



 **Arabian Connection**
DESTINATION MANAGEMENT COMPANY **SINCE 2006**



DESTINATION OMAN



OMAN - OVERVIEW

- Oman is a liberal country and caters to visitors from across the world.
- Oman is a Muslim country but majority of the people follow the Ibdaism which is distinct from the more orthodox Sunniism and Shiaism
- There is religious freedom in the country and people are allowed to practice whichever religion they want. Hinduism and Christianity are practiced by a lot of the expatriate community.
- Oman has a high income economy and is a safe travel destination
- Alcohol is available in bars and restaurants and not restricted to hotels



OMAN - OVERVIEW

- Located on the South Eastern end of the Arabian Peninsula, this country is today considered a *'jewel in the middle east.'*
- While an ancient land that can be dated back to the Stone Age, Oman started seeing development only post 1970s and has seen rapid progress since then.
- Oman has one of the hottest and driest climates in the world. However, there are substantial differences between the coastal zone, the mountain regions, the arid inland desert and the southwestern region of Dhofar.
- Visas for Oman need to be applied online and it usually takes 03 working days for a visa to be issued.



GETTING THERE

- Muscat is a 04hr drive from Dubai. The drive is picturesque following the ocean on your left and the craggy Hajjar mountains to your right.
- You can also fly in to Muscat – Oman Air has fantastic connectivity
- Muscat is well connected by air to UAE and India
- The flights from UAE are about 50mins
- The flights from India are about 3hrs 45mins





