



OMAN International Rally



26.27.28
JANUARY
2023

DRIVERS INFORMATION GUIDE

CONGRATULATIONS!

Racing through gravel and sandy terrains, make way for another awaited international tournament, the Oman International Rally, with a participation of world class professional drivers racing against each other.

Under challenging surfaces in mountains, deserts and off-road regions, the drivers will be judged on the time they take to finish off the race.

Oman Automobile Association and all its partners invite all drivers and their co-drivers to the Sultanate of Oman and wish you every success and hope you have an enjoyable experience while you are here.

Please read and understand the following information carefully, and ensure that you comply with all the requirements when registering for the event.



OMAN INTERNATIONAL RALLY SCHEDULE

JANUARY 26TH to 28th 2023

MEDICAL INSURANCE

Make sure that your team has active medical insurance, it's valuable protection that ensures you get quick and ready access to healthcare when you need it.

CAR FOR HIRE

Car for hire is available upon arrival in Oman or you may book this online prior to your arrival, to help you have a better understanding of the rules & laws about driving hire cars in Oman it is essential you read the terms & conditions in full before you leave to pick the car up.

Requirements:

- A. Passport
- B. Original Driving License (International)
- C. Credit Card
- D. Drivers must be aged between 21 to 75 yrs. old

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Country Information

State name: The Sultanate of Oman

Capital: Muscat

Other main cities: (Salalah, Nizwa, Sohar, Al Rustaq, Sur, Al Buraimi, Musandam)

Official Language: Arabic & widespread use of English

Religion: Islam

Time Zone: Gulf Standard Time (UTC+4)



Climate: [Oman](#) can be described as a subtropical dry country, with its hot desert climate and low annual rainfall, very high temperatures in summer and an increasing difference between high and low temperatures, especially in the inland areas.

Summer, from June through to September has very low rainfall.

Daily [maximum temperatures](#) can easily reach 40°C or more.

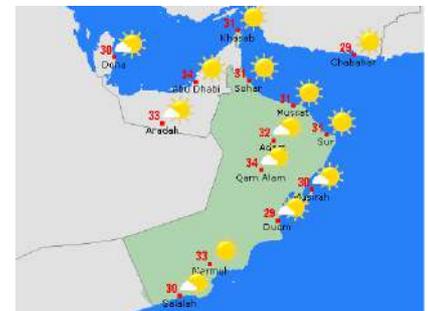
Winter is cooler with the occasional rainfall. Spring and autumn are

warm, mostly dry and pleasant, with maximum temperatures

between 25°C and 35°C and cooler [night Temperatures](#) between

15 and 22°C.

A hot, dust-laden wind, known as the Shamal, blows in the spring and summer-period, from March till August. Sometimes these winds can be very [strong](#), causing sandstorms, which can occur throughout the year. Most rainfallshappen during the winter months in sudden, short but heavy cloudbursts and thunderstorms.



Currency: Omani Rial

Electricity: The standard voltage is 240 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz. The power plugs in Oman are of type G. If the standard voltage in your country is in between 220 - 240 V (as is in the UK, Europe, Australia and most of Asia and Africa) you can use your electrical appliances in Oman. If the standard voltage in your country is in the range of 100 V - 127 V (as is in the US, Canada and most South American countries), you need a voltage converter in Oman. You can also consider a combined power plug adapter/voltage converter.



Things to know: Muslims are forbidden to drink alcohol, but most of the hotel bars and restaurants have a bar for guests. Visitors are only allowed to drink alcohol if they purchase drinks from licensed hotels and restaurants.

INTERNET & MOBILE NETWORKS

The following telecommunication providers, Omantel, Ooredoo and reseller Renna, have 24-hour service booths in the Arrivals Hall at Muscat International Airport, making it easy for travellers to buy a SIM card before they even set foot in the country. To sign up, you will need your passport.

