Day 1: Cultural Muscat Tour

Pick up from your Hotel after breakfast at around 09:00am. Visit a number of cultural sites in Muscat including Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, Muttrah Fish Market, Sultan’s Palace (surrounded by the 2 Forts of Mirani and Jalali built by the Portuguese in the 16th century.) Later drive to the Al Bustan Palace hotel for a photo-stop. Later drive back to the hotel. The evening is free for you to relax and walk around Muttrah Corniche which is a popular evening hangout where a variety of restaurants and cafes are.

Day 2: Turtle Beach via Wadi Shab

Check out of the Hotel after breakfast. Using 4x4 vehicles, drive out of Muscat via fishing village of Quriyat on the way to Wadi Shab. On the way visit the Bimah Sink-hole. Wadi Shab is a picturesque fishing village overlooking old dwellings and ancient houses. Through this breathtaking wadi with fresh water that flows from the mountain springs, we walk along banana plantations, date palms and up narrow rocky paths. Drive to Ras Al Had via Qalhat village (the ancient capital of Oman during the Persian conquest of Oman). Drive through Sur town to see its tourist attractions. Ras Al Had area is famous for its turtle nesting spots. It’s a haven for some of the rare and endangered turtle species. Arrive at Turtle Beach Resort (Half Boarding). The resort consists of huts with basic setup which is situated right at an excellent beach. After dinner we drive to Ras al Jenz, (a protected turtle nesting ground sanctuary), where a guided tour by the sanctuary guard is given.
Day 3: Wahiba Sands via Wadi Bani Khalid
Check out from the Turtle Beach Resort and drive to Al Askharah Beach. Al Ashkharah is one of the popular places to surf on the Indian Ocean with reasonable swell. Then proceed to Wadi Bani Khalid, a beautiful Wadi with clear deep blue waters, where the shades of the palm trees are inviting for relaxing. Later drive to Wahiba Sands where sand dunes rising up to 200 meters and stretching as far as the eye can see. Enjoy an exhilarating round of “dune bashing” in 4WDs. The sands are the traditional homes of the nomads and the Bedouins. In the middle of the desert we stop to visit a Bedouin home. Stay overnight at a traditional desert camp and experience a night in Bedouin way of life. You will be staying in traditional Bedouin style accommodation and enjoy a traditional Arabic meal, Omani coffee and dates. Please bring a torch with you as there is no electricity in the camp.

Day 4: Nizwa, Bahla and Jabal Shams
In the morning at Wahiba you will be able to watch a desert sunrise if you wake up early. After breakfast, you may try free camel ride before departing to Nizwa region. Drive from Wahiba straight to Bahla with a photo stop at the Bahla fort, the oldest and first Omani pre Islamic fort. From here, drive to Jabreen castle, the finest of Oman’s castles built around late 17th century. The castle displays beautiful ceiling paintings and intricate wood carvings. From Jabreen fort you will be driven to Jebel Shams to visit the Grand Canyon. Jabal Shams - “Sun-Mountain” in Arabic, is over 3,000m. It is the highest mountain in Oman and is part of the 700 km long Hajar Mountain range. The view from the top over the canyon is absolutely breathtaking. You might even be pleasantly surprised to see a few shepherds grazing sheep! Experience an untamed and rugged countryside with sparse tiny settlements. Return to Nizwa for overnight stay at Majan Guest House.

Day 5: Nizwa Animal Market, Souk and Jabal Akhdar
After breakfast at the hotel, drive to Nizwa Animal Market where every Friday there is traditional auction on goats, cows, etc. Visit the Nizwa fort which has been strategically built atop a hill with its colorful domes and bustling traditional market below. Proceed to drive up to the Jabal Akhdar, “Green Mountain” in Arabic (2800m above sea level). Drive through Siaq plateau to the famous “Diana’s Point” named after Princess Diana’s visit to the mountain. This spot is spectacular for photo shoot overlooking the beautiful terrace farming fields of pomegranate and roses. From there, we will drive to Wadi Bani Habib which is a remarkable dried up river bed which stretches about 20-30km. The wadi boasts a rich heritage of Islamic culture and one can visit the old castle of the once all powerful “Imam”. Return to the hotel, overnight at Majan Guest House.
Day 6: Misfat Al Abreeyn, Blat Sayt, Wadi Banu Auf to Muscat

Check out of the hotel after breakfast and proceed to the Oasis of Tanuf springs and Tanuf village. Proceed to villages of Al Hamra and Misfah Al Abreen village. This village boasts a set of ancient ruins provides the viewers a beautiful panoramic photo stop from the top where the village is situated on a hillock. This is a typical Omani village that gives guests an insight of how the locals used to live centuries ago. Misfah has a Falaj (an ancient water transportation system) and green terraces.

From there we’ll precede to Bilad Sayt a village that is famous for its clay houses and plantation terraces. From there we will decent over 1500m down to Wadi Bani Auf and witness a number of attractions including the famous “snake gorge” Drive to Muscat and check in back at hotel. The evening is free to walk around Muttrah Corniche which is a popular evening hangout where a variety of restaurant and cafes.

Day 7: Nakhal, Rustaq, via Barka

After breakfast, you shall be picked up and travel to Nakhal. Visit the highest fort in Oman (Nakhal Fort), standing proudly on top of a hillock. Proceed later to the Al Thowara Oasis where one can witness a natural springs. Later on travel to Rustaq village (another ancient capital of Oman) which is famous for its hot water springs. The hot springs (Ain Al Kisfa) are said to have medicinal value and in the olden days people used to travel far and wide just to take a healing dip in the water. We then visit the traditional souk at Rustaq which is famous for its honey trade. Return back to the hotel in Muscat in the early evening.

Day 8: Muttrah Souk

The morning is free. After breakfast you can walk to the famous Muttrah souk. The souk is well known for its typical Oman craft that are sold in almost every shop! The trip to souk will allow you to buy and stock up on all type of souvenirs to take home. Later we move back to hotel for late checkout. You will pack your bags and have a refreshing shower before checking out. Before your departure we shall invite you to a farewell dinner with a typical Omani meal. After dinner, transport you to Muscat International Airport to catch your flight.

The above program shall make your journey unforgettable memory of the Omani culture. We shall make every effort to make your stay in Oman is safe and enjoyable.

EXCLUSIONS: flight tickets, visa charges, meals (apart from Breakfast) and other expenses on personal nature.

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