



# OMAN SELF-DRIVE ADVENTURE

7 Days / 6 Nights | Complete Itinerary

| Duration          | Departure | Route                                                | Transport                    | Guide   |
|-------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|
| 7 days / 6 nights | Muscat    | Muscat > Jebel Shams > Nizwa > Wahiba Sands > Muscat | 4x4 Self-Drive + local guide | Italian |

## ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

| Day | Day of the week | Highlights                                                 | Overnight stay | Meals              |
|-----|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 01  | Saturday        | Arrival in Muscat – City Tour                              | Muscat         |                    |
| 02  | Sunday          | Nakhal – Wadi Bani Awf – Bilad Sayt – Jebel Shams          | Jebel Shams    | Dinner + Breakfast |
| 03  | Monday          | Misfat Al Abriyeen – Al Hamra – Jabrin – Nizwa             | Nizwa          | Dinner + Breakfast |
| 04  | Tuesday         | Nizwa – Wadi Bani Khalid – Wahiba Sands                    | Desert Camp    | Dinner + Breakfast |
| 05  | Wednesday       | Wahiba Sands – Wadi Shab – Bimmah Sinkhole – Muscat        | Muscat         | Breakfast          |
| 06  | Thursday        | Half-day excursion to the Daymaniyat Islands (shared boat) | Muscat         | Breakfast          |
| 07  | Friday          | Departure – Transfer to Muscat Airport                     | —              | Breakfast          |

DAY 01 | SATURDAY | MUSCAT

Arrival in Muscat – City Tour

|                          |                                                                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Day<br>Day 01 – Saturday | Overnight stay<br>Muscat                                               |
| Included Meals           | Transport<br>Vehicle with guide                                        |
| Guide<br>Italian         | Activities<br>City tour, Mutrah Souq, Al Alam Palace, Portuguese Forts |

Your journey to Oman begins at Muscat International Airport, where our Italian-speaking guide will welcome you with traditional Omani hospitality.

The first stop is the grand **Royal Opera House**, inaugurated in 2011 by Sultan Qaboos: an architectural masterpiece blending Islamic elegance with modernity, perfect for a photo stop. Next, we head to the vibrant **Mutrah Souq**, one of the oldest traditional markets in the Arabian Peninsula. In its covered alleys, you will find exotic spices, frankincense, handmade silver, colorful textiles, and local crafts.

A stroll along the **Mutrah Corniche** offers panoramic views of the historic port, with traditional fishing dhows anchored in the waters of the Gulf of Oman. The visit to **Al Alam Palace**, the ceremonial residence of His Majesty the Sultan, allows you to admire one of the country's most iconic architectures. The day concludes with a photo stop at the two historic **Portuguese Forts** – Fort Jalali and Fort Mirani – which overlook the harbor entrance

DAY 02 | SUNDAY | JEBEL SHAMS

Self-Drive 4x4 – Muscat > Nakhal > Wadi Bani Awf > Bilad Sayt > Jebel Shams

|                                        |                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Day<br>Day 02 – Sunday                 | Overnight stay<br>Jebel Shams Resort                                                                  |
| Included Meals<br>Dinner and Breakfast | Transport<br>4x4 Self-Drive                                                                           |
| Difficulty<br>Off-road – Medium/High   | Activities<br>Nakhal Fort, Ain Al Thawarah Hot Springs, Wadi Bani Awf, Small Snake Canyon, Bilad Sayt |

This morning you will collect your 4x4 vehicle to begin your Omani self-drive adventure. The freedom of driving yourself allows you to explore the country's most spectacular landscapes at your own pace.

The first stop is **Nakhal Fort**, one of Oman's best-preserved fortresses, perched on a volcanic rock at the foothills of the Hajar Mountains. Nearby are the **Ain Al Thawarah hot springs**, a natural oasis where warm waters flow through the rocks, creating natural pools.

The highlight of the day is the legendary off-road track of **Wadi Bani Awf**, considered one of the most beautiful and challenging 4x4 routes in the entire Sultanate. The trail winds through vertical rocky gorges up to the famous **Small Snake Canyon** – a narrow, twisting gorge named after its serpentine shape.

A must-visit is the mountain village of **Bilad Sayt**: perched on the mountain slopes at an altitude of about 1,800 meters, featuring mud-brick houses, functioning traditional irrigation channels (falaj), and agricultural terraces. The day concludes with your arrival at **Jebel Shams** (Mountain of the Sun), Oman's highest peak at 3,009 meters above sea level, also known as the "Grand Canyon of Oman".

