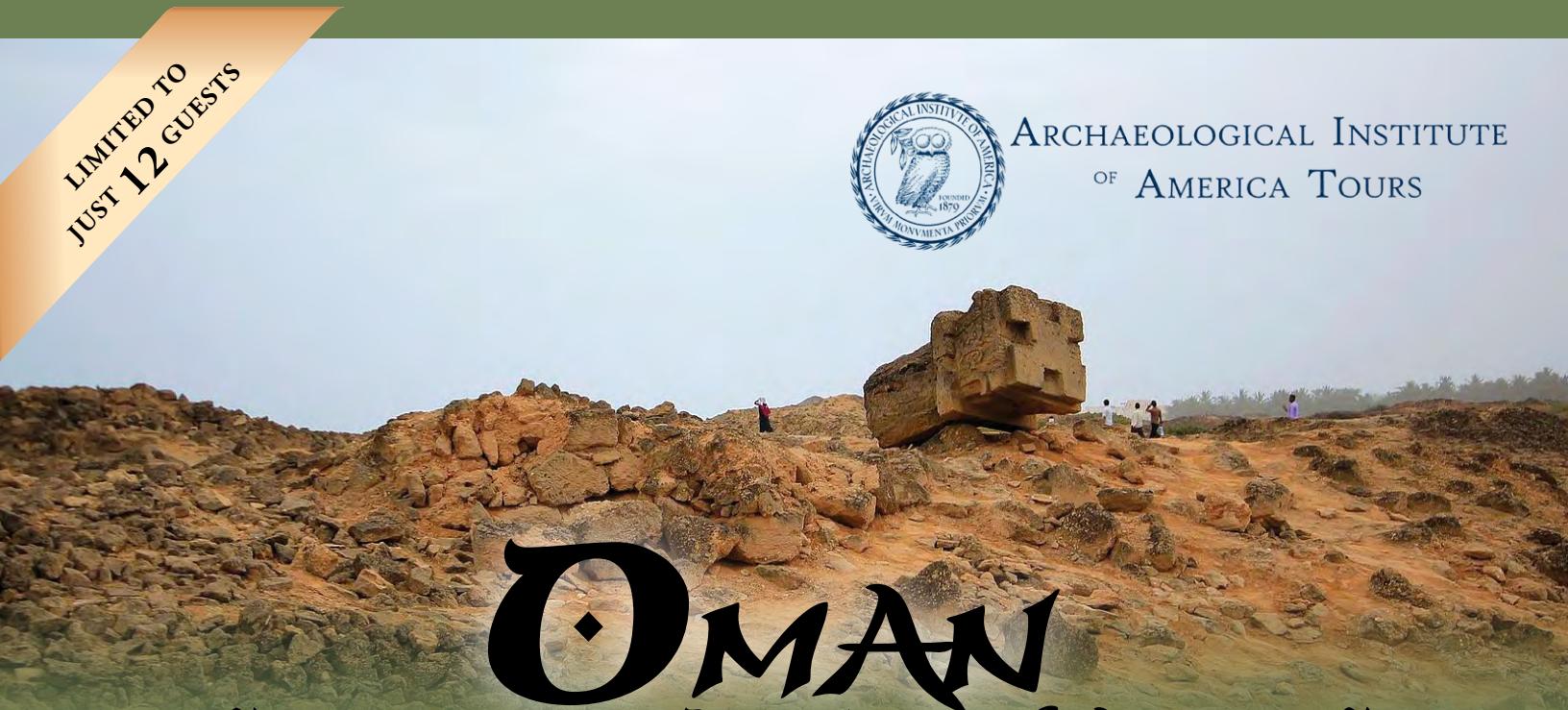


LIMITED TO  
JUST 12 GUESTS



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
OF AMERICA TOURS



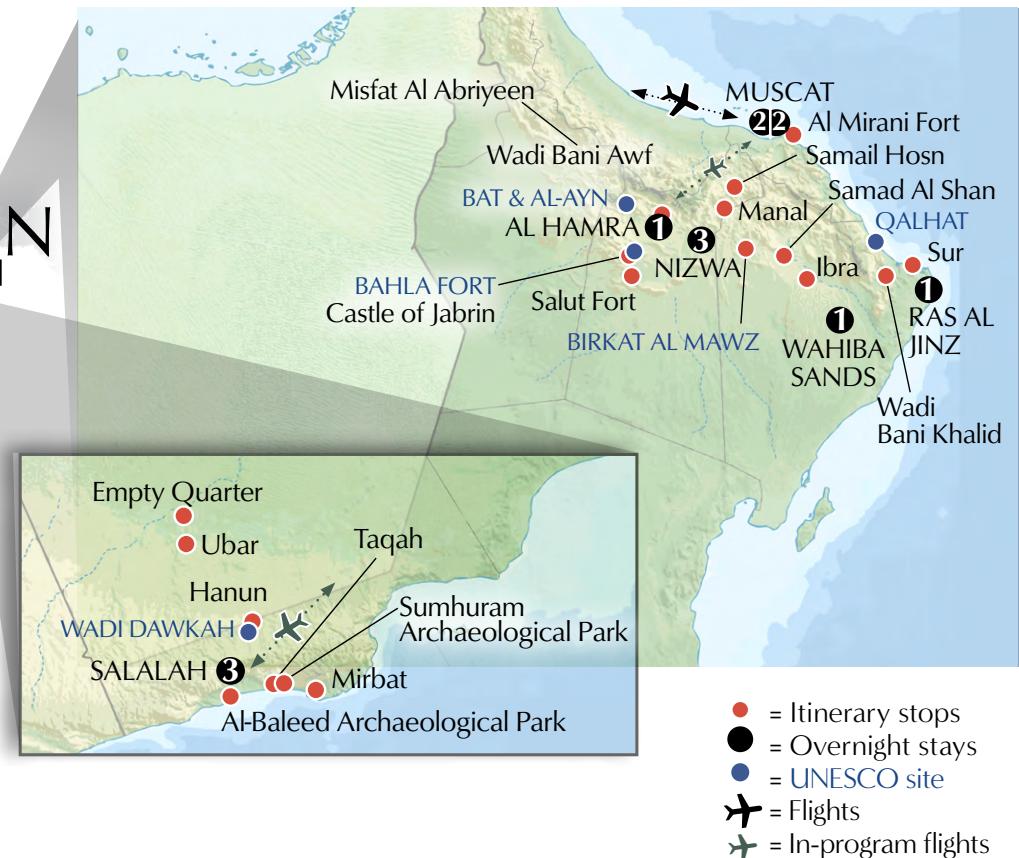
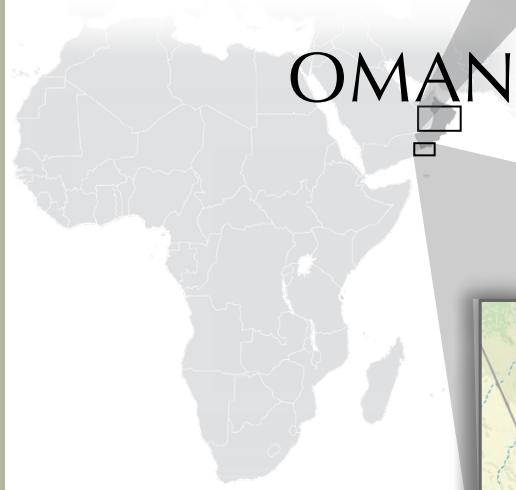
# OMAN

CROSSROADS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN & ARABIAN GULF

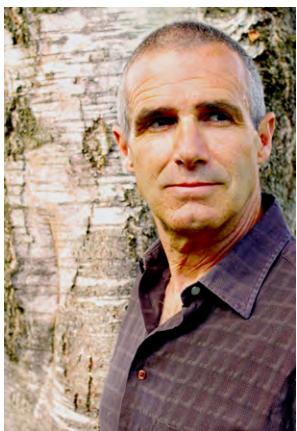
**October 6-20, 2022** (15 days | 12 guests)  
with anthropologist & architectural historian Trevor Marchand



*Archaeology-focused tours for the curious to the connoisseur.*



## Archaeological Institute of America Lecturer & Host



**Trevor Marchand** is Emeritus Professor of Social Anthropology at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS, London) and recipient of the Royal Anthropological Institute's Rivers Memorial Medal (2014). He studied architecture (McGill), received a Ph.D. in anthropology (SOAS), and qualified as a fine woodworker at London's Building Crafts College. Marchand has published extensively. His books include *The Pursuit of Pleasurable Work: Craftwork in Twenty-First Century England* (2021), *Architectural Heritage of Yemen* (2017), *Craftwork as Problem Solving* (2016), *The Masons of Djenné* (2009, winner of three international prizes), and *Minaret Building and Apprenticeship in Yemen* (2001).

Marchand produces and directs documentary films on architecture and craftwork, and has curated exhibitions for the Brunei Gallery in London, Museum of Oriental Art in Turin, Pergamon Museum

in Berlin, Royal Institute of British Architects, and the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. He is an independent advisor on World Heritage for the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and an advisor on the international experts panel for the Oxford Brookes University's Endangered Wooden Architecture Programme.

During the past three decades, Marchand has conducted fieldwork with craftspeople in Northern Nigeria, Yemen, Mali, and the UK, and he has lectured on the art, architecture, and archaeology of Central Asia, the Arabian Peninsula, and West and North Africa. He first travelled to Oman in 2000, and has led lecture tours to this historically-rich destination ever since. This will be his second Oman tour for the AIA. With extensive knowledge of the Arabian Peninsula and Indian Ocean trade, Marchand's lectures explore the great antiquity of contact and connections between Oman and the coast of East Africa, and reveal the might of Oman's merchant-princes and naval fleets that once ruled the seas. Marchand elucidates Oman's rich archaeological legacies, distinct architectural traditions, and renowned craft heritage (including boat building), as well as the aspirations of Omanis for modern, progressive identities that honor the past.

