

# WHAT ARE YOU DOING TOMORROW?

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# MUSCAT CITY TOUR

## STOPS

Sultan Qaboos  
Grand Mosque  
Royal Opera House  
Al Alam Palace

## DURATION

ca.4 hrs

## HALF DAY

We start off by visiting the exquisite **Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque**. The tour includes an insight into the different Islamic schools and visitors can avail of related reading materials at the Mosque's library. Afterwards we visit the **Royal Opera House**, Oman's leading global arts and culture centre. Enjoy its architectural beauty in a house tour and stroll through the shops and restaurants in the galleria.

We drive through the Corniche and Old Muscat town to view one of the Sultan's grand palaces, the **Al Alam Palace** looking onto the magnificent 16th century Portuguese Jalali and Mirani Forts. We take the car to drive to the back of the palace for a closer view of the forts.

Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque is open to visitors from Saturdays to Wednesdays. Visitors are encouraged to dress appropriately – long dress/trousers and a headscarf for women and long trousers for men.



— Grand Mosque

— Muscat



— Muttrah Souq

## FULL DAY

The tour starts like the half day tour.

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After visiting the **Royal Opera House** we continue drive through Corniche and through old Muscat town to the **National Museum**, which offers a wealth of information about the country's rich history, culture and tradition.

Afterwards, we walk a short distance to view one of the Sultan's grand palaces, the **Al Alam Palace** looking onto the magnificent 16th century Portuguese Jalali and Mirani Forts. We take the car to drive to the back of the palace for a closer view of the forts.

We end our day at **Muttrah Souq**, where you can relish the nostalgic atmosphere while admiring Omani craftsmanship, buy distinctive souvenirs and savour the luscious scent of spices and herbs which percolate throughout the Souq's halls and walls.

## STOPS

Sultan Qaboos  
Grand Mosque  
Royal Opera House  
National Museum  
Al Alam Palace  
Muttrah Souq

## DURATION

ca.8 hrs



— Al Alam Palace



— Bimah Sink Hole



— Wadi Shab

— Omani Dhows from Sur



## WADI SHAB

Depart from Muscat early morning, we are travelling via the Quiriyat coastal road. Stop at **Bimah Sink Hole**, which used to be a cavern before its roof collapsed. Now its bottom is filled with a pristine crystal clear salt water lake.

Then at **Wadi Shab** we experience an easy hike into one of Oman's most scenic wadis. The word 'Shab' means 'Ravine between cliffs'.

We continue through Tiwi to Sur, stopping to view the ancient **Ruins of Qalhat** and see the remarkable **Bibi Mariam Mosque**, which was built on a hill beside the harbor with the walls covered with blue ceramic tiles.

At **Sur** we visit the Souq which showcases some of the most amazing Omani craftsmanship. We will also go to see the infamous Omani Dhows, traditional wooden ships still skillfully made by hand to this day.

**STOPS**  
Bimah Sink Hole  
Wadi Shab  
Ruins of Qalhat  
Bibi Mariam Mosque  
Sur

**DURATION**  
ca.11 hrs

# WAHIBA SANDS AND WADI BANI KHALID

## STOPS

Wadi Fanja  
Sumail Gap  
Wahiba Sands  
Wadi Bani Khalid

## DURATION

ca.10 hrs

Our first stop is in Fanja, appreciating the great panoramic views of **Wadi Fanja**. We proceed through the **Sumail Gap** in the Hajar Mountains on to **Wahiba Sands**, a sweeping mass of rolling sand dunes, which rise up to 200 meters and are host to a variety of flora and fauna. The ever changing pattern and colors of the dunes in the Wahiba Sands make this area a photographic delight. We also visit a Bedouin camp and experience the wonderful hospitality that can be found even in this desert wilderness.

Later, at **Wadi Bani Khalid**, you find small but picturesque villages established deep in this mountain valley. This wadi has beautiful blue pools, a perfect place for a scenic walk along the rocky canyon floor surrounded by huge boulders and sheer cliffs.

The Wahiba Sands is a sand desert with an area of 12,500 km<sup>2</sup> stretching 180–200 km from north to south and 80–100 km east to west – running south from the Eastern Hajar Mountains to the Arabian Sea. The desert is home to some 3,000 Bedouins. Bedouin camps can be found along the tracks and trails of this isolated desert.



