

# MIDDLE EAST

Qatar | Oman | Kuwait | Bahrain

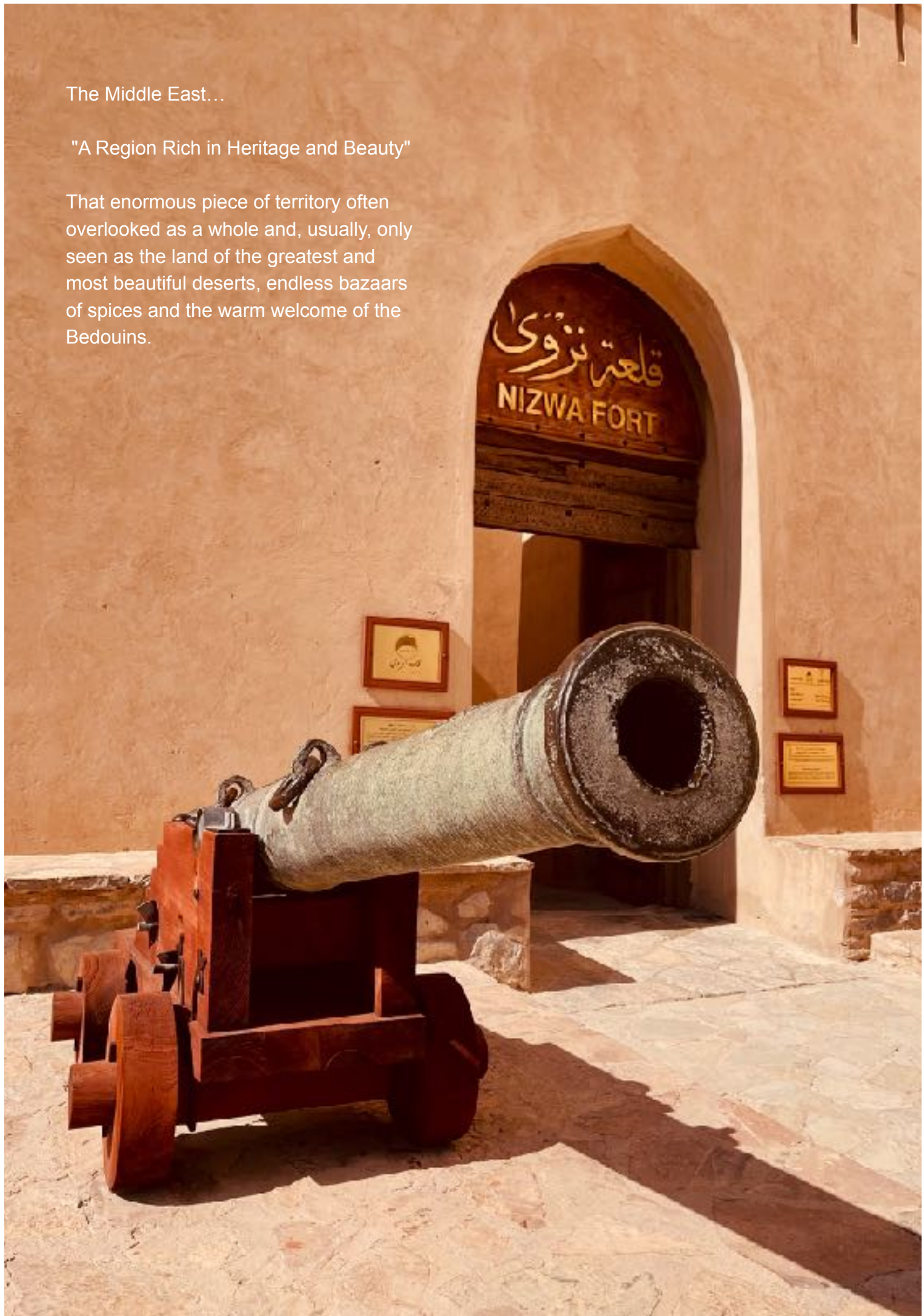


travel  
hotels  
tours

The Middle East...

"A Region Rich in Heritage and Beauty"

That enormous piece of territory often overlooked as a whole and, usually, only seen as the land of the greatest and most beautiful deserts, endless bazaars of spices and the warm welcome of the Bedouins.



## Table of Content

---

The Story	1
Qatar	2 - 3
Luxury Hotels	4 - 7
Attractions	8 - 13
Experiences	14 - 19
Oman	20 - 21
Luxury Hotels	22 - 25
Regions	26 - 30
Experiences	32 - 43
Kuwait	44 - 45
Luxury Hotels	46 - 49
Places	50 - 51
Attractions	52 - 57
Bahrain	58 - 59
Luxury Hotels	60 - 63
Experiences	64 - 73



# Sanyog Gupta Voyages

Luxury Destination Management Company

As we have evolved as a company, we have come to realise that our love lies not in booking tour packages, but in showcasing the unique experiences across the nations we serve. We realised that there are many secret corners of our world, rare moments, mysteries and stories.

Our company owned by a family, but run professionally. We have hierarchical systems which are driven by our core family values. We have come to understand we do not want to be the largest company globally. We have never tried to be the richest or the most influential. I say, we just want to be the bestest in what we do.

We are a family tradition for over three decades that have been highlighting this part of the planet. All over Indian sub-continent, we have grown to become a popular, valued and autonomous DMC providing the finest cultural experiences, personal immersions and natural wonders. We are here to build stories for our clients, tales of love, of wonderful excitement. We are proud of our past and its legacy.

*‘We are real voyagers and love varying voyager’s*

## THE LUXURY TRAVEL EXPERTS.

YESTERDAY, TODAY, ALWAYS.

Sanyog Gupta Voyages brings to you finest luxury holidays in Middle East and Asia. Indulge your passion, arrive in a private jet, travel in a limousine or a yacht, the Opulent Routes Concierge services will weave magic in your holiday experience.

[www.sanyog.travel](http://www.sanyog.travel)



Sanyog Gupta  
President - Sales & Marketing

---

THIS IS THE TIME  
THIS IS THE PLACE  
THIS IS MIDDLE

---

# QATAR



## IT ALL STARTS WITH HALA

Qatar, the tiny Gulf nation bordered by Saudi Arabia, has one of the highest GDPs in the world—and only about 300,000 Qatari citizens, making this an ideal playground for the rich and famous.

From shopping for rare jewels (and falcons!) to partying in penthouses and racing million-dollar horses, Qatar has plenty of experiences that will definitely break the bank.

It is a peninsular Arab country whose terrain comprises arid desert and a long Persian (Arab) Gulf shoreline of beaches and dunes.

Also on the coast is the capital, Doha, known for its futuristic skyscrapers and other ultramodern architecture inspired by ancient Islamic design, such as the limestone Museum of Islamic Art. The museum sits on the city's Corniche waterfront promenade.

# DOHA

## THE CAPITAL

Welcome to Doha, Qatar's ultramodern capital. Located in the east of the country, Doha is home to approximately 646,000 people from all over the world. It's the country's fastest-growing city and its business centre.

From a pearling and fishing village of great importance, with around 350 pearling boats at the beginning of the 20th century, Doha underwent a complete economic transformation and became a modern and prosperous city.

Doha's tourism sector has evolved rapidly over the years, with key attractions and several museums of great importance gaining the spotlight.

Known for its exemplary hospitality, exquisite cuisine, unique shopping experiences and traditional souqs, along with a plethora of adventures and activities, Doha is growing rapidly, and offers something for all travellers.

Wander around the atmospheric Souq Waqif, explore its maze of shops and buy local products, enjoy dinner with a view in one of the city's most popular restaurants or grab a bite in its local eateries.

Visit world-class shopping malls that offer various luxury brands, along with an variety of recreational activities for all family members.

Explore the rich treasures in its museums, including the National Museum of Qatar and the Museum of Islamic Art, which are also considered to be architectural masterpieces.

Immerse yourself in the Pearl, Doha's man-made island and explore Katara Cultural Village, Doha's art and culture hub.



### The Torch Doha

At 300 meters high and with 360 degrees panoramic views across Doha, The Torch is a haven for discerning visitors, from sports enthusiasts and business leaders or health and wellness seekers.

Spread across 51 floors, The Torch Doha has a selection of rooms featuring a unique iPad in-Room Solution, mood lighting system in 12 different colors and Interactive LED TVs.

### Banana Island Resort

20 minutes from the heart of Qatar's vibrant capital, a luxury yacht ferry crosses crystal clear water to reach a breathtaking island that feels a world away, while a private helicopter pad offers an exclusive arrival with a bird's eye coastal view. Welcome to Banana Island Resort Doha by Anantara - a paradise sanctuary of world class facilities and limitless activities, both above and below the water, providing relaxation and adventure, wellness and pure indulgence.



### Ritz Carlton Doha

An Exquisite Beachfront Resort Overlooking The Arabian Gulf And The City Skyline, the Ritz-Carlton Doha Offers A Premier Location In The Exclusive West Bay Lagoon District.

Featuring One Of The Most Elegant and Complete health Spas In The Region, the Ritz-Carlton Doha Provides The Perfect Surroundings To Reflect On Important Business Matters Or To Sample Some Of The Finest Recreation In The World.

### Intercontinental Doha

A grand landmark hotel, InterContinental Doha combines heritage and luxury with contemporary comfort. Located in the prestigious West Bay area, overlooking the blue waters of the Arabian Gulf, the hotel boasts the largest free-form swimming pool and longest private beach in the city. It is conveniently located within 10 minutes of the major central business district, the diplomatic area, the centre of the city and Doha Golf Club.



## Ritz Carlton Sharq Village & Spa

Fourteen individual courtyard houses, or beits, meander organically up from the one-thousand metres of private coastline around the ancient Arabic bazaar to form Sharq Village & Spa.

The 174-room village, situated in an area known as Sharq, meaning orient, perfectly blends traditional architecture and design with the latest in modern comforts and amenities.



## JW Marriott

The JW Marriott Marquis City Center, Doha offers 272 spacious guest rooms and suites. Rooms start at 46 square meters (500 square feet), and are among the largest in Doha. Each room features floor-to-ceiling windows with spectacular views of the city or the Gulf, complementing the chic interiors.

On level 7, the hotel features an outdoor leisure swimming pool and garden. Enjoy a refreshing workout in the fitness center before easing tired muscles with a massage at the Spa.

## The St. Regis Doha

Steeped in Middle Eastern mystique, The St. Regis Doha presents seductive interiors styled in modern opulence by the tranquil blue Arabian Gulf, as towering sand dunes and ancient architecture paint a magnificent landscape for discerning travelers.

Our elegant facilities include a cornucopia of signature restaurants, a world-class Remède Spa, and a 1,850-square-meter Grand Ballroom.



## W Doha Hotel

W Doha Hotel & Residences is a contemporary lifestyle experience that includes 240 guestrooms, 63 suites, and 138 W branded Residences. W Doha boasts three signature restaurants, including Spice Market, featuring delectable Southeast Asian street dishes and Market by Jean-Georges, which blends international cuisine with local Arabian flavors, both by three-star Michelin Chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten, W Doha also features three stylish lounges: the W signature Living Room, Wahm and Crystal and a coffee house, W Cafe.



## Kempinski Suites Doha

Kempinski Residences & Suites is equipped with contemporary furnished suites. Each includes a spacious open-plan living with dining area and separate king-size bedrooms with uninterrupted views. Guests can enjoy fine foods and delicacies at the Gourmet House Restaurant of the hotel. The on-site Aroma Brasserie serves European-style pastries, while Pure offers healthy juices and smoothies. The property features 2 indoor swimming pools and state of art Gym.

## Grand Hyatt Doha

The elegant Grand Hyatt Doha offers more than just beautiful accommodation and a great location at the start of the causeway leading to the Pearl-Qatar project. It also offers outstanding facilities such as a private beach, a beautiful spa with separated men's and women's departments, and a well-equipped gym.

The hotel boasts of six innovative restaurants and lounges and more than 2,200 sq m of function space laid out over two floors for meeting and banquet facilities.



## Movenpick Hotel West Bay Doha

Located in the throbbing heart of the Qatari capital, Mövenpick Hotel West Bay Doha is ideal for business and leisure travellers. Combining a modern, contemporary style with a touch of Swiss hospitality, guests will experience innovative designs and impeccable service.

The 347 rooms come equipped with the latest technology, not to mention that many have breath taking views of the Arabian Gulf.

## La Cigale Hotel

Experience five-star accommodation and a superb level of personal service in the heart of Doha, Qatar at La Cigale Hotel. Behind its polished 20-story facade, this striking high-design hotel offers a stylish yet relaxing haven where business travellers can escape the city's hectic pace.

Enjoy a finely crafted mix of comfort and luxury at La Cigale Hotel. Exceptionally appointed Deluxe and Premium Rooms are a welcome and relaxing respite from the non-stop energy of Doha.



## Four Seasons Doha

Now open, Four Seasons offers supreme space and comfort in a resort-like waterfront setting, featuring an exclusive beach and 110-berth marina - and far-reaching views of the Arabian Gulf. An extensive spa and fitness centre, multi-level grotto pools, international dining and intuitive, personalised service create a leisure experience unmatched in Doha.

Located in the middle of Doha Bay, this beautiful man-made island is covered with palm trees and pretty beaches.



## Mandarin Oriental Doha

Featuring an outdoor swimming pool and fitness centre, Mandarin Oriental, Doha is located in the centre of Msheireb Downtown Doha. With a terrace, the property also has a bar. The in-house restaurant serves Mediterranean cuisine. The rooms are equipped with air conditioning, a flat-screen TV with satellite channels, a coffee machine, a bath, free toiletries and a desk. The rooms are fitted with a kettle and a private bathroom with a shower and a hair dryer, while certain rooms include a kitchen. The units feature a seating area.