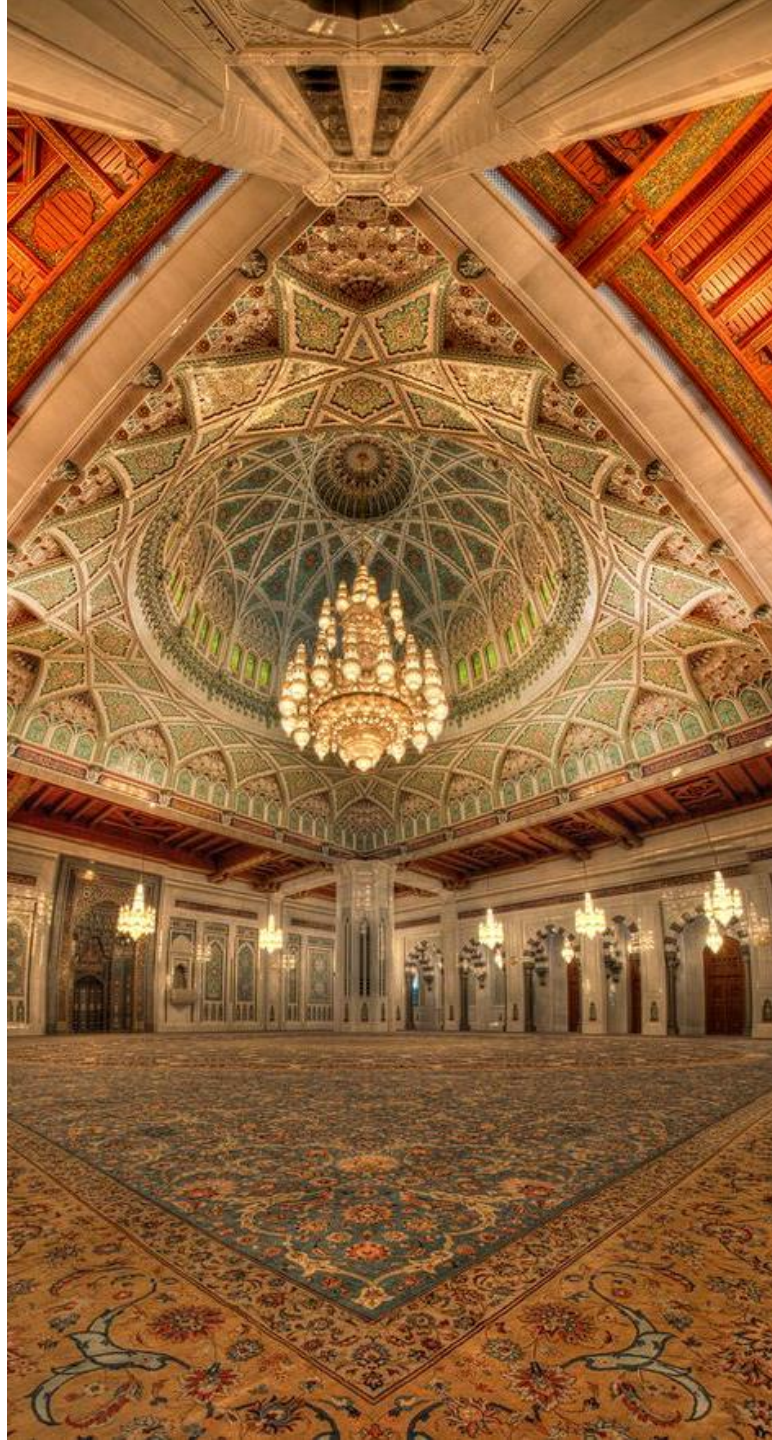
MUSCAT

- Muscat is the capital of Oman,
- It is also the largest city in the country.
- Usually people come to Oman stay here between 02 to 04 days.
- It has some of the most beautiful hotels in the region offering a range of activities.
- Apart from traditional sightseeing, you can enjoy whale & dolphin watching, diving and snorkeling, cruising and game fishing, water sports and more
- Sightseeing in Muscat includes the famous Grand Mosque, The Natural History Museum, the Corniche waterfront, Bait al Zubair Museum, Al Alam Palace (Photo stop only) and of course the Mutrah Souq.



SULTAN QABOOS GRAND MOSQUE

- This is one of the largest mosques in Oman
- It is open to people of all faith
- There is a 14m high chandelier with over 600000 crystals
- It contains an enormous library and beautiful prayer rooms



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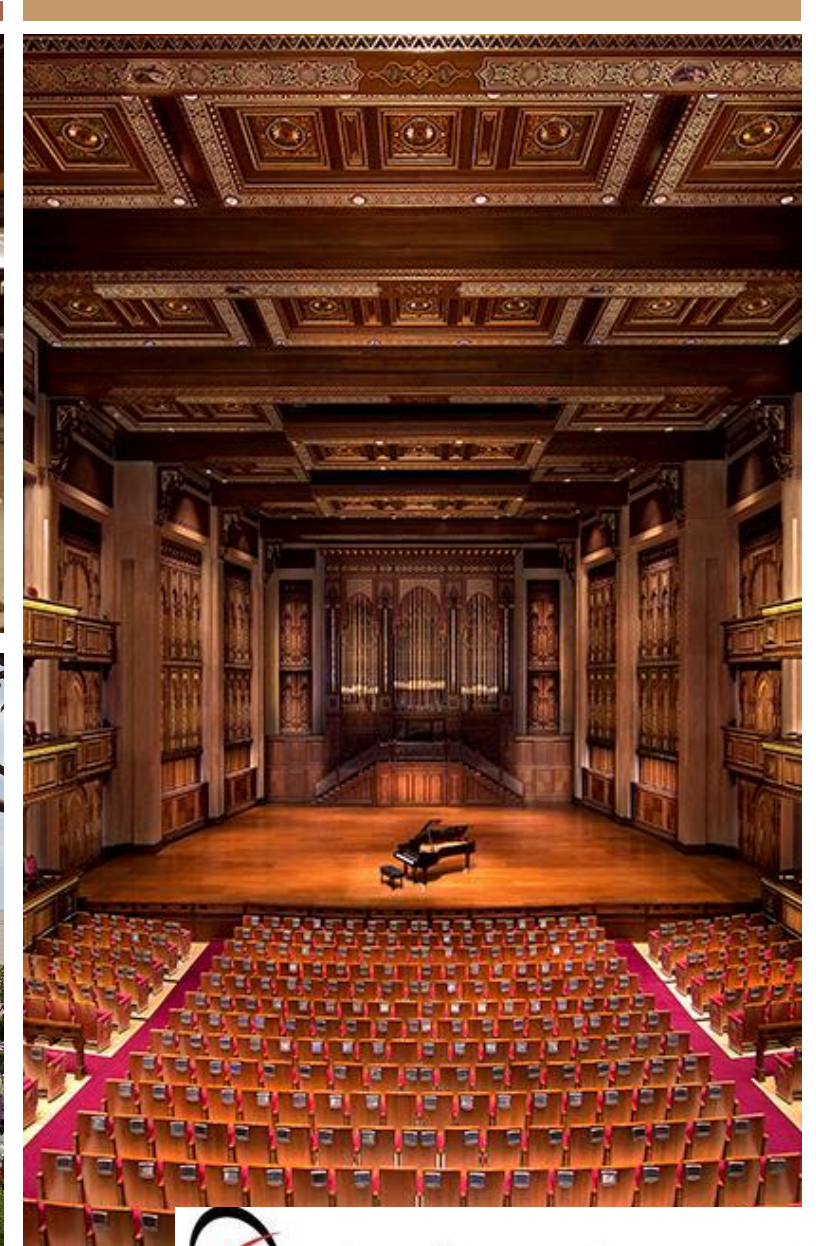
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

