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### It is a great pleasure to welcome you aboard your Oman Air flight.

And on the occasion of the 46th National Day, it gives me a great honour to extend on my behalf and on behalf of Oman Air employees our sincere congratulations to His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, coupled with our heartfelt prayers to grant Him good health, happiness and a long life.

This is a very exciting time for Oman Air; as the national carrier of the Sultanate of Oman continues to expand and invest. We are absolutely committed to the ongoing investment in the comfort of guests on board, and we were delighted to welcome and see the first of our newly refurbished A330-200 aircraft touch down in Muscat last month from Toulouse.

The comprehensive refurbishing of the Airbus A330-200 aircraft brings it into line with our latest cabin and seat designs. The emphasis is on comfort, space and providing the ideal environment in which to enjoy Oman Air's award-winning inflight service. Oman Air's new A330 Business Class cabin offers 30 seats, each of which converts to a long, fully lie-flat bed with an 82-inch pitch. The seats are fitted in a 2-2-2 configuration and, thanks to an ingenious cabin layout, provide direct aisle access for every passenger. In addition, every seat includes an electronically-controlled backrest, leg rest and seat depth features.

With the focus on France, we were also delighted to announce the increase of our five times weekly service from Paris Charles de Gaulle to Muscat, to a daily service as of the end of October 2016.

# **Marhaba**

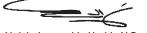
This is an exciting development for us and it is very gratifying to be able to cater for the ever growing demand for Oman Air flights from France to Muscat and connections beyond.

Further good news is that Oman Air will be starting its operations to Najaf in November, and Guangzhou in December.

Another European development that we are very pleased to share is that from the end of January 2017, our twice-daily flights from Muscat to London Heathrow Airport will be operating from Terminal 4 at London Heathrow, rather than being split across Terminals 3 and 4. This will help to enhance the seamless customer experience that we are able to offer from one of the world's busiest airports.

Finally, I am hoping that many of you may have seen our commercial which has been produced by CNN. This is being aired during prime time television seven days per week and will be internationally viewed across the CNN channels by over 421 million households and hotels around the world.

I hope you enjoy it! And talking of enjoyment, I really hope you relax and enjoy our fabulous inflight service on this flight and many thanks for choosing to fly with us. We hope we will welcome you back soon.



Abdulrahaman bin Harith Al Busaidy Chief Commercial Officer



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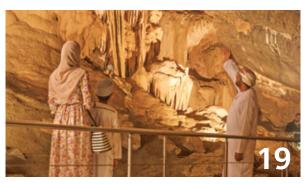








**Diary**A wrap up of what festivals, events and sports are happening around the world this month



Must See: Oman Al Hoota Cave



**Check Out** Winter in London: Festive Season fun in the 'Capital of the World'



### Check In 18 November Day: National Day, and His Majesty Sultan Qaboos' birthday celebrations



**Landmark Travels** Delhi's historic Red Fort: The pinnacle of Mughal creativity



### **Oman Adventure**

Team Oman Air gear up for final push in 2016 Extreme Sailing Series

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# Wings of Oman

Corporate Communications & Media Department - Oman Air P.O. Box 58, Muscat International Airport, Postal Code 111, Sultanate of Oman, Tel: +968 24519616, Fax: +968 24510771, E-mail: wings@omanair.com, Website: www.omanair.com

### Wings of Oman advertising enquiries, CONTACT: advertising@npaoman.com

### **National Publishing & Advertising LLC** P.O. Box 3112, P.C. 112, Ruwi,

Muscat, Sultanate of Oman

Tel: +968 24793098, Fax: +968 24708445

### **Editorial Editing Director Paul Winter** paul.winter@npaoman.com

Mohammad Abu Al Majd

Client Servicing Executive Ruwayda Al Barwani

**Designers** Justin Das **Mohammad Asif** 

### Media Manager - Advertising & Marketing

Vijay Murkute vijay@npaoman.com advertising@npaoman.com

### **Photographic Contributors**

Getty/Shutterstock/iStock

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Oman Heritage

The National Museum: Sultanate of Oman



### **Family Traveller**

Legoland Dubai: For fun-loving families and their creative children



Savvy Traveller Oman Travel Guide



On Board In-Flight Entertainment

Also...

Welcome Aboard (48)Oman Air News (51)



### Welcome to Jebel Sifah.

Come with us on a journey. It begins with driving through the Al Hajar Mountain range, offering stunning scenery round every bend – or you can enjoy the salty sea-breeze aboard a water taxi, with Sifah lying just beyond the crystal clear waters of Bandar Khayran.

Once you arrive, there are countless options. Enjoy 5km of pristine beaches, tee off in the lush green grass of our 9-hole Harradine golf course opening by early 2017, or simply enjoy a bicycle ride along our world-class marina, chill with a creamy cappuccino and relish the spectacular sunset at one of our restaurants or cafés.





If you wish to stay for the evening, Sifawy Boutique Hotel is renowned for its impeccable service – and if Jebel Sifah casts its spell on you, as it has to others, there are a range of freehold contemporary waterfront apartments and spacious luxury villas available as an ideal holiday home to own or rent.





Located in Jebel Sifah, Golf Lake offers freehold weekend homes ranging from studios to one and two-bedroom apartments. Featuring large terraces, each apartment enjoys unparalleled views of the Harradine golf course, as well as mountain or sea views.

Golf Lake's exclusive leisure amenities overlooking the lush green grass of the golf course include an oasis-like infinity pool surrounded by ponds and water features, jogging track and BBQ area. Homeowners can also enjoy access to Jebel Sifah's world-class marina, 9-hole Harradine golf course, Sifawy Boutique Hotel, restaurants, cafes and exhilarating watersports activities.

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# Celebrations in the Sultanate of Oman of the first Week of Italian Cuisine in the World

At the end of November 2016, the First Week of Italian Cuisine in the World – "The Extraordinary Italian Taste" – will be celebrated in 130 countries, including the Sultanate of Oman, as part of Italy's campaign aimed at enhancing the richness and variety of the Italian food and wine tradition, and promoting authentic Made in Italy products.



In the Sultanate of Oman a series of tasty activities presenting Italian haute cuisine and gourmet products will be featured during the last week of November through a collaboration between the Embassy of Italy and renowned hotels and Italian restaurants in Muscat (Grand Hyatt, InterContinental, Crowne Plaza, Shangri La Bar al Jissah, Kargeen Café, and Illy Caffe'), food and wine importers and distributors, and education institutions — all with the support of important sponsors such as Oman Air and Alfardan Motors.

A food and wine tasting event will also be held at the Residence of the Italian Ambassador to the Sultanate, H.E. Giorgio Visetti, to launch the Week. This will be a unique occasion to celebrate the most authentic Italian food in the Sultanate and to try delicious Italian dishes prepared by Italian Chefs. During the week, Italian culinary classes will also be organised in Muscat.

Italian cuisine is an integral part of Italian culture, and it is one way in which millions of people worldwide can experience the country's culture. With this in mind, selected Italian restaurants in Oman (Tuscany, Tomato, Come Prima, Capri Court, La Fattoria della Pizza, and Illy Café) will also present to the public a dedicated menu based on high quality Italian products associated with regional culinary traditions and territories.

.....

During the Week of Italian Cuisine, over one thousand events are scheduled to take place all over the world, with a specific program in each country. And the good news is that this will be replicated every year – so come and join in this great culinary experience, and enjoy delicious Italian cuisine and culture in Muscat.