Cover: (top) Al-Baleed Archaeological Park, Salalah; (bottom, from left) Nizwa Fort; (top) Wadi Darbat; (bottom) The Wahiba Sands

Oman's Bronze Age, Iron Age, pre-Islamic, and Islamic sites are spectacular. This custom-designed itinerary with seasoned study leader Trevor Marchand delves into the historical monuments and cultural history of Oman, while also sampling the country's great geographical diversity, from spectacular deserts and wadis to pristine coastlines, including a reserve for the endangered green sea turtle. On this program, maximize your time in-country with group flights between Muscat in the far north and Salalah in the far south.

Oman was historically the link between Arabia, Africa, and south Asia. For centuries, Oman dominated the Indian Ocean's commerce, governing Gwadar (on the coast of modern-day Pakistan) and Zanzibar. Indeed, Oman dominated the trade routes from Moorish Spain to Canton (modern-day Guangzhou, China); her ships and seafarers sailed into harbors worldwide, and her merchants traded in the commodities of civilization, such as frankincense, myrrh, silk, gold, spices, and coffee. Today, the country takes pride in sharing its rich history with visitors, as demonstrated in its world-class museums.

## Highlights

- Visits to **five UNESCO World Heritage Sites**: Oman's *aflaj irrigation systems*; the protohistoric archaeological complex of **Bat and Al-Ayn**; the immense fort at the oasis of **Bahla**; the coastal, medieval trade city of **Qalhat**; and the **Land of Frankincense**
- **Four nights in Oman's capital city of Muscat**, including a tour of its recently-opened Oman National Museum
- **Hasat bin Sult** (a.k.a. Coleman's Rock), site of Oman's most significant rock art
- **Lunch at a local home** in Al Hamra
- **Three nights in the ancient oasis town of Nizwa**
- A visit with a **Bedouin family** and an overnight at a lovely desert camp in **Wahiba Sands**, a 6,000-square-mile desert
- **Sur**, where many of the trading fleets of Omani ships were built
- **Three nights in Salalah**, including excursions to **Sumhuram Archaeological Park**, once an important conduit for the international frankincense trade network, and the 5,000-year-old fortress of **Ubar**
- Opportunities to **wander through lively souks** in Muscat and Nizwa
- **Limited to just twelve travelers**, plus a dedicated local guide/tour manager and Professor Marchand



© Keirne Connor



© Trevor Marchand



© Trevor Marchand



© John Crane



© Trevor Marchand

Photos (from top): A market in Muscat; Samad Al Shan; the Tomb of Mohamed bin Ali in Mirbat; the Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve; Misfat Al Abriyeen



*"Trevor gave an awesome tour... [he] answered each and every question from everyone in the group. He is NOT a 'dry academician'; his passions and enthusiasms were evident throughout the tour. He is also extremely kind and deferential."* - Colleen, California

© giggle

# ITINERARY

B= Breakfast • L= Lunch • D= Dinner

## Thursday, October 6, 2022: Depart home

Depart home on overnight flights to Oman.

## Friday, October 7: Arrive Muscat, Oman

Upon arrival at Muscat International Airport (MCT) there will be a group transfer (time TBA) to our hotel. Dinner is at leisure. *Overnight at the 5-star Hormuz Grand Muscat, a Radisson Collection Hotel* for two nights.

## Saturday, October 8: Muscat city tour: Bait Al Zubair Museum, Oman National Museum, Mutrah Souk | Welcome dinner

Join your study leader and fellow travelers this morning for an orientation meeting. Then set out to explore the city of Muscat, capital of Oman, which has retained much of its traditional architecture and beauty while making great strides toward modernization. Visit the private Bait Al Zubair Museum to see its collection of traditional Omani artifacts before viewing Al Alam Palace, ceremonial palace of Sultan Qaboos of Oman, and the 16<sup>th</sup>-century Al Mirani Fort, which guards Muscat Bay and played a pivotal role in the fall of the Portuguese. (Please note that the Palace and Fort may be viewed from the outside only.) After lunch at a local restaurant, we visit the recently-opened Oman National Museum for a private tour of its highlights by a senior staff member (pending availability). Its permanent collection comprises about 12,500 artifacts from Oman dating back to the prehistoric era, and more than 5,000 objects on display across 14 permanent galleries are brought to life by giant screens and high-tech devices. End our day at the Mutrah Souk, which has some good antique shops and an entire area that specializes in gold. Return to our hotel to freshen up and gather for a welcome dinner. (B,L,D)

## Sunday, October 9: Fly to Salalah | Salalah: Al Husn Palace, Al Hafa Fort Souq | Al-Baleed Archaeological Park & Museum | Museum of the Frankincense Land | Mughsayl Beach & Blowholes | Salalah