- The museum has displays on indigenous mammals, insects, and birds and botanical gardens
- One of the highlights of the museum is the whale hall: it houses the huge skeleton of a sperm whale



ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

- This is one of the best Opera Houses in the region
- Apart from a stunning theatre the Royal Opera House is home to a variety of restaurants and bars and serves alcohol
- The Galleria also has a eclectic mix of shops selling art, fashion, jewellery and perfumes.



MUTRAH SOUQ



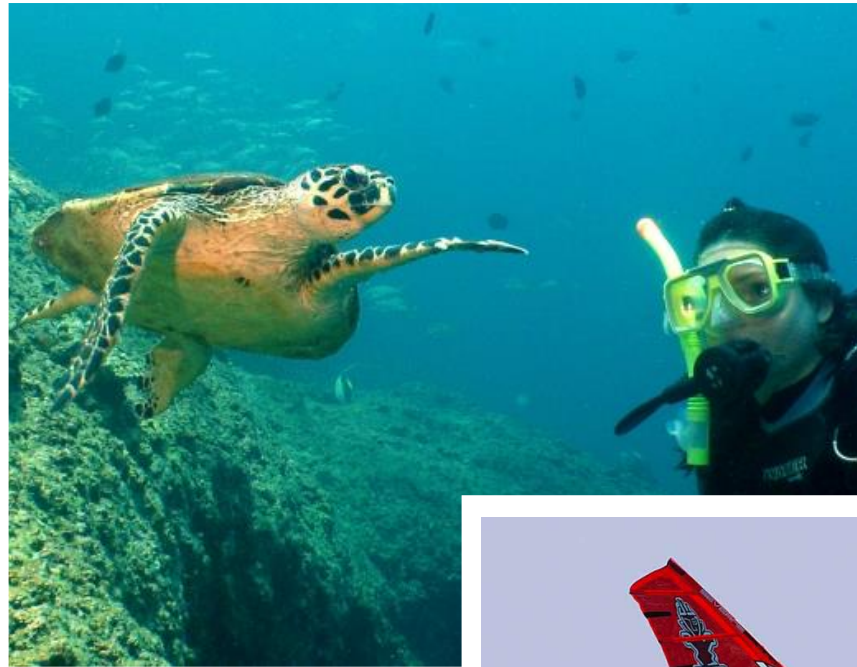
EXCURSIONS

- Half or full day tours including
 - Whale and dolphin watching tours
 - Day cruises
 - Fishing (catch and eat) cruises



