



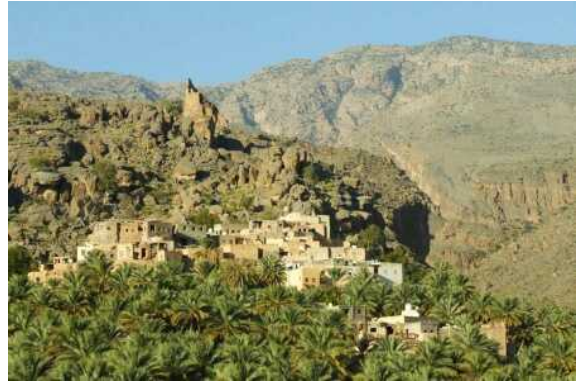
OMAN SELF DRIVE TOURS

اكتشف عمان بسيارتك

Tour "Marvels of the Sultanate"

Discovery 4x4 self-drive tour

7 days / 6 nights



During a comfort tour, first explore the south of the Western Hajar and the Jebel Shams. Stay in a beautiful camp in the Wahiba desert, then reach the coast. There await beaches, wadis and spectacular wild dirt roads.

Oman Self Drive Tours

اكتشف عمان بسيارتك

PO Box 1178, PC 130, Al Azaiba, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman
Phone : +968 97 04 61 61 – email : contact@omanselfdrivetours.com
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 Qurum district | 25km-25min |

 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 |

 Royal Opera House (Qurum district) | 20min-30min |

 Hotel **** (Qurum district, Muscat) Room Sea View Balcony | BB |

DAY 2 - From Muscat to Al Hamra

 Muscat to Fanja | 50km-45min |

 Fanja to Jabrin castle | 140km-1h30 |

 Jabrin castle | 1h-2h |

 Jabrin to Al Hamra | 30km-40min |

   Town of Bahla | 1h-3h |

   Town of Al Hamra | 30min-2h |

 Al Hamra to your hotel on the mountain | 10km-25min | 4x4 |

 Hotel **** (Hail Al Shas) Room Premier | HB |

DAY 3 - Jebel Shams and night in Nizwa

 Your hotel to Al Hamra | 10km-25min | 4x4 |

   Village and palm grove of Misfat al Abriyeen | 30min-2h |

 10km-15min

 Al Hamra to Al Khitaym : Up the Jebel Shams | 45km-1h15 | 4x4 |

   Old village of Ghul & Grand Canyon of Arabia | 30min-1h30 | 4x4 |

  The Balcony Walk : Hike above the Grand Canyon | 1h-6h |

 Al Khitaym to Al Hamra : down the Jebel Shams | 45km-1h15 | 4x4 |

 Al Hamra to Nizwa | 50km-45min |

 Hotel *** (Nizwa) Room Suite | BB |

 Hotel **** (Birkat al Mouz) | BB |










DAY 4 - From Nizwa to the Wahiba Sands

  Town of Nizwa | 1h-3h |







 Nizwa to Bidiyah, at the edge of the Wahiba Sands | 180km-2h25 |

-  Village of Birkat al Mouz |15min-1h30|
-  Town of Manah : Oman Across Ages Museum & restored old town |1h-4h|  20km-25min
-  Bidiyah to your desert camp (with a driver) |15km-30min|4x4|
-  Walking in the Wahiba desert |30min-2h|
-  Desert camp *** (Wahiba North) |HB|
-  Desert camp **** (Wahiba North) |HB|

DAY 5 - From the Wahiba Sands to the Gulf of Oman

-  Your camp to Bidiyah |15km-30min|4x4|
-  Bidiyah to Sur : from the desert to the Gulf of Oman |110km-1h25|
-  Upper Wadi bani Khalid : Muqal pool |1h-2h|  30km-40min
-  Lower Wadi bani Khalid : village and palm grove of Al Baatan |1h-3h|  15km-15min
-  Town of Sur |1h-3h|
-  Hotel *** (Sur) |BB|
-  Homestay (Fins) |HB|

DAY 6 - Tiwi and its wadis

-  Sur to Tiwi : Along the Gulf of Oman |50km-45min|
-  Wadi Shab |1h-3h|
-  Wadi Tiwi |1h-5h|4x4|
-  Tiwi to Sur |50km-45min|
-  Hotel *** (Sur) |BB|
-  Homestay (Fins) |HB|

DAY 7 - From Sur to Muscat : along the Gulf of Oman

-  Sur to Muscat |215km-2h20|
-  Fins beach, coastal road and gazelle reserve |30min-1h|  10km-15min
-  Wadi al Arbiyeen and Wadi al Hail |2h-4h|4x4|
-  Wadi Dayqah |2h-3h|4x4|
-  Mutrah district to Muscat International Airport |30km-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 Qurum district |25km-25min|



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



Possible activity



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

Royal Opera House (Qurum district) |20min-30min|



Guided visit of the magnificent Royal Opera House Muscat.