— Wahiba Sands



— Wadi Bani Khalid



— Wahiba Sands



# AL HOOTA CAVE



— Al Hoota Cave

This popular tour offers both a fascinating insight into Oman's geological heritage as well as some of the most exquisite examples of traditional Omani architecture.



— Tanuf



Our first stop is **Al Hoota Cave** in Al Hamra, where you can see up-close a number of amazing stalactite and stalagmite formations that have previously developed during a much wetter climatic period.

At **Al Hamra** with its narrow lanes built on a gentle rise, you will see some excellent examples of traditional village architecture. We continue to **Misfat Al Abriyeen**, a village on the mountain foothills about 1000m above sea level. Discover the village with the beautiful old mud-brick houses and alleys, the agricultural terraces, where bananas, pomegranates, papayas, mangoes, citrus trees and palm trees are grown.

Last stop is at **Tanuf**, a village mostly known for the Tanuf drinking water, which is bottled in a nearby factory at Wadi Tanuf. The village hosts also the historical ruins of the old village. Against the backdrop of Al Hajar mountains the ruins provide ample opportunity for beautiful photos.

## STOPS

Al Hoota Cave  
Al Hamra  
Misfat Al Abriyeen  
Tanuf

## DURATION

ca.8 hrs

## NOTE

Al Hoota Cave is closed on Mondays.



# JEBAL AL AKHDAR





# JEBAL AL AKHDAR

## STOPS

Nizwa Fort | Souq  
Birkat Al Muaz  
Wadi Mi'Aidin  
Jebal Akhdar

## DURATION

ca.11 hrs

## NOTE

bring warm clothings

Depart from Muscat early morning, we start our journey South to Nizwa to visit its legendary 17th century **Nizwa Fort** and traditional **Souq**.

The tour continues to **Birkat Al Muaz**, famous for its extensive Banana plantations. We then proceed on to **Wadi Mi'Aidin**. A winding road of approximately 36 kms will then lead us to the lofty **Jebal Al Akhdar**, allowing us to enjoy both, its cool mountain climate and majestic panoramic views.

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Jebal Al Akhdar is known as the 'Green Jewel of the Hajar Mountains'. It is famous for growing pomegranates and it is one of the few places in Oman that produces fruits such as peaches, apricots, figs, grapes, apples, pears, almonds and walnuts.

The local villagers of Jebal Al Akhdar have also developed a successful cottage industry distilling Rose Water in their homes. During the flowering season of March and April, when the roses are in full bloom, the heady fragrances of roses fill the air.



— view from Jebal Al Akhdar



## NIZWA SOUQ



# BAHLA

## STOPS

Wadi Fanja  
Bahla Fort | Souq  
Jabrin Castle

## DURATION

ca.11 hrs

## NOTE

bring warm clothing

Depart from Muscat early morning, we stop for a spectacular panoramic view of **Wadi Fanja** and proceed through Sumail Gap between the Hajar Mountains to Bahla. Visit the UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE **Bahla Fort** with its walls and towers of unbaked mudbrick. Thereafter we visit the **Bahla Souq** and seek out its treasure trove of craftsmanship with traditional Khanjars and copper artefacts in addition to Omani sweets.

The next stop is at **Jabrin Castle**, the most beautiful historic castle in the whole of Oman. The highlight are the painted ceilings, the decorated windows, wooden balconies and arches with inscribed Arabic calligraphy.

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Bahla is an outstanding example of a fortified oasis settlement of the medieval Islamic period, exhibiting the water engineering skill of the early inhabitants for agricultural and domestic purposes. The pre-gunpowder style fort with rounded towers and castellated parapets, together with the perimeter sur of stone and mud brick technology demonstrates the status and influence of the ruling elite.



— Jabrin Castle



— Bahla Fort



# AL WAKAN VILLAGE

## STOPS

Al Wakan Village  
Nakhl Fort

## DURATION

ca.11 hrs

**Al Wakan Village** is situated about 2,000 meters above sea level overlooking Wadi Mistal and the surrounding mountains. Fruits and vegetables are grown in picturesque agricultural terraces. Discover this beautiful village by foot. A 1,100 meters trail with 700 steps across the terraced gardens and along a falaj system with several observation points and rest stops leads to the up the mountain with sitting areas overlooking the village.

We proceed to **Nakhl Fort** which stands on a rocky outcrop overlooking extensive date plantations. Go to the top of the watchtowers and be rewarded with magnificent views of the surrounding countryside.



