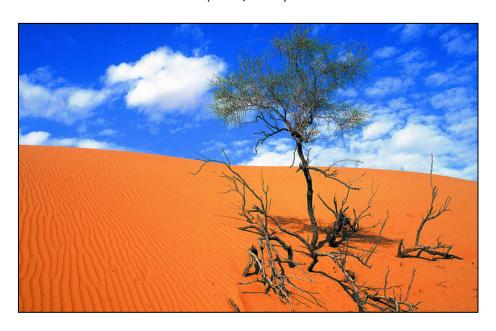


# **TURTLES, DESERTS & WADIS OF OMAN**

4x4 DRIVING & TREKKING ITINERARY – HOTELS & CAMPING (7DYS/6NTS)



Day 1 Arrive Muscat

1 night Tulip Inn, Muscat BB

On arrival at **Muscat** you will be met and transferred to Tulip Inn, your hotel for the night. You will have time to relax subsequent to which you will be invited for an expedition briefing session, during which you will meet your expedition guide.

In the afternoon you will have a quick orientation tour of Muscat covering the main sights, including Jalali/Mirani forts, Zubair Museum, and the Sultan's Palace. You will also have the chance to walk along the Mutrah Corniche and to visit the Mutrah 'souk', or market, before returning to your hotel in the evening.





#### Day 2 Muscat-Fins Beach-Sur

After check-out at the hotel, we begin the first leg of our 4 x 4 roundtrip of Oman by travelling in a South-Easterly direction along the coast en route to the town of **Sur**. The road leads through scenic countryside and rugged mountains, as well as a number of settlements, including the small fishing town of **Quriyat**, where we stop briefly.



We will also have time to stop at the limestone **Sinkhole** in **Bimah** before continuing to the coastal village and beach at **Fins**. You will also visit **Wadi Tiwi**, an oasis well known for its lemon and date plantations, as well as the **Bibi Maryam Mausoleum** in **Qalhat**. From **Qalhat** it is a short drive to the coastal town of **Sur**, where you will check into the **Turtle Beach Resort** (here we aim to book Hamour category rooms with attached bathrooms).



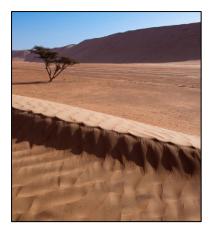
After an early dinner you will visit the turtle sanctuary at **Ras Al Jinz.** Return to Hotel for overnight.







#### Day 3 Sur-Wadi Bani Khalid-Wahiba Sands



After breakfast we enjoy a relaxed tour of **Sur**. Once an important trading post, Sur is famed for its large shipyard, which in the past was used to construct dhows, traditional wooden Omani boats.

From **Sur** we proceed to **Wadi Bani Khalid**, an oasis in the middle of the barren and dry mountains, for a picnic lunch. The afternoon and evening will be spent in the desert, as we drive into the **Wahiba Sands**, a vast mass of undulating red and white sea of sand. After some exciting sand dune driving with experienced drivers, we arrive at our wild desert camp. Overnight at camp.

## Days 4 & 5 Desert Trekking in the Sharqiyah Sands

Days four and five will be spent trekking in the **Sharqiyah Sands**. You will trek for approx 4-5 hours each day, and wild camp overnight. The camp facilities are very simple, with "igloo" style tents.

## Day 6 Sharqiyah Sands - Al Ashkharah

After breakfast, we cross over to coastal settlement of **Al Ashkharah**. In the afternoon we walk for approx. 3 hours. Overnight camping at Al Ashkharah Beach.

## Day 7 Return to Muscat - Depart for UK

After breakfast return direct to **Muscat**. Depending on your flight schedule, you should have time in **Muscat** city for shopping/sightseeing before transferring to Muscat Airport for your return flight home.