## Al Messila Resort & Spa

Situated in Doha, 11 km from the National Museum of Qatar, Al Messila Resort, A Luxury Collection Resort & Spa, Doha features accommodation with four restaurants and bars, free private parking, an outdoor swimming pool with separate Jacuzzi and a fitness centre. With free WiFi, this 5-star hotel has a bar and a garden. The accommodation offers a 24-hour front desk, room service and currency exchange for guests.



## Al Rayyan Hotel Doha

Situated in Al Rayyan neighborhood and directly linked to Mall of Qatar, AlRayyan Hotel Doha, Curio Collection by Hilton features air-conditioned rooms and suites, three temperature-controlled rooftop swimming pools treated with salt water, 5 dining options, separate male and female wellness areas and flexible meeting space with a grand ballroom.

Every guest room boasts floor-to-ceiling windows, work area, 48-inch TV, and marble bathroom with separate bathtub and shower.



# ATTRACTIONS



## ASPIRE ZONE FOUNDATION

Located minutes from central Doha, Aspire Zone is marked by The Torch Doha, the 300m tall hotel which boasts panoramic views of the city. With world-class sports venues, a training academy, sports medicine hospital, turf research centre, as well as five-star accommodation, restaurants and entertainment, it is a compact destination for sport lovers.

The vast green spaces of Aspire Park, spread over 880,00 m<sup>2</sup>, offer respite from the cityscape, with walking/running tracks, children's play areas, a large lake, and Perceval, a public artwork by Sarah Lucas. Cafés and dining venues dot the area, while Villaggio Mall and Hyatt Plaza Mall provide more entertainment, dining and retail options.



## IMAM ABDUL WAHHAB MOSQUE

As the largest mosque in Qatar, Imam Abdul Wahhab, also known as the Qatar State Grand Mosque, was inaugurated in 2011.

Its simple lines and graceful arches are nonetheless eye-catching, and characteristic of Islamic architectural tradition.

The mosque houses three libraries, separate prayer and ablution halls for men and women, and special halls for Quran memorisation, and can hold over 30,000 worshippers.

## DAHL AL MISFIR

Located west of Doha, in the centre of the peninsula, Dahl Al Misfir is one of Qatar's most exciting natural sites.

At 40 meters deep, it is considered the largest and deepest, yet accessible cave in Qatar.

Formed largely of fibrous gypsum, it sometimes gives off a faint, otherworldly glow.





## AL SHAQAB

Al Shaqab, a Qatar Foundation member since 2004, is Qatar's state-of-the-art equestrian centre, dating back to 1992. It aims to preserve the historical traditions and legacy of the Arabian horses; animals that are highly respected in the country.

Home to more than 700 of them, Al Shaqab introduces one of the world's leading and most advanced equestrian programmes based on three main principles - excellence, education and heritage.

## THE PEARL QATAR

The Pearl, Qatar is a man-made island offshore Doha's prestigious West Bay District, featuring Mediterranean-style yacht-lined marinas, residential towers, villas, and hotels, as well as introducing a luxurious shopping experience with premium designer boutiques and showrooms. The Island is also home to modern dining spots- from refreshing ice creams to five-star culinary experiences, while it stands out for its pedestrian-friendly squares and plazas and the wide range of landscaped gardens.

The Pearl is a popular visitor attraction by virtue of its chic elegance, inviting descriptions such as the 'Arabian Riviera'.



## SOUQ WAQIF

Visit Souq Waqif for its authentic vibes. Explore the maze of shops, taste local dishes, buy beautiful textiles or souvenirs.

For an amazing shot, capture the Fanar as it appears in one of the alleys or from the main square. Tip: Look for the old fountain well.

## INLAND SEA

One of the few places in the world where the desert encompasses the sea, the Inland Sea or Khor Al Adaid, is one of the most popular places to visit thanks to its unique landscape.

Capture the captivating scenery and make life-long memories.



## THE AMPHITHEATER KATARA CULTURAL VILLAGE

Katara Cultural Village has emerged as the country's creative heart. The Amphitheater is an excellent architectural blend of Islamic and classical Greek elements.

It overlooks the sea and regularly hosts shows and concerts. With a powerful sculpture standing between the Amphitheatre and the water, it is very Instagram-friendly.

## EDUCATION CITY CEREMONIAL COURT

Ceremonial Court, part of Education City, is designed by Pritzker-prize winning Japanese architect Arata Isozaki.

Its intricate design and novel architecture undoubtedly make it a capture worth having.

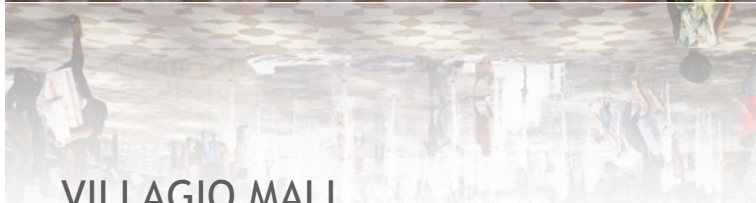




## MSHEIREB DOWNTOWN DOHA

Visit Msheireb Downtown Doha and discover the world's first sustainable downtown regeneration project.

MDD introduces a new architectural language, and is the city's latest social hub; an ideal place for living, working, dining and spending time with family and friends.



## VILLAGGIO MALL

One of the most impressive shopping destinations in the country, Villagio is a Venetian-inspired mall that has a lot to offer, from budget to luxury shops, to a range of cafes and restaurants and entertainment parks.

The main entrance of Villagio features the perfect background for your photo and is one not to miss.



## NATIONAL MUSEUM OF QATAR

With a stunning desert-rose inspired design by French architect Jean Nouvel, the National Museum of Qatar is a landmark that creatively tells the country's story by taking visitors on an interactive journey. A snap in front of NMoQ is mandatory.

Moreover, it's worth highlighting its Gift Shop, which features wooden surfaces inspired by Dahl Al Misfir cave.



## MUSEUM OF ISLAMIC ART

An architectural masterpiece, the Museum of Islamic Art is located on a purpose-built island on the Doha waterfront.

Designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect I.M. Pei, MIA houses one of the most important Islamic Art collections in the world. A photograph featuring this iconic building in the background is a must-do.



## QATAR NATIONAL LIBRARY

Located in the heart of Education City, this state-of-the-art building provides access not only to millions of books, but all sorts of cutting edge learning facilities, programs and equipment for public use.

## THE BRIDGE QANAT QUARTIER

The Venetian-inspired Qanat Quartier is known for its funky and Instagrammable architecture. It even has its own version of the Rialto bridge, an ideal spot that offers the perfect background for your photo.

Capture this shot and continue exploring the pastel-coloured buildings and cafes lining its waterways.



