 **Fanja to Muscat International Airport | 40km-30min |**

PROGRAMME OF YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 - Muscat

Arrival in Muscat International Airport.

Welcome and briefing with our agent. He hands over the documents and equipment for the tour and assists you with the rental car pick-up.

Full day to visit Muscat and its surroundings.

Transfer



Muscat International Airport to the Mutrah district | 30km-30min |



For your first drive in Oman, you take the main highway crossing Muscat, the Sultan Qaboos Street, up to the Mutrah district. On the way, you pass by the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque and the Royal Opera House.



Possible activity along the transfer



Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque (Ghubrah district) | 45min-1h30 |

A magnificent mosque, the largest of the country and the only one allowed to non-muslim visitors. The main praying hall, famous for its huge chandelier, is truly spectacular.

Audioguides are available for an in-depth discovery (2 OMR per person).



Possible activity



Mutrah District : its corniche, souqs and fort | 1h-4h |



This historic district is the most interesting in the capital for tourists, with its beautiful sea-front (the so-called Corniche), its famous souq, its fish and vegetable market and even a short trekking path.



Possible activity

Old Muscat District : Sultan's Palace & National Museum |30min-3h|



A few kilometres from Mutrah, with its numerous mosques and government buildings, this small district is the actual capital of Oman, from which extended the whole city. You can enjoy this quiet place by a short stroll around the Sultan Palace.

This is also where the National Museum is located. Open to the public since the end of 2016, it displays rich collections describing Oman history. The artefacts, on show in bright rooms, are arranged according to the period they belong to, from prehistory to nowadays, or sorted by theme as in the Maritime Gallery.



Possible activity

Bandar Khiran and the coast south-east of Muscat |1h-3h|



Discover by car and by foot this surprising coast, meeting of the mountains and the sea, with its small coves and islands, occasionally fringed with mangrove or beaches (some from where swimming and snorkelling is possible). Bandar Khiran, the jewel of this coast, offers some very beautiful viewpoints. Sifah, at the very end of the road, has a very beautiful beach.

Note that these sites get very crowded with inhabitants of Muscat during the weekends (Fridays-Saturdays).



Accommodation



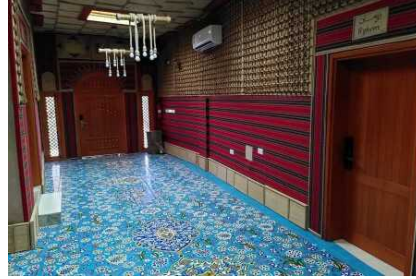
Guesthouse (Mutrah district, Muscat) |BB|

Small and comfortable guesthouse opened since the beginning of 2021. It is by far the best located one to visit the historic district of Mutrah: sitting just behind the fort, it is 250 m away from the Corniche and 600 m away from the souq main entrance.

The neighbourhood is made of old typical houses which are still inhabited. One of them was restored and converted into this guesthouse, which reconciles comfort and modern equipment with the traditional materials used for decoration.

The guesthouse has 7 rooms. Local breakfasts are served on the roof terrace, which offers a view onto the fort and the sea further down. For the other meals, you can find restaurants along the Corniche.

Please note that there is no reception: you will be given a code for self check-in (from 1 pm). The manager is nevertheless reachable by phone and an employee can come in case of problem.



Accommodation



Aparthotel *** (Ghubrah district, Muscat) |BB|

Hotel with a good comfort opened in 2020 and located in the middle of the city of Muscat. It is one of the best-situated accommodations to visit the Grand Mosque, which lies only 1 km away and is reachable by foot. The historic districts and the airport are less than 20 minutes drive away.

The hotel has a rooftop swimming pool, a restaurant and a fruit juice bar. The neighbouring area has many restaurants and shops accessible by foot.



Accommodation with surcharge



Guesthouse (Azaiba district, Muscat) | BB |

Two big villas converted into a guesthouse with 10 comfortable and tastefully-decorated rooms. Located in a posh neighbourhood, it is only a 5-min walk to the Azaiba beach, where swimming wearing swimsuit is possible. Right next to it lies a small park with playgrounds as well as a café with sea view and food trucks where young Omanis sell grilled food in the evening.

It is only a 10-min drive to the airport, 15 min to the Grand Mosque and about half an hour to the historic districts (Mutrah, Old Muscat).