This morning we transfer to the airport for a short flight to the city of Salalah. Salalah is not only Oman's second largest municipality but also a royal stronghold for Oman's past Sultans and birthplace of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, who passed away in 2020. Begin with a visit to Al Husn Palace, the summer residence of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos, which stands at one end of the promenade. After a local lunch, visit Al Hafa Fort Souq, where there are frankincense crystals of Dhofar, typical Dhofari frankincense burners, cattle, colorful cotton headdresses, and local jewelry for sale. Also visit Al-Baleed Archaeological Park, the Dhofar region's main settlement from the 8<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, where we will use golf carts to explore the site. This region is also part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site "Land of Frankincense." After a visit to the Al-Baleed Museum we visit the Museum of the Frankincense Land, which chronicles human settlement in the area since 2000 B.C. with an emphasis on maritime trade and traditions. Head west to the Mughsayl Beach and Blowholes, then drive to our hotel and gather for dinner. *Overnight at the 5-star Hilton Salalah Resort* for three nights. (B,L,D)

## Monday, October 10: Taqah | Sumhuram Archaeological Park | Tomb of Mohamed bin Ali | Wadi Darbat | Salalah

Get an early start this morning to explore the fishing village of Taqah and its castle, behind whose giant timber doors are reception rooms, sleeping quarters, shady courtyards, and even a tiny prison. Continue on to Sumhuram Archaeological Park, site of what was once one of the major ports of southern Arabia and an important conduit for the international

frankincense trade network. Also visit the nearby museum, before enjoying lunch in nearby Mirbat. Continue on to the twin-domed, 12<sup>th</sup>-century Tomb of Mohamed bin Ali, a fine example of medieval Omani architecture. End the day at Wadi Darbat, with its thick botanical cover, natural springs, and caves. Return to our hotel in Salalah and enjoy dinner on your own. (B,L)

**Tuesday, October 11: Tomb of the Prophet Job | Wadi Dawkah | Hanun | Ubar | Empty Quarter (Rub' Al Khali Desert) | Salalah**

After an early breakfast we drive north to the Tomb of the Prophet Job (Nabi Ayoub), nestled among green mountains. According to the Old Testament, Job is also a Prophet of Islam. His tomb is simple and modest, yet awe-inspiring. Continue on to Wadi Dawkah (part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site “Land of Frankincense”), a typical frankincense-growing area where about 5,000 trees are currently being cultivated and, when transplanted, will help restore natural balance to areas of the wadi that have suffered environmental damage. Nearby is Hanun, a depot along the frankincense routes, and 5<sup>th</sup>-century B.C. triliths (groups of three stones perched together to form a steep pyramid). Drive farther north to the ruins of the fabled “lost city” of Ubar, a 5,000-year-old fortress city that was once at the center of the frankincense trade and is now the focus of exciting archaeological excavations. Before returning to Salalah, experience the tranquility of the Empty Quarter (the Rub' Al Khali Desert), the largest continuous sand sea in the world. The surface of the desert is covered by reddish-orange colored sand dunes, which reach around 820 feet high, and several lake beds. Dinner is at our hotel this evening. (B,L,D)

**Wednesday, October 12: Fly to Muscat | Wadi Bani Awf | Balad Sayt | Al Hamra**

Drive to the airport this morning for a flight from Salalah back to Muscat. Upon arrival, and with freshly prepared boxed lunches, we drive toward Wadi Bani Awf, one of Oman's most spectacular wadis (valleys, or dry riverbeds). Transfer to 4x4 vehicles to enjoy a spectacular drive along the Wadi to the picturesque village of Balad Sayt and then to onward our hotel in Al Hamra, one of Oman's oldest villages, where we have dinner this evening. *Overnight at the 4-star [The View](#) hotel (Superior room).* (B,L,D)

**Thursday, October 13: Hasat bin Sult | Misfat Al Abriyeen | Al Hamra: Bait Al Safah | Bat & Al-Ayn | Nizwa**

Set out early today for a drive to the site of Hasat bin Sult, the most important rock art in Oman. Often referred to as Coleman's Rock, named after geologist Robert Coleman, it is the only rock art in all of southeastern Arabia that is sculpted in low relief. Continue driving to the fortress village of Misfat Al Abriyeen, in the mountains of Akhdar, where fruit trees grow (irrigated by an intriguing canal system). Return to Al Hamra and visit Bait Al Safah, a living history museum in a restored mudbrick house, where old Omani traditions such as weaving are demonstrated. After lunch, walk through the narrow streets to admire the town's well-preserved two- and three-story mud-brick houses built in the traditional style. Continue on to the protohistoric archaeological complex of Bat and Al-Ayn, which represents one of the world's most complete and well-preserved ensembles of settlements and necropolises from the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C. They were declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1988. Drive the final stretch to Nizwa, an ancient oasis town that was once the medieval capital of Oman, and check-in to our hotel. Gather for dinner this evening. *Overnight at the 4-star [Golden Tulip Nizwa Hotel](#) for three nights.* (B,L,D)