Officially opened in 2011, it was the only opera house in the Arabian peninsula until 2016, opening year of those of Dubai and Kuwait City. It owes its existence to music-loving Sultan Qaboos. An ultra-modern building with an Oriental style, it hosts concerts, ballets or operas performed by European as well as Arab artists.

For more informations on the performances scheduled during your stay, you can visit www.rohmuscat.org.om/en/performance/calendar.



Accommodation



Hotel **** (Qurum district, Muscat) Room Sea View Balcony |BB|

Perched on a rocky cape in the central district of Qurum, this very nice hotel offers a great view on the town and the sea – probably the best view of Muscat. Within the capital, it is the only hotel with a (small) private beach, accessed by a staircase. Renovated in 2018, it also has a beautiful swimming pool, a bar and 4 restaurants (international, Iranian, Italian) with outdoor seating.

The historic districts of Muscat and the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque are a 15/20-minute drive away and the airport at half-an-hour.

A few-minute drive away, you can also find several good restaurants, including an Omani, a Turkish and a Thai.

The Sea View Balcony rooms are large (32 m²) and nicely furnished, with a balcony overlooking the sea.



DAY 2 - From Muscat to Al Hamra

You drive along the Western Hajar mountains, going past the small town of Fanja and the Wadi Qurai.

At the south of the range, the most direct route first passes next to the beautiful Wadi Tanuf, which you can drive upstream to a palm grove, and then near the town of Bahla, famous for its majestic fort recognised as a World Heritage site.

It is also possible to reach Bahla by doing a detour by Jabrin castle, which offers a visit full of informations.

Then you reach the town of Al Hamra and its large palm grove. The picturesque village of Misfat al Abriyeen lies nearby.

Your hotel is perched above Al Hamra, on the foothills of the Jebel Shams.

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 Jabrin castle | 140km-1h30|



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. Then the road goes around the mountains and runs westward at the edge of the desert plain.



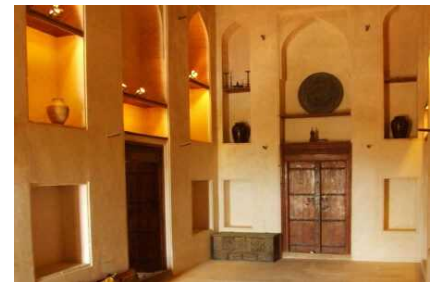
Possible activity



Jabrin castle | 1h-2h|



Home of the Yaruba Imams during the 17th and 18th centuries, Jabrin castle stands out among Omani forts by its rooms beautifully decorated and fitted with carpets and ancient furniture. Audioguides are available for an in-depth discovery. The castle also offers Omani buffet lunch in a nice traditional setting.



Transfer



Jabrin to Al Hamra | 30km-40min|



You drive first through the town of Bahla, lying between two low rocky massifs and renowned for its beautiful fort. Then you reach the foot of the high Western Hajar range and the town of Al Hamra.



Possible activity along the transfer

Town of Bahla |1h-3h|



Bahla, the second largest town of the region after Nizwa, is mainly known for its huge fort recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage site. A former capital, it is surrounded by an outer wall now fallen into ruin and has an interesting souq. It is also renowned for its potters, whose traditional workshops you can visit. The long history of Bahla is also shrouded in legends and black magic and the signs thereof are still present nowadays.



Possible activity

Town of Al Hamra |30min-2h|



The town of Al Hamra lies at the foot of the Western Hajar, in a small plain around the Wadi Ghul, and offers nice views of the Jebel Shams. It has a large palm grove where it is pleasant to stroll. The adobe ruins of the old town comprise some quite well preserved houses, one of which hosting an interesting little ecomuseum.



Transfer

Al Hamra to your hotel on the mountain |10km-25min|4x4|



From Al Hamra, take the dirt road that goes uphill to the hotel 800 m higher on the southern slope of the Jebel Shams. As you proceed, you get ever more panoramic views of the surrounding scenery.

Accommodation



Hotel **** (Hail Al Shas) Room Premier | HB |

Beautiful lodge high above the town of Al Hamra. The rooms and the restaurant of the hotel offer a great view over the town and the surrounding mountains, by day as well as by night.

The area offers many activity options : the towns of Al Hamra and Bahla, the Jebel Shams and the village of Misfat al Abriyeen.