EAT & DRINK

As a state Oman has a long history through which it has made a great contribution to civilizations around the world. At one time Oman was an influential seafaring nation whose foreign relationships extended as far as China, the USA, Britain and France. Omani ambassadors have been presenting their credentials in the capital cities of these countries for about 200 years.

The cuisine of Oman recalls its role as a key trading post between the east and west. Muscat is the dining centre of Oman and the recommended region to start from to enjoy a variety of interesting dishes of the Sultanate, including spectacular rich seafood hauled fresh from the Arabian Sea.

Some of the tastiest dishes are reserved for the big religious festivals such as Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Adha. Locals abstain from alcohol in favour of the Omani strong coffee, flavoured with cardamom and served with dates, halwa, and other delicious sweet treats.

WHAT TO SEE

With its natural breath-taking beauty, the Sultanate of Oman is known to be the oldest independent state in the Arab World. It has embraced modernization

and developing progress while retaining the core aspects of its culture and heritage – making it the perfect travel destination for those seeking an authentic Arabian experience.

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

There are five UNESCO heritage sites in Oman, all of which are worth visiting. Bahla Fort was declared as the World Heritage Site in 1987 and has since been beautifully restored. The fort reopened to the public in late 2012.

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Credited to the Bronze Age (3rd millennium B.C.), the archaeological sites of Bat, Al Khutm and Al Ayn in Ad Dhahirah make up for the world's most complete collection of beehive tombs.

This ancient watering system is deeply rooted in Oman's heritage, with over 3000 aflaj – or irrigation systems – still in use today. Using gravity to transport water from springs, the fair management of these waterways plays an important role in communities around the country. Falaj Daris in Nizwa, one of Oman's longest falaj, is still in use even today.

The Ancient city of Qalhat in Sur is a site that has an exceptional standard in international value with trading between Oman and a number of other countries in the ancient times. It is considered as a distinctive example of architecture and planning of active port cities in the Middle Ages



HOW TO GET THERE

Oman is just a seven-hour direct flight from many European and Asian cities, and flights can also be taken directly from North and South America, Australia and Africa or through short transfers from neighbouring Gulf States.



There are three Airports in use in Oman which are: Khasab Airport, Muscat International Airport and Salalah Airport.

Oman Air is the national carrier of the Sultanate and is based at Muscat International Airport. In addition, there are several other airlines that operate direct flights to Oman on a daily basis.

Distance of the race track to Muscat International Airport:

Upon arrival in Muscat International Airport, it takes approximately 13.6 km or 14mins travel time to get to the race track. Car rental is an easily accessible option to benefit the maximum from your stay in the country; Airport Taxis are also available for transport.

DRIVING IN OMAN



Driving is on the right-hand side of the road.

Traffic signs in Oman are typical and nothing drastically different to majority countries. The traffic laws in Oman are comprehensive and strictly imposed. Speed cameras are placed every 1.2 miles (2km) in Muscat. Speed is measured in km/h, and signs are according to the ISO (European) system. Some basic pointers and considerations to think about

when driving in Oman: The speed limits are 120km/h on motorways, 90km/h on open roads and between 40km/h and 80km/h in cities/urban areas.

The numbers on the signs are in dual language with Arabic numbers at the top and English at the bottom. There is zero tolerance for driving while inebriated. It is illegal to use your phone while driving. Beware of stray animals on the road – rogue camels, random goats, etc.

In order to rent a car in Oman, you must have an international driving license, a credit card and your passport to register. The age requirements to hire a car is from 21 to 75, although this varies from one company to another as some rental companies set their minimum age as 25. You must have had your license for at least one year before being permitted to drive in Oman.

Car hires are available upon your arrival in Oman or can be booked online prior to your arrival to make you have a better understanding of the rules & laws about driving hire cars in Oman it is essential you read the terms & conditions in full before you leave to pick the car up.