DAY 03 | MONDAY | NIZWA

Self-Drive 4x4 – Jebel Shams > Misfat Al Abriyeen > Al Hamra > Jabrin > Nizwa

|                                                        |                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Day</b><br>Day 03 – Monday                          | <b>Overnight stay</b><br>Nizwa                                                     |
| <b>Included Meals</b><br>Dinner and Breakfast          | <b>Transport</b><br>4x4 Self-Drive                                                 |
| <b>Difficulty</b><br>Paved roads + easy unpaved tracks | <b>Activities</b><br>Misfat Al Abriyeen, Al Hamra, Jabrin Castle, arrival in Nizwa |

After witnessing the sunrise over the Jebel Shams canyon, you will descend toward the fertile plain of Al Dakhiliyah, the historical and cultural heart of interior Oman.

The first stop is the picturesque **village of Misfat Al Abriyeen**, a traditional settlement built entirely of stone and mud on a rocky promontory. The narrow alleys between ancient houses, terrace gardens with palms and pomegranates, and an atmosphere of absolute peace make it one of the most photographed places in the country.

Continuing down the valley, you will reach **Al Hamra**, one of the oldest villages in Oman, dating back over 400 years. Its mud-brick tower houses, up to four stories high, are among the best-preserved examples of traditional domestic architecture in the region.

The next stop is the magnificent **Jabrin Castle** (17th century), considered one of the finest expressions of Omani art. The interior is a labyrinth of rooms decorated with hand-painted ceilings, stucco niches, Quranic inscriptions, and carved wooden panels. The day ends in **Nizwa**, the ancient capital of Oman and the spiritual center of the nation.

DAY 04 | TUESDAY | WAHIBA SANDS (DESERT CAMP)

Self-Drive 4x4 – Nizwa > Wadi Bani Khalid > Wahiba Sands

|                                                              |                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Day</b><br>Day 04 – Tuesday                               | <b>Overnight stay</b><br>Desert Camp                                                                    |
| <b>Included Meals</b><br>Dinner and Breakfast                | <b>Transport</b><br>4x4 Self-Drive + local driver                                                       |
| <b>Difficulty</b><br>Off-road on sand – local guide included | <b>Activities</b><br>Nizwa Fort and Souq, Wadi Bani Khalid, sunset over the dunes, dinner in the desert |

The morning begins with an in-depth visit to **Nizwa Fort**, the ultimate symbol of Omani military architecture. Built in the 17th century, its circular tower has a diameter of 36 meters and is one of the largest in the Middle East. The **Nizwa Souq** offers a rich selection of handcrafted silver, khanjars (traditional Omani daggers), fresh dates, spices, and pottery.

In the afternoon, you will head toward **Wadi Bani Khalid**, considered the most beautiful and accessible wadi in Oman. Unlike most wadis that dry up in summer, this one maintains its natural freshwater pools year-round, framed by date palms and wild oleanders.

The day concludes with your arrival in the **Wahiba Sands desert**, a sea of red and golden dunes stretching over 12,000 km². In the late afternoon, a local driver will guide you through the dunes to witness the sunset. Dinner under the stars, accompanied by traditional Omani music and the silence of the desert, is a moment of pure magic.

DAY 05 | WEDNESDAY | MUSCAT

Self-Drive 4x4 – Wahiba Sands > Wadi Shab > Bimmah Sinkhole > Muscat

|                                                                     |                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Day</b><br>Day 05 – Wednesday                                    | <b>Overnight stay</b><br>Muscat                                                         |
| <b>Included Meals</b><br>Breakfast                                  | <b>Transport</b><br>4x4 Self-Drive (drop-off in Muscat)                                 |
| <b>Difficulty</b><br>Light trekking (45 min) – Swimming recommended | <b>Activities</b><br>Wadi Shab (trekking + swimming), Bimmah Sinkhole, return to Muscat |

Greet the desert sunrise and depart toward the eastern coast of Oman, which will reveal a sequence of natural wonders along the road back to Muscat.

The first stop is **Wadi Shab**, one of the country's most fascinating wadis. The journey begins with a short traditional boat crossing to reach the trailhead. You will hike for about 45 minutes through a white limestone gorge, following a freshwater stream until you reach the famous natural pools. Those who wish can swim through a small hidden cave that opens up to a secret waterfall.

Shortly ahead lies the **Bimmah Sinkhole** (Hawiyat Najm Park), a natural depression about 40 meters in diameter formed by the collapse of a limestone cave. The crater is filled with crystal-clear turquoise waters, where you can swim and admire the small fish that inhabit this unique ecosystem.

After this stop, you will drive back to Muscat to return the 4x4 vehicle and check into your hotel. The evening is at leisure to stroll along the Corniche or enjoy dinner at one of the seafront restaurants.