The hotel has a restaurant, a café and a temperature-controlled swimming pool.

The Premier rooms are in the first row of rooms and have the best views.



DAY 3 - Jebel Shams and night in Nizwa

From Al Hamra, you leave towards the Jebel Shams massif. At the foot of the mountain lies the old village of Ghul, from which you can explore the bottom of the "Grand Canyon of Arabia", driving upstream along the bed of the Wadi Nakhr. Then you drive up to the plateau, about 2000 m above sea level, where await superb viewpoints from the edge of the canyon, as well as hiking paths such as the famous Balcony Walk.

Then you drive back down to the mountain base and continue up to Nizwa.

Transfer



Your hotel to Al Hamra | 10km-25min | 4x4 |

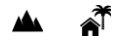


Drive back down to Al Hamra.

Possible activity

🚗 10km-15min

🏠 📶 🚶 Village and palm grove of Misfat al Abriyeen |30min-2h|



The old stone village of Misfat al Abriyeen, invisible from the plain, is one of the most photogenic in Oman, with its terraced palm groves on both sides of a narrow valley. Don't miss its superb viewpoint, take a stroll in the village or a walk in the palm grove.



Transfer

📶 Al Hamra to Al Khitaym : Up the Jebel Shams |45km-1h15|4x4|



From Al Hamra, the Jebel Shams road first follows the Wadi Ghul, passing through a few villages. It continues past the entrance of the Wadi Nakhr, the "Grand Canyon of Arabia", guarded by an old village clinging to the side of the mountain. Then the ascent on the steep slopes of the massif offers ever more plunging views over the surrounding mountains and wadis. The dirt road comes to an end, at an altitude greater than 1800 m, on the rim of the spectacular Grand Canyon.



Possible activity along the transfer

📶 📶 🚶 Old village of Ghul & Grand Canyon of Arabia |30min-1h30|4x4|



The Wadi Nakhr has cut an incredible valley in the heart of the Jebel Shams, the "Grand Canyon of Arabia". Make a photo stop in front of the old stone village of Ghul, clinging to the base of the mountain, discover the ruins by foot up to a fine viewpoint or follow the wadi by car between the spectacular cliffs.



Possible activity



The Balcony Walk : Hike above the Grand Canyon |1h-6h|



The classic but nevertheless superb hike along an old donkey track to an abandoned hamlet. This balcony path follows the Wadi Nakhr several hundred meters above the bottom and provides breathtaking views of the "Grand Canyon of Arabia". This well marked path, with a few rocky stretches, gently slopes down to the hamlet nestled at mid-height of immense cliffs. It is a return walk with a total of +300m, -300m and 7.5km but you can turn back at any time.

To further enrich your experience and get off the beaten track, we propose an extension to this hike which offers even more spectacular views.



Transfer



Al Khitaym to Al Hamra : down the Jebel Shams |45km-1h15|4x4|



The Jebel Shams road being a dead end, return by the same way you came up, admiring the spectacular panorama again.



Transfer



Al Hamra to Nizwa |50km-45min|



The road between Nizwa and Al Hamra runs across the narrow plain tucked between the high Jebel Akhdar range and the much less significant ophiolite reliefs of the Jebel Hallat and passes close to Bahla, famous for its beautiful fort.



Accommodation

🏠 Hotel *** (Nizwa) Room Suite |BB|

The best hotel inside the town of Nizwa. It is one of the hotels the closest to the centre - the souq and the fort are a few minutes away by car.

It has a swimming pool, a good restaurant, a bar serving alcohol and a children playground.

The Suite rooms are spacious and have a sitting area.



Accommodation with surcharge

🏠 Hotel **** (Birkat al Mouz) |BB|

Comfortable hotel decorated in a modern arab style. It is located outside the town of Nizwa, a few kilometres from the nice village of Birkat al Mouz, at the foot of the Jebel Akhdar massif.

The hotel has a swimming pool, a sauna, a restaurant, 4 bars/cafés, one of them on the poolside, and a shisha bar.

The 31 m² rooms offer views on the mountains, the pool or the gardens.



DAY 4 - From Nizwa to the Wahiba Sands

After visiting Nizwa, you drive next to the pretty village of Birkat al Mouz and its large palm grove, as well as near the restored old town of Manah. Then the road takes you, across the arid plain, to the south of the Eastern Hajar range. From there, you go into the Wahiba Sands, where you find your accommodation.