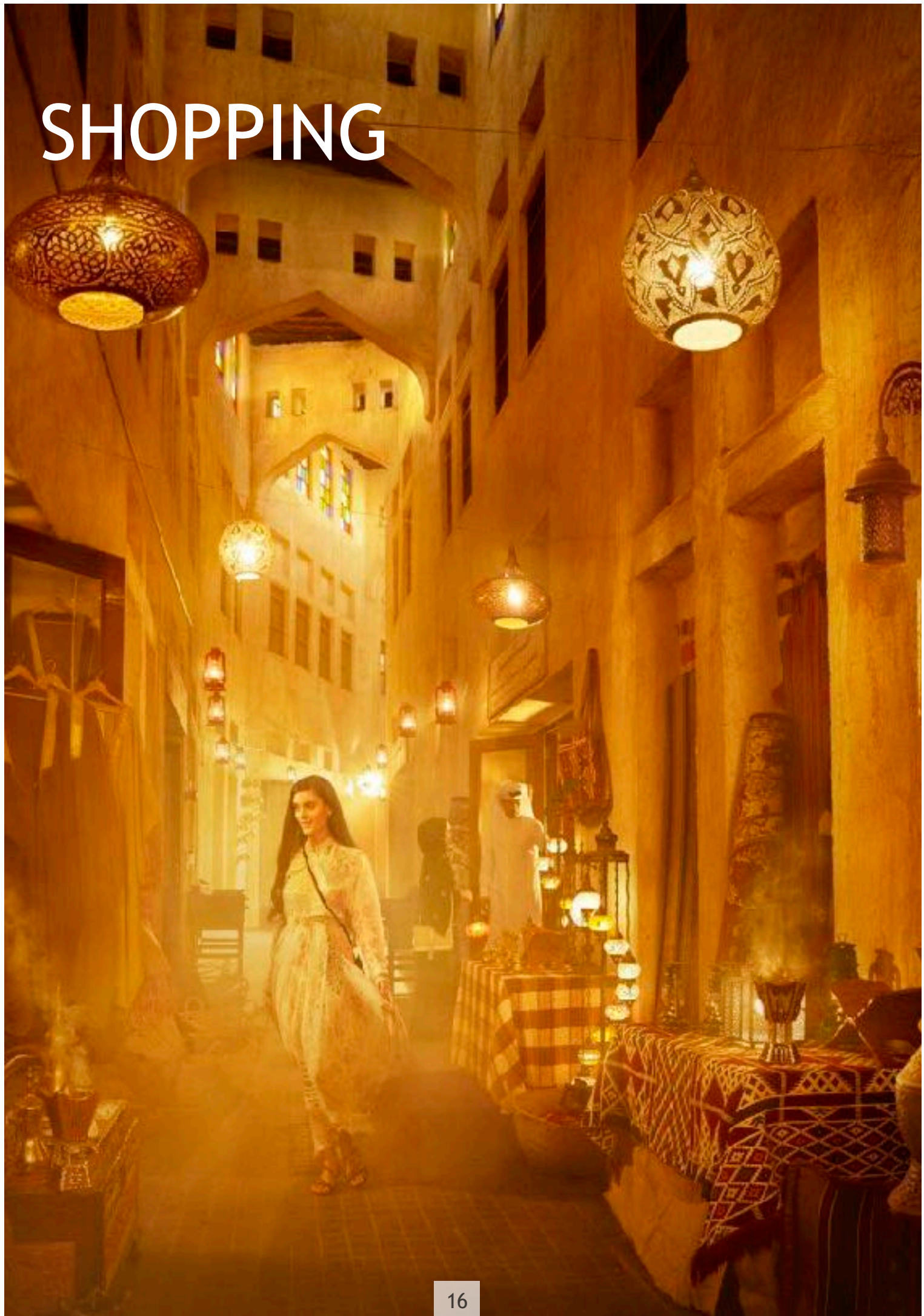
# ART & CULTURE



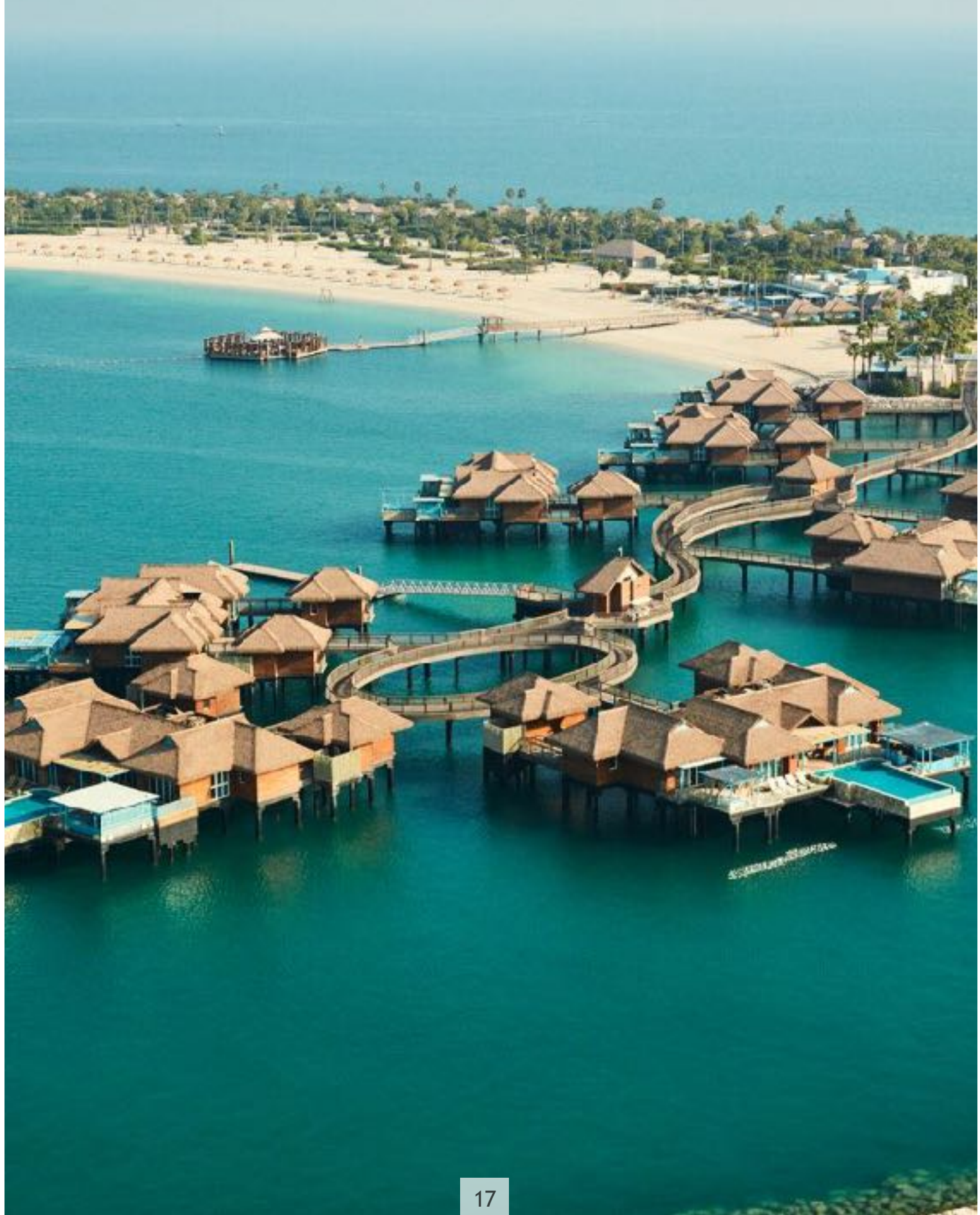
# WELLNESS & SPA



# SHOPPING



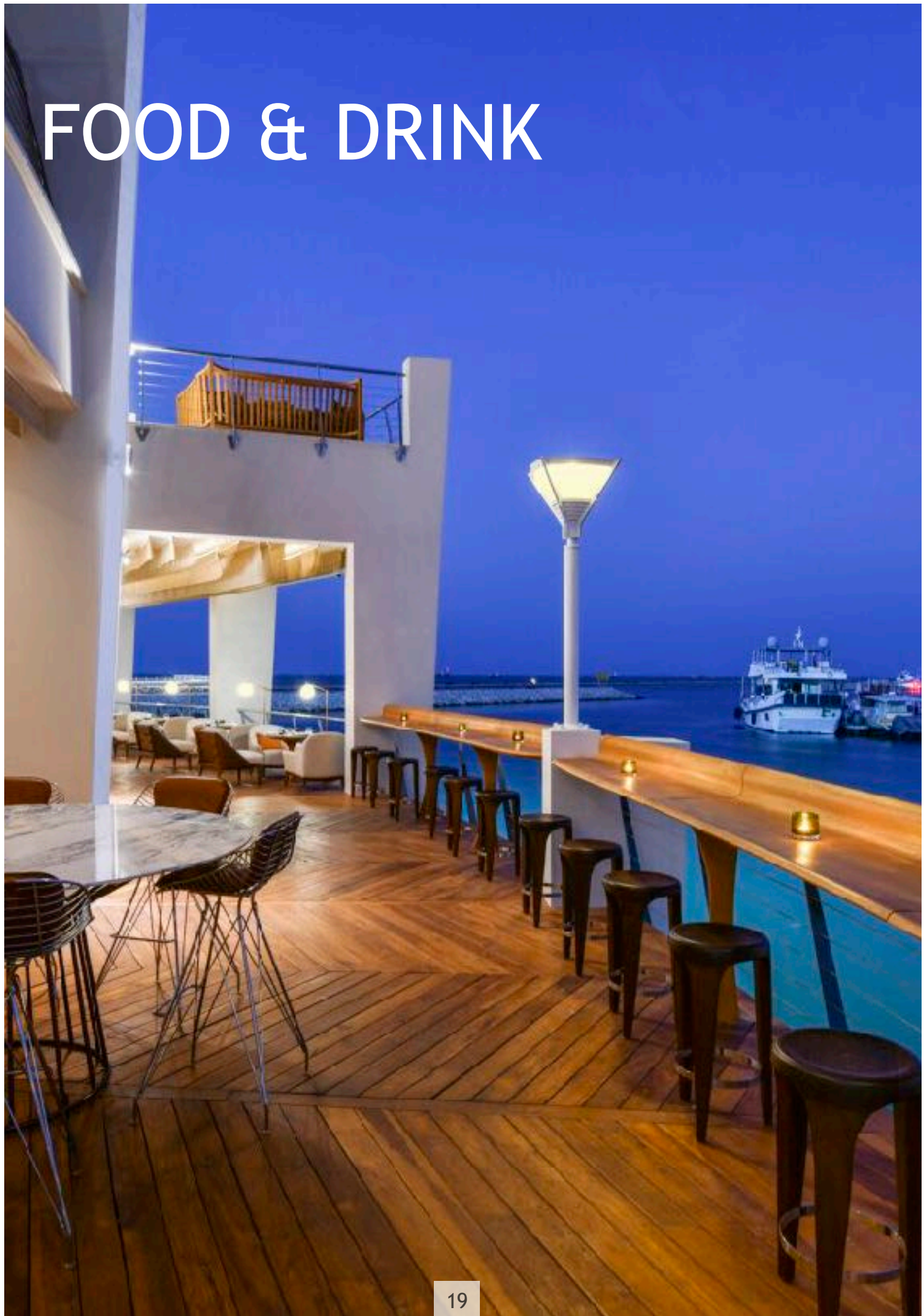
# ADVENTURE



# FAMILY FUN



# FOOD & DRINK



# OMAN

A photograph of a traditional Omani interior. The scene features a series of arches leading into the distance, with a checkered floor in the foreground. Several ornate, dark-colored lanterns hang from the ceiling. The walls are made of light-colored stone or brick with intricate carvings. The lighting is warm and golden, creating a sense of depth and history.

## IT ALL STARTS WITH HAYAK YA

Oman was known only as a distant land; a country located somewhere in the Middle East that even the grade-A geography students would have trouble pointing out on an Atlas.

In recent years, however, this jewel of a country has grown into an emerging travel destination in Asia.

Vastly unexplored and relatively undeveloped, this is a land rich in both natural and manmade attractions; from the gleaming mosques and boisterous souqs of the capital, Muscat, to the ancient fort ruins running along the palm tree-fringed coastlines – not forgetting the country's barren desert dunes at Wahiba Sands in the east and throughout the Empty Quarter in the south.

Heralded as one of the most beautiful countries in the Middle East, Oman's untouched scenery paints a picture of stark contrasts.

# MUSCAT

## THE CAPITAL

Muscat, the capital of Oman, has served as an integral trading link between the east and the west and still remains a major stop for cruises and trade vessels. The city has maintained its old charm with even the newer structures having Arabian details.

Not to mention the emerald blue beaches and exciting watersports that attract adventure enthusiasts.

A city among the hills and beaches, this one is a must-visit for culture fanatics as well. In fact, it is the largest city and also happens to be the seat of the government.

The first thing that you will notice on your visit to Muscat would be the spotlessly clean streets and well-organised layouts. The capital of Oman, Muscat is a historic port city that still retains the charisma of its glorious yesteryears and continues to be on the forefront of business and trade. Instead of being a concrete and glass jungle like most major cities of the world, Muscat has very few high-rise buildings, enabling it to preserve its architectural heritage.

Shades of white give the city a distinctive elegance. Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, Bait Al Zubair, Sultan's Armed Forces Museum and Royal Opera House Muscat are some of the finest examples of Omani architecture.

The friendly and polite attitude of the locals will make your trip to Muscat even more cherished. People are likely to greet you with a smile wherever you go, and hospitality is an integral part of their culture.

A visit to Mutrah Souq is a must if you want to experience the culture of Oman first-hand. This traditional, chaotic Arab market has numerous shops selling Omani artefacts, jewellery, and textile.

Oman's vast coastline with its sandy beaches, is an oasis of natural beauty, offering a host of recreational and sports activities.



### Alila Jabal Akhdar

Jabal Akhdar, meaning "The Green Mountain" in Arabic, is perched 2,000 metres above sea level and overlooks a dramatic gorge, surrounded by awe-inspiring views of the Al Hajar Mountains.

The perfect base for exploring the region's magnificent landscape of rugged, untouched beauty while staying in the height of sumptuous comfort. A haven for adventure travelers, nature lovers and those seeking a retreat from the desert heat.

### Six Senses Zighy Bay

Famous for its luxurious spa, this elegant hotel is located between the mountains and the beach and provides a tranquil spot where guests can unwind in between their adventures. Guests are treated to their choice of 82 rustic stone villas that are set in an enormous date palm garden. This provides plenty of privacy and space for guests to enjoy and special bikes are provided for guests to make exploring the grounds easy and fun.



### Shangri-La Barr Al Jissah

Providing guests with stunning views of the gulf of Oman as well as the craggy Hajar Mountains, the Shangri-La Barr Al Jissah Resort & Spa has a strong reputation as being one of the country's best and most exclusive establishments. While being very fresh and modern, the style of the resort mirrors traditional Omani style. Guests are sure to love the special pool and beach service that provides them with an exclusive selection of gourmet refreshments.

### Al Bustan Palace - Ritz Carlton Hotel

Set on the side of a mountain on the edge of Muscat, this grand establishment originally served as the palace of Sultan Qaboos. Guests are sure to feel like royalty as they take full advantage of the luxurious amenities that include stunning swim-up rooms, large palm gardens that are strung with hammocks, the Six Senses spa with its 24-carat gold facials, several different tennis courts and even a large amusement park for children.



## The Chedi Muscat

Boasting the largest pool in the whole of the Middle East, the Chedi Muscat is a stylish playground for affluent adults who want the chance to leave the kids at home and unwind in style.

The hotel can be found just a ten-minute drive from Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque as well as a range of other popular attractions and provides guests with a wealth of amenities to take advantage of.



## Intercontinental Muscat

The InterContinental Muscat encapsulates perfectly all that is Oman with its seamless blend of Arabian hospitality and modern facilities. Situated in 35 acres of luscious palm gardens between the imposing Hajar Mountains and the flawless pale sand of the Gulf coast, it offers a range of stunning views on each side.



## W Hotel Muscat

The W Muscat is a stylish resort located in the Shatti Al Qurum beachfront area of Oman which boasts an upbeat vibe and is often referenced as the place to discover what's up and coming in the city. The hotel offers guests a choice of 279 luxury hotel rooms and suites which combine Omani heritage with contemporary design. Stunning views across the Gulf of Oman come as standard at this hotel and guests can enjoy a choice of five different onsite restaurants and bars.



## Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar

Set right on the edge of a canyon, this luxurious hotel provides guests with unbeatable views of the Hajar Mountains. The hotel makes the perfect place to unwind in style in between embarking on hiking expeditions and other types of trips and guests who book one of the large and lovely villas will be treated to their very own swimming pool and plenty of other luxurious touches.



### Dunes by Nahda

Taking their inspiration from traditional Bedouin tents, the luxurious villas at Dunes are ideal for those who fantasise about the glamour of camping but like creature comforts.

The resort is set on top of a huge sand dune in the edge of Barka and guests are greeted each morning by the site of impossibly pink clouds and sand stretching as far as the eye can see.

### Kempinski Hotel Muscat

Nestled within the coastline community of Al Mouj and 'the new heart of Muscat', the five-star hotel will be an unparalleled luxury destination in Oman's captivating capital.

Consisting of 310 rooms and suites which all have a desk and a flat-screen TV. With a private bathroom equipped with a bath and free toiletries, certain rooms at Kempinski Hotel Muscat also have a balcony.



### Grand Millennium Muscat

The Grand Millennium Hotel features 328 rooms, suites and luxury apartments. With their modern design complementing the values of the contemporary Arabian culture, in a smoking and alcohol free environment. Free WiFi is available throughout the property and free private parking is available on site. The rooms are fitted with a flat-screen TV. Certain rooms have a seating area for your convenience. Some units feature views of the mountains or city.



### Radisson Collection Muscat

The Radisson Collection Hotel, Hormuz Grand Muscat: the treasure of the Gulf. Set where east meets west, a new kind of luxury rich in culture overlooking the Muscat mountains exceeds the expectations of the modern traveler. The iconic design is characterized by rolling landscapes, celebrating the influences of western and eastern culture. Free WiFi is available throughout the property.



## Grand Hyatt Muscat

Right on sandy Al Qurm Beach, the Grand Hyatt provides spacious rooms with balconies offering panoramic views of the Gulf of Oman. Some rooms have views of the Hajar Mountains.

The air-conditioned rooms at Grand Hyatt feature bright décors and include spacious bathrooms. Bathrobes and slippers are provided for guests' convenience.



## Fraser Suites Muscat

Set in Muscat, 1.6 mi from Oman Avenues Mall, Fraser Suites Muscat offers accommodations with a restaurant, free private parking, an outdoor swimming pool and a fitness center. Each accommodations at the 5-star hotel has garden views, and guests can enjoy access to a garden and to a terrace. The accommodations provides a 24-hour front desk, a shuttle service, room service and free WiFi throughout the property.

## Crowne Plaza Muscat

Check into an elegant seaside hotel in Oman's thriving capital with a private beach and easy access to local businesses. The dazzling Crowne Plaza(R) Muscat hotel looks out across the turquoise waters of the Gulf of Oman from a lush clifftop in fashionable Qurum Heights. With a panoramic terrace, pool and private beach, the hotel is just a 20-minute drive from Muscat International Airport and steps from Qurum Beach with its café-lined promenade.

