



QATAR-OMAN-KUWAIT Middle Eastern Trilogy

November 3 - 14, 2023
12 Days / 10 Nights



**WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL
OF GREATER HOUSTON**
Global Perspectives, Local Conversations



Qatar-Oman-Kuwait

Middle Eastern Trilogy

November 3-14, 2023

12 Days / 10 Nights

ITINERARY

DAY 1	Leave USA for Doha, Qatar
DAY 2	Arrival in Doha / Doha
DAY 3	Doha sightseeing / Doha
DAY 4	Doha sightseeing / Doha
DAY 5	Fly to Muscat - sightseeing / Muscat, Oman
DAY 6	Muscat - Sur - Wahiba Sands / Desert Camp
DAY 7	Wadi Bani Khalid - Nizwa / Nizwa
DAY 8	Nizwa - Misfat - Muscat / Muscat
DAY 9	Muscat - Rustaq Fort / Muscat
DAY 10	Fly to Kuwait City - sightseeing / Kuwait City
DAY 11	Kuwait City sightseeing / Kuwait City
DAY 12	Departure

Qatar-Oman-Kuwait

Middle Eastern Trilogy

November 3-14, 2023

12 Days / 10 Nights

MAP TRAJECTORY





Qatar-Oman-Kuwait

Middle Eastern Trilogy

November 3-14, 2023

12 Days / 10 Nights

HIGHLIGHTS

Museum of Islamic Art - Doha

Souq Waif and Falcon Market - Doha

Education City - Doha

Sunset Dhow cruise - Muscat

Wahiba Sands Desert Experience in Oman

Fort of Nizwa

Cattle Auction in Nizwa

National Museum of Oman

Kuwait Towers

Grand Mosque - Kuwait City

Souk Al Mubarakiya - Kuwait City

and more...



Qatar-Oman-Kuwait

Middle Eastern Trilogy

November 3-14, 2023

12 Days / 10 Nights

INCLUDED

10 Nights hotel accommodation with daily breakfast.

Lunches and dinners as indicated in the itinerary.

English speaking professional tour guides in each country.

Private transportation with AC vehicles.

Two small bottles of water per person on the bus on touring days.

Arrival and departure transfers for suggested flights.

All entry fees to places mentioned in the itinerary.

Porterage at hotels.

Tips for meals and accommodations.

NOT INCLUDED

International airfare.

Drinks with included meals, except tea or coffee for breakfast.

Personal expenditures like phone calls, laundry, medical expenses.

Gratuities for guides and drivers.

Visa fees.

Travel insurance.



Qatar-Oman-Kuwait

Middle Eastern Trilogy

November 3-14, 2023

12 Days / 10 Nights

SUGGESTED FLIGHTS

Suggested flights are on Qatar Airlines & Oman Airlines:

03 Nov Houston to Doha
QR 714 dep: 6:30 pm / arr: 5:00 pm on Nov 4

07 Nov Doha to Muscat
WY 670 dep: 7:50 am / arr: 10:20 am

12 Nov Muscat to Kuwait City
WY 645 dep: 2:10 pm / arr: 3:35 pm

14 Nov Kuwait City to Doha
QR 1077 dep: 4:05 am / arr: 5:30 am

14 Nov Doha to Houston
QR 713 dep: 8:00 am / arr: 3:30 pm

Economy class: \$1700
Business class: \$10226

Fares are per person, including taxes, surcharges and fees as of Apr 13, 2023. Fares can change based on availability.



Qatar-Oman-Kuwait

Middle Eastern Trilogy

November 3-14, 2023

12 Days / 10 Nights

PROGRAM DETAILS

DAY 1	Fri, Nov 3	Leave USA for Doha, Qatar
We will leave USA for Doha, Qatar.		

DAY 2	Sat, Nov 4	Doha
We will arrive Doha in the evening. Upon arrival our guide and driver will meet us and take us to our hotel.		
We will have dinner at hotel or local restaurant.		
Overnight in Doha		Meals: D

Doha, capital of the peninsular Arabian Gulf country Qatar, is a modern city on Doha Bay. Ringing its downtown waterfront are numerous parks and the Corniche Promenade. On a man-made island, the I.M. Pei–designed Museum of Islamic Art houses an extensive collection from across the Muslim world. At Souq Waqif, a traditional market, vendors offer goods like clothing, crafts and spices.



Qatar-Oman-Kuwait

Middle Eastern Trilogy

November 3-14, 2023

12 Days / 10 Nights

DAY 3

Sun, Nov 5 Doha

After breakfast at hotel, we will start our full day program in Doha.

Our visits will include Museum of Islamic Art, Musheirab Museum, Katara Cultural Village. After having lunch, we will continue with a drive including the Pearl and Corniche. Then we will have a walking tour of Souq Waqif, Falcon Market and Gold Souq.