Possible activity



Town of Nizwa |1h-3h|



Nizwa, the biggest town in the region, lies in a strategic position, at the foot of the Jebel Akhdar and on the rim of the desert, at the starting point of the main road connecting the coast and the south of the mountains. It has historically been the capital of the interior, and even, occasionally, the official capital of the country. It also was the capital of ibadism and is still today markedly more conservative than its historical rival, Muscat. Which makes it all the more attractive to those searching for "authentic" Arabia! Its famous souq and its 17th century fort, with its unique architecture, attract many visitors.



Transfer



Nizwa to Bidiyah, at the edge of the Wahiba Sands |180km-2h25|



The road runs along the mountains for a while. Then it veers away from the high summits of the Jebel Akhdar and crosses low rocky relief areas to finally reach a narrow plain between the Eastern Hajar mountains and the dunes of the Wahiba desert.

Possible activity along the transfer



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.





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.



Transfer



Bidiyah to your desert camp (with a driver) |15km-30min|4x4+|



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

The 8-km drive in the dunes is a first contact with the Wahiba desert. You first proceed along a "valley", 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|

Superb tented camp located 5 km inside the desert. Contrary to many camps built in the interdunal valleys, it sits on the heights of one of the great dunes giving to the Wahiba its distinctive topography. This is why it offers very beautiful views upon the desert as well as, on clear days, the Eastern Hajar mountains.

The 25 guest tents are very comfortable and tastefully decorated. Each has its own separate bathroom.

The camp has a "majlis" (Arab-style sitting area) and a large dining tent. Meals are partly cooked in a traditional Bedouin style.

Of the two Omani owners, at least one is at the camp to take care of the guests with his team. As many Wahiba Bedouins, they raise goats and sheep right next to the camp.



Accommodation with surcharge



Desert camp **** (Wahiba North) |HB|

Two luxury camps of 2 tents each, sitting next to each other between two large dunes. They are located in a remote area, about 20 km inside the desert. Very comfortable, with a neat decoration and an excellent service, these camps are one of the best options to live the Omani desert with comfort and privacy.

Each camp is managed independently and has a "majlis" (Arab-style sitting area) tent, where the meals are served.



DAY 5 - From the Wahiba Sands to the Gulf of Oman

When leaving a sand desert, what could be more enjoyable than swimming in a wadi or strolling in the shadow of a lush palm grove? On your way to the sea, 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 the road goes down to the coast and the town of Sur, famous for its dhow factory (traditional Arab boats). Do not miss the viewpoint over this town with such a distinctive geography.

Transfer



Your camp to Bidiyah | 15km-30min | 4x4+ |



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



Transfer



Bidiyah to Sur : from the desert to the Gulf of Oman | 110km-1h25 |



Starting between the desert and the mountains, the road becomes winding while going down along a large valley. It ends at Sur, the main coastal town of the region.

Possible activity along the transfer

 30km-40min



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



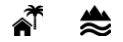
This large pool, between the Muqal palm grove and the gorge of the wadi, has been developed for tourism and is highly appreciated by locals who come there for picnics at weekends. The setting is magnificent and it is possible to walk along the wadi or go up a donkey path for a bird's eye view of the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



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

Town of Sur |1h-3h|



A lovely seaside city, Sur is one of the few Omani towns that is worth a visit. Its strategic position – a peninsula between the sea and a lagoon – and its old white houses with beautiful doors add up to bring about a real touch of charm. The last traditional dhow building yard is located here – a must visit! As a fishing town, its fish souq is worth a look. Finally, a watchtower perched on a hill provides a superb view of the area.



Accommodation

Hotel *** (Sur) |BB|

Good hotel located in the modern side of the town, a few minutes by car from the centre. It has a restaurant and a bar, an outside swimming pool and a gym.



Accommodation



Homestay (Fins) |HB|

Sophie and Hussain, a Franco-Omani couple, welcome you to their home! Their modern house, located in a recent neighbourhood of the fishermen's village of Fins, is comfortable and tastefully decorated. The house has 5 guest bedrooms, 3 of which open onto a balcony offering a view on the sea, which lies 200 m away. You will also have access to a small sitting area, a "majlis" (Arab sitting room), a dining room and the courtyard, where you will find 2 "areesh" (outdoor sitting areas traditionally covered by palm leaves).

The meals served by your hosts will be the opportunity to exchange with them. However, note that, from September 2024, Sophie and Hussain will share their time between Muscat and Fins. So they will not necessarily be present during your stay at their home (in which case the meals will be prepared by friends from the village).

Here the coast is rocky but beaches are reachable in a few minutes by car. The wadis Shab and Tiwi are a 15-minute drive away.