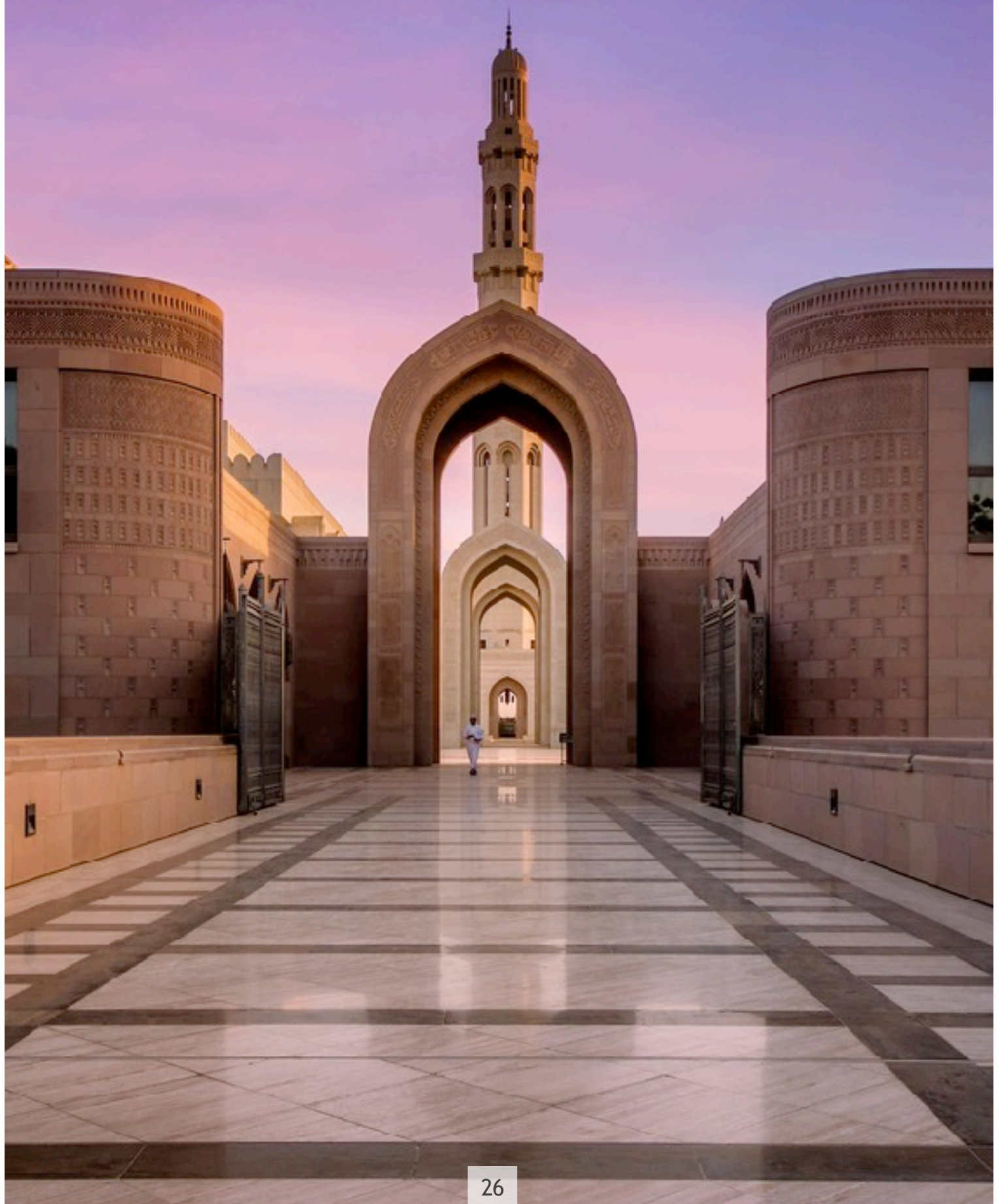


## Salalah Rotana Resort

Set along the shores of the Indian Ocean, The 5-star waterfront resort's 422 splendid rooms and suites are beautifully built around the lagoons, water features and manmade canals for an unforgettable experience.

The upscale hotel's Omani-inspired architecture features a series of clusters surrounding the main building, housing major public facilities and amenities.

# REGIONS



## AL BURAIMI

Located in the north-west of Oman and bordering A'Dhahirah, Al Buraimi is a semi-desert plain which descends from the southern slopes of the western Al Hajar Mountains. Ruins in the area, such as those found at the villages of Sharm and Madhbah, highlight the existence of ancient trade routes.

From the 'Fossil Valley' of Jebel Huwayah to the many castles within the interior villages and countryside and the golden sands of the Rub Al Khali (the Empty Quarter), Al Buraimi offers plenty of opportunities for those with a taste of adventure. The town of Al Buraimi also serves as the traditional border to Al Ain (UAE), about 370km from Muscat.



## AL BATINAH NORTH

Al Batinah North governorate is an expansive coastal area that hosts a fertile agricultural plain that extends along the coast and extends over its lands agricultural fields and population centers. In this governorate are distributed many castles, forts, fences and ancient villages, the most famous of which is Sohar Fort and the forts in Shinas, Liwa, Saham, Al Khabourah and As Suwayq. Al Batinah North Governorate has a very vital geographical location extending along the southern coast of the Sea of Oman.

Sohar, Oman's capital city in ancient times, is located in this region and rumoured to be the hometown of the legendary Sindbad the Sailor.

## AL BATINAH SOUTH

South Al Batinah Governorate extends between the Sea of Oman in the east and the foothills of the Western Hajar Mountains in the west, and by virtue of its location, economic potential and population density, it has played an influential role throughout Omani history.

Dotted with historic sights and breath-taking scenery, South Al Batinah is considered the green belt of Oman with most of the country's fresh produce harvested on plantations in the area.





## A'DHAHIRAH

Once situated in prime position on the ancient trade routes, A'Dhahirah in Oman's west is traditionally the bridge between Oman's stunning mountain ranges and the neighbouring UAE and Saudi Arabia.

Archaeology and history play a major role in this region, which extends all the way from the Al Hajar Mountains to the Empty Quarter known as Rub Al Khali. The city of Ibri can be reached within a few hours from Muscat, and is home to the impressive Ibri Fort, with its ancient mosque and many different gates. The small village of Bat, east of Ibri, is home to a remarkable array of beehive tombs from the Bronze Age, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1988.

## AL WUSTA

Flanked on the east by the Arabian Sea, on the west by the Rub Al Khali – The Empty Quarter – and by Oman's most southern governorate – Dhofar – to the south, Al Wusta covers a large area in the middle of the Sultanate.

The governorate possesses a long curving coasting and is home to vast sandy beaches stretching for miles. Settlements in this region are generally smaller but this region is a haven for wildlife and nature lovers. Bird watching enthusiasts can spot over 130 different species, including migratory birds from as far away as Europe. The Barr Al Hikman peninsula is especially known for visiting flocks of flamingos.



## A'DAKHILIYAH

A'Dakhiliyah, meaning 'The Interior', is a land-locked governorate comprised of a portion of the Al Hajar Mountain range and eight separate districts: Adam, Al Hamra, Bahla, Bidbid, Izki, Manah, Nizwa and Samail.

The Sultanate's highest mountain – Jebel Shams – and Jebel Al Akhdar, The Al Hoota Caves, a recently-restored vast cave system estimated to be over two million years old and rich with stalactites and stalagmites, and many ancient castles and forts which have also been beautifully restored and are now open to the public are also of interest, especially UNESCO World Heritage Sites the Bahla Fort and the renowned Nizwa Fort and Souq.

## A'SHARQIYAH NORTH

Consisting of the governorates of North and South Ash Sharqiyah, this part of Oman is widely considered the geographical jewel of the Sultanate. It is here that stunning coastlines give way to the unique ecosystem that is Sharqiyah Sands, making this region a paradise for adventurers and explorers.

North A'Sharqiyah Governorate overlooks the internal side of the Hajar Mountains, to the north it is connected to Muscat Governorate, to the west is Al Dakhiliyah Governorate, and to the east and south is South A'Sharqiyah Governorate. It includes six districts: Ibra, Al-Mudaybi, Bidiyyah, Al Qabil, Wadi Bani Khalid and Dama Wa Al-Taeyeen.



## A'SHARQIYAH SOUTH

Consisting of the governorates of North and South Ash Sharqiyah, this part of Oman is widely considered the geographical jewel of the Sultanate. It is here that stunning coastlines give way to the unique ecosystem that is Sharqiyah Sands, making this region a paradise for adventurers & explorers. The South A'Sharqiyah Governorate is the north-eastern facade of the Sultanate of Oman. It overlooks the Arabian Sea from the east and is connected to the Sharqiyah sands from the south and Al-Dakhiliyah Governorate from the west. South A'Sharqiyah governorate includes five districts: Sur, Al-Kamel Wa Al-Wafi, Jalan Bani Bu Hassan, Jalan Bani Bu Ali and Masirah Island.



## MUSANDAM

The exclave of Musandam is Oman's northernmost governorate, separated from the rest of Oman by the UAE and home to some of the Sultanate's most dramatic landscape. Here, 2000m high mountains meet the sea with stunning fjords and crystal-clear waters making this area one of the best diving and snorkelling spots in the world.

The city of Khasab makes a great base from which to explore the Musandam Peninsula, where you can enjoy the scenery from on the water, starting with a cruise on a traditional Dhow to spot pods of dolphin resting and feeding and continuing with a trip to the surrounding mountains and fjords by 4WD vehicle or mountain bike if you're feeling extra adventurous.





## DHOFAR

Although Dhofar lies over 1,000 kilometres from the capital city of Muscat, planning a trip is easy with daily flights between Muscat and Salalah and direct connections from other Arab Gulf states. Those with some spare time may also opt to drive the coastal road to Salalah, traversing through Al Wusta and seeing some of Oman's most remote yet breath-taking beaches.

Oman's southernmost region is host to many unique attractions including Prophet Ayoub's Grave nestled deep in the mountains, the blowholes of Mughsayl and the Land of Frankincense – a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Deep sea diving and snorkelling off the coast of the Hallaniyat Islands are just some of the more adventurous activities available.

## MUSCAT

Muscat is the modern capital of Oman and offers visitors a stunning combination of old and new. From the architectural masterpiece that is the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, to its rugged mountain backdrop and breath-taking beaches, this city never fails to entertain and inspire.

There is an abundance of choice for visitors, from world-class shows at the Royal Opera House Muscat, to fine dining at one of the many restaurants scattered across the capital or shopping for traditional souvenirs at Muttrah Souq, one of the oldest in Arabia.



## THE MODERN CAPITAL OF OMAN

Museums, such as the Children's Museum, Natural History Museum, National Museum or Bait Al Zubair welcome those who wish to delve deeper into the Sultanate's rich natural and cultural history.

For art lovers, there are a number of galleries showcasing modern Omani art.

As for activities, the capital region has almost endless possibilities.

Whether it is snorkelling at the Daymaniyat Islands, trekking from Old Muscat to Muttrah, a guided city tour or a day trip to a nearby wadi, Muscat welcomes all to experience its unique charm.



# ADVENTURE



## Water Sports

Oman looks back on a proud maritime history, renowned for Dhow building and trading across the seas. As such, Omanis are known to have a special connection with the sea, settling where there are natural harbours and great fishing grounds.



## Caving

Home to the second largest cave chamber in the world (Majlis Al Jinn on the Salmah Plateau) and numerous others, the Sultanate has plenty of caves to explore.



## Camel Riding

Historically, camels were used by local Bedouins for transporting goods and people through the desert and around the country. Today, owning camels has become more a sign of prestige, with many Omanis breeding them for racing and beauty contests.



## Golf

Golf has a history in the Sultanate dating back to 1970s. With world-class golf clubs in Muscat – the Al Mouj Golf Club, Muscat Hills Golf and Country Club, Ghala Valley Golf Club, and the Ras Al Hamra Golf Club – perfect golfing weather is usually experienced between September and May, and during the evenings in Summer.



## Off-Roading

Many of Oman's stunning attractions are off the beaten track and require a 4WD vehicle. Whether dune bashing in the desert or exploring a wadi, off-roading is one of the best ways to truly experience some of Oman's most exciting areas.

## Climbing

From rock climbing to abseiling, Oman offers plenty of stunning spots for more experienced mountaineers. It is recommended to always keep an eye on the weather, wadis and roads can quickly flood in case of rain.



## Camping

From the white pebble sand beaches of Fins and Sur, to rocky outcrops above the clouds on Jebel Samham in Dhofar, Oman has hundreds of stunning camping locations for visitors to choose from.

## Hiking

Hiking routes can be found throughout the country; from short, accessible routes on the outskirts of cities and villages, to longer treks in more remote areas. Oman has something for every hiker, including some combining elements of canyoning and climbing.



## Mountain Biking & Cycling

Cycling and mountain biking has risen in popularity in the Sultanate, with both amateur and professional cyclists appreciating the country for its stunning diverse landscapes and the new challenge that riding in Oman presents.



## Paragliding

Paragliding is a newer addition to Oman's rapidly growing adventure tourism scene, adding to an already impressive suite of outdoor pursuits in the country. Several tour companies offer beginner, intermediate, and pilot courses for anyone interested.



## Stand up Paddle Boarding

Taking off as a new leisure activity in the early 2000s, Stand Up Paddle Boarding has gained momentum in Sultanate, quickly earning itself a reputation as a great SUP location thanks to its over 3,000km long coastline.



## Kite Surfing

A fantastic combination of surfing and paragliding makes for an incredibly challenging, yet exhilarating sport enjoyed by many in Oman. In fact, the Sultanate is known around the world as an up-and-coming kitesurfing destination.

# NATURE & WILDLIFE



## Geology

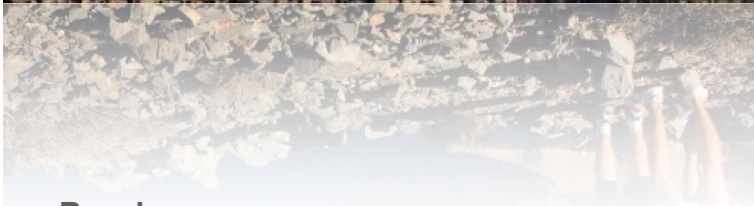
Looking back on a geological history spanning across millions of years, Oman is one of the few places that carries its unique geological heritage on the open.

Attractions such as Jebel Shams, or the Ophiolite rocks surrounding Muttrah Corniche, were once at the bottom of the ocean.



## Mountains

Mountains take up a large part of Oman's landscape, varying greatly in appearance vegetation. Often times they feature stunning wadis, cut into the mountains through time and crossable only by 4x4.



## Beaches

With over 3,000 km of pristine coastline, Oman has some seriously beautiful beaches to call its own. Whether it is the rugged coastline of Ras Al Madrakah, the white sands of Fins Beach or the endless expanse of Masirah Island beaches, visitors are welcome to enjoy beach walks, picnics and wild camping.