EXCURSIONS

- Diving
- Snorkeling
- Sea scooter
- Jet Skiing
- Wind surfing
- Surfing





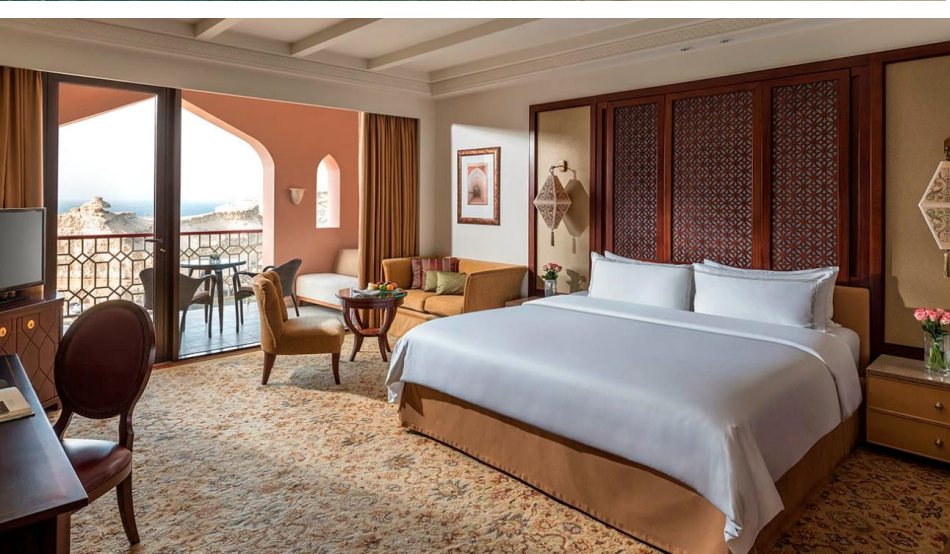
MUSCAT HOTELS

RITZ CARLTON AL BUSTAN PALACE - LUXURY



MUSCAT HOTELS

CHEDI MUSCAT - LUXURY



MUSCAT HOTELS

SHANGRI LA – FIVE STAR / THREE HOTELS IN ONE



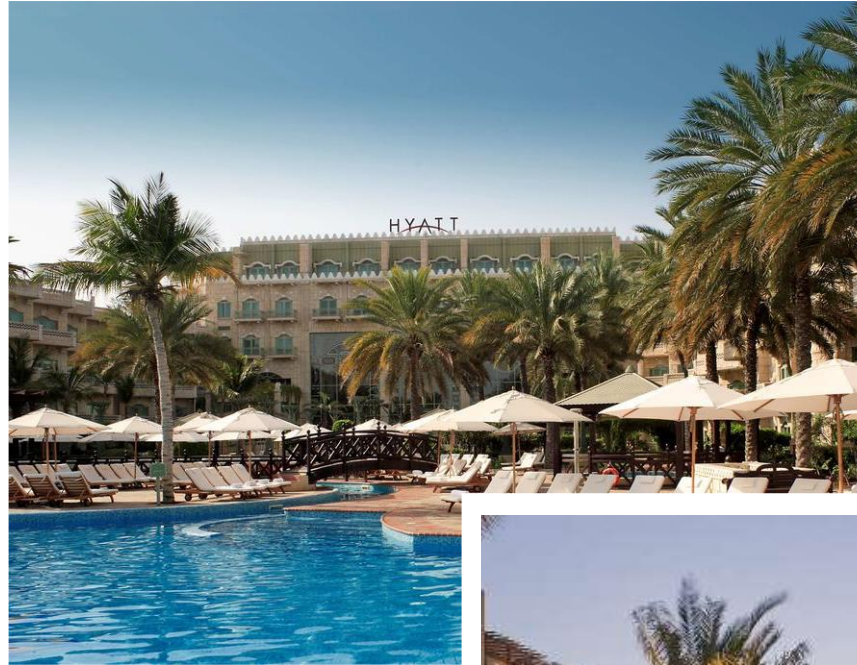
MUSCAT HOTELS

MUSCAT HILLS RESORT –
GREAT BEACH CLUB



MUSCAT HOTELS

ALL INTERNATIONAL BRANDS AND QUITE A FEW LOCAL BRANDS HAVE A PRESENCE HERE.