— Al Wakan Village

The castle of Nakhl has a history which dates back to the pre-Islamic period when it was originally built by the Sassanids as a bulwark against incursions by Arab tribes. Over the centuries, it underwent many renovations and improvements. In 1990, it was fully renovated. The fort contains a museum, which has exhibits of historic guns and a variety of traditional exhibits showcasing life during the old times.

— Nakhl Fort





— Bull Fighting



— Nakhl Fort

Al Hazm Castle was built by Imam Sultan Bin Seif [the 2nd] in 1711 AD when he established Al Hazm Town as a capital of Oman instead of Rustaq. Al Hazm Castle is distinctive from other Omani castles and forts because of its magnificent shape and massive structure. It contains the tomb of its builder, Imam Sultan Bin Seif [the 2nd].

## NAKHAL AND RUSTAQ

Our first stop is **Barka** with its Fort and traditional Souq. Witness Arabic style **Bull Fighting** which takes place every other Friday of the month. The bulls are chosen to demonstrate their strength against one another, so generally it is only one bull's pride that is ultimately injured.

### STOPS

Barka  
Bull Fighting  
Nakhl Fort  
Al Thawra Hot Spring  
Rustaq Fort  
Al Khasfa Hot Spring  
Al Hazm Castle

### DURATION

ca. 8 hrs

### NOTE

Bull Fighting depends on the local events of the month.

We proceed to **Nakhl Fort** which stands on a rocky outcrop overlooking extensive date plantations. Afterwards, we stop at the **Al Thawra Hot Spring** which is a popular picnic spot.

We then head to **Rustaq**, which was once the capital of the region and has always been an important trading centre between the coast and the mountains. Here you will find one of the oldest and tallest forts in the district surrounded by protecting watch towers. The tour continues to **Al Khasfa Hot Spring**. Our last stop is at **Al Hazm Castle**.



— Al Thawra Hot Spring



# JEBAL SHAMS







## FALAJ DARIS AND JEBAL SHAMS

We start from Muscat to **Falaj Daris**, a UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE site of the deepest falaj in Oman. With a length of 7,990 meters this water delivery system is outstanding. After enjoying the cool fresh water of the falaj we drive to the mighty **Jebal Shams**, mountain of the sun. Being the highest mountain in Oman, it proudly stands over 3,000 meters or almost 10,000 feet high. From this vantage point you can enjoy both the cool weather and breathtaking views.

We conclude our journey through **Wadi Gule** to **Misfah**, a highly picturesque village with stone cowlings nestled in the mountains. With lots of unforgettable memories we head back to Muscat.

**STOPS**  
Falaj Daris  
Jebal Shams  
Wadi Gule  
Misfah

**DURATION**  
ca. 10 hrs

**NOTE**  
bring warm clothing

Falaj Daris is one of the five Omani water delivery systems listed in the UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE since 2006. These traditional water delivery systems came into existence as far back as 2000 years ago. The outstanding contribution of Omani engineering ingenuity to irrigation, agricultural development, human settlement and traditional management systems among other civilizations got recognized.





# SHORFET AL ALAMIN



— Shorfet Al Alamin / Jebal Shams

Starting from Muscat our ride takes us for a first spectacular panoramic view to **Wadi Fanja**. After that we proceed through Sumail Gap between the Hajar Mountains to **Al Hamra village** and to the village of **Misfat Al Abriyeen**.

**STOPS**  
Wadi Fanja  
Al Hamra village  
Misfat Al Abriyeen  
Shorfet Al Alamin  
Bilad Seit

**DURATION**  
ca.11 hrs

**NOTE**  
bring warm clothing

Our highlight of this tour is **Shorfet Al Alamin** – the canyons at the footsteps of Jebal Shams are unforgettable. We continue from this vantage point to **Bilad Seit** where you can enjoy both the cool weather and the breathtaking views. At this altitude, the temperature can be quite cold and it is recommended that guests bring some warm clothing.



— Bilad Seit

# MARINE TOURS



— Dhow Tour



— Daymaniyat Islands

From your hotel or cruise ship we are driving to Bandar Marina Al Rowdha where you will board a **Dhow**, a traditional Arab sailing vessel with one or more masts with lateen sails and enjoy the blue waters of the Gulf of Oman and the mountainous coastline or board one of the modern boats for a 2 hour **dolphin watching tour**.