Overnight in Doha

Meals: B-L-D

The Museum of Islamic Art is located on one end of the seven kilometers long Corniche. As with the architect I. M. Pei's requirement, the museum is built on an island off an artificial projecting peninsula near the traditional dhow harbor. At 91 years of age, the museum's architect, I. M. Pei had to be coaxed out of retirement to undertake this enterprise. He traveled throughout the Muslim world on a six-month quest to learn about Muslim architecture and history and read Muslim texts to draw inspiration for his design.

The Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) represents Islamic art from three continents over 1,400 years. Its collection includes metal work, ceramics, jewelry, wood work, textiles and glass obtained from three continents and dating from the 7th to the 19th century.

Qatar-Oman-Kuwait

Middle Eastern Trilogy

November 3-14, 2023

12 Days / 10 Nights



DAY 4

Mon, Nov 6 Doha

Another day in Doha. Our program will include a visit to Qatar National Museum and Education City, National Library and Education City Mosque.

We will also have a number of meetings, visits arranged by WACH.

Overnight in Doha

Meals: B-L-D

The Museum of Islamic Art is located on one end of the seven kilometers long Corniche. As with the architect I. M. Pei's requirement, the museum is built on an island off an artificial projecting peninsula near the traditional dhow harbor. At 91 years of age, the museum's architect, I. M. Pei had to be coaxed out of retirement to undertake this enterprise. He traveled throughout the Muslim world on a six-month quest to learn about Muslim architecture and history and read Muslim texts to draw inspiration for his design.

The Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) represents Islamic art from three continents over 1,400 years. Its collection includes metal work, ceramics, jewelry, wood work, textiles and glass obtained from three continents and dating from the 7th to the 19th century.



DAY 5

Tue, Nov 7 Doha - Muscat, Oman

In the morning, we will fly from Doha to Muscat. Upon arrival, at noon, we will be welcomed by our local guide and driver and will start our program in the city with lunch.

After lunch we will take an introductory tour of Muscat city which lies on the Arabian sea along the Gulf of Oman. The rocky Western Al Hajar dominates the landscape of the city. We drive past the Embassy Quarter with its beautiful villas and avenues lined with manicured gardens and along the Qurum corniche to Muttrah. In Muttrah, visit the Muttrah Souq where we will find a mix of old and new. Sights, sounds and fragrances are in abundance.

Then we will visit the Amouage Perfume Factory and continue our drive along the corniche to the Sultan's Palace flanked by the Portuguese forts of Jalali and Mirani to take photo stops.

At the end of the program, late afternoon, we will check-in our hotel in Muscat.

Overnight in Muscat

Meals: B-L-D

Muscat, Oman's port capital, sits on the Gulf of Oman surrounded by mountains and desert. With history dating back to antiquity, it mixes high-rises and upscale shopping malls with clifftop landmarks such as the 16th-century Portuguese forts, Al Jalali and Mirani, looming over Muscat Harbor. Its modern, marble-clad Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, with 50m dome and prodigious Persian carpet, can accommodate 20,000 people.



DAY 6

Wed, Nov 8 Muscat - Wahiba Sands

After breakfast we will leave Muscat for Wahiba Sands, in the south. We will take the coastal road first to visit Bimah Sinkhole, a spectacular limestone crater with blue green water at the bottom. On clear sunny days while driving along the coast one might chance to see sharks in the deep blue water or fleet footed Gazelle sprint across the landscape.

Then we will visit the ruins of Bibi Miriam's Tomb which can be seen from a distance at the village of Qalhat. In the town of Sur we will visit the fish jetty and dhow factory. We will also have lunch here.

Once we have reached Wahiba Sands our tour guide will let down the tires to prepare for the journey of a lifetime. We will travel through the vast and endless sand dunes which vary in size and color on a daily basis. There will be many opportunities to take pictures of roaming camels. We will visit the home of a Bedouin Family in the desert, where we will be invited in for Omani Coffee. We will also have the opportunity to go for a camel ride. The finale to this amazing trip through the desert is an incredible sand dune bashing experience not to be missed.

Overnight in Wahiba Sands

Meals: B-L-D

The Sharqiya Sands, also known as **Wahiba Sands**, is a desert region which was named for the Bani Wahiba tribe. It covers an area of 4,800 sq mi. The area is occupied by Bedouins who congregate at Al Huyawah, an oasis near the border of the desert, between June and September to gather dates.



DAY 7

Thu, Nov 9 Wahiba Sands - Nizwa

After leaving the beauty of Wahiba Sands we will travel to Wadi Bani Khalid – an oasis spot in the middle of the barren and dry mountains. It is one of the most beautiful wadis in Oman with pools of clear deep blue water. A short walk takes us to the Wadi and it is truly breathtaking. We will have the chance to take photos and admire the incredible countryside.

Then we will continue to Nizwa, visiting Jabreen Castle on the way. Jabreen is a small town in Ad Dakhiliyah Governorate in northeastern Oman near Nizwa and the Jabal Akhdar Mountains.

The town is known for its impressive castle, which was built by the Yaruba dynasty Imam Bil'arab bin Sultan, who ruled from 1679 to 1692 and who was buried onsite. After visiting this impressive castle we will have lunch at a local restaurant.