ENTRY INFORMATION / VISA

1. Visa can be obtained on arrival or by online application

- a. This is applicable to those eligible countries listed here
<https://evisa.rop.gov.om/visa>

eligibility / <https://www.rop.gov.om/english/countrylist1.html>

- a. To apply for a visa online refer to this link
<https://evisa.rop.gov.om/en/loginportal>
- b. If your country / nationality is not listed and needs a sponsor to obtain a visa please send your request to thuwan@omanauto.org for us to process the visa against proof of payment.

- c. Documents requirements Passport + 2x2 photo (make sure that passport is valid for not less than 6 months. From the expiry)
 - d. Payment is 35 OMR for each person (if applicable only)
 - e. **Deadline for Visa request 5th January 2023.**
- 2. New Visa Rule for GCC Residents (Residents of GCC countries can Enter Oman without a Visa for commercial & business Purposes)**
- a. GCC residents have to lodge an online application at <https://evisa.rop.gov.om/en/loginportal>
 - b. Choose 29A GCC Visa type
 - c. See the full Description & Condition Here – click to download attachment
 - d. See the full List of Allowed Profession Here – click to download the attachment
- 3. Covid Restrictions**
- a. Entry Regulations lifted since 22 May 2022 (no further updates until now)

FLIGHT TICKETS & HOTEL BOOKINGS

1. Tickets (return) up to 3 pax per team

- a. Passport Copy of Driver & Crew
- b. Preferred travel dates (Arrival & Departure) from Round 1 to Round 2
 - I. Tentative Booking Dates: Arrival 10th January / Departure 22nd January 2023
 - II. Changes after a ticket are issued is chargeable, all tickets are non-refundable

2. Hotel Accommodation – up to 3 pax

- a. Round 1 to Round 2: 12 Nights covered (1 Single & 1 Double Room) only.
- b. Hotel accommodation is booked according to the above tentative dates, any changes have to inform in advance, all excess stay is on the driver's account and must be settled upon check out to the hotel.
- c. If drivers want to stay late or arrive earlier it is your discretion but please note that OAA only covers 12 Nights.

3. Tickets & Hotel Booking from Round 3 to Round 4 will be the same setup.

HOTEL INFORMATION

OAA has been able to arrange a choice of **hotels** for you during the race meeting. The 4 hotels given below have been selected as they are extremely close to the circuit which is ideal for the early starts. So, if you would like to book into one of them, please find the details below:

Note: To avail the below Hotel special rates, kindly contact the Reservations Team. All rates / **fees are subject to additional 5% VAT if applicable.**

NOVOTEL MUSCAT AIRPORT (PREVIOUSLY SUNDUS ROTANA)

Single Room: **OMR 32NET (BB)**
Double/Twin Room: **OMR36 NET(BB)**

The above rates are inclusive of:

- Breakfast
- Wi-Fi
- All Taxes fee

In order to book your rooms please, e-mail

HB7A7-SL@accor.com

Cc: HB7A7-RE1@accor.com; cc: eddy.daccache@accor.com

Tel: +968 24511891, +968 24511893

Contact: Eddy Daccache / Jhanavi Pandya

Please e-mail by subject **OAA Special Rate**



HOLIDAY INN - MUSCAT

Single Room: **OMR 35 NET (BB)**
Double Room: **OMR 40 NET(BB)**

The above rates are inclusive of:

- Breakfast Buffet
- 8% service charge
- 5% VAT
- Lunch or Dinner @ OMR 8 NET per person per meal
- Airport pickup or drop off @ OMR 8 per car per way

In order to book your rooms, please e-mail

mouza.alrajhi@holidayinnmuscat.com

Tel: +968 91402596

Contact: Mouza Al Rajhi

Please e-mail by subject **OAA Special Rate**



PARK INN - RADISSON MUSCAT

Standard Room

Single: **OMR 27 NET**

Double: **OMR 32 NET**

Junior Suite

Single: **OMR 55 NET** (Access to the Executive Lounge)

Double: **OMR 65 NET** (Access to the Executive Lounge)