DAY 6 - Tiwi and its wadis

From Sur, excursion to the coastal village of Tiwi. There, two wadis close to each other await: Tiwi and Shab. The Wadi Shab, the most famous, is ideal for swimming, but may be very crowded by mid-morning, especially at weekends. The Wadi Tiwi, less accessible and a little less touristic, is surely wilder and more spectacular.

Transfer



Sur to Tiwi : Along the Gulf of Oman |50km-45min|



The highway runs along the coastline, squeezed between the Gulf of Oman and the Eastern Hajar, providing very nice views of the sea and the mountains.



Possible activity



Wadi Shab | 1h-3h |



The most famous wadi in Oman ! Leave your car right under the highway and start walking upstream on the mostly dry river bed. Marvel at this deep canyon and reach the first pools. Continue further along the base of the cliff and between the small boulders until you cannot avoid swimming... up to an incredible small pool with a waterfall hidden under some huge rocks !



Possible activity



Wadi Tiwi | 1h-5h | 4x4 |



Discover this fantastic wadi first by car. The road, sometimes at the bottom of the valley, sometimes on the heights, offers spectacular views over the palm-fringed wadi bed and its natural pools nestled among huge boulders fallen down from the high cliffs on each side.

Thanks to several paths, including a marked trail, you can discover at a slower pace the four villages of the wadi and their palm groves.



Transfer



Tiwi to Sur | 50km-45min |



Driver back to Sur with the coastal highway.



Accommodation

Hotel *** (Sur) |BB|

Good hotel located in the modern side of the town, a few minutes by car from the centre. It has a restaurant and a bar, an outside swimming pool and a gym.



Accommodation

Homestay (Fins) |HB|

Sophie and Hussain, a Franco-Omani couple, welcome you to their home! Their modern house, located in a recent neighbourhood of the fishermen's village of Fins, is comfortable and tastefully decorated. The house has 5 guest bedrooms, 3 of which open onto a balcony offering a view on the sea, which lies 200 m away. You will also have access to a small sitting area, a "majlis" (Arab sitting room), a dining room and the courtyard, where you will find 2 "areesh" (outdoor sitting areas traditionally covered by palm leaves).

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Here the coast is rocky but beaches are reachable in a few minutes by car. The wadis Shab and Tiwi are a 15-minute drive away.



DAY 7 - From Sur to Muscat : along the Gulf of Oman

From Sur, you drive along the coast towards Muscat. Next to the village of Tiwi, two wadis close to each other await: Tiwi and Shab. The Wadi Shab, the most famous, is ideal for swimming, but may be very crowded by mid-morning, especially at weekends. The Wadi Tiwi, less accessible and a little less touristic, is surely wilder and more spectacular.

A little further are the Wadis al Arbiyeen and Dayqah. The former is a spectacular valley with pools to swim in. The latter has the largest dam lake of Oman, an unexpected vision in this mineral landscape.

On the sea side, a pretty road follows the coast between the beaches of Fins and Dhabab, crossing a small gazelle reserve.

Transfer



Sur to Muscat |215km-2h20|



The highway follows the coast, between the Gulf of Oman and the Eastern Hajar range, and offers pretty views on the sea and the mountains.

It goes past the entrance of the Wadi al Arbiyeen, then veers inland to find a way around the Jebel abu Daud massif before reaching Muscat.



Possible activity along the transfer

 10km-15min



Fins beach, coastal road and gazelle reserve |30min-1h|



Close to the fishermen's village of Fins is a superb white pebble beach with turquoise waters. The road that goes along the coast between Fins and the Wadi al Arbiyeen is worth the detour for its nice views upon the sea. It also passes through a protected area hosting some gazelles.



Possible activity along the transfer



Wadi al Arbiyeen and Wadi al Hail |2h-4h|4x4|



From the seaside, drive inside the mountains on the dirt road running along the bed of this spectacular wadi, dotted with some villages and palm groves. Next to the village of As Suwayh, a very large pool with a waterfall awaits you to swim. A nice walk along the wadi is also possible from there.

The way back to the coast is by another road.



Possible activity along the transfer

   **Wadi Dayqah |2h-3h|4x4|**



A scenic dirt road going through a very arid landscape leads you to the Wadi Dayqah. Discover its large palm groves and its huge dam lake, an astonishing contrast with the surrounding bare mountains. An easy walk along the wadi bed takes you to a pool.



Transfer

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



Return to the airport and 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)	from 570	from 470
Kia Sportage or similar (7 days)	1	1

Options and extras (prices per person)

Accommodation upgrade on day 3 Hotel**** (Birkat al Mouz) BB 	10 OMR
Accommodation upgrade on day 4 Desert camp**** (Wahiba North) HB 	from 35 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