NIZWA

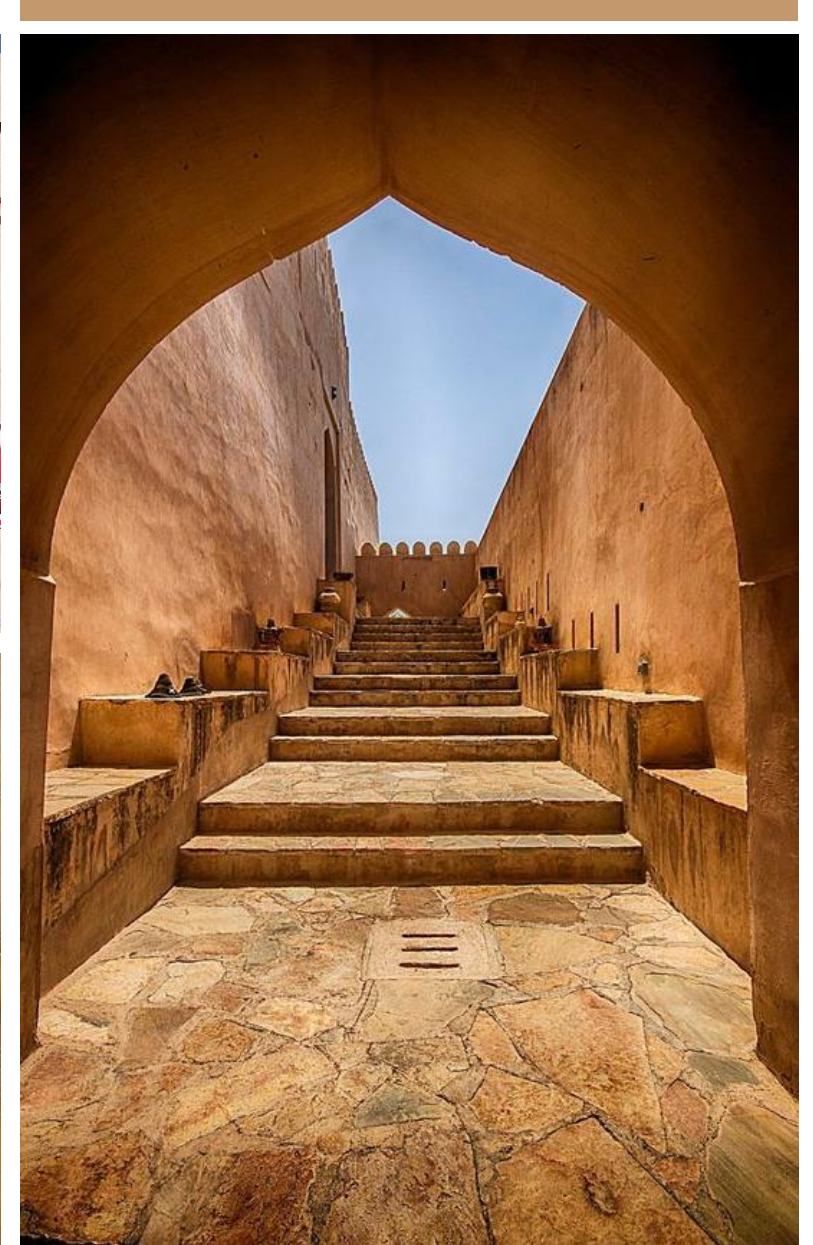
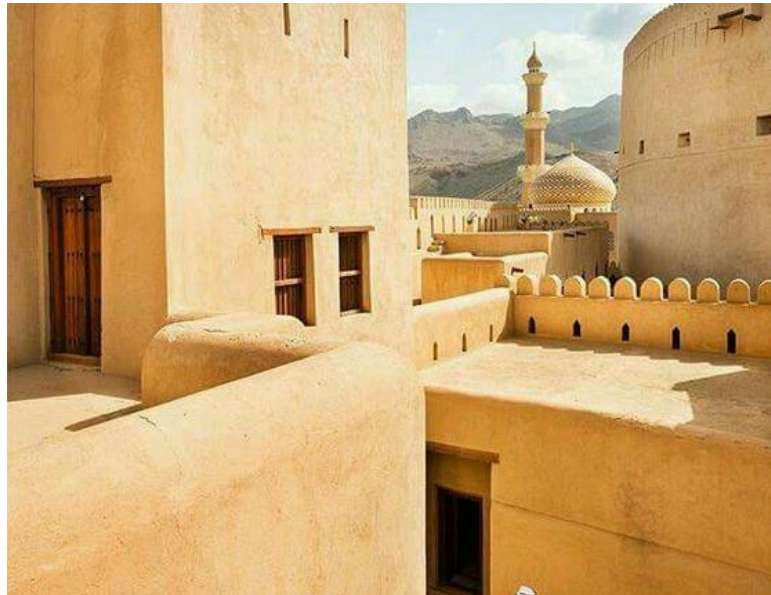
- Nizwa is one of the oldest cities in Oman, and was once the capital.
- It was once a center of trade, religion, education and art.
- Located just a 2hrs drive fro Muscat, this city saw modernization from the 1970s
- The town forms a natural access point for the historic sites of Bahla and Jabrin, and for excursions up the mountain roads to Jebel Akhdar and Jebel Shams.
- It was named the Capital of Islamic Culture in 2013.
- Sightseeing includes the Nizwa Fort, the Nizwa souq (especially for the silver Khanjjar - dagger) and silver jewellery, Bahla Fort, the 17th century Jabreen castle and the ruins of Tanuf.
- On Fridays, there is a goat and cattle auction that can be seen in the souq.

Muscat to Nizwa 02.5hrs Drive



NIZWA FORT

- Built by Imam Sultan bin Saif al Yarubi in 1668 AD, the fort's design reflects the considerable advancement made in the field of military fortifications and mortar-based warfare during the Yarubi era.
- The fort was built over and underground stream and is surrounded by lush date palm trees
- The presiding Imams and Walis governed Nizwa from this citadel.