### Did you know?

- Italy ranks first among countries in Europe by the number of its quality certified products (280 Foods and 523 Wines)
- Italy is at the top of world producers of wine with 48.9 million hectoliters in 2015
- Italy places second in the world for the number of starred restaurants (334)



### More festivals around the world

**Pushkar Camel Fair** 

(8 November - 14 November, Pushkar, India).

**Birmingham Comic Convention** 

(19 November – 20 November, Birmingham, England).

Lopburi Monkey Banquet (27 November, Lopburi, Thailand).

### Loy Krathong

Where: Throughout Thailand When: 14 November What: One of the most beautiful festivals in Bangkok is Loy Krathong. This is when thousands of people gather around the city's lakes, rivers and canals, and release lotus shaped rafts – all decorated with candles, incense and flowers – onto the water. The sight of thousands of these floating 'Krathongs' is a truly magical site. (Many hotels in Bangkok host a Loy Krathong event at their

swimming pool).
Oman Air flies 17 times a week
between Muscat/Bangkok (14
Oman Air) (3 code share with
Thai Airways)



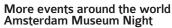


### **Dubai Global Village**

Where: Dubai, UAE

When: 1 November - 8 April 2017 What: Dubai's Global Village is the largest seasonal cultural extravaganza in the region that offers visitors an amazing array of festivals, shopping and entertainment in an open-air theme park. It's set to be open from November through to April and hosts over 70 participating countries presented in over 36 pavilions, with more than 50 fun rides and 26 restaurants offering food from around the world.

Oman Air flies 70 times a week between Muscat/Dubai (49 Oman Air) (21 code share flights with Emirates)



(5 November - 6 November, Amsterdam, The Netherlands).

### World Travel Market

(7 November - 9 November, London, England).

### **Thailand Royal Barge Procession**

(9 November, Bangkok, Thailand).



# SB 12

### Soapbox Race

Where: Mumbai, India When: 13 November What: The Red Bull Soapbox Race is an international event that started in the year 2000, in Brussels. Since then, more than a hundred Red Bull Soapbox Races have been organised globally. India will host this one-of-a-kind event with all its craziness for a second time this year. In an outrageous downhill race, racers build their own soapbox and compete against gravity. Each of these handmade machines have no engine or breaks on them. Are you in for the ride?

Oman Air flies 14 times a week between Muscat/ Mumbai

### **Beirut Cooking Festival**

Where: Beirut, Lebanon When: 17 November - 19 November

What: Bringing together trade professionals and consumers who share a passion for the culinary arts, the Beirut Cooking Festival features entertaining and interactive programs from more than 100 exhibitors, top celebrity chefs, beverage consultants and lifestyle experts, as well as producers, retailers and restaurants.

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### NBO Golf Classic Grand Final at Al Mouj Golf

Where: Al Mouj Golf, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman When: 2 November – 5

November What: The NBO Golf Classic Grand Final is the last event of the European Challenge Tour Season, and it once again takes place in November at the stunning Al Mouj Golf course in Muscat, Oman. Just like the last three years, the 2016 event promises to be a spectacular affair - with 45 of the world's greatest golfers showing off their talents on Al Mouj's Greg Norman-designed, PGA Championship layout.





### **ATP World Tennis Tour Finals**

Where: London, England

When: 13 November – 20 November What: The ATP World Tour Finals is a professional men's tennis tournament played on indoor hard courts and is held annually in November at the O2 Arena in London. The event features the top eight singles players and doubles teams of the ATP season rankings.

Oman Air flies 14 times a week between Muscat/London

### Abu Dhabi Formula 1 Grand Prix

Where: Yas Marina Circuit, Abu Dhabi, UAE When: 25 November – 27 November What: Yas Marina Circuit is an awe-inspiring experience for drivers and spectators alike, with a waterfront setting to rival the likes of Monaco and Singapore. The circuit is straddled by the Yas Viceroy Hotel and also features a 60-metre solar powered Shams Tower and a pit lane, which sees the cars exit via a tunnel passing under the track. Off-track, the entertainment throughout this event shows Abu Dhabi at its most glamorous.

Oman Air flies 28 times a week between Muscat/Abu Dhabi

•••••

More sport around the world
Dubai Intercontinental Beach Soccer Cup
(1 November – 5 November, Dubai, UAE).

'Vendée Globe' solo round the world yacht
race (6 November, Les Sables-d'Olonne, France).
Beirut Marathon (13 November, Beirut, Lebanon).
World Tour Golf Championship
(17 November – 20 November, Dubai, UAE).

'Corrida bulloise' night running race
(19 November, Bulle, Switzerland).





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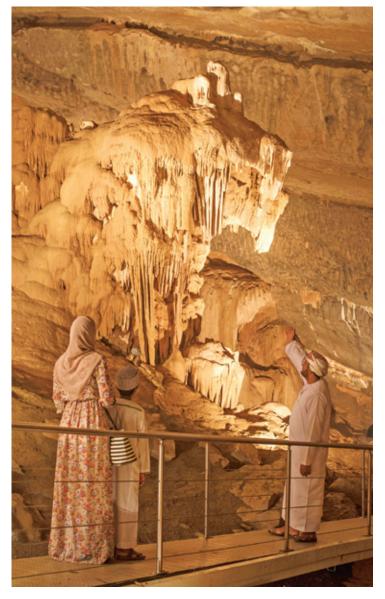
DON GIOVANNI
Opera by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Performed by Opéra de Lyon
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FAMILY CONCERT
Performed by the Orchestra of the Opéra de Lyon
and Grégoire Pont

26 NOVEMBER 2016 - 7:00 PM



## **Al Hoota Cave**

The magnificent Al Hoota Cave system is located at the base of Oman's famous Jebel Shams mountain. Its entire length extends underground for over four kilometres, with 500 metres of this, together with spectacular sections of an underground lake system, now re-opened and accessible to visitors. If you're travelling to Oman, don't forget to take yourself and your family on an underground adventure of a lifetime at Al Hoota Cave.

- 1. Visits to the cave are done with local guides, and start with a ride on board an electric train to the entrance, followed by an exploration of the depths of the cave where you'll get to see formations like stalactites and stalagmites, and see the well-known 'Chinese Cat', 'Old Man', and 'Lion's head' formations.
- i..... 2. All of the guided tours are offered in English and Arabic, and last approximately 45 minutes.

LATITUDE: 23° 4' 52" N LONGITUDE: 57° 21' 1" E

- A sophisticated lighting system allows the guides to switch lights on and off as you proceed, in order to avoid disturbing any cave-dwelling flora and fauna.
- 4. The cave contains a rich ecosystem that includes two lakes. The main lake, which is accessible to visitors, is around 800 metres long and 15 metres deep.
- 5. It is in these lakes that you can observe a rare type of blind fish species, known locally as the Bu Naseh. Other species in the cave include bats, arthropods, mollusks, spiders, snails and water beetles.
- 6. According the official AI Hoota Cave visitor's guide, the cave's underground caverns have been formed by the dissolution of limestone by acidic water. This process involves rainwater dissolving carbon dioxide from the atmosphere or soil, to produce a dilute carbonic acid that gradually dissolves the limestone at a rate of around 10mm every 100 years.
- 7. Spectacular features such as stalagmites and stalactites are formed by mineral deposits as the water moves through the cave system, with some of these having been shaped over millions of years.
- 8. Selfie time? Visitors will be happy to know that there is now also a special photo service at the caves, which allows you to have your photograph taken next to your favourite cave formation.
- 9. Along with the cave itself, there is an expertly curated geological exhibition giving visitors an insight into the geology of the region.
- in 10. There is also an on-site gift shop selling locally made Omani handicrafts, a multi-media digital tour of the caves, and the family-friendly Midyaf Restaurant, where you can dine on locally-produced Omani cuisine.