The guesthouse has a 22-m long swimming pool and 2 living rooms. Breakfast can be eaten al fresco close to the pool.



DAY 2 - From Muscat to the Sinaw region

Discover the Samail Gap. Following the highway, you can make photo stops at Fanja, hike in the Wadi Qurai or explore the old town of Izki and, with a short detour, the palm grove of Birkat al Mouz.

From Izki, the road leads you towards Sinaw, the last town of the north before the great desert plain.

Transfer



Muscat to Fanja | 50km-45min |



From Muscat, the highway goes south and passes between the first low mountains of the Samail Gap.

Transfer



Fanja to Birkat al Mouz : the Samail Gap |90km-1h|



The highway runs through valleys separating the two great mountain ranges of northern Oman. Historically used to connect the coast and the inland regions, this passage, called the Samail Gap, features many villages, palm groves and watch towers. It also offers nice views of the steep side of the Western Hajar.



Possible activity along the transfer



Wadi Qurai |15min-2h|



The Wadi Qurai has dug out a deep valley into the abrupt side of the Western Hajar. A small road running between palm groves provides nice views of this wadi from a distance. Walking up the wadi will take you to a few nice small pools of pristine water (but swimming there is not allowed).



Possible activity



Village of Birkat al Mouz |15min-1h30|



The big village of Birkat al Mouz, at the outlet of the Wadi Muaydin, has at all times been the entrance to the Jebel Akhdar range, as evidenced by its fort and numerous watchtowers. The ruins of its old village and its large palm grove, irrigated by a falaj recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage site, can be watched from a panoramic viewpoint or during a stroll.



Transfer



Birkat al Mouz to Khadra bani Daffa | 55km-45min |



The road goes away from the high summits of the Jebel Akhdar and crosses low rocky relief areas.

Possible activity along the transfer

20km-25min



Town of Manah : Oman Across Ages Museum & restored old town | 1h-4h |



Harat al Bilad, the historic district of Manah, is one of the largest and most ancient towns of Oman. But what makes it a unique site is that, contrary to the other Omani old towns, it was purchased by the Ministry of Heritage and partially restored. The outer wall and about half of the 376 mudbrick houses were indeed renovated. The town has also 4 mosques, some dating back to the 16th century. To feel the atmosphere of the Oman of the past, you can stroll in the alleys and enter the houses with their typical architecture.

Since March 2023, Manah has another remarkable site: the Oman Across Ages Museum, a museum of the country history. Housed in a building with a spectacular architecture, a high-tech exhibition takes you from the prehistory to nowadays.



Accommodation



Homestay (Khadra bani Daffa) | HB |

Small cultivation and bee-keeping farm located just outside the big village of Khadra bani Daffa. It is ideally situated on the road between the Western Hajar (Nizwa, Al Hamra) and the Wahiba desert as well as on the one between the north of the country and the Huqf region (Sugar Dunes).

The farm has 6 guest rooms of basic comfort. Yonis, the owner, will warmly welcome you and can show you his crops (dates, citrus, bananas, vegetables), his animals and his beehives.

The traditional meals are cooked from the farm products.



DAY 3 - From Sinaw to the Khaluf desert

In the morning, you can visit the picturesque souq of Sinaw, which attracts the Bedouin shepherds of the whole region (and much less tourists than Nizwa souq).

Then the road takes you southwards through the desert plain. From Mahoot, you enter the Huqf region and the landscapes become more and more attractive. You eventually discover the coastal desert of Khaluf, real jewel with its sands of various colours, its rocky outcrops, its beaches and its surprising fishermen's village.

Transfer



Khadra bani Daffa to Sinaw | 40km-30min |



The road dives due south up to Sinaw, the last town before the vast dull Jiddat al Harasis plain which extends all over the center and south of the country.

Possible activity



Sinaw souq | 30min-1h |



The souq of Sinaw is renowned for its live animal market, where the Bedouins of the region sell their goats, sheep and camels. Much less touristic than Nizwa goat market, it is all the more authentic. It takes place every morning but the Thursday market is the most important.

Transfer



Sinaw to Mahoot (service station) | 195km-2h |

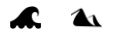
You travel across a flat landscape, no hills, no villages, at the edge of the vast Jiddat al Harasis plain.



Transfer



Mahoot (service station) to Khaluf |55km-45min|



The road runs southwards up to the coastal village of Khaluf. On the desert plain, small rocky reliefs come out. They catch patches of sand that further become small dunes.