## Wadis

Wadis are dry riverbeds or small valleys. Some have stunning water pools, fed by natural springs, and a backdrop of rugged mountains. Others are framed by date and fruit plantations that to this day are tended by locals using traditional falaj or waterways.

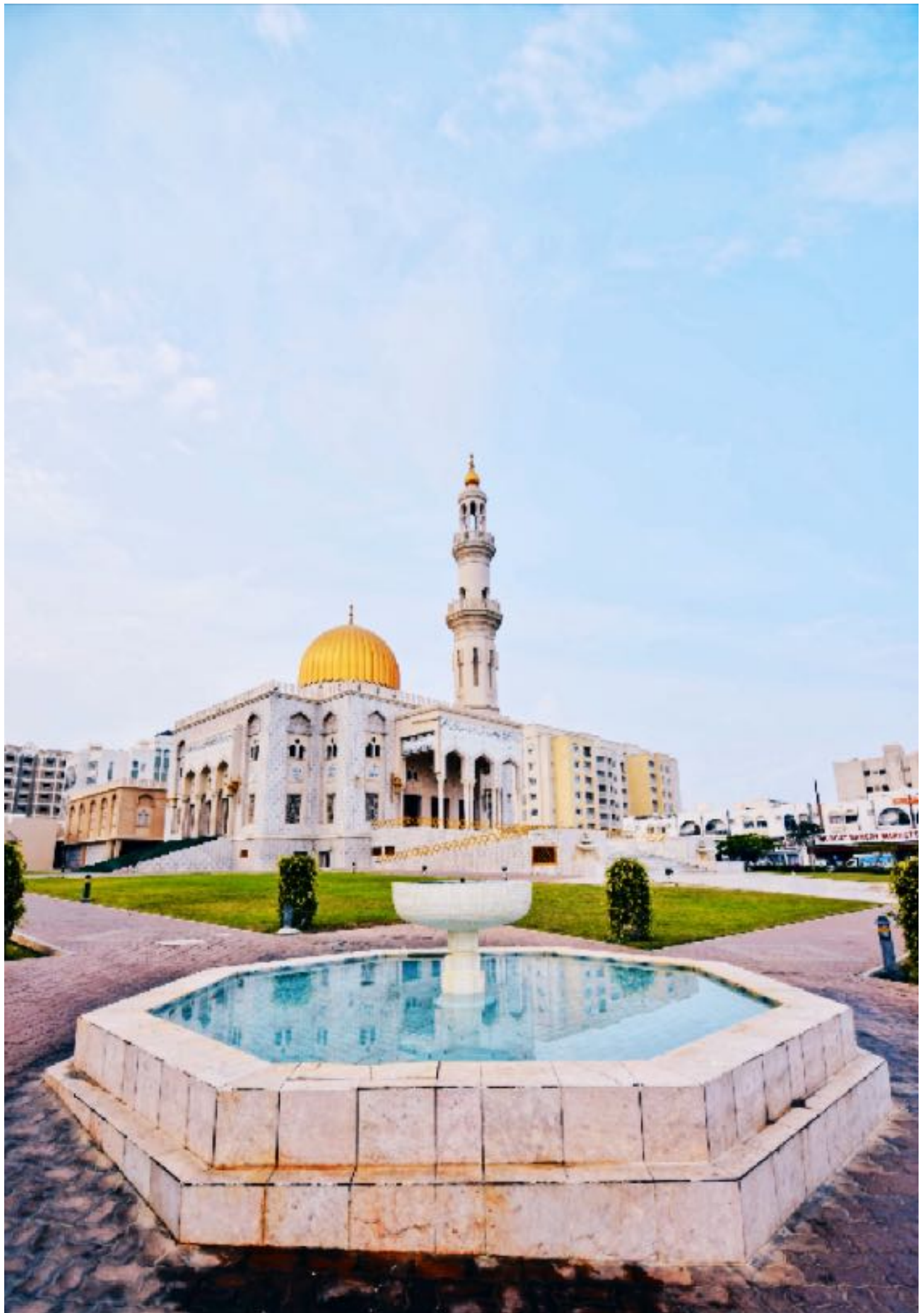
## Wildlife Watching

If you have ever witnessed endangered Green Turtle babies hatch and try to make their way to the water, you will know what a special experience it is. Oman remains dedicated to enabling these kind of wildlife encounters while protecting the animals.



## Deserts

The interior of Oman is the gateway to one of the largest sand deserts in the world – the famous Empty Quarter or Rub Al Khali. Covering a large area of the Arabian Peninsula, this unique ecosystem is covered by sand dunes up to 250 metres in heights in certain areas, and salty planes in others.

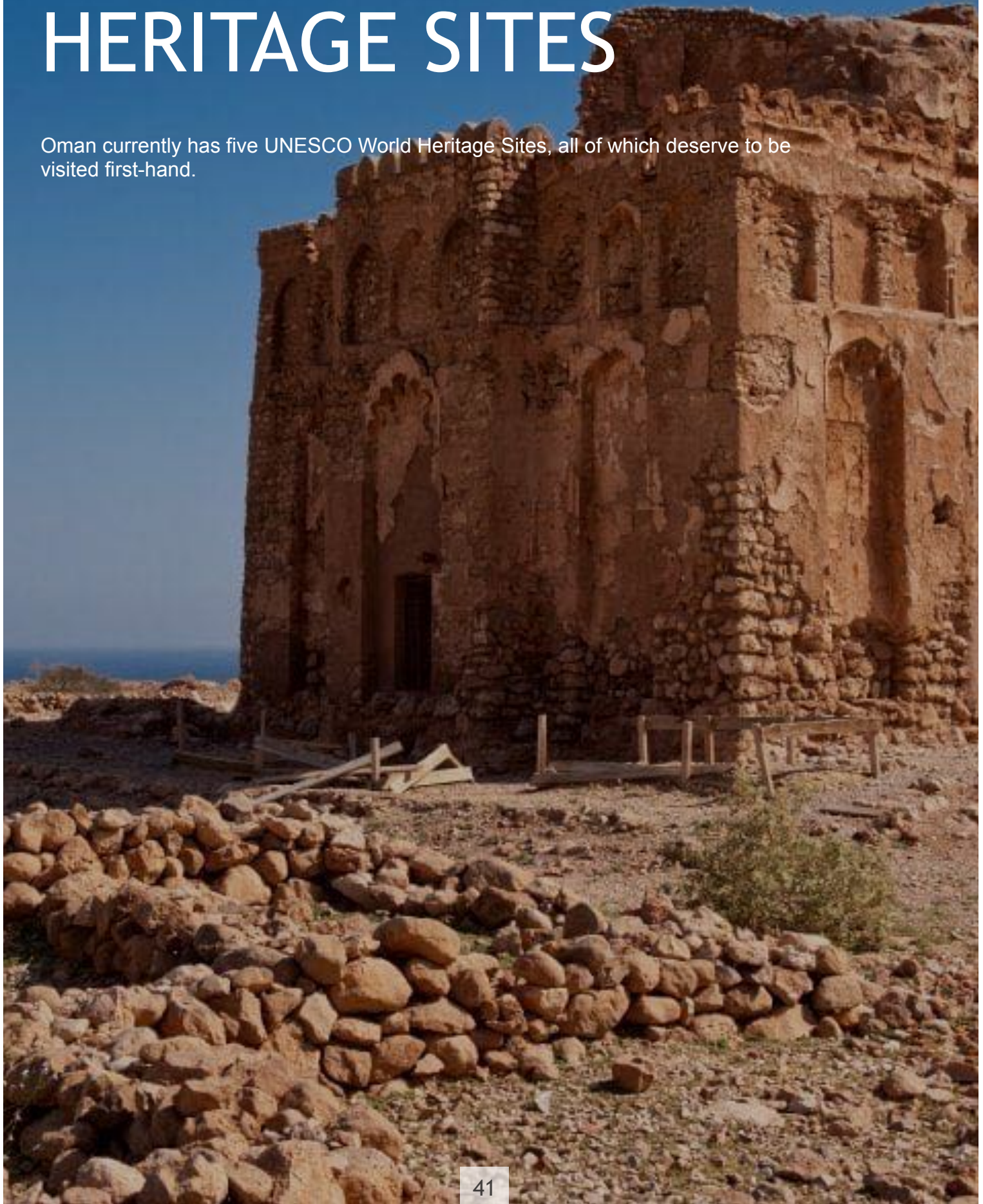


# CULTURE

A close-up photograph of a person wearing a traditional red and white striped shawl. The shawl has a complex woven pattern with horizontal and vertical stripes. The person's face is partially visible, looking towards the left. The background is a vast, golden field under a clear sky, with a small, dark object visible in the distance.

# UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Oman currently has five UNESCO World Heritage Sites, all of which deserve to be visited first-hand.





## Dining

Whether it is tasty street food or fine dining, visitors to Oman will find a wide range of options to suit all tastes. From contemporary restaurants serving all types of international cuisine in hotels, resorts, malls and commercial areas, to the casual shawarma eateries and coffee shops, the possibilities are endless.



## Forts & Other Attractions

In centuries past, Oman's forts held enemy forces at bay. Today, these historic structures welcome guests with impressive facades that continue to stand proud and have become a living testament to the ingenuity and craftsmanship of the period.



## Museums

Oman has a number of museums, primarily in the capital area, that is focused on promoting culture, science, and heritage.

## Heritage & Crafts

Oman has always placed great importance on the preservation of its heritage and traditional craftsmanship.

Handed down through generations, craftwork is still practiced according to old traditions and with a modern twist by Omani artisans across the Sultanate.



## Arts & Entertainment

Oman is a country that remains true to its roots, striking a successful balance between traditional and modern arts and entertainment. This unique blend helps cater to the entertainment needs of visitors whilst still preserving the country's alluring Arabian charm.

## Souqs & Shopping

From aromatic Frankincense to traditional clothing and silver works, Oman's souqs provide an atmospheric shopping experience that is uniquely Omani. Most larger settlements in Oman have their own souq, the most famous being Muttrah Souq, situated on the Old Muscat waterfront and selling everything from clothes, to silver, spices, Frankincense and more.



# KUWAIT

*KUWAIT HAS AN EXOTIC CHARM EMANATING FROM IT. PEOPLE FROM MANY COUNTRIES FLOCK TO IT LIKE A DESERT OASIS, IN SEARCH OF RELIEF FROM PERSISTENT DROUGHTS.*

## IT ALL STARTS WITH MARHABA

Kuwait, officially the State of Kuwait, is a country in Western Asia. It is situated in the northern edge of Eastern Arabia at the tip of the Persian Gulf, bordering Iraq to the north and Saudi Arabia to the south.

Kuwait continues to rejuvenate & reinvent itself as a major tourist destination.

The construction of several world-class hotels and significant beautification efforts have transformed the old city of Kuwait into a mainstream luxury and highly popular destination.

The blending of old and new is evident almost everywhere you turn in Kuwait, and this is especially true at the port where you will see traditional dhows docked alongside modern day ships.

# KUWAIT CITY

## THE CAPITAL

Located at the top of the Persian Gulf, Kuwait is a country that has often been well-known for being rich in oil. Its neighbouring countries include Saudi Arabia, Iran and Iraq. Kuwait City is the capital of the country and is famous for its modern architecture. Kuwait includes modern day skyscrapers as well as ancient, beautifully built mosques, so it truly is a mix of modernity and the ancient times.

The economic, cultural, and political capital of Kuwait, Kuwait City is a mixture of exclusive Western-style hotels, designer shopping malls, traditional Islamic architecture, street markets, and still war torn buildings.

The painted steel Kuwait Towers are the symbol of the city, and feature a viewing platform and restaurant looking out over Kuwait. Visit the Sadu House to learn about Bedouin culture and shop for handmade crafts and fabrics.

Outside Kuwait City, however, there are only few attractions, except at resorts along the coast. Tourist development of the historical Failaka Island is still in developmental stage. There are flat desert plains that are given over for oil excavation, and there are few distinctive features.

West of Kuwait City is the Al-Jahra area, the place that unfortunately famed for the violence that took place there as Iraqi troops retreated during the Gulf War. Considering the numerous building projects there, it is possible to almost overlook the Iraqi invasions, and a decade has passed since the invasion. But, Kuwaitis are still coming out of their devastating experience, as there visible reminders of the war.

As for travellers, while in Kuwait, there are some definite rules that need to be followed to avoid any faux-pas, so that local populace is not offended.



### Sheraton Kuwait

For many years, Sheraton Kuwait has been the leader in the market and will continue its position through personalized services and heritage.

Located in the heart of Kuwait's commercial and financial centre, this deluxe hotel is just 1.5 km from Kuwait National Museum. It offers elegant, Arabian-styled interiors and a large outdoor pool.

The 5-star accommodation offered at Sheraton Kuwait is fitted with chic, modern furnishings and flat-screen TVs.

### Four Seasons - Burj Alshaya

With five restaurants and lounges, Four Seasons Hotel Kuwait at Burj Alshaya offers a complete experience where guests can sleep, dine and enjoy all the facilities on offer. There is an indoor and an outdoor pool, and guests can enjoy the free WiFi throughout the hotel.

All rooms and suites feature oak hardwood floors, a curved sofa, a wall-mounted TV and a personal pantry with an espresso maker, tea maker and small refrigerator.



### Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel

There's a multitude of ways to keep yourself entertained at Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel & Spa.

From the local flavour to the activities provided within the hotel itself, you'll find an exciting blend of attractions in Kuwait for all.

Located in the Messilah beach district, this 5-star hotel offers modern accommodation with free Wi-Fi in the heart of Kuwait. It features 8 dining outlets along with an outdoor pool, gym and spa.