### Al Hoota Caves: Visitor's information

- The caves are open Tuesday to Sunday 9am 6pm; Friday 9am – 12pm & 2pm – 6pm. (Closed on Mondays).
- During peak holidays periods, pre-bookings for tours of the caves are essential.
- There is parking available near the site's main entrance, as well as WiFi, and restrooms with disabled access.
- You can visit www.alhootacave.com for more information



# 18 November Day: National Day, and His Majesty Sultan Qaboos' birthday celebrations

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said's birthday celebrations take place this month on the 18 November. The day is marked as Oman's National Day – a public holiday – and a time to take to the streets with flags and banners, and song and dance, to celebrate His Majesty's life and reign over the Sultanate of Oman.



This month, Oman prepares for one of their most important days on the calendar year, 18 November Day. During the days leading up to this date, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said's image, together with the Sultanate of Oman national flag and colours, will all be on full display, along with fireworks and spectacular street light displays.

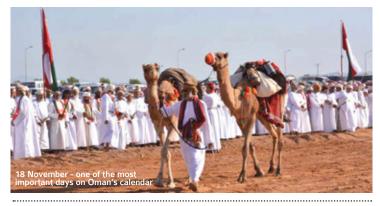
The reason is that His Majesty, born in 1940 in November, will celebrate his 76th birthday on this date, as well as his 46th year of reign over the Sultanate and its people.

### A blessed birth...

As His Majesty's official website biography describes it, 'On 18th November 1940, the ancient city of Salalah whispered in the ears of close associates that a blessed birth had taken place in one of its noble houses. Oman had just received a child, his bright eyes shining with good omens, carrying the glorious future of the Sultanate in his hands.

'The birth was not at first widely reported in Oman; only close relatives and servants knew about it. However, the news soon spread throughout the country as poets came to congratulate Sultan Said bin Taimur on the arrival of his newly born son. The birth of Sultan Qaboos was perhaps the most significant contribution of his father's reign — an invaluable gift for the entire nation.'





For more on His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said's life and achievements, you can go to www.oman-qaboos.net





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### AWARDS AND ACCOLADES OF KPJ HEALTHCARE BERHAD































































At a young age, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos received personal tuition from a select group of teachers and mentors (both in Oman and abroad), before heading off at a later stage to the United Kingdom in 1958 to attend a private educational institution in Suffolk, England. After this, he went to study military sciences at the prestigious Royal Military Academy in Sandhurst in 1960; before furthering his studies in the UK in other areas.

When His Majesty officially ascended to the throne in 1970, he immediately set about implementing development projects with the aim of improving his people's standard of living and transforming Oman – which he renamed The Sultanate of Oman – into the progressive economy and society that it is today. Over time, His Majesty has also ensured that Oman's rich cultural heritage has remained.

### **National Day festivities**

Now, celebrations can be expected throughout the Sultanate's eleven Governorates, and in each of their Wilayat's (provinces). Muscat itself, as well as Salalah, will be the focal point of the festivities. For example, in the capital itself, one of the area's where one can expect huge celebrations is at Shatti Al Qurum's beachfront street.

Throughout the day and into the night, this Shatti Street will be packed with thousands of people, together with hundreds of colourfully decorated cars, which will slowly be paraded down the street, while their drivers constantly honk their horns and rev their engines. Another Muscat hotspot for festivities is the famous Muttrah Corniche, where thousands of people can be expected to turn out to celebrate their leader's birthday every year.

Other events on the go typically include Oman cultural programs, kids' festivals with live music, fashion shows, and Oman-themed fun, art gallery and museum exhibitions, military parades and food markets.

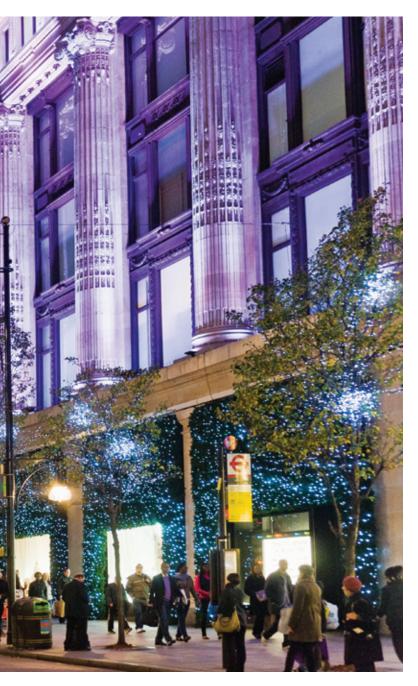
In fact, the entire country is one giant, joyful celebration – all in the name of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said – and something not to be missed.





# Winter in London: Festive Season fun in the 'Capital of the World'

Although it's icy-cold and snowy outside, the winter festive season months in London are some of the most magical and unmissable. Here's what you can fill your days and nights with in the 'Capital of the World' from November until January...



'The winter months in London are when a bunch of open air ice rinks are set up across the city'

### Begin with a bang!

You know when the festive season in London is just around the corner, when the night of the 5th November begins with a bang. The annual Bonfire Night – or Guy Fawkes Night – as it is historically referred to, is when the night skies explode with the sounds and sights of huge firework displays throughout the city. It's also a time to enjoy traditional Bonfire Night food and drink, alongside music, funfairs and family activities.

### Winter Wonderlands

Early November also marks the beginning of London's Winter Wonderland festival, which takes place at Hyde Park from the 18th November until the 2nd January. This free-to-enter family event includes a host of Christmas-themed fun and activities, including ice skating, big top shows, an observation wheel and a huge Christmas market. At London's popular Southbank Centre, there's also a bustling market, twinkling festive season lights, and a host of fun, family-orientated events — which run from the 23rd November until the 22nd January.

### Outdoor ice-skating

The winter months in London are when a bunch of open air ice rinks are set up across the city. Many are set in stunning historic and iconic locations and you and your family and friends will love a spin around some of them. Somerset House, the Natural History Museum Ice Rink, Hampton Court Ice Rink, the Tower of London Ice Rink, Winter Wonderland, and the Canary Wharf Ice Rink are the classics. Afterwards you can head to one of London's many restaurants, eateries, or traditional British pubs, where you can warm up with a hot plate of food, and a cup of hot chocolate or coffee – or something slightly stronger.

### The Lord Mayor's Show

Also in November, the Lord Mayor's Show is a spectacular ceremonial procession for the new mayor. The Lord Mayor's Show dates all the way back to 1215, and every year since then, the newly elected Lord Mayor of the City of London has travelled from the City of London to Westminster to pledge allegiance to the Crown. On the day, between 11h00am and 2h30pm, around half a million people line the route to watch the colourful parade. In the evening, a fireworks display lights up the night sky over the Thames River.

### New Year's Eve

In December, many of the festive events continue throughout the entire month into January, but not before the city celebrates New Year's Eve. On the night of the 31 December, London comes to life with festive season lights and firework displays — and countless New Year's Eve celebrations across the city.