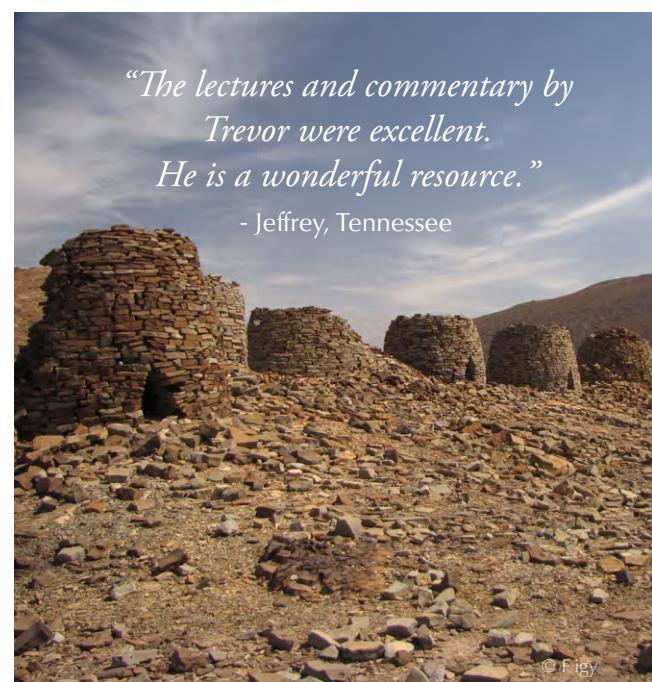
Photos: (from top) Muscat's harbor, the Mausoleum of Bibi Maryam at Qalhat, and Al-Ayn.



© bhart



© Trevor Marchand



*“The lectures and commentary by Trevor were excellent. He is a wonderful resource.”*

- Jeffrey, Tennessee



© Francisco Anzola

**Friday, October 14: Nizwa walking tour: Friday market, souk, Nizwa Fort, Al Aqr quarter | Samail Hosn | Manal | Nizwa**

This morning we rise early to experience the Nizwa Friday market, whose animal souk is an opportunity to witness Oman's traditional manner of selling livestock. Potential buyers either sit on the circular centerpiece or form a huge circle where, in a counter-clockwise motion, sellers parade or carry their offerings, shouting out the latest bid or asking price. From here we visit Nizwa's souk, which specializes in finely-crafted metalwork, and then visit the 17<sup>th</sup>-century Nizwa Fort, which for 300 years was the primary seat of the Imamate, serving as a combination palace, seat of government, and prison. Take a 15-minute walk to the Al Aqr quarter, where we will see (from the outside only) two of Nizwa's historic mosques, the Shawadhna Grand Mosque and the Grand Mosque of Sa'al, each with distinguishing features. After lunch at a local restaurant, we drive to Samail village, which was home to Mazin bin Ghaduba, companion of the Prophet Muhammad and the first Omani to embrace Islam. He built the town's first mosque in the 7<sup>th</sup> century and, as a result, there are now around 300 mosques in the valley. Located on a hill just next to the main road is the massive Samail Hosn (Castle of Samail), with high walls; heavy, dark, wooden doors; and inner buildings made from traditional mud bricks. Visit the nearby Tomb of Mazin bin Ghaduba, an open-air tomb with mosaic tiles in traditional Islamic colors, and then drive to Nizwa by way of the village of Manal, where we stop to view the exterior of the Ibadi Mosque. Return to our hotel and gather for dinner. (B,L,D)

**Saturday, October 15: Bahla Fort and Friday Mosque | Castle of Jabrin | Salut Fort | Nizwa**

Take a morning drive to the oasis of Bahla, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and an immense fort that was recently restored and opened to visitors. Its oldest parts were built as early as 500 B.C. A short drive away is the 17<sup>th</sup>-century Castle of Jabrin. The Omani have done an excellent job of restoring this site, and it provides a good sense of medieval Oman, with displays inside of various household items and furnishings, plus spectacular, hand-painted ceilings and beautifully-executed woodcarvings. After lunch at a local restaurant we drive to Salut Fort, considered one of Oman's oldest forts. Since 2004, archaeological excavations have identified key Bronze and Iron Age sites in the area surrounding Salut. Schedule permitting, also visit the new Salut Museum. Return to our hotel in Nizwa and gather for dinner. (B,L,D)

**Sunday, October 16: Birkat Al Mawz | Samad Al Shan | Ibra | Bedouin family visit | Wahiba Sands**

After an early breakfast we set out from Nizwa for a series of interesting stops along the way to our camp in the Wahiba Sands. First visit the lovely village of Birkat Al Mawz, which provides a superb example of the *falaj* traditional irrigation system (part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site "Aflaj Irrigation Systems of Oman"). Walk through date and banana plantations and admire the mud-brick homes, many of which are being abandoned as people move into concrete structures outside of the village. Continue driving to the fort at Samad Al Shan, set amidst date palm groves dotted with fruit orchards. Drive onward to Ibra, one of the oldest cities in Oman and once a center of trade, religion, education, and art. After lunch in Ibra we continue driving to the Wahiba Sands, a 6,000-square-mile desert where the ever-changing patterns of the dunes are a photographer's delight. We will be welcomed for a memorable visit with a Bedouin family. Check-in to our camp and then gather for dinner. *Overnight at the 5-star Desert Nights Camp* (B,L,D)