### Marina Hotel

Located in the heart of the vibrant and up-market shopping district of Salmiya, where the "buzz" never stops, the Marina Hotel provides direct access to the Marina Mall and Marina Crescent. It offers convenient access to the business areas of Kuwait, and is 10 minutes from the heart of Kuwait City and 20 minutes from Kuwait International Airport.

This prestigious, multi facility complex offers luxurious and functional amenities to the business traveller and the tourist alike.



## The Regency Hotel

The Regency offers 203 luxurious rooms including 50 suites, as well as the largest meetings and convention facilities in Kuwait.

The white marble lobby with its spectacular atrium offers unrivaled ocean panoramas.

This is where families and businessmen gather to sample superb refreshments, savor The Regency High Tea, or simply sit on the sun terrace to enjoy a freshly brewed coffee and gorgeous vistas.



## The Palms Beach Hotel & Spa

Situated in Kuwait, 3 km from City Centre Salmiya, The Palms Beach Hotel & Spa features accommodation with a restaurant, free private parking, a fitness centre and a garden. Featuring a private beach area, the 5-star hotel has air-conditioned rooms with free WiFi, each with a private bathroom. The accommodation provides a 24-hour front desk, room service and currency exchange for guests.



## Radisson Blu Hotel

The newly renovated hotel with over 35 years of experience is the perfect base for you, your family or your business. Escape the hustle and bustle and enjoy your city break in Kuwait.

Located in the Arabian Gulf's sea side, hotel features modern accommodations. It offers a free outdoor and indoor swimming pool, a free fitness centre and complimentary WiFi in all areas. Marina Mall is 4 km away.



## Crowne Plaza Al Thuraya City

Dynamic modern Kuwait hotel for meeting, dining and glamorous events. A 5-minute shuttle ride from Kuwait International Airport brings you to the elegant atrium lobby of the Crowne Plaza® Kuwait Al Thuraya City hotel, with its vaulted ceiling and lush vertical garden. It is located near the airport and it's only 15 minutes' drive from downtown Kuwait.

Oil companies in Al Ahmadi, Shuwaikh Industrial Area and banking companies downtown are only a 20-minute drive away.





### **Millenium Hotel & Convention Centre**

Just 10 minutes away from the progressive Kuwait City, the luxurious 5-star Millennium Hotel & Convention Centre Kuwait stands tall in the Salmiya area that's adjacent to the financial and business district. All 295 well-appointed guest rooms and suites in this 18-storey hotel offer superb views of the city. With 21 different function rooms including a stunning ballroom and more than 6,000sqm of conference space, the hotel boasts one of the largest convention centres in the country.

### **Movenpick Hotel Al Bidaa**

The Moevenpick Hotel Kuwait al Bida'a is Kuwait's only 5-star business resort with long term facilities.

It is located on the coastline in Salmiya, just 15 minutes from Kuwait International Airport and Kuwait city and 10 minutes from the Kuwait Exhibition.



### **Symphony Style Hotel**

Set amidst 12,000sqm of extravagant seaside, Symphony Style Hotel Kuwait, a Radisson Collection hotel, is an exclusive enclave, contrasting with both the vast sandscapes of Arabia and the customary opulence of Kuwait.

Symphony Style Hotel is situated in the prime location of Symphony Center on Arabian Gulf Road in Salmiya which is the famous shopping district of the town.

### **Hilton Kuwait Resort**

Discover a unique getaway in the Arabian Gulf. Bathed in brilliant blue skies, Hilton Kuwait Resort is an ideal spot for business and leisure travelers alike. Think modern style meets classic Arabian hospitality at our contemporary resort. Fine dining, spa treatments, state-of-the-art facilities and superb accommodations guarantee an unforgettable stay. Choose from a variety of comfortable and stylishly decorated Kuwait accommodations, with views of the Arabian Gulf. Upgrade to a Villa or Chalet or select a Royal Villa with private pool.



## Hyatt Regency Al Kout

Hyatt Regency Al Kout Mall boasts spectacular views over the Arabian Sea whilst enviably located amid Kuwait's thriving oil and gas district.

Take an energizing 10 minute stroll to the beach, relax by our rooftop pool or take the opportunity to discover Kuwait's newest and trendiest waterfront retail and entertainment destination.



## Holiday Inn Al Thuraya

Holiday Inn Kuwait Al Thuraya City is the authentic urban resort and business hotel in Kuwait. We are conveniently located within 20 minutes from the major government & corporate offices, and only 5 minutes to The Grand Avenues Mall, and 360 Shopping Mall and Golf Club. Kuwait International Airport is only a 5-minute drive away. Business and leisure travelers alike will appreciate the lush grounds and the prestigious High ways in which you will find many experiences to last a lifetime.

## Safir Fintas Kuwait

Safir Fintas Kuwait Hotel is a five-star business & leisure hotel located on the Arabian Gulf & near the center of Kuwait's Oil & Gas district.

It is 15 minutes from Kuwait Int'l Airport, 10 minutes from the commercial area of Fahaheel & Kuwait Int'l Mishref Fair Ground, 20 minutes from Kuwait City & 4 minutes from Gate & Al Biraq Shopping Arcades. It offers spacious rooms, suites, studios & furnished apartments.



## JW Marriott Kuwait City

Distinguished among Kuwait's authentic luxury hotels, JW Marriott is a bliss of tranquility in the heart of Kuwait City's commercial and financial center, only 15 minutes away from Kuwait International Airport. The seasoned business traveler will appreciate this Kuwait 5-star hotel for both its classic charm and special amenities. Elegantly appointed rooms and suites are complemented by personalized service around the clock.



# PLACES



## Hawalli

Also spelled as 'Hawally' & a former home to innumerable Palestinians, Hawalli is one of the six Kuwaiti provinces. Today, a melting pot of cultures, it is inhabited by Iraqis, Syrians, Egyptians, Lebanese & Indians. Geographically, this large city area lies in the eastern part of the country. It is this geographic location that also results in this governorate being so beautiful. The fact that it is located in Persian Gulf's inlet should give you a fair idea, and no wonder that it's on our Kuwait tourist places list.



## Salwa

Considering that Salwa is one of the most prominent cities of the Middle Eastern country, it makes it to our list of Kuwait visiting places. Geographically, the place is sandwiched between Rumaithiya & Messila. It is part of the Hawalli governorate yet we mentioning it separately is worthwhile. Another multicultural hub, it is home to the British, Egyptians, Asians, and Kuwaitis, of course! To the tourist, it offers great shopping opportunities, with several shopping centers.

## Salmiya

A heaven for shopaholics, Salmiya provides unending opportunities to shop till you drop, with plenty of malls & arcades. From Kuwaiti sweets to handcrafted ornaments, traditional teapots to rugs of sheep wool, if you are looking for presents for friends, the options are aplenty. This gem city is filled with Kuwait attractions like Al Fozan, or a unique pyramid-shaped mosque, & the biggest aquarium of the Middle East.



## Al Ahmadi

One of the finest cities in Kuwait, Al Ahmadi was first founded in 1946 and located in the southern side of the country. The city, in fact, originated with the oil field there. One can find a number of parks here along with the well-renowned Kuwait Oil Company Display Center. Notably, the city has been named after Sheikh Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah. Travelers coming here would find the city to be covered by sand while it serves as a private preserve of the Kuwait Oil Company.

# ATTRACTIONS



## Grand Mosque

One of the finest tourist places in Kuwait, the Grand Mosque attracts travelers from all around the world. As the natives put it, it is one of the many treasures that Kuwait possesses. While officially being the biggest mosque in the country, the Grand Mosque is renowned for having big celebrations, and other religious events here. Covering about 46000 square meters, the mosque is a fine example of the Islamic architectural style and attracts visitors pretty much due to its Persian structural design.



## Kuwait Towers

Another of those Kuwait city attractions to visit, Kuwait Towers are a group of three towers that stand at a staggering height and are one of the major attractions in Kuwait. For visitors coming to see the towers, the main tower stands at an approximate height of 187 meters while the second tower stands at a height of 147 meters. Besides, speaking about the third one, the third tower features equipment that is there to illuminate the two towers.



## Kuwait's Green Island

Green Island is the only artificial island in the region. It is found off the coast of Kuwait City's promenade and is another popular landmark of the city. This is because the island offers a retreat from city life, even if just for an afternoon.

The entire family will enjoy the soft, sandy beaches where one can play any sports or games. There is a swimming pool located on the island and kid-friendly attractions. For those who want to get active, biking and walking trails are aplenty.



## House of Mirrors

The house of mirrors is owned by an Italian born Lidia Al Qattan, a sculptor, painter, jeweler and her family. This place has an interesting story to narrate, which entails Jalila, her daughter had once broken a mirror and turning a blind eye to superstitious about broken mirrors, Lidia wanted to something artistic with the glass shards. The hosts are friendly and welcoming even though the visits are appointment basis. It is not something people should miss and can't be missed because of the glitter that surrounds the building.



### National Museum & Planetarium

Designed by French Architect Michel Ecochard and a place that truly represents Kuwaiti Heritage, the National Museum is one of the top Kuwait tourist attractions today and was the former residence of the royal Al Subah family. The museum has three main sections like Archaeology, Heritage, and the Planetarium. One can visit here and find the most amazing collection from the Failika Island. Interestingly, the Failika Island dates back to the Bronze Age.

### Ferry to Failaka Island

Failaka Island is a Kuwaiti Island located 20 kilometres off the coast of Kuwait city in the Persian Gulf.

Many settlements on Failaka can be traced back to 2000 B.C. and great civilizations such as the Mesopotamians, Babylonians, and ancient Greeks have passed through the territory, making the island the center of archeology in Kuwait.



### Diving around Kubbar Island

Located 29 kilometres south of Failaka, this much smaller island is nearly a perfect circle, completely coated in sand, and home to various species of birds, including flamingos, which stop over on the island during their annual migration.

Kubbar is most famous for the spectacular coral reefs which surround the island, and is consequently a popular spot for scuba diving and other water sports.

### Doha Village Entertainment City

Those traveling to Kuwait with children shouldn't leave the country without paying a visit to the Al-Doha district in northern Kuwait, 20 kilometers north of the capital.

Formerly a district known for fishing and traditional boat-building, the area is now home to Entertainment City, a theme park considered the equivalent of a Kuwaiti Disneyland.



## Tareq Rajab Museum

The museum is filled with Kuwait's first minister Tareq Sayyed Rajab and his British wife, Jehan Wellborne personal collection. Submerged in history, one will easily get transported back into time in the museum situated in the basement of a villa in Jabriya.

It is one of Kuwait's famous places filled with an amazing collection of Islamic Arts, ceramics, gold and silver jewelry, metal and glass works, costumes, pottery, Bahraini pearls, manuscripts and musical instruments.



## Liberation Tower

Liberation tower is one the most popular symbols of Kuwait's liberation, which has been named after the liberation of the country from annexation by Iraq which was the multinational coalition. It is made with ceramic tiles and along with the telecommunication office, it has a revolving restaurant and an observation platform. Tourists should visit the tower for its historical importance.



## Al Sadu House

A different museum from the others, A Sada House has a gorgeous collection of artifacts and antiques. Once upon a time, it used to be a traditional Kuwaiti house nestled close to the national museum on Gulf road. At present, it is an interesting museum that boasts a bedouin style of weaving. It was made to preserve the bedouin crafts and has rooms that present the traditional weaving techniques and their history.



## Seif Palace

Another of those top places to visit in Kuwait, the Seif Palace is located just opposite the amazing Grand Mosque and offers some amazing highlights to the visitors. Made from clay, rocks, limestone, and other such materials, this is a place that is perfect in terms of reliving the historical past of Kuwait. The main highlight of the palace is the watchtower. Interestingly, the watchtower has the most eye-catching design of all.



## Beaches

Kuwait is blessed with a gorgeous coastline as the Azure waters and white sand are absolutely breathtaking. Tourists can relax by the waters, sun bathe and enjoy the cool sea breeze or enjoy the various kinds of water sports.

What more can one say? One of the best places to visit in Kuwait is the AL Kout beach, known for its serenity of the sands and peaceful blue waters. It attracts tourists from all over the world every year.

## House of National Works

There aren't many places in Kuwait that match the importance of the Kuwait House of National Works. One of the most prominent places to visit in the country, this memorial museum takes one back to the period of the first Gulf War in 1990-91. It is an ode to the brave citizens, military, and allied forces that were martyred during the war.



## American Cultural Center

One of the best things to do in Kuwait is to visit the American Cultural Centre, a perfect spot for art and craft in the city. Portraying art and craft from cultures like the Middle East, Asia, and far East, the place has all the attributes to be a fine spot for historical experience in Kuwait. As the natives and travelers to Kuwait put it, a trip to Kuwait without visiting the American Cultural Centre is virtually incomplete.

## Kuwait Zoo

Another of those places to see in Kuwait, Kuwait Zoo is a fine place for kids to have the best possible time with parents. With over 1606 animals that include dangerous species as well, this is a place that ensures it all. In fact, there are a number of rare birds at the Kuwait Zoo too which have been categorized into five different units and each category has a staggering 12 different species.



## Al Shaheed Park

Yet another of the places to visit in Kuwait that deserve a special mention is this urban park, consisting of plenty of green areas (including botanical gardens), a lake, paths, restaurants, and even gift shops & two museums! Once again located in Kuwait City, it is the largest urban park of the country. Opening early morning for joggers & closing by midnight, it houses several elements that depict cutting edge architecture.



## Souk Al-Mubarakiya

Ask any local about things to do in Kuwait & among the suggestions they make would surely be shopping at Souk Al-Mubarakiya in Kuwait City. And even though we have started this post with the capital city, so iconic is this bazaar that it is worth mentioning separately! One of the oldest markets of the country, this was the site of trade before the gulf nation discovered oil.



