

Omani Country Guide

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Tourist Visa Conditions

Australian ordinary passport holders are required to have a visa to enter Oman as a tourist. This visa may be obtained prior to departure for Oman from the website of the Royal Oman Police at www.evisa.rop.gov.om. This generally allows for a stay of up to 30 days in Oman and costs 20 Omani Rials.

Travellers are recommended to have at least two blank pages and six months validity on their passport from the date they intend to depart Oman, as well as documentary evidence of their onward travel arrangements, accommodation bookings and their ability to financially maintain themselves for the duration of their stay.

Any evidence of travel to Israel (such as passport stamps, itinerary etc.) may result in a traveller being denied entry to Oman.

Travellers are recommended to contact an Omani mission on the details below for further information and to ensure their specific circumstances make them eligible to apply for a visa online.

Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to Oman. Frequent or long stay travellers should consider vaccination against hepatitis B. Vaccination against rabies (particularly if working with animals) and typhoid (particularly when travelling to areas with poor sanitation and hygiene) should be considered by travellers to Oman. There is a medium risk of malaria in Oman, thus insect avoidance measures and anti malarial medication may be necessary depending on your itinerary.

Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations including a recent annual influenza vaccination. Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures.

Australians travelling to Oman should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas and other issues please visit www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips.

Omani Representation in Australia

Consulate of Oman, Melbourne

Suite 2, Level 4
493 St Kilda Road
MELBOURNE VIC 3004

Tel: (03) 9820 4096
Fax: (03) 9820 4076

Web: www.oman.org.au

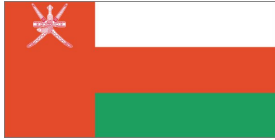
Current DFAT Travel Advice

This advice is current for Thu, 1st November 2018.

Exercise normal safety precautions in Oman. Use common sense and look out for suspicious behaviour, as you would in Australia. Reconsider your need to travel to areas bordering Yemen due to the conflict in Yemen. Omani authorities will not allow you to enter Yemen without authorisation. See [Safety and security](#).

The annual death toll on Omani roads is extremely high. Many drivers break road rules and visibility can be limited. See [Local travel](#).

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in Oman at www.smartraveller.gov.au.



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Time Differences between Oman and Australia

Oman is Greenwich Mean Time +4 hours. Daylight saving time is not observed. The applicable time zone is called Gulf Standard Time (GST).

Oman, 12 noon, June = Perth 4pm; Adelaide, Darwin 5:30pm; Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 6pm.
 Oman, 12 noon, December = Perth 4pm; Darwin 5:30pm; Brisbane 6pm; Adelaide 6:30pm; Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 7pm.

Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for Oman: +968

To Dial Australia Call:
 00 61 <City> <Number>

Travelex Card Services:
 Call the US on +1 954 838 8294

Visa Global Assistance:
 Call the US on +1 303 967 1090

MasterCard:
 Call the US on +1 636 722 7111

American Express Travellers Cheques:
 Call the UK on +44 20 7365 4846

Emergency Services: 9999 (or 999)

The emergency services may not have English speaking staff. To avoid delay it may be best to seek the assistance of an Arabic speaker to call the emergency services.

Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Passports

Name: _____ Passport #: _ _ _ _ _

Name: _____ Passport #: _ _ _ _ _

Credit Cards

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Card Number: _ _ _ _ _

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Card Number: _ _ _ _ _

Travel Insurance

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Australian Representation in Oman

Australian Embassy, Saudi Arabia

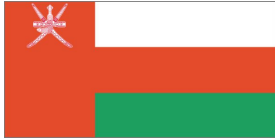
Abdullah bin Hozafa Al-Sahmi Avenue
 Diplomatic Quarter
 RIYADH

Tel: (+966 11) 250 0900
 Fax: (+966 11) 250 0902

Web: www.saudiarabia.embassy.gov.au

Australia does not maintain a permanent consular presence in Oman. The Australian Embassy in Saudi Arabia is accredited to this country. Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61) 2 6261 3305.

Australians are encouraged to register their presence in Oman with the The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade via the on-line registration service, at www.orao.dfat.gov.au.



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Duty Free Allowances for Oman and Australia

Duty Free limits when entering Oman:

Alcohol: 2 litres of alcoholic beverages (maximum of 2 bottles). Allowance is for non Muslims only.
 Tobacco: Up to 400 cigarettes.
 Perfume: Up to 100ml.

Duty Free limits when entering Australia:

Alcohol: 2.25 litres of alcoholic beverages.
 Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.
 Other Goods: Up to \$900 (\$450 for minors)

Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting Oman and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions before crossing the borders of either country. For information on Omani customs please visit www.omanairports.com or for information regarding Australian customs visit www.homeaffairs.gov.au.

Electrical and Telephone Adaptors

Electrical Socket type: British and European.

Voltage: 220-240 volts (same as Australia, no voltage/frequency converter required).

Modem Plug: US and British.

To purchase electrical adaptors, or for further information, go to www.korjo.com.au.

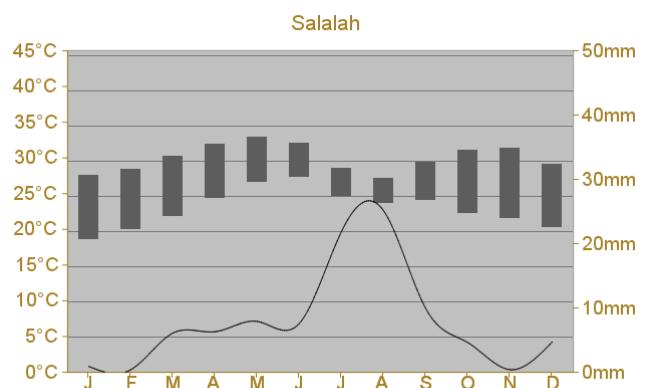
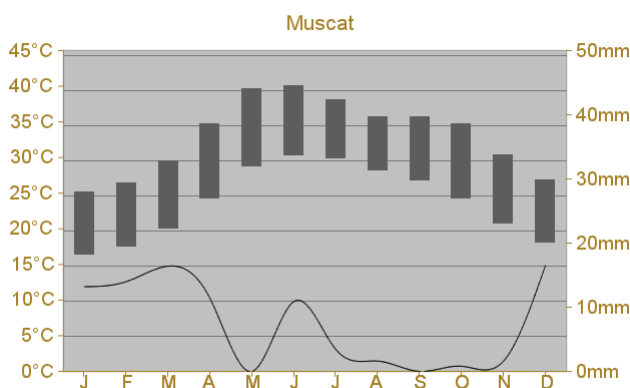


Omani Holidays 2018

01 Jan: New Years Day
 13 Apr: Night of Ascension (Leilat al-Meiraj)
 15 - 18 Jun: End of Ramadan (Eid al-Fitr)
 23 Jul: Renaissance Day
 24 - 24 Aug: Feast of Sacrifice (Eid al-Adha)
 11 Sep: Islamic New Year
 18 Nov: Birthday of HM Sultan Qaboos
 20 Nov: Birth of Muhammad (Mouloud)

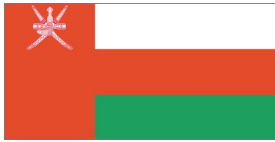
Islamic holidays are determined by the sighting of the moon and thus may vary slightly to those dates outlined above.

Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in Oman



Source: Directorate General of Meteorology, Oman. For local forecasts please go to www.met.gov.om or www.bbc.co.uk/weather.

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Exchange Rate with Australia

Interbank Rate

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 0.27 Omani Rials
 1 Omani Rial (OMR) = 3.66 Australian Dollars

With 4% Margin

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) will buy 0.26 Omani Rials
 1 Omani Rial (OMR) will cost 3.81 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging currencies. These rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

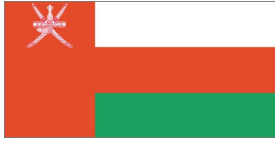
Currency Cheat Sheet

500bz = \$1.90 AUD		This cheat sheet uses the "With 4% Margin" rate of exchange listed above.			
1 OMR	= \$3.81 AUD	10 OMR	= \$38.06 AUD	100 OMR	= \$380.63 AUD
2 OMR	= \$7.61 AUD	20 OMR	= \$76.13 AUD	200 OMR	= \$761.27 AUD
3 OMR	= \$11.42 AUD	30 OMR	= \$114.19 AUD	300 OMR	= \$1,141.90 AUD
4 OMR	= \$15.23 AUD	40 OMR	= \$152.25 AUD	400 OMR	= \$1,522.54 AUD
5 OMR	= \$19.03 AUD	50 OMR	= \$190.32 AUD	500 OMR	= \$1,903.17 AUD
6 OMR	= \$22.84 AUD	60 OMR	= \$228.38 AUD	600 OMR	= \$2,283.80 AUD
7 OMR	= \$26.64 AUD	70 OMR	= \$266.44 AUD	700 OMR	= \$2,664.44 AUD
8 OMR	= \$30.45 AUD	80 OMR	= \$304.51 AUD	800 OMR	= \$3,045.07 AUD
9 OMR	= \$34.26 AUD	90 OMR	= \$342.57 AUD	900 OMR	= \$3,425.70 AUD
				1,000 OMR	= \$3,806.34 AUD

Banknotes of Oman

The currency of Oman is the rial (plural rials), which has the currency code "OMR" and is abbreviated using the symbol ر.ي.ا. or occasionally "RO". The subunit of the rial is called the baisa (symbol "bz"), of which there are 1,000 in every rial. The following banknotes are the most common in Oman however other versions and denominations are in circulation. Pictures are not to scale. As it is illegal in many countries to print copies of bank notes, travellers are advised to remove the below images before travelling.





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About Oman

Full Name: Saltanat Uman
(Sultanate of Oman).

Independence: 1648 (from Portugal).

Size: 309,500 sq km (40% larger than Victoria).

Population: 3.2 million.
Muscat (capital) 634,000. Other main cities include As Sib, Salalah, Sohar & Mutrah.

Ethnicity: Arab, Baluchi & South Asian.

Language: Arabic, English & Baluchi.

Religion: Ibadhi Muslim (official) 75%, Hindu 13%, Sunni Muslim, Shia Muslim.

GDP Per Capita: US\$29,600 (Australia US\$40,800).

Significant Dates:

- Pre 600 AD - Oman is famous for trading in copper and frankincense.
- 600's AD - Introduction of Islam.
- 1154-1470- The indigenous Nabhani dynasty rules Oman.
- 1507-1650- Portuguese capture and rule the coastal regions of Oman.
- 1737-49 - Persian rule.
- 1749 - Al Bu Said dynasty begins.
- 17-1800's - Omani empire established, including Mombasa, Zanzibar and parts of India and Pakistan.
- 1856 - Sultan Said dies and his empire is divided between his sons.
- 1964 - Oil is discovered in Oman.
- 1965-75 - Rebellion in Dhofar.
- 1970 - Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Said comes to power after ousting his father in a coup.
- The new sultan begins modernising feudal Oman.