After lunch, we will travel to Nizwa and check-in our hotel.

Overnight in Nizwa

Meals: B-L-D



DAY 8

Fri, Nov 10 Nizwa - Muscat

After breakfast we first visit the Cattle Auction held only on Fridays. This is truly a major regional weekly event, with hundreds of people selling and buying mainly goats, but also cattle. This market is a fantastic place to witness and experience some of the most genuine old Omani culture and traditions.

We next proceed to seek out the Palaces of yesteryear from which sovereign Lords surveyed their Kingdom of Nizwa. Visit the big round fort of the Yaruba dynasty. Nizwa Fort is the biggest fort in the Arabian Peninsula with an exterior diameter of 150 feet and over 115 feet high. Visit the Souq which is famous for its silver and handicrafts. Proceed to Bahla with the huge fort for a photo stop. Main feature is its 7-mile long walls which were patrolled by sentries night and day. Because of its cultural importance, the town is listed in UNESCO's list of world heritage monuments.

We will have lunch in Misfat Old House with the locals.

After lunch we will be taken on an exploratory walk in this beautiful village and will be guided by a local of the village. Explore the cultural traditions of Misfah village during this 2.5 hrs tour. A walk through the village takes you back in time and you'll be glad to witness the culture which is still alive in these modern times. Explore the agricultural, irrigation and the water distribution system in the village wherein you'll also come in contact with the locals who wouldn't mind giving you an interesting insight into their daily lives. Our guide will provide us with detailed information to make this tour an enriching cultural experience.

At the end of our visits, we will drive to Muscat for overnight.

Overnight in Muscat

Meals: B-L-D



DAY 9

Sat, Nov 11 Muscat

After breakfast our day will start with the National Museum of Oman. Museum is the Sultanate's flagship cultural institution, showcasing the nation's heritage from the earliest human settlement in the Oman Peninsula some two million years ago through to the present day.

We will continue with a visit to the Grand Mosque, standing in stately grandeur. A visit to this beautiful piece of architecture is a must for all.

After visiting the mosque we travel to Rustaq. As we approach Rustaq, keep an eye out for the fortress that sits on a hillock outside the town. Rustaq Castle is an outstanding example of Omani Islamic architecture and was built in 1711 AD. After visiting Rustaq Fort we will proceed inland to witness the mineral laden hot springs. We will have picnic lunch by the hot springs.

After spending some time here we return to Muscat and travel to the Marina for a 2 hour Sunset Dhow Cruise. You pass the Yacht club of Muscat and fishing village of Sidab. Pass by the harbor of historic Muscat, the Sultan's Palace flanked by Jalali and Mirani forts. From here you go by Qantab and at Bandar Jissah you can have a glimpse of the resort area along the coast. At the end of our cruise, we will return to our hotel.

Overnight in Muscat

Meals: B-L-D



Qatar-Oman-Kuwait

Middle Eastern Trilogy

November 3-14, 2023

12 Days / 10 Nights

DAY 10

Sun, Nov 12 Muscat - Kuwait City

We will have a leisurely morning in Muscat. At noon, we will be transferred to the airport for our flight to Kuwait City.

Upon arrival, we will start a short tour of the city. Our visits will include Kuwait Towers, Bait Al-Othman Museum and Mirror House.

Overnight in Kuwait City

Meals: B-D

Kuwait City is the capital and largest city of Kuwait. Located at the heart of the country on the south shore of Kuwait Bay on the Persian Gulf, it is the political, cultural and economical center of the emirate, containing Kuwait's Seif Palace, government offices, and the headquarters of most Kuwaiti corporations and banks.

At its heart sits the Grand Mosque, known for its vast interior and chandeliered dome. On the waterfront, the late-19th-century Seif Palace features a neo-Arabic watchtower and manicured gardens. Nearby, the Kuwait National Museum explores history and features science shows at its planetarium. Souk Al-Mubarakiya is a vast food and handicraft market.



Qatar-Oman-Kuwait

Middle Eastern Trilogy

November 3-14, 2023

12 Days / 10 Nights

DAY 11

Mon, Nov 13 Kuwait City

After breakfast, we will start our full day in Kuwait City.

We will visit the National Museum, Sadu House, Grand Mosque, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Center, Fish Market and Souk Al Mubarakiya.

Overnight in Muscat

Meals: B-L-D

The Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Centre (JACC), informally known as the Kuwait Opera House, is a cultural center in Kuwait, located on the Gulf Road in the capital Kuwait City. It is the largest cultural center and opera house in the Middle East. The cultural centre is part of the Kuwait National Cultural District.

The cultural complex, which includes theaters, concert halls, music centers, conference and exhibition halls, cinemas, libraries, center for historical documents, and public park, took two years to complete.

Qatar-Oman-Kuwait

Middle Eastern Trilogy

November 3-14, 2023

12 Days / 10 Nights



DAY 12

Tue, Nov 14 Departure

Very early in the morning we will be transferred to the airport for our departure flight.

Contact Us

travel@wachouston.org

713-522-7811

www.wachouston.org