## Aqua Park

Located on the Arab Gulf Street, the Aqua Park is one of the best places to visit in the Middle East and the first water park in the Gulf with a total area of more than 60,000 square meters. One can find the park just adjacent to Kuwait Towers and is a perfect place to spend a family fun day in Kuwait. With top of the line water activities, scuba diving, volleyball court, swimming for adults and so much more, this is a perfect place to enjoy your day in Kuwait and to get some respite from the heat.



## Farwaniya

Salmiya brings us to Farwaniya, the most populous of the six governorates of Kuwait & its main residential area. Another paradise for shoppers, esp. international travelers, the city is brimming with shopping destinations from where one can get a huge range of items, like Kuwaiti dried fruit, perfumes, metal ornaments, rugs, clothes & so on. If you are travelling with kids, don't forget to take them to 'Kids Village', an outdoor entertainment area.

# BAHRAIN

THE LAND OF TWO SEAS

## IT ALL STARTS WITH AL-SALAM ALAIKUM

With a name like the land of two seas, the Kingdom of Bahrain is hard to resist. Located in the Arabian Gulf, the only island nation of the Middle East, it is bursting with a remarkable number of freshwater springs underneath the saltwater ocean and an abundance of beautiful scenery.

It may be small, but the Kingdom punches well above its weight when it comes to history. Home to three UNESCO World Heritage sites, Bahrain seamlessly marries the old and new.

One of the most thriving food and culture scenes in the Middle East, it is perfect for a relaxing stay & ample cultural indulgences.

One of the most unique offering that Bahrain has is the pearl snorkelling activity. Famous for it's pearls, even Jacques Cartier explored Bahrain's waters for pearls in 1911. Currently, the activity is offered to tourists to try their luck at finding pearls.

# MANAMA

## THE CAPITAL

Manama, capital of the island nation of Bahrain, is a major financial center with a thriving economy. A surplus of money has decorated the skyline with glass and steel spires, and plans for the tallest tower in the world. Although Bahrain is an Islamic country, alcohol is legal, and Manama has a thriving nightlife, with clubs and bars popular with visitors from all over the world.

The narrow rows of stalls at the Bab el-Bahrain souk are famous for their vast array of perfumes, spices, and gold.

Manama has been at the crossroads of desert trade in the Persian Gulf for centuries. Today, it's a prosperous business and economic center in the Middle East, and offers visitors a shopping paradise with a fantastic dining, arts, and entertainment scene to be explored.

Manama might lack Dubai or Doha's sophistication, but therein lies its own personal charm. There is a lot more to the city than meets the eye. Manama retains a charm, very different from its Middle Eastern counterparts. Complete with divine cuisine and vivacious art and culture, the city makes for a wonderful travel destination.

Manama has paced well taking rapid strides from a pearling economy to one of the biggest oil reserves. The city boasts of some of the best hotels, shopping malls and nightlife venues. And there are the charming souks, the craft market and the National Theatre.

Manama is the homes with the traditional roofs, the delicious Machboos and Gahwa and the Bab Al Bahrain. The Bahrainian city resonates candour and simplicity, attracting travellers from all corners of the world.



### Four Seasons Bahrain Bay

In the Kingdom's capital city of Manama, Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay is a soaring architectural statement on its own exclusive island. Convenient for business and breathtaking for Bahrain holidays, this unique-in-the-world urban resort blends innovation and relaxation.

Unparalleled in design, Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay rises 68 stories on a 5-hectare (12-acre) private island, accessed by causeway, boat, or water taxi.

### Ritz Carlton Bahrain

Experience The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain Hotel & Spa. Located on Manama Bay, yet just minutes from the airport and Manama City Center, this exceptional Bahrain luxury resort features world-class cuisine, a nurturing spa, a 37-slip marina and an array of water sports – all just steps from your door. With superb amenities and impeccable service, this luxury hotel and resort in Bahrain beckons you to discover all this beautiful Arab nation has to offer.



### Intercontinental Bahrain

InterContinental Regency Bahrain reflects the InterContinental Hospitality with a Bahraini flavour offering guests an authentic experience.

A variety of restaurants and bars enable guests to enjoy local and International cuisine complemented by attentive and professional service. Impressive arrays of leisure facilities are available at the hotel's health club and spa, where visitors are invited to relax and rejuvenate in an exclusive and contemporary environment.



### Le Meridien Bahrain

Le Méridien Bahrain City Centre offers a range of options among its 260 guest rooms and suites.

Guests are invited to unlock a series of rewarding discoveries amid timeless décor that pays homage to the hotel's and country's Parisian heritage.



## The Domain Bahrain

The Domain Bahrain is an exclusive member's club and hotel in the heart of the Diplomatic District, overlooking the turquoise waters of Arabian Gulf. Museums, The National Theatre, exclusive shopping and the historic Manama Souk are all within close proximity.

This hotel's accommodations are sanctuary spaces of your Domain, places where you can escape the buzz, work peacefully, indulge in a truly deep sleep and simply enjoy the comfort of truly personalized service by your butler.



## The Merchant House

Set in Manama, 2.2 mi from Bahrain City Center Mall, The Hotel offers accommodations with a restaurant, free private parking, an outdoor swimming pool and a fitness center. With a bar, the 5-star hotel has air-conditioned rooms with free WiFi, each with a private bathroom. The accommodations features a 24-hour front desk, room service and currency exchange for guests.



## Jumeirah Royal Saray Bahrain

Jumeirah Royal Saray Bahrain offers a fitness center, a bar and on-site dining. This 5-star hotel has air-conditioned rooms with a private bathroom. The hotel has an outdoor swimming pool and a 24-hour front desk.

At the hotel, all rooms include a balcony. Each room comes with a flat-screen TV, and some units at Jumeirah Royal Saray Bahrain have a sea view. All rooms have a desk.



## Wyndham Grand Manama

Featuring breathtaking views of the Manama skyline and Arabian Gulf, the 5-star Wyndham Grand Manama offers guests to relax in two pools, and indulge in gourmet onsite dining. Guests can enjoy Free WiFi throughout the property.

The units features a flat-screen TV with satellite channels, a bath, free toiletries and a desk. With a private bathroom equipped with a bidet and a hairdryer, rooms at the hotel also provide guests with free WiFi.





### The Grove Resort Bahrain

The Grove Resort is located in Amwaj islands; the elite tourist destination of Bahrain. The resort offers luxury and spacious family villas and apartments, including beachfront villas each with private beach and pool.

All rooms include a flat-screen TV with satellite channels, with large seating areas and fully equipped kitchens. The rooms are equipped private bathrooms, with bathrobes and slippers provided.

### Reef Boutique Hotel

Located in the Reef Island, Reef Boutique Hotel is a luxurious, five-star resort, which overlooks a sprawling lagoon and is set amid lush greenery. It has an ideal location in close proximity to Bahrain's leisure, shopping and business districts, and offers the perfect convenience of a relaxing holiday right in the heart of the city. The 11 two-bedroom villas, and 91 rooms and suites are opulently decorated, each having its own private Jacuzzi.



### Downtown Rotana Hotel

Located in the heart of Manama's bustling financial district, Downtown Rotana is ideally located for both business and leisure travelers within walking distance of local businesses, historic sites and the famous shopping hub of Manama Souq.

Bahrain World Trade Center and Bahrain Financial Harbor are only a few minutes' walk away and Bahrain International Airport is just a 20-minute drive.

### Lagoona Beach Luxury Resort & Spa

Lagoona Beach Luxury Resort & Spa is set in Manama, a mere 5 minutes' drive from the Saudi causeway, just 15 minutes' drive to the main malls in Bahrain and 25 minutes' drive from the International airport.

Featuring a private beach, this 5-star resort provides free WiFi and spacious rooms with balconies offering a sea view. It offers a spa, gym, outdoors swimming pools for kids and adults, indoor heated swimming pool and Multi sports court such as basketball and tennis.



### **Sofitel Bahrain Zallaq Thalassa Sea & Spa**

Set on the west coast of Bahrain, this excellent hotel boasts its own private beach that offers guests plenty of space to spread out while soaking up the sun. This has long been the establishment of choice for visiting dignitaries and celebrities and the staff can be counted on to provide a very discrete and first rate service that will make sure any guest feels like royalty. There are 262 rooms for guests to choose from that are set on seven storeys.



### **Al Areen Palace and Spa**

Set conveniently close to the large and lovely Al Areen Nature Reserve, this elegant Arabian villa style hotel treats guests like royalty from the moment they step into the spacious and cool lobby. Cool marble has been used throughout the establishment to striking effect and several pools and fountains help to sustain the feeling of opulence. There are twelve separate spa pavilions for guests to make use of that provide them with plenty of pampering accompanied by perfect privacy.



### **The Westin Bahrain**

Ideally located at the heart of Manama, The Westin City Centre Bahrain is the first-ever Westin Hotel to grace the island.

Thoughtfully devised with a host of novel and innovative facilities that include the city's first Heavenly Spa, guests are afforded the opportunity to sample the unique Westin Wellbeing promise when staying for business or leisure.



### **The Art Hotel & Resort**

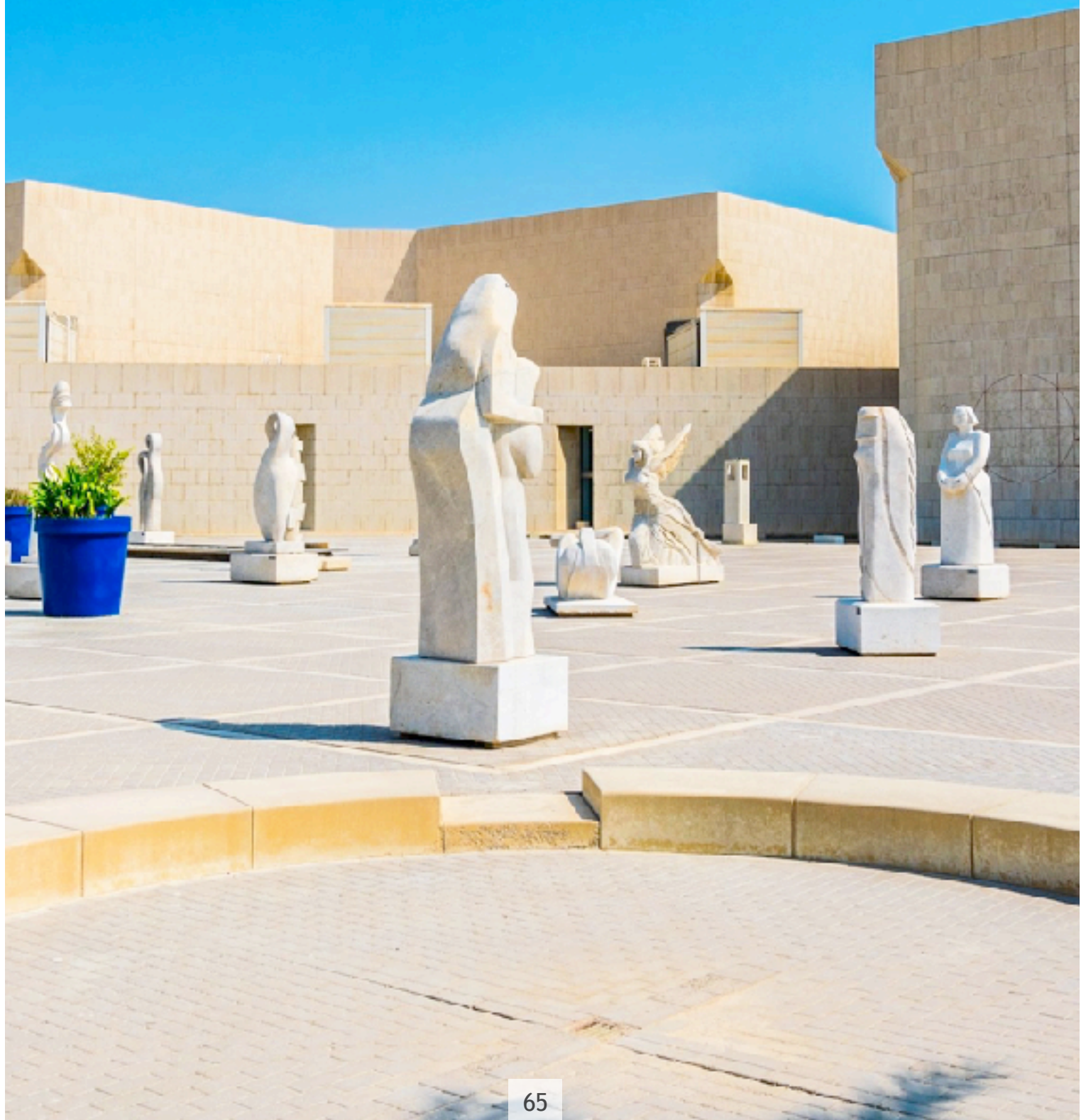
Located at Amwaj Islands, The Art Hotel & Resort is surrounded by the crystal clear blue waters of the Arabian Gulf. Guests can soak up the sun by the beach or one of the hotels' swimming pools. Free WiFi is available in all rooms.

The air-conditioned accommodations provides guests with scenic views. Each includes a satellite TV, a desk and a mini-bar.