Possible activity



Village of Khaluf, between sea and desert |2h-5h|4x4|



The road leading to the fishermen's village of Khaluf runs through a landscape of small light-beige dunes alternating with dark rocks, favourable to walking exploration.

The village is also worth a look: world's end feeling, sort of maritime Far West, where old pickups eaten into by the salt launch the boats.

Further than the village is a long beach where you can watch many sea birds, from gulls to ospreys.



Accommodation



House (Khaluf) |RO|

Modern house located in the recent part of the village of Khaluf, less than 500 m away from the beach and a few minutes drive to the area used by the village fishermen. It has a basic comfort and is made of 3 bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen and a courtyard.

Please note that no towels are provided.



DAY 4 - From the Huqf to Masirah Island

Morning discovery of the Khaluf desert, a real jewel with its sands of various colours, its rocky outcrops, its beaches and its surprising fishermen's village.

Then you drive up to Shannah, where you take the last ferry to Masirah.

Night on the island

Transfer



Khaluf to Mahoot (service station) | 55km-45min |



Drive back to Mahoot.



Possible activity along the transfer



Southern Khaluf desert and the Sugar Dunes | 2h-8h | 4x4 |



The southern part of the Khaluf desert is probably the most beautiful: small rocky outcrops, partially covered by sand strips with changing colours. Small fields of softly curved dunes, sometimes orange sometimes beige. Some acacia trees scattered around... Ideal for a morning or sunset walk! And the icing on the cake: white dunes at the seaside...



Transfer



Mahoot (service station) to the Shannah pier | 75km-1h |



The road, completely flat, winds its way between the Wahiba desert in the north and the Bar al Hikman peninsula in the south, crosses through the town of Mahoot and then reaches the coastal area. Here, the land and the sea blend together and locals harvest the salt that crystallises on the ground under the scorching sun.

Transfer



Shannah to Hilf : crossing up to Masirah Island |16km-1h|



Embark with your car onboard one of the two modern ferries linking Masirah Island with the mainland. You can sit in the air-conditioned passenger room or stay outside to breathe the sea air. Arrival at the port of Hilf, used by the island fishermen and their dhows.



Transfer



Hilf to your seaside camp |40km-40min|4x4|



Leave the town of Hilf, in the north of Masirah, and follow the west coast. Your camp is found halfway to the southern tip of the island.

Accommodation



Beach camp (Masirah Island) |HB|

A very simple tented camp but superbly located on one of the most beautiful and longest beaches of Masirah west coast. It has 8 large tents set a few metres from the sea and modestly arranged with carpets and beds. It also has 3 shared rudimentary showers-toilets and a beach restaurant.



Accommodation with surcharge

Hotel *** (Masirah Island) Room Premium |BB|

The most beautiful hotel of Masirah Island, located on the east coast, a few kilometres from the town of Hilf. It has a large swimming pool, a jacuzzi, an international restaurant and 2 bars.

The Premium rooms, at the first floor, are spacious (40 m²) and have a balcony with view on the sea and swimming pool.



DAY 5 - Masirah Island

Full day to discover the island and its beautiful and wild beaches.

Possible activity

Masirah Island |2h-8h|4x4|



Masirah Island offers very contrasting landscapes: black rocky hills surrounded by white-sand beaches and a turquoise sea. A large part of the island is uninhabited even if many fishermen use some of the beaches during the day. Other beaches, more isolated, are perfect for swimming and relaxing.



Accommodation

Beach camp (Masirah Island) |HB|

A very simple tented camp but superbly located on one of the most beautiful and longest beaches of Masirah west coast. It has 8 large tents set a few metres from the sea and modestly arranged with carpets and beds. It also has 3 shared rudimentary showers-toilets and a beach restaurant.



Accommodation with surcharge



Hotel *** (Masirah Island) Room Premium |BB|

The most beautiful hotel of Masirah Island, located on the east coast, a few kilometres from the town of Hilf. It has a large swimming pool, a jacuzzi, an international restaurant and 2 bars.

The Premium rooms, at the first floor, are spacious (40 m²) and have a balcony with view on the sea and swimming pool.



DAY 6 - Along the Indian Ocean, from Masirah Island to the Eastern Hajar

Morning ferry to the mainland followed by the coastal road, towards the north and the Eastern Hajar mountains. Along the way, possible stops at Ras al Ruways, between the sea and the Wahiba desert, at the port of Al Ashkharah or at the forts and fortified houses of Jaalan.