### 2017: New beginnings

In January 2017, London will continue into the New Year with many of the festive season events and festivals, family fun fairs, and Christmas markets that have been on the go since November. But for the first month of 2017, the city also hosts a handful of cultural events that are the ideal way to begin the year.

These include the London Boat Show at the ExCeL London convention centre, from the 6th January until the 15th January, where more than 500 exhibitors showcasing the best in boat and watercraft innovations, equipment and holidays, will be on show.

.....



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Then there's the famous London Art Fair, taking place from the 18th January to the 22nd January, which kicks off the art world year with a showcase of more than 125 art galleries, featuring museum-quality contemporary artworks and pieces from today's leading artists. Featuring works from the early 20th century to the present day, the event covers everything from photography and sculpture to painting and ceramics.

There's also the London Short Film Festival, which goes ahead from the 6th January to 15th January 2017. Now in its 14th year, 'LSFF' has been recognised as the premiere UK showcase for cutting-edge independent film. Critics have called it the 'The Best Short Film Festival in the World', and also suggested that 'Film fans who prefer multimedia thrills to multiplex fodder have flocked to this festival since its inception...'

### **Chinese New Year**

Finally, one more festive event not to miss out on in January is the Chinese New Year celebration – the biggest celebration of its kind outside Asia. According to the Visit London guide, the Chinese New Year festivities in Central London are free to attend and usually take place in Trafalgar Square, Chinatown and across the West End.

The festive winter season could well be called the best time of the year to be in London. If you're prepared to brave the cold and get out the house — although the snow and the cold are what often make London so special at this time of the year — you're guaranteed a good time!



### Travel Token: Union Jack Travel Bag

From luxury shops such as Harrods, quirky retail outlets like Dover Street Market, to bargain fashions at London's markets, big London shopping centres such as Westfield and more – as Visit London, the city's official travel guide points out – London has something for every shopper. And an official Visit London travel bag, featuring the iconic Union jack flag, is the perfect way to carry it all.

'On the night of the 31 December, London comes to life with festive season lights and firework displays'



### London: Travel Info

Oman Air flies 14 times a week between Muscat/London

**Travel Info:** To find out more about travelling to London, visit the city's official travel guide at www. visitlondon.com

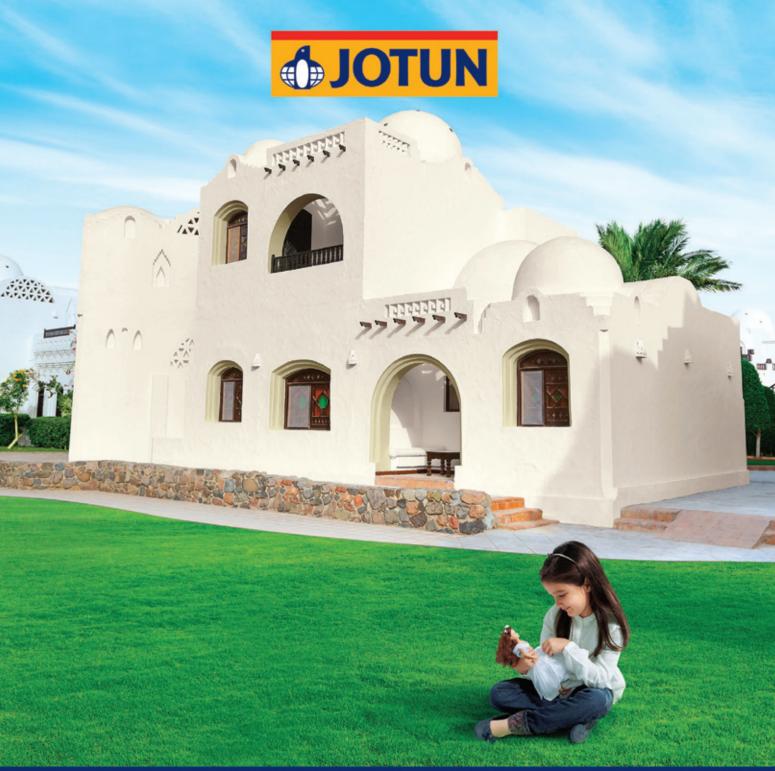
Visa Requirements: For more information on visa requirements for travelling to London and the United Kingdom as a tourist, visit www.gov.uk

**Languages:** The official language of the United Kingdom is English.

**Currency:** The UK's currency is the pound sterling (£/GBP). There are 100 pence (p) to the pound (£). Notes come in denominations of £5, £10, £20 and £50. Coins come in 1p, 2p, 5p, 10p, 20p, 50p, £1 and £2.

- 1 Pound Sterling (GBR) = 0.47 Omani Rial (OMR)
- 1 Pound Sterling (GBR) = 1.22 United States Dollar (USD) (October 2016)





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# Delhi's historic Red Fort: The pinnacle of Mughal creativity

Named for its massive walls of brilliant red sandstone, Delhi's historic Red Fort is considered the pinnacle of Mughal creativity which was brought to a new level of refinement during the mid-1600s under Shah Jahan, the fifth Mughal Emperor of India – and the same emperor that built the famous Taj Mahal, in Agra.

Delhi is said to be one of the oldest existing cities in the world, with some sources estimating it to be well over 5 000 years old. There's a vast collection of historical sights to be visited, explored and photographed in and around the city, but a number one highlight – and an essential must-see item for travellers – is Delhi's historic Red Fort.

According to the UNESCO World Heritage Site guide, the planning and design of the Red Fort represents a culmination of architectural development initiated in the early 1500s by the first Mughal Emperor and brought to a splendid refinement by Shah Jahan with a fusion of Islamic, Persian, Timurid and Hindu traditions.

The entire fort is enclosed by nearly two-and-half kilometres of defensive wall, with some sections over 30 metres in height. It's an imposing structure, and along with the main Lahori gate, it gives you a sense of the strength, grandeur, and ingenuity of the ruling Mughal Empire of the time.

'The Red Fort gives you a sense of the strength, grandeur, and ingenuity of the ruling Mughal Empire of the time'











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After paying a small visitor's fee at the entrance, you're free to head off and explore the fort's main attractions. These include the fort's walls and ramparts, the main Lahori and Delhi gates, the imperial apartments, and the Diwan-i-Aam public audience hall with its giant, exquisitely crafted sandstone pillars and arches.

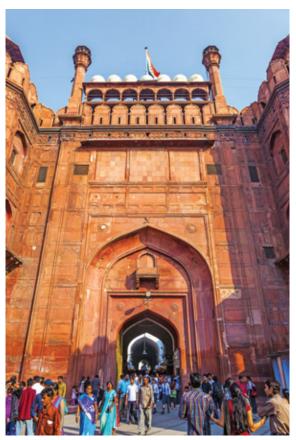
One of the best times to visit the Red Fort is in the evening when there is an hour-long light and sound show celebrating the history of the Mughal culture and the significance of the fort during historic as well as modern times. But either way – during the day, or at night – any trip to Delhi would seem incomplete without a Red Fort visit.

Along with the Red Fort, historic buildings like Humayun's Tomb (with it's beautiful gardens), and the 72.5 metre-high Qutub Minar, along with the more modern Lotus Temple – which has been described as 'one of one of the most magnificent monuments ever made from concrete' – are also well worth a visit.

For the traveller, Delhi is a fun and fascinating place to explore. It's a city with some of the best food and street food on the Indian subcontinent; there's fascinating displays of culture and spirituality wherever you find yourself in the city; a bustling café culture during the day, and an energetic nightlife scene at night; peaceful gardens to enjoy a relaxing walk; museums and monuments; and impressive colonial architecture.