### **Monday, October 17: Dune driving | Wadi Bani Khalid | Sur | Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve**

After breakfast at the camp you will have the option to experience the thrill of dune driving in the desert. Those who participate will return to camp so that everyone sets out together for Wadi Bani Khalid, a beautiful oasis comprised of small, pretty villages among the mountains. After lunch at a local restaurant we drive to Sur and learn about the town's shipbuilding traditions. Many of the trading fleets of Omani ships were built at Sur, whose boatyards are still active today. We will have the opportunity to see them at work, using traditional methods: without plans and with only simple tools (adze, bow drill, saw, and hammer). Also view from the outside the historic wooden fishing vessel (*dhow*) *Fatah Al Khair*, built in 1951, which has been carefully restored and is part of a dry land open-air museum, together with other, smaller, traditional vessels.

Drive onward to Ras Al Jinz, a fishing village on the eastern shore of the Arabian Peninsula. Ras Al Jinz Beach is world renowned as a nesting place for the endangered green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), and this is the only official place where the public can watch the nesting process of these amazing sea giants. The Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve, an eco-tourism project, was established in 2008 to help conserve the fascinating and amazing nesting processes of these giants of the marine turtle world. In 2017 a renovated museum was opened, and its displays document some of the surrounding archaeological sites that date back 6,000 years. Excavations have uncovered the remains of some of Oman's ancient wooden boats and, in 1982, the discovery of a Bronze Age potsherd from northwestern India. After dinner, a guide will take us to try to see female turtles return to their beach to lay eggs. (Please note that the main nesting season is June through August and, at other times of the year, there may not be turtles every night.) *Overnight at the 3-star [Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve](#)* (B,L,D)

### **Tuesday, October 18: Sur fish market | Qalhat | Muscat**

Set out today for our return drive to Muscat, stopping along the way for another visit to Sur to visit the bustling fish market and see the catch of the day. Continue driving to the ancient city of Qalhat, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a coastal, medieval trade city that was destroyed by an earthquake, where we visit (permission pending) the Mausoleum of Bibi Maryam. Drive along Wadi Tiwi, enjoying lunch at a local restaurant along the way, and then onward for two more hours to arrive in Muscat. Check-in to our hotel, get settled, and gather for dinner. *Overnight at the 5-star [Hormuz Grand Muscat, a Radisson Collection Hotel](#)* for two nights. (B,L,D)

### **Wednesday, October 19: Muscat: Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, Royal Opera House, PM at leisure | Farewell dinner**

Start the day with an early visit to the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, a superb example of contemporary Islamic architecture that can accommodate more than 20,000 worshippers and was formally opened in May 2001. Drive to the Royal Opera House Muscat, which opened in 2011 and was designed by the same architects as the Grand Mosque. Enjoy a short tour of the opera house and view its very fine collection of rare instruments. After lunch at the Opera House's Al Angham Restaurant, the afternoon is at leisure. Gather this evening for a festive farewell dinner. (B,L,D)

### **Thursday, October 20: Fly home**

Transfer this morning to Muscat International Airport (MCT) for flights homeward. (B)

Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve



© John Crane

Ubar



© Trevor Marchand

*"Trevor Marchand was/is a deeply learned and passionate guide. He worked tremendously hard for us."* - Ruth, Ontario

# ACCOMMODATIONS



## Muscat

Four nights total at the 5-star  
[Hormuz Grand Muscat, a Radisson Collection Hotel](#)



## Salalah

Three nights at the 5-star  
[Hilton Salalah Resort](#)



## Al Hamra

Overnight at the 4-star  
[The View hotel](#)



## Nizwa

Three nights at the 4-star  
[Golden Tulip Nizwa Hotel](#)



## Wahiba Sands

Overnight at the 5-star  
[Desert Nights Camp](#)



## Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve

Overnight at the 3-star  
[Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve](#)

## The Archaeological Institute of America & AIA Tours

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is the oldest and largest archaeological organization in North America. The AIA seeks to educate people of all ages about the significance of archaeological discovery. For more than a century the AIA has been dedicated to the encouragement and support of archaeological research and publication, and to the protection of the world's archaeological resources and cultural heritage. By traveling on an AIA Tour you directly support the AIA while personally gaining the benefit of the AIA's network of scholars and worldwide contacts.

## What to Expect

This program involves extensive walking, often on uneven terrain or up and down stairs that may be steep, uneven, and without handrails. Some sites require strenuous and/or brisk walking or climbing, sometimes with difficult footing. Participants who are not able to walk unassisted and/or stand on their feet for extended periods are kindly advised not to join this tour. All participants are expected to be physically active and not be an impediment to others on excursions, to enjoy traveling as part of a group, and to be ready to experience cultural differences. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand and discuss whether or not this program is appropriate for you.