Your camp is located at the north-east of the Wahiba Sands, close to the first massif of the Eastern Hajar range.

Transfer



Your seaside camp to Hilf |40km-40min|4x4|



Drive back to Hilf.

Transfer



Hilf to Shannah : back to the mainland |16km-1h|



Crossing from Masirah Island to Shannah.





Shannah to Al Ashkharah : between sea and desert | 175km-2h15|



This recent road travels along the coastline of the Indian Ocean, on the eastern side of the Wahiba desert. In the south, the dunes fall into the sea, there forming sandstone cliffs. Further north, they lie away from the shore and the road. The landscape is then a mixture of sand and rocks in various colours and you pass through some fishing villages.



Possible activity along the transfer



Ras al Ruways : When the dunes meet the ocean | 1h-1h30|



At Ras al Ruways cape, the Wahiba dunes, partially solidified, are eroded by the waves of the Indian Ocean. The cliffs thus formed, a few hundred meters from the road, can be easily accessed on foot and provide nice viewpoints.



Possible activity



Al Ashkharah fishing port | 15min-30min|



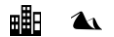
Main town of the coast, Al Ashkharah has a decent-sized fishing port, used by the classic blue and white small boats as well as the larger dhows with their traditional Arabian shapes.



Transfer



Al Ashkharah to Jaalan bani bu Hassan |50km-50min|



From Al Ashkharah, the road leaves the coast and runs between the first massif of the Eastern Hajar and the northeastern edge of the Wahiba desert, passing through typical towns of the region.

Possible activity along the transfer

5km-10min



Jaalan bani bu Ali fort and Al Hamooda mosque |30min|



One of the largest non-restored forts in Oman, Jaalan bani bu Ali fort is really impressive. Part of the structure collapsed but there still are important remains, including the central keep. Very close to the fort lies a surprising old mosque with 52 small domes.



Accommodation



Desert camp ** (Jaalan bani bu Hassan) |HB|

Camp located in one of the "woodlands", sandy and wooded areas that borders the eastern side of the Wahiba desert. The rooms, comfortable and with a Bedouin-style decoration, are settled around a "majlis" (sitting area) and at the foot of a small dune (the desert proper is a few kilometres away).



Accommodation with surcharge



Desert camp ** (Wahiba East) Room Sultan King Tent | HB|

Small camp of 8 tents located in the eastern part of the Wahiba desert, a region much less touristy than the north of the sands. The restaurant offers a panoramic view of the dunes and the camp has 2 "majlis" (sitting areas) – one is shaded for the day and one is opened to the sky for the evening.

The Sultan King Tents are large and comfortable tents, nicely decorated in local style and with an attached bathroom.



DAY 7 - Wadi bani Khalid and Wahiba desert

Between desert and mountain, you drive past Al Kamil and its old fortified houses. A little further, two detours can lead you to different parts of the Wadi bani Khalid.

Note that the Muqal pool is particularly touristic (with visitors and locals).

Then you go into the Wahiba Sands, where you find your accommodation.

Transfer



Jaalan bani bu Hassan to Al Kamil | 20km-25min |

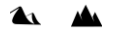


Short transfer between the neighbouring towns of Jaalan bani bu Hassan and Al Kamil, located between the Jebel Qahwan and the Wahiba desert.

Transfer



Al Kamil to Bidiyah |60km-40min|



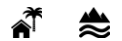
The road follows a narrow plain between the Eastern Hajar mountains and the dunes of the Wahiba desert.

Possible activity along the transfer

15km-15min



Lower Wadi bani Khalid : village and palm grove of Al Baatan |1h-3h|



The small village of Al Baatan has a very beautiful palm grove along the Wadi bani Khalid. The walk, along a falaj winding between palm and mango trees, is very pleasant and gives access to a small natural pool.

It is also possible to proceed on a rocky path up to a larger pool.



Possible activity along the transfer

30km-40min



Upper Wadi bani Khalid : Muqal pool |1h-2h|



This large pool, between the Muqal palm grove and the gorge of the wadi, has been developed for tourism and is highly appreciated by locals who come there for picnics at weekends. The setting is magnificent and it is possible to walk along the wadi or go up a donkey path for a bird's eye view of the place.