Plus, according to a description of the city on the acclaimed World Travel Guide site, 'Many of Delhi's less-shiny areas are seeing a rebirth, with stylish new shops and restaurants cropping up in some of the least-expected places.'

To find out more about visiting and exploring Delhi and the Red Fort, go to www.delhitourism.gov.in or visit whc.unesco.org







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# Team Oman Air gear up for final push in 2016 Extreme Sailing Series

The 2016 Extreme Sailing Series is set for a thrilling climax in Sydney in December and despite 11 tough months of taxing competition, Team Oman Air has plenty of gas in the tank to make their final push for championship honours.



Oman Sail's hot shot GC32 crew, led by US sailor Morgan Larson and featuring Omani sailor Nasser Al Mashari, have completed seven of the eight Extreme Sailing Series Acts so far and have broken all records in their domination of the podium to become favourites to win the first title since the series moved from Extreme 40s to the foiling GC32s.

But with each event, rival professional teams have gained ground on Team Oman Air who made a strong start to the series at the opening Act in Muscat in March. The competition has revved up and points have been increasingly hard to come by for all the contenders, which is why the Sydney finale is destined to be a nail biting spectacle making victory all the sweeter for the winner.

For the Omanis in the team, across the boat and shore crew, the inspiration for success stems largely from their roots and their experiences from travelling the world, visiting eight different cities across three different continents every year adds depth to their celebrations on Oman National Day and their respect for Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Said.

'Sultan Qaboos means so much to us,' said Al Mashari, whose remarkable success has been instrumental in inspiring a new generation of talented young sailors throughout Oman. 'He is like our father. In fact, if you show pictures of him to young children here, they call him Baba Qaboos and that is exactly how it feels. He has done so much to transform Oman – modernising the education system and providing electricity and water to everyone. I love to travel around the world with my job, but I love returning home more.'

Al Mashari might derive much of his motivation and pride from his Omani heritage but the interest in sailing, which he started in earnest only seven years ago came from Ahmad ibn Majid, the

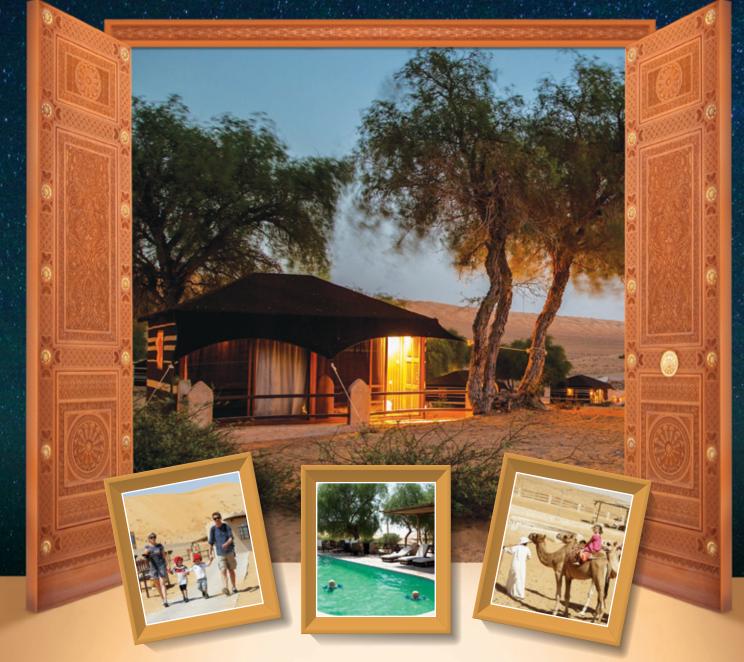


15th Century Arabian navigator, cartographer and poet, who was known as the 'Lion of the Sea'. 'I was eight when I first heard about Ibn Majid and started reading his seafaring tales at school,' he said. 'I was captivated by his ocean ventures and that was when I first became interested in boats and navigation.'

That passion has served him and Oman well. In 2009 he went to work at Oman Sail and a year later was on the bow of one of the world's most advanced racing catamarans as a member of their triumphant Masirah Extreme 40 team. He has worked tirelessly over the seven years since to make sure the winning habit is maintained and now has a glittering collection of highly coveted Extreme Sailing Series championship medals to his name.

Hopefully that collection will have a gleaming new addition come December.

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# Treasures from the National Museum: Sultanate of Oman

The National Museum, which opened its doors to the public on 30 July 2016, on the occasion of the Renaissance Day, is the Sultanate of Oman's flagship cultural institution dedicated to Oman's cultural heritage, showcasing Oman's history from the earliest human settlement in Oman some two million years ago, to the present day, as well as offering glimpses into Oman's future. Jamal al-Moosawi, the National Museum's Acting Director-General, as well as Moza al-Wardi, the Head of Curatorial Unit, take us on a tour...



The National Museum is a national institution with global outreach. Promulgated by Royal Decree 62/2013 issued on 20 November 2013, as an independent legal entity, its purpose is to increase knowledge of, and appreciation for, the cultural heritage of Oman – and to provide opportunities for cultural expression, innovation and the transfer of traditional skills and knowledge from one generation to the next.

Its aim is to ensure that Oman's cultural heritage is understood and appreciated within the Sultanate and valued and recognised internationally.

The Museum is located in a magnificent new purpose-built building, located in Muscat, and has a number of firsts in Oman and regionally...

- The visitor experience spans across 15 permanent gallery spaces, showcasing some 5 500 objects and 43 digital immersive experiences.
- · Fully equipped Learning Centre.
- State-of-the-art preventive conservation facilities.
- · UHD standard cinema with a seating capacity for 80 guests.





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- First Museum in the Middle East to adopt Arabic Braille script for the visually impaired.
- First Museum in the Middle East to house an open-plan storage concept.

The National Museum houses 15 permanent gallery spaces arranged in a chrono-thematic manner. These include the following:

- · The Land and the People
- · Maritime History
- · Arms and Armour
- · Civilisation in the Making
- · Aflaj (Oman's ancient water channelling systems)
- Currency
- Timeline
- · Prehistory and Ancient History: Bat, al-Khutm and al-Ayn
- · Prehistory and Ancient History: The Land of Frankincense
- Prehistory and Ancient History: Prehistory, Civilisation of Magan and Iron Age
- · Splendours of Islam
- · Oman and the World
- · The Renaissance
- Intangible Heritage
- · Collections (Featuring an Open-Plan Storage Concept)

In addition, there is a gallery dedicated to hosting temporary exhibitions, covering an area of 376 square metres. In the Collections Gallery, visitors can also witness all stages associated with collections management, from inventory, preventive conservation, restoration, and storage of objects.

#### Collections of the National Museum

Total number of exhibited artefacts: 5 466 objects

Total number of stored artefacts: 7 117 objects

Total number of objects: 12 583

#### **Conservation and Preservation**

The National Museum has engaged in an extensive programme for preventive conservation and restoration since 2010, to date, some 5 466 objects have been conserved and restored.

#### The National Museum: Visitor's welcome!

The museum is open from 10:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesdays – Saturdays, and 2:00pm – 6:00pm on Fridays. The Museum closes on Sundays and Mondays. (These times effective from 1 October 2016 until 31 December 2016). (Ticket desk closes half an hour before museum closing times). For more information, contact (+968) 22 08 1500, or visit:

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# Legoland® Dubai:

The pairing of LEGO toy building blocks with kids? This is a winning combination wherever in the world the two come together – now including Dubai.