DAY 06 | THURSDAY | MUSCAT

Half-day Excursion to Daymaniyat Islands – Marine Nature Reserve

|                                              |                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Day</b><br>Day 06 – Thursday              | <b>Overnight stay</b><br>Muscat                                                          |
| <b>Included Meals</b><br>Breakfast           | <b>Transport</b><br>Shared boat (included)                                               |
| <b>Equipment</b><br>Snorkeling gear included | <b>Activities</b><br>Snorkeling on coral reefs, pristine beaches, protected marine fauna |

Today you will leave the mainland for one of the most extraordinary experiences Oman has to offer: an excursion to the **Daymaniyat Islands**, declared a protected Nature Reserve by the Omani government in 1996.

The archipelago consists of 9 coral islands located about 18 km off the coast of Barka. The surrounding waters are among the clearest in the Arabian Sea, featuring underwater visibility of up to 20–30 meters, coral reefs with over 300 species of tropical fish, green sea turtles, rays, and moray eels.

The excursion departs from the port of Barka on a shared boat with snorkeling gear included. The islands also offer pristine white sand beaches to relax on between swims. The return to the port is scheduled for the early afternoon, leaving the rest of the day at leisure.

DAY 07 | FRIDAY | DEPARTURE

Departure – Muscat International Airport Transfer

|                                              |                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Day</b><br>Day 07 – Friday                | <b>Overnight stay</b><br>—                                       |
| <b>Included Meals</b><br>Breakfast           | <b>Transport</b><br>Private hotel transfer                       |
| <b>Airport</b><br>Muscat International (MCT) | <b>Notes</b><br>Arriving 3 hours before departure is recommended |

Your final breakfast at the hotel is a moment of sweet melancholy, as you mentally retrace the sandy desert tracks, the turquoise wadi waters, ancient fortresses, and the scent of frankincense from the souqs. Oman is a country that leaves a lasting mark on the soul.

Our staff will accompany you to **Muscat International Airport** (MCT) in time for your flight check-in. Please remember to pack any purchased souvenirs within the liquid limits allowed for cabin baggage.

We wish everyone a safe journey home, with the promise that Oman, once visited, is never forgotten.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS – 4x4 CAR RENTAL

|     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.  | The renter must deposit a security pre-authorization of 150 OMR. In the absence of traffic violations or fines, the amount will be refunded to the client's bank account via IBAN within 10 working days from the vehicle's return.                                                          |
| 2.  | The driver must be over 18 years old and hold a valid driving license recognized in the Sultanate of Oman.                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 3.  | Driving the vehicle outside the borders of the Sultanate of Oman is not permitted without prior written authorization from the rental company.                                                                                                                                               |
| 4.  | The renter cannot transfer or permit unauthorized persons to drive the vehicle. In case of violation, a fine of 100 OMR will apply.                                                                                                                                                          |
| 5.  | The client declares receiving the vehicle in good condition and agrees to regularly check and maintain engine oil, water, and coolant levels throughout the rental period.                                                                                                                   |
| 6.  | If the vehicle is driven by an unauthorized person under the contract and an accident occurs, the renter will be liable to pay a penalty of 1,000 OMR.                                                                                                                                       |
| 7.  | It is strictly forbidden to use the vehicle for racing, commercial goods transport, driving schools, towing other vehicles, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or improper crossing of wadis. Violation: 100 OMR fine.                                                         |
| 8.  | In case of an accident or mechanical failure: (a) the vehicle will be sent to an authorized workshop; (b) the daily rental cost will continue to be charged until the actual return; (c) the client must cover the expenses required by the insurance company and follow all ROP procedures. |
| 9.  | The client is not authorized to carry out repairs, modifications, or mechanical interventions on the vehicle without prior written consent from the company. Violation: 500 OMR penalty.                                                                                                     |
| 10. | Should the vehicle be excluded from insurance coverage or confiscated by the ROP due to improper use, the client must pay compensation of 1,000 OMR.                                                                                                                                         |
| 11. | The vehicle must be returned with the same fuel level present at the time of pick-up.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 12. | The company assumes no responsibility for personal items, luggage, or money left inside the vehicle.                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 13. | In case of failure to return the vehicle by the contract expiration date, a fine of 5 OMR per day of delay will apply.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 14. | In case of late payment, a one-week grace period will be granted; after that, legal proceedings will begin with an additional fine of 50 OMR.                                                                                                                                                |
| 15. | Delay in returning the vehicle: 1.5 OMR per hour of delay. Beyond 4 hours, a full day's rate will be charged.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 16. | Failure to return the vehicle within 72 hours of expiration: the company will immediately notify the ROP.                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 17. | The client is entirely responsible for all traffic violations and municipal fines committed during the rental period.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 18. | By signing the contract, the client authorizes the company to charge the credit card for any verified violations within 3 months of the vehicle's return.                                                                                                                                    |
| 19. | Smoking inside the vehicle is strictly prohibited. Fine in case of violation: 50 OMR.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |