Extended Nizwa, Bahla and Al Hamra Tour

DURATION: 3 days/2 nights  
DEPARTS: 0830 Daily  
PLACES TO VISIT: Hoota caves, Jabal Shams, Al Hamra, Bahla, Jabreen and Nizwa.  
INCLUSION: Accommodation, (with Breakfast), transport, pick up and drop at hotel, soft drink/water and a guide.

The tour will start from Muscat and you will be picked up from your hotel around 8:30 in the morning. We will drive to Nizwa via Fanja and Samail gap. You will be staying at hotel/guest house in Nizwa for both nights while visiting the cultural, historical and natural sites within the surrounding towns, villages.

Day 1: Nizwa, Al Hamra, Jebel Shams
Pick up at the hotel around 8:30 in the morning using 4x4 vehicles, drive out of Muscat via Fanja, through the Samail Gap, the only natural pass divides the Western and Eastern Hajar Mountains and onto the old capital of Oman, Nizwa, famous for its silver, animal Souq and big round ancient fort. After visiting the Souq and the 17th Century fort we proceed to Jabal Shams, via Al Hamra village and stop at the old village of Ghul to see the abandoned Persian ruins, continue up to the canyon near the summit of Jabal Shams and feel the cool breeze on the mountains. Return to Nizwa for overnight stay.

Day 2: Hoota Caves, Bahla, Jabreen
After breakfast drive to Al Hoota Caves, the 2.7km tunnel which leads to an enormous subterranean chamber and large underground lake some 800m in length which is home to a rare species of blind fish. There are a number of facilities around the caves including information centre, restaurant and coffee shop. There is a special train that will take you through the cave system. Later, drive to Bahla to view the huge pre-Islamic fort which is undergoing extensive renovation. Bahla is also known as the pottery capital of Oman. Because of its cultural value, Bahla Fort is placed in the UNESCO’s list of heritage monuments. Next visit is to the Jabreen fort, the finest of Oman’s forts built around late 17th century with its painted ceiling, dungeons, and hidden passages. Return to Nizwa for overnight stay.

Bahla Fort under UNESCO renovation Program

Court Yard of Majestic Nizwa Fort

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Day 3: Misfat Al Abreeyin, Birkat Mouz, Jabal Akhdar

After Breakfast drive to the picturesque mountain village of Misfah Al Abreeyin with its ancient houses and ruined watchtower perched against steep cliffs and terraced plantations of date palms halfway up the mountain. You will be able to walk through the ancient alleyways and visit the old houses that are still inhabited.

Your journey will continue through scenic landscape to another ancient and beautifully preserved mountain oasis village of Birkat Mouz located on the side of the mountain.

We will proceed to drive up to the Jabal Akhdar, “Green Mountain” in Arabic (2800m above sea level). Drive through Saiq 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 Jabal Akhdar you will be driven back to Muscat via picturesque villages of Izki, Samail and Fanja before arriving at Muscat late in the evening.

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