The newly-opened LEGOLAND Dubai, along with its LEGOLAND Water Park, and the rest of Dubai Park's fantastical offerings, are an ultimate theme park experience in the UAE for fun-loving families and their creative children.

At LEGOLAND Dubai, there are over forty LEGO themed rides, shows, building experiences and other attractions.

What's on offer? Well, the 'Factory' is where your kids can see how LEGO bricks are made, and also where they can visit what





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#### Family Traveller

is the largest LEGO store in the Middle East. The LEGO City is where they can fly a plane, steer a boat, save a burning building, and even earn their very own LEGOLAND Driving License. The Imagination area is where they can build and race LEGO cars, build with a collection of very interesting toy robotic systems, and then hoist their way up a tower to get a panoramic view of the entire park. There's also the Kingdom's area, where your kids can enjoy some exhilarating rides and a medieval theme park; the LEGO Divers zone for young underwater explorers; and the spectacular Miniland, which features a miniature version of Dubai's iconic skyline and key landmarks from around the Middle East.

It all makes for a fun, colourful, and creative day out for you and your family.

The LEGOLAND Water Park is another highlight destination for families travelling to Dubai. It is designed specifically for kids aged 2 to 12 years old, and is where they can enjoy a bunch of themed water rides like the Joker Soaker; and also where they can build their very own LEGO raft.

Along with the above, don't miss out on these awesome experiences around the park...

Motiongate Dubai: Motiongate™ Dubai welcomes you to a cinematic journey into the fantasy world of films, where you can dive into an alternative universe of captivating stories and adventures with your favourite animated movie characters.

**Bollywood Dubai:** The first theme park in the world dedicated to all things Bollywood – action, adventure, romance, comedy, music, dance, flavour and emotion.

**Riverland Dubai:** Riverland Dubai is a journey through time, where you can experience four distinct eras in history – including a French Village from the 1600s, the America's of the 1950s, the British Raj of the 1930s, and Europe of the early 1800s.

#### Lapita Hotel Dubai

The Lapita Hotel Dubai is Polynesian-themed family resort inside Dubai Parks and Resorts. Staying here is the perfect way to maximize your family time in between visiting all the fun attractions in the parks. Go to www.dubaiparksandresorts.com for more info.





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## History-making season for Ahmad Al Harthy and the Oman Racing Team

Oman Air ambassador Ahmad Al Harthy has been flying high once again this year in the realms of international motor racing, as the 35-year-old from Muscat enjoyed another history-making season with the hugely successful Oman Racing Team.

Proudly flying the flag for the Sultanate on the grandest stage in GT racing with key support from Oman Air for an eighth consecutive year in 2016, Ahmad starred in the prestigious Blancpain Endurance Cup at the wheel of an Aston Martin V12 Vantage GT3. Joined by Aston Martin factory driver Jonny



Adam, who won his second consecutive British GT title this year, and former 24H Series SP3 Class champion Devon Modell, the trio pieced together a superb campaign to end the season just outside the coveted top three in the Pro-Am class.

Speaking exclusively to Wings of Oman, Ahmad said: 'This really has been an incredible year for the Oman Racing Team and everyone involved with the project. Our Oman Air-backed car was fast all year, extremely well set-up and engineered by the team, and Jonny, Devon and I were able to make the best use of that performance.

'There have been some amazing highlights this season and we were so close to finishing in our target third place in the Pro-Am championship in our first season in the class. Unfortunately, the final race at the Nurburgring in Germany didn't go our way but we did everything we could and I'm so proud of all we've achieved.'

Aiming to build on the strong season the Oman Racing Team powered by Motorbase enjoyed in 2015, Ahmad and his teammates eclipsed those achievements this year with some eyecatching results as the sole Aston Martin entry in the Blancpain championship.

A highlight of the season included racing to an outstanding second place finish in the three-hour Blancpain Endurance Cup campaign at Silverstone Grand Prix Circuit, which marked an historic first ever Pro-Am podium finish for the Oman Racing Team. 'It's always such a humbling feeling when the Omani flag is raised on the podium, especially in the UK as it's where I raced for many years. It was a history-making moment for Oman and a proud moment for me personally.'

Another highlight was when the team delivered a stunning performance for the biggest race of the season, and one of the most demanding races on the globe – the Total 24 Hours of Spa in Belgium – when they posted a richly deserved seventh place finish in the Pro-Am division.

Follow Ahmad Al Harthy's motor racing career at:

Website: www.ahmadalharthy.com

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## **Savvy Traveller**

The Sultanate of Oman is on the eastern end of the Arabian Peninsula. It borders the United Arab Emirates in the northwest, Saudi Arabia in the west and Yemen in the southwest. It also has two enclaves – the Musandam Peninsula and Madha – which are separated by the UAE. Oman's 3 165 kilometre coastline spans the Gulf of Oman in the north and the Sea of Oman (which forms part of the Arabian Sea) in the east.



#### For the traveller, the Sultanate of Oman has a large variety of experiences:

- A wide variety of pristine beaches and islands
- Spectacular mountains, canyons and wadis
- · World class diving, snorkelling, and other water sports
- · Turtle, dolphin and whale watching
- Wildlife tours in the Sultanate's nature reserves and biodiversity spots
- Cultural sites including forts, ancient tombs and prehistoric cities
- Desert safaris and adventures
- A large variety of markets and sougs
- Museums and art galleries
- · Trekking, rock climbing and caving adventures
- Horse and camel racing events
- Golf courses
- Various festivals, including the popular Muscat Festival and Salalah Festival.

#### There are currently four UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the Sultanate of Oman

Aflaj Irrigation Systems
 Archaeological Sites of Bat
 Bahla Fort

Sultanate of Oman: Fact Sheet

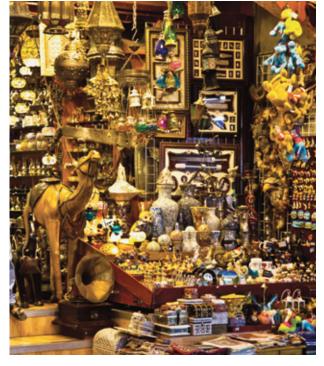
Area : 3 09 500 km2

Population (2016) : 4 419 003 (2 006 734 expatriates)
Language : Arabic (official) English (widely spoken)

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Capital : Muscat Local Time : GMT +4

Currency : Omani Rial, which equates to US\$ 2.58



#### Currency

The local currency is the Omani Rial (referred to as RO or OR or OMR). It is further divided into 1000 Baizas. Currency denominations are available in 50, 20, 10, 5 and 1 Rial and 500 and 100 Baiza notes. Coins are available in 50, 25, 10 and 5 Baizas.

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<b>Economy Class</b>	343 RO
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Offer valid for booking and traveling until 15 December 2016.

Rooms and seats are subject to availability. Terms & conditions apply.