At the time of year that we visit Oman the weather is sunny and dry, with average daytime temperatures ranging from the mid-80s to mid-90s F and nighttime temperatures in the low to mid-70s F. There may be long drives on some days, transport by 4x4 vehicles, and some very early morning departures from the hotels to make the most of the cooler morning air during site visits and avoid excess time exposed to mid-day heat. When traveling in Oman appropriate dress is key, especially in the more rural areas. Women should have their arms and shoulders covered, wear below-the-knee-length skirts or pants, and carry a scarf to cover their hair when visiting religious sites. In general, non-Muslims are not allowed to enter mosques. Complete pre-departure details, including up-to-date COVID-related protocols, will be sent to participants.



© Trevor Marchand

Nizwa livestock market

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Nizwa Souk

© Sharon Ang

## Tour Prices Per Person (13 Nights)

Double Occupancy (10-12 participants) .....\$9,795

Single Supplement .....\$1,895

*Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required (limited availability). With fewer than 10 participants a small group surcharge may be applied.*

### PRICES INCLUDE:

- Leadership of **AIA lecturer & host Trevor Marchand**
- Services of a professional **local guide/tour manager** throughout
- **13 nights' accommodations** in comfortable and ideally-located four- and five-star hotels, and **unique lodgings** such as the *Desert Nights Camp* and the *Ras Al Jinz Turtle Reserve*
- **Most meals:** 13 breakfasts, 12 lunches, and 11 dinners including welcome and farewell dinners with beer or wine
- **In-program flights** (Muscat/Salalah and Salalah/Muscat)
- Surface transportation by **modern, air-conditioned motor coach**, including **bottled water**, parking fees, highway tolls, and local taxes
- **All gratuities** to local guide/tour manager, drivers, hotel staff, porters, and restaurant staff at included meals
- **Group airport transfers** on program arrival and departure dates
- **Baggage handling** (one bag per person)
- **All sightseeing and excursions** as indicated in the itinerary
- Complete **pre-departure information**, including a suggested reading/media guide and packing suggestions

### Flights and Transfers

In-program flights are included in this program. Airfare from/to home is not included in the tour price. Group transfers (times TBD) are provided upon arrival on October 7<sup>th</sup> and for departure on October 20<sup>th</sup> from Muscat International Airport (MCT). Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should book your flights. If you are considering booking your flights before this time, please contact AIA Tours first. Your flight itinerary must be provided to our office prior to departure. *We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.*

Back page photos: (top to bottom) Grand Mosque in Muscat, Hasat bin Sult, Bahla Fort, Al-Baleed Archaeological Park

**Prices Do Not Include:** Airfare from/to home; passport and visa fees; private transfers; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; items of a personal nature, such as medical expenses, laundry, taxi, telephone, fax, and internet charges; meals, alcoholic and other beverages except as noted; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour.

**Payments:** A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to "EOS-Passenger Account-AIA Oman10/22." Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be by check, ACH transfer, or wire transfer only; credit cards are not accepted for final payment. By submitting your deposit you are bound by the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure or elsewhere published.

**Participant Cancellation Fees:** All requests by participants for cancellations must be received in writing by AIA Tours. Cancellations received at least 180 days prior to departure are fully refunded. Cancellations received between 179 and 90 days prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of \$250 per person. Cancellations received between 89 and 61 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. Cancellations received 60 days or less prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. *For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information will be provided with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.*

**NOTE:** Prices are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of publication and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, and the price of fuel, services, and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices.

Prices, itinerary, accommodations, and leader are subject to change. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions will be sent upon confirmation or upon request, and can be viewed online at [www.aiatours.org](http://www.aiatours.org).

For questions, and to reserve your space, please contact AIA Tours at:

800-748-6262 | Toll: 603-756-2884 | Fax: 603-756-2922 | [aia@studytours.org](mailto:aia@studytours.org) | [www.aiatours.org](http://www.aiatours.org)

P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608





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# OMAN

*CROSSROADS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN & ARABIAN GULF*

October 6-20, 2022 (15 days | 12 guests)

with anthropologist & architectural historian Trevor Marchand

*Archaeology-focused tours for the curious to the connoisseur*



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October 6-20, 2022 (15 days | 12 guests )

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To fill out an online reservation form, [click here](#). Or, print and mail or fax this form to the address below.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
OF AMERICA TOURS

RESERVATION FORM

**OMAN:**

**Crossroads of the Indian Ocean & Arabian Gulf**

October 6-20, 2022 (15 days | 12 guests)  
with anthropologist & architectural historian Trevor Marchand

*To hold your reservation for seven days while this form and your deposit are in the mail, please contact us at 800-748-6262 or [aia@studytours.org](mailto:aia@studytours.org).*

Name 1

(as it appears on passport)

Name 2

(as it appears on passport)

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone (home)

Phone (cell)

Email(s)

|

I/We have read the 'What to Expect' section and am/are physically able to participate fully on the program.

Are you traveling with any other parties on this program? Yes, \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this tour?  eNewsletter  mailing  website  friends/family  other \_\_\_\_\_

ACCOMMODATIONS:

(Accommodation preferences are not guaranteed.)

Double (one bed)  Twin (two beds)  Single

I will be sharing with: \_\_\_\_\_

Share - please assign a roommate (not guaranteed)

Please share my contact information with potential roommate(s).