Transfer



Bidiyah to your desert camp (with a driver) | 20km-30min | 4x4+ |



Leave your car at Bidiyah where a driver from the camp will meet you.

The 9-km drive in the dunes is a first contact with the Wahiba desert. You first proceed along "valleys", between long orange dunes about 50 meters in height, then you climb the one on top of which sits your camp.



Possible activity



Walking in the Wahiba desert | 30min-2h |



What a delight to walk out of the camp and climb up the nearby dunes to watch the sun sink behind the horizon! But the grazing light in the early morning over the orange sand undulations is most appealing too...



Accommodation



Desert camp ** (Wahiba North) | HB |

Small camp of only 2 tents with an authentic atmosphere, 8 km inside the sands. It is located in an unspoiled part of the desert, away from the tourist areas where most camps are. From the heights of one of the great dunes giving to the Wahiba its distinctive topography, it offers very beautiful views upon the desert as well as, on clear days, the Eastern Hajar mountains.

The large Bedouin-style tents have comfortable beds and are nicely decorated. The camp has a shared bathroom, two "majlis" (Arab-style sitting areas) – meals are served in the covered one – and a campfire space.

The power of the camp is provided by solar panels so there is no hot water.



Accommodation with surcharge



Desert camp ** (Wahiba North) | HB |

Camp of only 2 large Bedouin-style tents and 2 rooms, located about 20 km inside the sand, far away from the main tourist area. The tents/rooms have comfortable beds, are nicely decorated and have private bathrooms. The power of the camp is provided by solar panels so there is no hot water.



DAY 8 - From the Wahiba desert to Muscat

After enjoying the Wahiba desert, you drive back to Muscat via Ibra and Fanja. Leaving the main road, you can also discover the beautiful and little-known region of Dima wa At Tayeen, with its large valleys, its many palm groves and its nice views of the mountains.

Transfer



Your camp to Badiyah | 20km-30min | 4x4+ |



You go back out of the dunes (on your own if drove in, with a driver if you left your car in Badiyah).



Transfer



Badiyah to the Wadi Khabbah | 60km-1h | 4x4 |



The road leaves the Wahiba Sands towards the Eastern Hajar mountains. The terrain gets more and more rugged until you arrive in the Wadi Khabbah, at the foot of the main range.



Transfer

Ismayiyah to Mihlah, along the Wadis Khabbah and Tayeen |40km-50min|



This nice road follows le Wadi Khabbah and then the Wadi Tayeen, both flowing right at the foot of the high Eastern Hajar mountains. Along the way, you drive past several villages, their beautiful palm groves and next to the spectacular canyon of the Wadi Tool.



Possible activity along the transfer

Wadi Tool : walk and swim in the Devil's Gap |1h30-2h30|



The wadi with the highest flow in Oman dug an impressive valley that crosses the mountains. The walk along the canyon floor is easy up to the "Devil's Gap", where the water sneaks between huge boulders obstructing the valley. With a little bit of scramble, you reach a small pool... but the adventure is just starting: swim into the gaps between the boulders and you arrive at other pools, much larger and really nicer!



Possible activity

Wadi Tayeen : Madbagah palm grove and Al Hammam castle |40min-2h|



Short return drive along the most scenic part of the Wadi Tayeen, with its palm groves set at the foot of the high Jebel Abyad and Al Hammam castle, artistically built on top of a rock.

At Madbagah, you can go for a short walk to discover the beautiful hidden palm grove of the village, only accessible by foot.



Transfer



Mihlah to Fanja (via the Wadi Dima) |140km-2h|



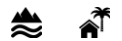
From the big village of Mihlah, you drive upstream along the palm-fringed valley of the Wadi Dima. You go through a small massif and reach the highway. The latter takes you up to the Samail Gap.



Possible activity along the transfer



Wadi Dima and village of Ad Dyrah |20min-1h30|4x4|



Stop at the superb viewpoint upon the village of Ad Dyrah and its palm grove. You can also follow a short dirt road up to some beautiful and big pools where swimming is possible. Depending on the last rains, one of them may present an amazing colour.



Transfer



Fanja to Muscat International Airport |40km-30min|



From Fanja, the highway continues northward and passes between the last low mountains of the Samail Gap before reaching the town of Muscat.

Rental car drop-off.