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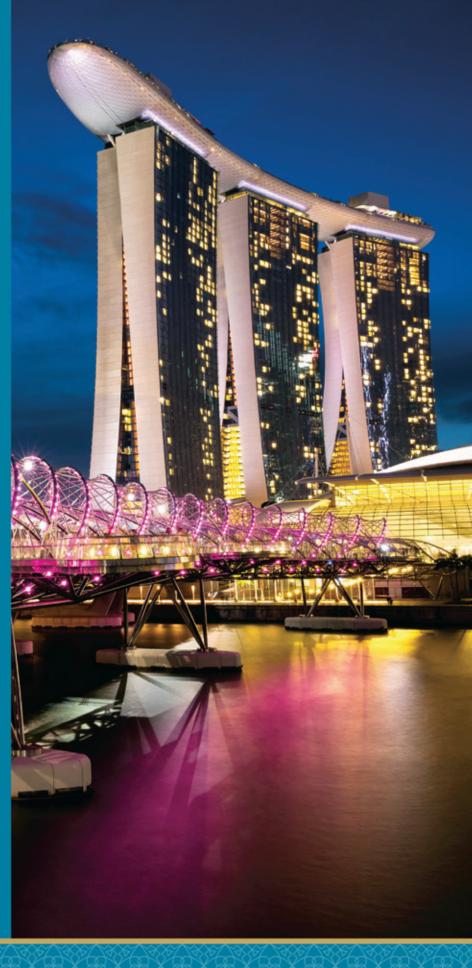


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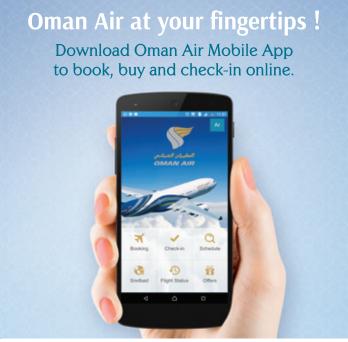
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#### **In-flight Connectivity**

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#### **Chauffeur Services**

Oman Air offers premium travellers a host of distinctive services that will enhance their travel experience. First and Business Class passengers can now take advantage of our complimentary Chauffeur Drive airport transfer service at select destinations across our network. With an attentive service that comes with a personal chauffeur, luxury vehicles and speedy door-to-door transfers, you can now travel in comfort and style with Oman Air.

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Our Bangkok lounge is designed for customers travelling in First or Business Class, and for those holding Gold and Silver Sindbad cards, and can be used and enjoyed at a minor cost. The Majan Lounge is open to Premium customers travelling on airlines operating from Muscat International Airport and for Oman Air passengers holding Gold and Silver Sindbad membership who are travelling in Economy Class, and can be used and enjoyed at a minor cost. Each lounge also has an experienced and professional team of customer service staff on hand to look after you before you board your flight.

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- Airport taxes & surcharges

Offer valid for booking and traveling until 15 December 2016.

Rooms and seats are subject to availability. Terms & conditions apply.

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# Oman Air wins twice at World Travel Awards Middle East 2016

Oman Air has been named the 'Middle East's Leading Airline, Business Class' and the 'Middle East's Leading Airline, Economy Class' at the prestigious World Travel Awards Middle East 2016. The awards were presented at a glittering red-carpet ceremony, hosted by Shereen Mitwalli at the St Regis, Dubai on 29th September. They were accepted by Mohammed Al Shikely, Oman Air's Vice President Marketing, on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer, Paul Gregorowitsch.

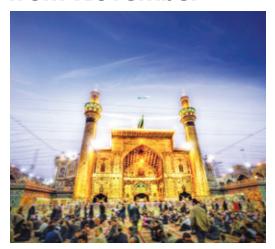


# Oman Air TV commercial gets global airing on CNN

Oman Air's latest TV commercial is now being aired around the world on CNN. The commercial highlights Oman Air's outstanding levels of comfort and customer service, alongside its growing network which covers destinations in the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Europe. The commercial, which was produced by CNN on behalf of Oman Air, will run every day of the week during primetime, for the next three months. It will reach more than 420 million viewers in households and hotels across the European, Middle East and North African, Asia Pacific and South Asian regions.



# Oman Air commences flights to Najaf, Iraq, from November



The National Carrier of Oman is now fully geared to commence its foray into the great, historic city of Najaf. Oman Air can announce that as part of its ambitious and dynamic programme of network expansion, it will be commencing its four times weekly service from Muscat to Najaf, in Iraq from November 2016. It is expected that the flights will further strengthen political, economic and cultural ties between Oman and Iraq.

# Oman Air A330 lands at Muscat following complete cabin upgrade

In continuing with Oman Air's journey to 'Become the best', the airline's latest Airbus 330, which recently benefited from a complete and comprehensive retrofit, has now returned home to Muscat International Airport. The newly refurbished A330-200 aircraft underlines Oman Air's commitment to ongoing investment in the comfort of its on-board guests. As the aircraft landed —



resplendent in its distinctive Oman Air livery – it was met by the airline's Executive Vice President Product and Brand Development, Eng. Abdulaziz Al Raisi.

### **In-Flight Entertainment**

Welcome to the world of Inflight Entertainment on Oman Air.

Sit back, relax and travel in comfort with a specially curated selection of Western,

Arabic and International movies, television & music - all to be enjoyed at your fingertips.

#### **Movies Hollywood**



Paul Feig takes the reigns on the reboot of the beloved 80s blockbuster franchise. Studded with an all-female cast, Melissa McCarthy, Kristen Wiig, Kate McKinnon and Leslie Jones steal the show. The Atlantic claims it to be "true to Feigian form, unapologetically combine[ing] ghosts and guns and gags and girl power.



Your favorite prehistoric heroes are back! This film makes *Ice Age* the first animated theatrical franchise to feature five installments. For your next family movie night, sit back and watch the wisecracks unfold in this hilarious feature Variety calls "positively infectious.



Ice Age: Collision Course Absolutely Fabulous:



**Ghostbusters** 

**Bad Moms** 



**Captain Fantastic** 



For The Love of Spock



Kampai! For The Love of Sake



The BFG



The Infiltrator



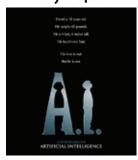
The Legend of Tarzan



The Secret Life of Pets

#### **Movies Hollywood**

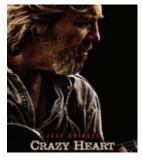
#### **Back By Popular Demand**



A.I. Artificial Intelligence



**Letters To Juliet** 



Crazy Heart



The Heat

#### **MODERN CLASSICS**

Batman Begins Before Sunrise

Braveheart

Chariots of Fire

City of Angels

**Edward Scissorhands** 

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Heat

I am Sam

L.A. Confidential

#### VIDE

**Finding Dory** 

Ice Age

Ice Age: The Meltdown

#### BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Ali

Guess Who

Independence Day

Now You See Me

#### **BOX OFFICE FAVOURITES**

Adult Life Skills

Central Intelligence

Independence Day: Resurgence

Misery Loves Comedy

**Mothers And Daughters** 

Now You See Me 2

Star Trek Beyond

The Family Fang

#### X-MEN COLLECTION

X-Men

X-Men 2: X Men United

X-Men Origins: Wolverine

X-Men: Days Of Future Past

X-Men: First Class

X-Men:The Last Stand

#### SILVER SCREEN CLASSICS

Citizen Kane

The Treasure of the Sierra Madre

#### **Movies International**



Immerse yourself in a roller coaster of emotions with Karan Johar's *Kapoor and Sons*. Starring Rishi Kapoor, Alia Bhatt, Sidharth Malhotra and more, this coming-of-age movie is honest, hilarious and endearing.

And many more... Please see the onscreen guide for your full entertainment lineup



Kapoor & Sons



Theri

Directed by Atlee, don't miss the action-packed, revenge drama, *Theri*. With mind-blowing performances by Vijay and little Nainika, the movie is packed with twists and promises to entertain you till the end.