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Please note that credit cards are not accepted for final payment. You will receive an invoice for final payment. All prices and payments are in US dollars.

DEPOSIT TYPE (please check one):

Check payable to: EOS Passenger Account-AIA Oman10/22       Visa     Master Card     American Express     Already paid by phone

CC#

Exp. Date

3- or 4-Digit Code

Name on Card

Please complete this reservation form, choose/enclose your method of deposit, and sign the release statement.  
Submit via email, mail, or fax to:

**AIA Tours - P.O. Box 938, Walpole, NH 03608-0938**

**Fax: 603-756-2922 • Email: [aia@studytours.org](mailto:aia@studytours.org)**

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and agree to all Terms & Conditions delineated throughout.

Signature (participant #1)

Date

Signature (participant #2)

Date

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

**RESPONSIBILITY:** The Archaeological Institute of America and its agent, Eos Study Tours, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (hereinafter "Sponsors"), and the tour operator and/or its agents (collectively "Sponsors/Operator") do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities; airline, vessel, or other transportation companies; guides or guide services; local ground operators; providers or organizers of optional excursions; food service or entertainment providers; etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or of any other third party. In addition and without limitation, Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of force majeure; acts of God; acts of government; acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection, or revolt; bites from or attacks by animals, insects, or pests; strikes or other labor activities; criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof; sickness, illness, epidemics, pandemics, or the threat thereof; the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof; overbooking or downgrading of accommodations; mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation; or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely. In addition, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for their own negligence, and participant assumes all risk thereof. **CHANGES IN ITINERARY OR FEATURES:** Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Sponsors/Operator shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Sponsors/Operator are not required to cancel any trip for any reason including, without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization, or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Sponsors/Operator make the flight arrangements or cancel the trip. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to substitute hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. **LUGGAGE:** Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. **PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY:** All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Participants must be able to embark or disembark transportation vehicles, stand for extended periods, climb stairs, and step over raised thresholds all without assistance. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws, and any participant who refuses to follow protocols may be asked to leave the program with no refunds provided. **REFUNDS:** Prices quoted are based on group participation. No refunds will be made for any part of the program in which a participant chooses not to participate. Refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for any reason, nor to participants whose entry into any country or aboard any transportation vehicle, including airplanes and cruise ships, is delayed or denied. **TOUR CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:** Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to cancel this tour prior to departure, in which case payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part unless trip cancellation, itinerary changes, and/or delays are mandated by causes beyond our control, in which case the participant shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by Sponsors/Operator, or else receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as Sponsors/Operator are able to recover on the participant's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc. Sponsors/Operator, however, shall not have any obligation or liability to the participant beyond the foregoing. **TRIP INSURANCE:** Sponsors/Operator strongly recommend that participants purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of

reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through Sponsors/Operator and others and covers certain expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident and damaged or lost luggage. Sponsors/Operator will send participants an application upon receipt of their reservation. **PRICES:** Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of publication and are subject to changes at any time. On all programs, even after full payment, Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, tax increases, currency fluctuations, or fuel and energy surcharges, and all such increases are to be paid to Sponsors/Operator upon notice to the participant. **FORUM AND METHODOLOGY FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** Any dispute or claim which refers or relates to this contract, any literature related to the trip, or the trip itself shall be litigated solely and exclusively in and for courts in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive and procedural New Hampshire law, and for this limited purpose, the parties agree to exclusive venue and personal jurisdiction therein. At the participant's option, however, in lieu of litigation, Sponsors/Operator will agree to binding arbitration in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive, but not procedural, New Hampshire law, pursuant to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. In any such arbitration, the arbitrator, and not any federal, state, or local court or agency, shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. **U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT & CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL:** Both the Centers for Disease Control and U.S. State Department publish and update important country-specific information for travelers. We strongly recommend that you review them. They can presently be found at: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices> and <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>. **ASSUMPTION OF RISK:** Participants agree to fully accept all known and unknown risks, including the potential risk of exposure to respiratory illnesses or other illnesses, viruses, diseases, or conditions. Participants understand and agree to hold Sponsors/Operator, their officers, vendors and suppliers harmless and not liable for any real or perceived symptoms of any disease, virus, illness, or condition, nor for exacerbating any existing symptoms of any illness, virus, disease or condition, quarantine requirements, disability, and other short-term and long-term health effects, including death.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Participants should not purchase airline tickets prior to receiving their final payment invoice so as to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. If, due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend (an) additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any participant at any time. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders, or third parties, or who is determined to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel. **APPEARING IN PHOTOS:** Photos from AIA Tours' trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by other travelers or tour lecturers/guides, and the circulation of the materials could be worldwide. Trip photos may also be selected to appear in future AIA Tours promotions; no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes. **ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT:** By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and accepts the terms contained in these Terms and Conditions, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Dispute Resolution Agreement. The participant affirms that he/she has not received or relied upon any oral representation of Sponsors/Operator as a basis for executing this Release.