If you are more adventurous take a **snorkeling or diving trip to the Daymaniyat Islands**. The nine islands are a protected Nature Reserve located about 18 kilometers off the coast of Barka, which is about 70 kilometers west of Muscat.

**SNORKELING**  
at Daymaniyat Islands  
departure at 8:30am  
from the marina

**DIVING** | 2 dives  
departure at 8:30am  
from the marina

**DHOW TOUR**  
Voyage around  
Khairan and Muscat.  
Only from September  
to April. Minimum  
number of passengers  
is 10.

**DOLPHIN  
WATCHING TOUR**  
duration ca. 2hrs  
8:00am first trip  
10:00am second trip

**NOTE**  
Transportation cost  
from and to the  
marina is not included.  
If required just speak  
to our representative 2  
days before the trip.

Changes of timings  
may apply.

The Daymaniyat Islands Reserve is one of the most beautiful diving and snorkeling locations in Oman with crystal clear waters, beautiful corals and abundant colorful sea life. The islands also feature stunning beaches and rocky cliffs upon which numerous birds come to nest, including sea eagles and ospreys. Occasionally turtles can be seen in the waters and also come on shore to lay their eggs.





## WADI SHAB





# PHOTOGRAPHY TOURS

Shuram Photography Tours are guided photography tours in Oman. We cover the majority of locations to assure that you get the **photogenic experience** of a lifetime – whether you are a landscape, portrait, underwater, wildlife or street photographer.

Our **tailor-made** programs are designed by Al Moutasim Al Maskery, an Omani photographer with over a decade of photography expertise. Programs are audience specific depending on the individual photography level. We are here to ensure that you **get that great shot** and to assist in evolving your photography skills.

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# SPECIAL TOURS

## GEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC TOURS

Shuram has more than a decade of experience in organizing and safely executing excursions for professionals of regional and international oil companies, universities and colleges. Geological field trips covering almost the whole range of structural and rock formation. Settings can be arranged for large groups.

Oman's geology and scenery is unique, and often breath-taking. Therefore, field excursions are not only interesting for professionals, but also for visitors and traveller's exploring the beauty of Oman.

Rocks more than 700 million years old to very recent age are openly exposed offering analogues for many Middle Eastern and other oil and gas reservoirs for detailed study opportunities. Oman holds also the largest exposed sections of the Earth's mantle, thrust up by plate tectonics millions of years ago. The mantle rocks contain peridotite, a rock that reacts with carbon dioxide in air and water to form marble and limestone.



# ABOUT SHURAM

## QUALIFICATIONS

Our company is highly qualified to meet safety standards. All our drivers must attend and attain the certificate for Defensive driving for safe driving on- and off-road. The majority of our drivers are qualified first aiders trained by the American Heart Association. In addition, our chefs are trained in food hygiene and safety.

## SAFETY

All our vehicles are fitted with IVMS [In Vehicle Monitoring System] systems which monitor the driving behaviour and restrict speed to 119 km/hr on black top roads and 78 km/hr off-road. All vehicles are fitted with high standard safety equipment including rollover bars, fire extinguishers and first aid kit.

## PROFESSIONALISM

Our team consists of high standard professionals with more than a decade of experience. We managed to win awards regarding HSE [health, safety and environment]. Our achievement is driving over 2 million kilometres LTI [lost time incident] free.

Shuram Tourism is an **Omani licensed tourism enterprise** with **more than a decade of experience** in organizing and executing trips and activities in Oman for tourists and professionals of regional and international oil companies and universities.

It has been consistently given high recognition for the quality of its service. Shuram's reputation and success has been built on consistently providing the **highest quality customer service with strict adherence to safety issues.**

Our keen attention to every detail will ultimately ensure you of a **hassle-free, exceptionally enjoyable authentic experience** that you will cherish for years and years to come!





# CONTACT US TODAY

TEL	+968 24600919
FAX	+968 24600917
EMAIL	<a href="mailto:tourism@shuramgroup.om">tourism@shuramgroup.om</a>
WEB	<a href="http://www.shuramtourism.com">www.shuramtourism.com</a>
INSTAGRAM	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/shuram.tourism">shuram.tourism</a>
TRIPADVISOR	Shuram Tourism

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P.O.Box 194  
PC.134 Shatti Al Qurm  
Muscat | Sultanate of Oman

Sunday – Thursday  
7:30am ~ 4:30pm



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