PRICES / TERMS AND CONDITIONS

01/10/2024 - 30/04/2025

Number of people	2	4
Price per person in double room (in OMR)	470	350
Kia Sportage or similar (8 days)	1	1

Options and extras (prices per person)	
Accommodation upgrade on day 1 Guesthouse (Azaiba district, Muscat) BB 	5 OMR
Accommodation upgrade on day 4 (2 nights) Hotel*** (Masirah Island) Room Premium BB 	45 OMR
Accommodation upgrade on day 6 Desert camp** (Wahiba East) Room Sultan King Tent HB 	from 10 OMR
Accommodation upgrade on day 7 Desert camp** (Wahiba North) HB 	from 5 OMR

*Prices valid at the dates and for the types of room mentioned above.
These prices are given in Omani rials (OMR).*

For conversion into another currency, you can use www.xe.com. Note that these conversions do not include bank fees and transfer charges.

Note that this document is an quote and that no reservation has been made to this day.

Prices are therefore subject to changes in accordance with the availability of accommodations, vehicles and guides at the time of the reservation. Insofar as possible, we offer alternatives of equivalent quality and cost in the event of unavailability.

Proposed vehicle (non contractual photo)



Kia Sportage

SUV 4x4 2.4L automatic



5



5



4



Toyota Fortuner

SUV 4x4 2.7L automatic



5



5



5

The price of the tour includes:

- The VAT
- Meet and greet service and rental car pick up assistance
- Your travel documents (including your roadbook)
- A cultural guidebook
- The whole self drive tour recorded in a GPS application
- An Oman road map (and a Muscat road map if required by the programme)
- A mobile phone with credit for 1 hour of local calls
- Phone assistance by our local agency throughout your trip
- Accommodations as mentioned in the programme
- Meals at the accommodations as mentioned in the programme along with each accommodation (cf. key)
- Lunches on guided days
- Bottled water in hotels
- A small cool box
- If the programme includes wild camping on your own, the camping equipment including:
 - Tent, thick mattresses, small table, stools, large mat for a traditional set-up, lamp
 - Gas stove, cooking and eating utensils, barbecue grill and utensils (if requested)
 - Basins, water jerrycans, dishwashing liquid

- Some basic food: rice, pasta, tea, coffee, sugar, salt, pepper, spices, oil
 - Included activities as mentioned in the programme
 - For each included guided activity:
 - The guide
 - The car(s) and driver(s) if required for this activity
 - Safety and camping equipment (tents, mattresses, kitchenware) if required for this activity
 - Included transfers with driver or guide as mentioned in the program
 - The rental of the above-mentioned vehicle(s), for the above-mentioned period of time, with:
 - 2 possible drivers
 - Unlimited kilometres
 - Comprehensive insurance (excluding tyres and glass): zero excess in case of damage (provided you get a police report)

Caution: Damages occurred when driving off roads or off trails clearly marked on the terrain are not covered by the insurance (particularly when driving on sand).
 - Carbon offsetting for the mileage driven during your tour
- On completion of your trip, we grant our specialist partner a certain amount in order to offset the CO2 emitted during your drives. To go further, you can also offset your flight emissions through www.myclimate.org.*

The price of the tour does not include:

- International flights
 - Tourist visa fees: as at 01/09/2021 and for most nationalities, free for 14 days or visa 26B for 30 days at 20 OMR (per person)
- Check visa issuing formalities on <https://evisa.rop.gov.om/en/visa-eligibility>.*
- Passports must be valid at least 6 months after the return date.*
- Meals not included in the program (from 1.5 OMR per person in small restaurants or 5 OMR at hotels)
 - Beverages
 - Sleeping bags and personal camping equipment (headlight) if required
 - If the programme includes wild camping on your own, a 50 OMR deposit to be left cash at reception of the camping equipment, refundable at restitution
 - Entrance fees, if any, of the “possible activities” mentioned in the program (forts and museums: 1 to 5 OMR pp)
 - Tips to guides and drivers, if any
 - Personal expenses
 - Fuel for your self-driven car(s) (approx. 30 to 50 OMR per car and per week of tour)
 - The rental car refundable deposit: the amount of 125 OMR per vehicle is blocked on your credit card but not debited
 - Fines for driving offenses (speed cameras notably)
 - Tyre repair or replacement fees in case of puncture ; broken glass repair or replacement
 - The cost of repairing damages suffered by the rental cars if not justified by a police report
 - Your personal repatriation insurance
 - Your medical insurance