

Oman

Continent: Asia

Languages Spoken: Arabic

Population: 4,560,000

Currency: Omani Rial (OMR)

Area: 309,500

Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque', 'writeup': 'A stunning mosque in Muscat known for its grand architecture and the second largest hand-woven carpet in the world.'}
- {'name': 'Nizwa Fort', 'writeup': 'A historic fort built in the 17th century, symbolizing Oman's rich heritage and strategic importance.'}
- {'name': 'Wahiba Sands', 'writeup': 'A vast desert area famous for its red sand dunes and traditional Bedouin lifestyle.'}
- {'name': 'Jebel Akhdar', 'writeup': 'A mountainous region known as the 'Green Mountain' with terraced farms and cool climate.'}
- {'name': 'Royal Opera House Muscat', 'writeup': 'A premier venue for musical arts and culture, showcasing Oman's commitment to cultural development.'}

Head of State / Government:

Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said

Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Muscat Festival', 'writeup': 'An annual event celebrating Omani culture, arts, and heritage with performances, crafts, and food.'}
- {'name': 'Eid al-Fitr', 'writeup': 'A major Islamic festival marking the end of Ramadan, celebrated with prayers, feasts, and family gatherings.'}
- {'name': 'Eid al-Adha', 'writeup': 'An important religious festival commemorating the willingness of Ibrahim to sacrifice his son, observed with prayers and charity.'}
- {'name': 'National Day', 'writeup': 'Celebrated on November 18th, marking Oman's independence and unity with parades and cultural displays.'}

Food & Cuisine:

Omani cuisine features a blend of Middle Eastern, Indian, and African influences, with staples like rice, lamb, chicken, and seafood. Popular dishes include Shuwa (slow-cooked lamb), Majboos (spiced rice with meat), and Halwa (a sweet dessert).

Brief History:

Oman has a history dating back to ancient times as a maritime power and trading hub. It was an important center for frankincense trade and later became a sultanate. Modern Oman was unified under Sultan Qaboos bin Said in 1970, leading to rapid modernization and development.

Important People:

- Sultan Qaboos bin Said (former ruler who modernized Oman)
- Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said (current Sultan)
- Sayyid Badr bin Hamad al Busaidi (Foreign Minister)

Current Conflicts:

Oman maintains a neutral foreign policy and is not involved in active conflicts. It plays a mediating role in regional disputes.

Youtube Links:

- Discover Oman: A Journey Through the Land of Frankincense
- Top 10 Places to Visit in Oman
- Omani Culture and Traditions Explained
- The History of Oman in 10 Minutes
- Omani Cuisine: Traditional Dishes You Must Try