Apradh



Kokowääh 2

And many more... Please see the onscreen guide for your full entertainment lineup

#### BOLLYWOOD NEW

Rocky Handsome Saala Khadoos Te3n

#### BOLLYWOOD CLASSIC

Aakhir Kyon? Aan Milo Sajna Aandhi Aap Ki Kasam Baghban

#### Cinemawala

Hero 420 KANNADA

#### Jai Maruthi 800

U Turn

#### MALAYALAM

Anuraga Karikkin Vellam Two Countries

#### MARATH

Haapus Half Ticket

#### TAMIL

Maruthu Theri

#### TELUGU Oopiri

Sarrainodu

#### SINHALA

Mage Yalu Malu Maharaja Gemunu

#### URDU

Ishq Positive Sawal 700 Crore Dollar Ka

#### **FRENCH**

Back to Mom's Up for Love

#### GERMAN

Ferien
Outside the Box

#### Schrotten!

#### ITALIAN Forever Young

They Call Me Jeeg Robot

#### rurkish

Kocan Kadar Konus Küçük Esnaf

#### KOBEAN

Familyhood The Truth Beneath

#### PERSIAN

Paat Two

#### NIGERIAN

Espionage Silverain

#### TV Western



The Night Manager

Adapted from the novel of the same name by John le Carré, The Night Manager garnered director Susanne Bier a Primetime Emmy Award for directing. The show's riveting storyline is paired with Tom Hiddleston and Hugh Laurie's captivating performances. The Sun boasts it to be "one of the greatest series of all time.



**Telescope** 

Oscar-nominated filmmaker Nathanial Kahn takes you behindthe-scenes of the latest evolutionary telescope: NASA's James Webb Space Telescope. It is 100 times more powerful than the Hubble Space Telescope, capable of peeking back in time into the origins of our universe all while providing high anticipation for the future.



**DOCUMENTARY** 

Absolutely Fabulous

Gotham

**BUSINESS** 

COMEDY

Camping

The Middle

Managing Asia

The Big Bang Theory

**CNN** Business Traveller

Explorer: Bill Nve's Global Meltdown

In Defense of Food

The Eighties



2 Dudes & A Kitchen

**Buying Alaska** 

Tech Toys 360

Tricks of the Restaurant Trade



**Empire** 

Maigret Sets a Trap

NCIS

#### LIFESTYLE

Celebrated

CNN Style

Jamie's Super Food

Perfume... the French touch

Richard Hammond's Jungle Quest

#### **MUSIC & ARTS**

BBC Radio 1's Big Weekend 2016

Later... with Jools Holland

#### **SPORT**

Football's Greatest III Rio 2016 Olympic Games

UEFA Euro 2016 Tournament Highlights

#### **TRAVEL**

Go Travel

Jet Set

Planet Food

World's Best Restaurants

Be Cool, Scooby Doo!

Marvel's Guardians of the Galaxy

Mickey Mouse Clubhouse

Miles from Tomorrowland



The Grinder

#### **Elementary**

And many more... Please see the onscreen guide for your full entertainment lineup

#### TV International



Comedy Nights Live



Pillalu Pidugulu



Koffee With DD

The Kapil Sharma Show Yaar Mera Superstara

#### KANNADA

Chinnara Chillipilli Harateya Melaku Naati Mane

Punch Kajjaya

Comedy Clips Naattu Vaidhyam

#### TAMIL

Kalakka Povadhu Yaaru Pudhu Padam Eppadi Irukku Sunday Galatta

#### MALAYALAM

Comedy Stars Laughing Villa Suryotsavam Taste Time

#### **BENGALI** Didi no.1

Handsome The Ultimate Man Mirakkel Akkel Challenger Rannaghar

#### MARATHI

Aamhi Saare Khavayye Chala Hawa Yeu Dya

Joru Ka Ghulam

Urdu Rock & Pop Music

#### TAGALOG

Home Sweetie Home Rated K Sports U

Angel In The Making Come Home Love

Tiger Mom

Wake Up

D'sign

Saya Terima Nikahnya Tetangga Masa Gitu

Another Miss Oh Doctors



**Coke Studio Pakistan** 

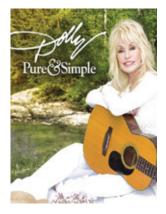


**Magandang Buhay** 

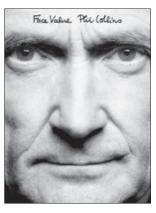


**Uff Meri Family** 

#### **Audio Western**



**Dolly Parton** Pure & Simple



**Phil Collins** Face Value

**Britney Spears** Glory

Barbra Streisand Encore: Movie Partners Sing Broadway

Izzy Bizu A Moment of Madness

Frenship Truce

Jake Miller Overnight

Tall Heights Neptune

Fire From the Gods Narrative

Morgan Delt Phase Zero

Various Artists Ultra 2016

Krewella Ammunition: The Remixes

Various Artists The Rocky Horror Picture Show

Kiefer Sutherland Down in a Hole

Pink Floyd The Wall

Hootie & The Blowfish The Best of Hootie & The Blowfish (1993-2003)

**David Bowie** Best of Bowie

The Bad Plus It's Hard

Nils Petter Molvær

Whitney Houston Whitney: The Greatest Hits

Various artists The Get Down

Mykal Rose Rasta State

Jascha Heifetz The Magic of Jascha

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra & Vasily Petrenko Shostakovich: The

Complete Symphonies Antonio Pappano & Ian Bostridge Shakespeare Songs

Banks & Steelz

Anything But Words Sacred Earth

**Breathing Space** Bernward Koch Touched by Love

The Haiku Project

Michael Bublé Christmas

Various Artists

Southside with You

Various Artists Ghosthuster

Henry Mancini Breakfast At Tiffany's / Arabesque

And many more... Please see the onscreen guide for your full entertainment lineup

#### **Audio International**



Amaal Mallik & Rochak Kohli

M.S. Dhoni - The Untold Story



D. Imman Veera Sivaji



SpeXial Boyz On Fire

Vishal-Shekhar Akira

Jeet Gannguli & Sangeet-Siddharth Haldipur Raaz Reboot

**Sajid - Wajid** Freaky Ali

**Devi Sri Prasad** Janatha Garage

Harris Jayaraj Inkokkadu

Various Artists

Gurukiran Nagarahavu

Mehdi Hassan & Mehdi Asif Anirudh Ravichander Remo Vishal Chandrashekhar Kuttram 23

Butterfly Chien Sorry For The Wait

CNCO

Céline Dion

**GARNIDELIA** 

Psycho le Cému Now and Then - The The World

LUNA Free Somebody

FTISLAND Where's the Truth?

Angela Pang Recall

Joyce Cheng

And many more... Please see the onscreen guide for your full entertainment lineup

Oman Unlimited Sham On Board

Maestro

Cool Jazz

**Dance Club** 

Chill Out

Top Hitz

**Golden Oldies** 

#### **Radio Western & International**

#### WESTERN



**Fusion** 





**Urban Vibes** 

#### INTERNATIONAL



Chennai Parade



Africana Beatz



Bollywood Masala



Sinhalese Mix

Malayalam Chart Busters

Melodi Garuda **Pinoy Power** 

Fatafati Hits

Sandalwood Reloaded

The Marathi Hits

Tollywood Tadka

Sufi For The Soul

Mando Blitz