The above rates are inclusive of:

- Breakfast served at our International Buffet Restaurant
- Free Wi-Fi
- In-room bottled water
- Access to Gym facilities
- Access to Outdoor Swimming pool

In order to book your rooms, please e-mail
reservations.muscat@radissoncollection.com

Call +968 24350548

Contact: Alaa El Chaar

Please e-mail by subject: **OAA Special Rate**

HORMUZ GRAND - MUSCAT **(January bookings ONLY)**

Collection room

Single: **OMR 38 NET**

Double: **OMR 44 NET**

Collection executive room

Single: **OMR 60 NET** (Access to the Executive Lounge)

Double: **OMR 70 NET** (Access to the Executive Lounge)

Junior Suite

Single: **OMR 100 NET** (Access to the Executive Lounge)

Double: **OMR 100 NET** (Access to the Executive Lounge)

The above rates are inclusive of:

- Breakfast
- Wi-Fi
- In-room bottled water
- Access to Gym facilities
- Access to Outdoor Swimming pool

In order to book your rooms, please e-mail
reservations.muscat@radissoncollection.com

Call +968 24350548

Contact: Alaa El Chaar

Please e-mail by subject: **OAA Special Rate**

MUSCAT GATE HOTEL

Standard Room



Single: **OMR 20 NET (BB)**
Double/Twin: **OMR 25 NET (BB)**

The above rates are inclusive of:

- Breakfast
- Wi-Fi
- Complimentary in-room iron board available upon request
- Complimentary in-room Tea & Coffee making facilities
- Access to Gym facilities
- Car rental service available upon request
- Laundry services (Charges may apply)

In order to book your rooms, please e-mail
revenue@muscatgatehotel.com

Tel: +968 24510634, +968 92435287, +968 24511152

Contact: Mylene Torres

Please e-mail by subject **OAA Special Rate**



ROYAL TULIP

Superior Single Room: **OMR 28 NET(BB)**
Superior Double Room: **OMR 33 NET(BB)**

The above rates are inclusive of:

- Breakfast
- Wi-Fi
- Access to Fitness Centre
- Access to Swimming Pool
- Access to Jacuzzi
- Access to Sauna and Steam

In order to book your rooms, please e-mail
reservations@royaltulipmuscat.com

Telephone: +968 22125565; Mobile: +968 92558762

Cc: rashad.alraisi@royaltulipmuscat.com

Telephone: +968 22125514; Mobile +968 93296163

Please e-mail by subject **OAA Special Rate**



SWISS-BELINN MUSCAT HOTEL

For Individual bookings

Superior Single Room: **OMR 22 NET(BB)**
Superior Double Room: **OMR 25 NET(BB)**

Deluxe Single Room: **OMR 25 NET(BB)**
Deluxe Double Room: **OMR 28 NET(BB)**



For Group bookings (10 rooms and above)
Superior Single Room: **OMR 20 NET(BB)**
Superior Double Room: **OMR 23 NET(BB)**

Deluxe Single Room: **OMR 23 NET(BB)**
Deluxe Double Room: **OMR 26 NET(BB)**

Above rates are inclusive of Tax and VAT during the event.

In order to book your rooms, please e-mail

sesimu@swiss-belhotel.com

Tel: +968 2490 8800

Contact: Nizar Al Rawahi

Please e-mail by subject **OAA Special Rate**

*** * * Note: All rates quoted are subject to change at any time without notice and subject to availability and alteration.**

All Fees & Dues are non-refundable & inclusive of VAT (OAA VAT Registration: OM1100014382)

CONTACT DETAILS

For Customs & Logistics queries:

POC: Abdulmajeed

email: abdulmajeed@omanauto.org

Any General Questions & Info:

POC: Madel

email: events@omanauto.org

mobile: +968 91263313

Media Registration & Accreditation:

POC: Nabeeha

Email: nabeeha@omanauto.org