NIZWA SOUQ

- The traditional Nizwa souk is located close to the fort.
- It is an old market and famous for selling the traditional silver dagger or Khanjar as well as silver jewelry
- On Friday's there is a goat market from 08am where people come to buy and sell goats, sheep, cows and camels





AL HAMRA

- Al Hamra is a 400-year-old town at the base of the Hajar Mountains.
- Some of the oldest houses in Oman can be found here





AL HOOTA CAVE – AL HAMRA

- Estimated to be over 2 million years old, Al Hoota Cave is located at the foot of Jabal Shams
- It is the only show cave in the Arabian Peninsula
- Total length – 4.4km / accessible 500mts
- The cave has a lake which is home to a rare blind fish
- You reach the cave by electric train and then proceed for a 45minute tour
- Photography is not allowed inside the cave

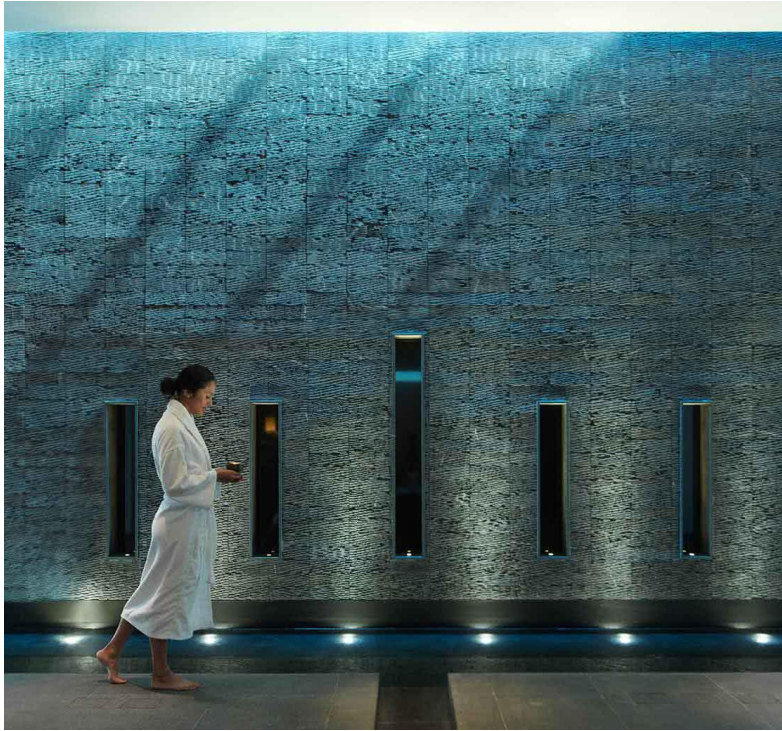




JABAL SHAMS

- The Grand Canyon of Oman
- Jabal Shams means 'Mountain of the Sun'
- It is a 04hrs drive from Muscat or a 02hrs drive from Nizwa
- Visited for its amazing landscapes, breathtaking night skies, and lovely hotels.
- Luxury clients will stay here rather than Nizwa so all excursions would be done pre/ post the stay.





HOTELS IN JABAL AKHDAR

ANANTARA AL JABAL AL AKHDAR RESORT (ON TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN)





WAHIBA SANDS

- The region (also called Sharqiya Sands) is named after the Bani Wahiba Tribe
- It covers an area of about 12,500sq.km (4,800sq.mi.)
- The sand dunes are 100mts high and the area is right out of a romantic fantasy
- A visit here is a must to experience the true form of the middle east.
- Great for dune bashing, camel riding, star gazing and relaxation.
- There are no directions here, so you need to identify your camp on the map





CAMPS IN WAHIBA SANDS

DESERT SANDS CAMP





WADI BANI KHALID

- Wadi bani Khalid is a stunning oasis on the way to Sur
- This is one of the biggest Wadis in Oman and has emerald green lakes, caves and lush greenery
- Usually takes 1.5hrs from Wahiba Sands and then about a 10 minute walk to the wadi.
- There is a café there and swimming is allowed. So it's a great place for a relaxing afternoon
- There are wadis that are a little further away and it takes about a 45min hike to get there.
- While swimming is permitted, you are requested to dress modestly. Please check with your guide.
- Expert trip – We suggest you get here early and have the place, if not to yourself, not crowded.

THANK YOU



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