# EXPERIENCES



# MUSEUMS



# FORTS

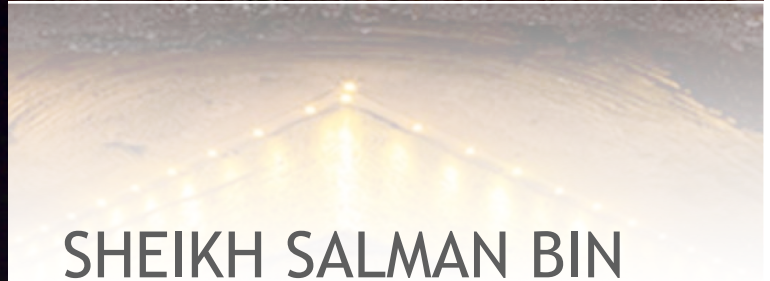


## FORT & MUSEUM

Known as Dilmun in ancient times, Bahrain's rich trading history is reflected in numerous archaeological sites, the most fascinating of which is the Bahrain Fort site that is registered as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The fort is located atop a 17.5 hectare artificial hill that has been built over more than 4000 years of continuous occupation. It is the site of the former capital of Dilmun and one of the most archaeological sites in the Arabian Gulf.

The excavations over the past 50 years have revealed residential, public, commercial and military structures that testify to the importance of the site over the centuries. These findings are brought to life by an audio guide available at the site museum.



## SHEIKH SALMAN BIN AHMED AL FATEH

Sheikh Salman bin Ahmed Al-Fateh Fort, commonly known as Riffa Fort due to its location in Riffa, is an historic landmark and stands witness to one of the most important junctures in Bahrain's history. Within its beautiful architecture lives the memory of the ruling family of Bahrain, the Al Khalifas.

A series of programs organized by the Ministry of Culture have brought life back to the fort and not only present a chronological history of the Al Khalifa family but showcase the interior space designed by the French firm, La Meduse and the local engineering firm, PAD, which took its inspiration from the fort's history and people.

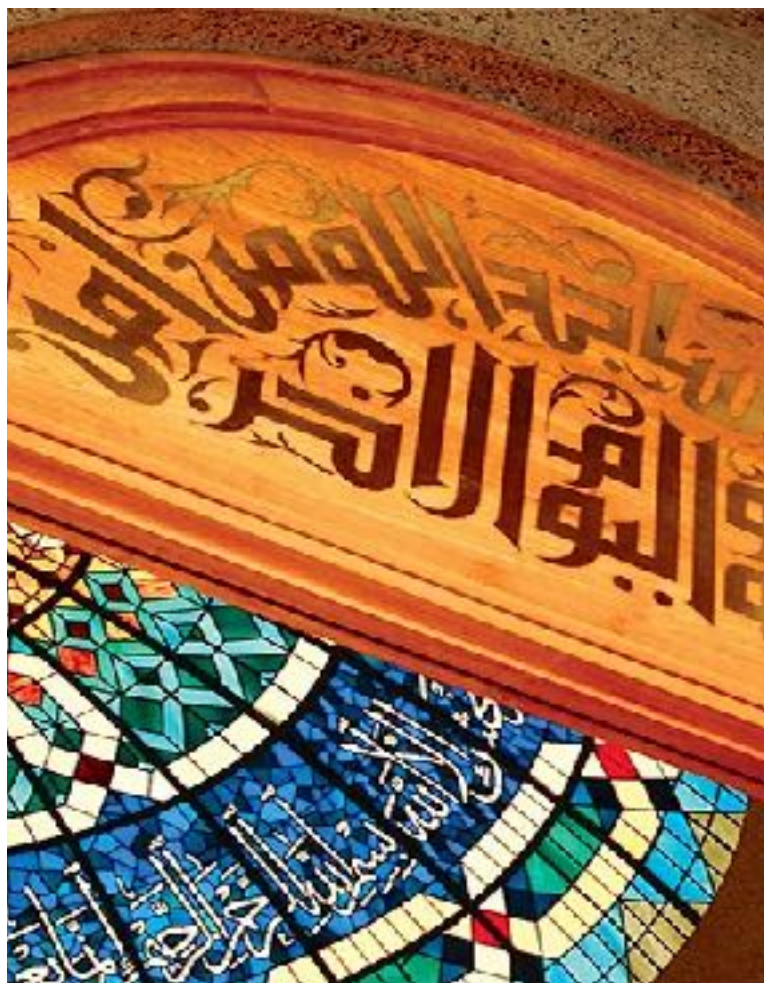
# MOSQUES



# AL FATEH GRAND MOSQUE

The Al-Fateh Mosque is one of the largest mosques in the world, encompassing 6,500 square meters and having the capacity to accommodate over 7,000 worshippers at a time.

The mosque was built by the late Sheikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa in 1987 and was named after Ahmed Al Fateh.



## BAIT AL QURAN

Housed in a spectacular Arabic script engraved building, this distinguished museum showcases a significant collection of Quranic manuscripts and scriptures dating back to the 7th century.

Many copies of the Quran you will see are works of art in themselves. Some miniature copies can fit in the palm of the hand and Quranic verses have even been inscribed on a grain of rice.

In addition to its important historical collection, Bait al Quran exhibition space often hosts varied art exhibitions while housing a small mosque, distinguished library and learning environment for Islamic teaching.

# ENTERTAINMENT



## Adhari Park

Adhari Park is a brand new visitor attraction in Bahrain adjacent to the existing Adhari National Park. Spread across 165,000 square meters, it provides a complete leisure experience for the whole family, aiming to become the number one family attraction in the GCC, with 38 exciting outdoor and indoor rides for people of all ages, a Family Entertainment Centre, 10 food outlets at the Food Court, Dine in restaurant, Coffee Shops and a lot more.



## Al Green Wildlife Park & Reserve

Extinction is not a thing of the past. Habitat loss, competition for food, pollution and mammal predation are all still playing a big role in the animal kingdom all around the world.

The Kingdom of Bahrain was perhaps the first Arab country to realize the rapid decline of many native wild animal populations in the region and the urgent need to implement safety measures that could ensure their survival.



## Azizia Bird Kingdom

You have several options to enjoy bird watching. Take 20 minutes boat ride to Hawar Islands sanctuary of wildlife reserve and home of numerous bird species either native or migratory birds.

Or take a ride to Al Areen Wildlife Park & Reserve next to Bahrain International Circuit or to Azizia bird kingdom at Amwaj islands



## Dar Islands

Central to life in Bahrain for centuries, pearl diving has to be the quintessential Bahraini experience. The beach resort of Al Dar Island offers regular pearl dives and cruises to Jarada Island where you might find yourself sunbathing on the spit of white sand and bobbing in its clear waters all on your own. In addition to pearls, you can also get the chance to see up to 30 types of coral and more than 200 species of fish. Dolphin watching along the many surrounding coral reefs is another popular pastime and they are best spotted at sunrise or sunset.

# SHOPPING



## Block 338

Located in the heart of Adliya, Block 338 is a charming pedestrian quarter crammed with international restaurants, art galleries and small boutiques. As Bahrain's hot dining district, Block 338 offers a wide range of restaurants appealing to all ages and tastes, be it for a fancy meal, traditional Bahraini dish or just a soothing drink. In addition to this distinguished eating experience, Block 338 boasts a number of good retail opportunities tucked into its side streets and has grown over the years into a vibrant space for the arts.



## Bahrain Mall

The Bahrain Mall – the ultimate family shopping experience in the heart of Bahrain's retail district. With over 120 international brands, Bahrain's first hypermarket, and exciting events all year round, The Bahrain Mall is the shopping hub for families and visitors from Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar.

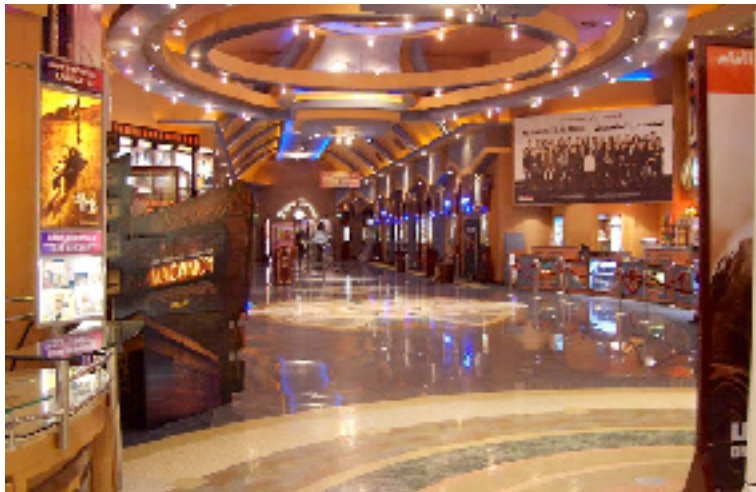
The ethnic fortress like red brick façade captures the legendary culture of Bahrain.



## Al Aali Shopping Complex

Located in the business district of Seef, the Al Aali Shopping Complex, with its plush environs, sophisticated atmosphere and abundance of luxury labels, This elegant space provides some unique labels present in the country.

Established as a high-end shopping destination; the 52 000 square meter complex lives up to its commitment to glamour, fashion and timeless luxury.



## Al Dana Mall

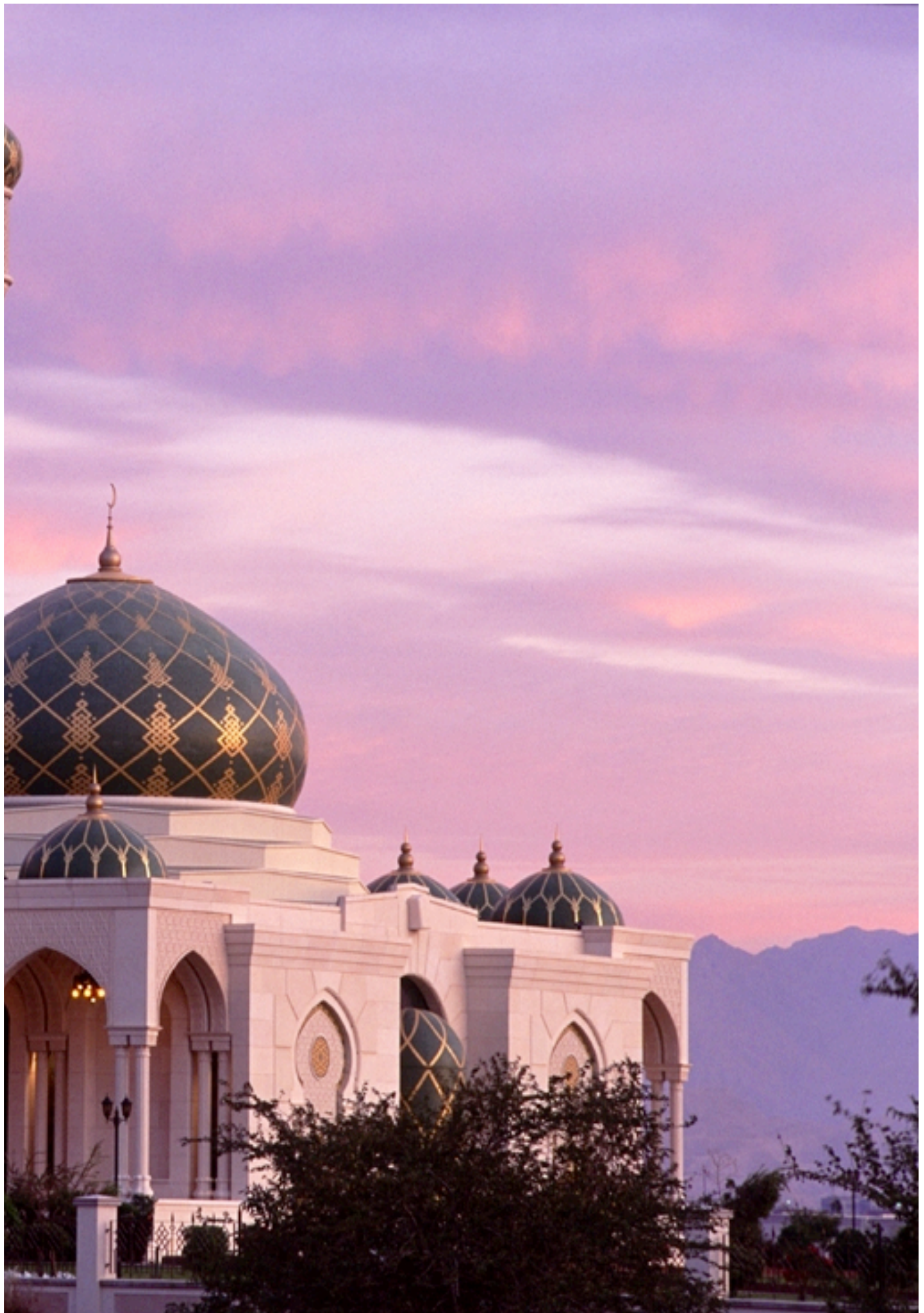
Dana Mall is an early shopping mall in the Seef District of Manama, the capital city of Bahrain.

The complex includes the Dana Cinema, with 12 screens. The cinema has stadium seating and is considered the best in Bahrain.



When will  
you **Travel?**







**SANYOG GUPTA VOYAGES**

Luxury Destination Management Company

Made with  by **Sanyog**

**Opulent Routes**  
The Luxury Experiences

[opulentroutes.com](http://opulentroutes.com)

**Adventure  
sense**  
Expedition [LIVE]

[adventuresense.com](http://adventuresense.com)

**IMEC PLANET**  
Exhibitions • Meetings • Events • Conferences

[imecplanet.com](http://imecplanet.com)

**Charity Tours**  
It's a Challenge

[charity-tours.com](http://charity-tours.com)

+91 98100 30 233 | [global@sanyog.travel](mailto:global@sanyog.travel) | [www.sanyog.travel](http://www.sanyog.travel)

SCO - 83, Sector - 22, Palam Vihar Road, Delhi NCR, Gurgaon - 122002, Haryana, India

---