



Advantage Oman

A BUSINESS GUIDE

Ministry of Commerce,
Industry & Investment Promotion

Edition 2025



Get to know us

@Tejarah_om



The application and its content are the copyright of various agencies of the Government of the Sultanate of Oman, including the Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion.

Sultanate of Oman

سلطنة عُمان

وزارة التجارة والصناعة وترويج الاستثمار

Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion





“Under the wise leadership and guidance of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik Oman has re-imagined economic growth, streamlined business procedures, created a pro-enterprise environment and attracted sustainable, responsible investment.”



HE Qais Al Yousef

Minister of Commerce, Industry
& Investment Promotion





About Oman

Stable and tranquil with exemplary strong leadership from His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, we have a dynamic business environment and a robust diversifying economy guided by Oman Vision 2040 – our blueprint for sustainable growth and success.



Oman Vision 2040

Launched in January 2021 by order of His Majesty the Sultan, this progressive development strategy repositions our national competitiveness around six themes:

1

Knowledge for
innovation and
sustainable
development

2

A skilled and
flexible workforce



3

World-class infrastructure and transport services

4

An education system responsive to the needs of a Low Carbon Economy

5

A regulatory framework led by informed and entrepreneurial-minded civil servants

6

Public services that support the growth of Oman's business community

Vision 2040



Economic & Financial Plans

Supporting Oman Vision 2040 is a set of economic and financial plans.

Five-Year Development Plan
2021-25

The Economic Stimulus Plan

The Social Security Scheme

Their purpose is to increase the resilience of our private sector as well as attract investment and talent.



Contents

PAGE



Oman at
a Glance

9



Competitive
Offer

17



Sector
Snapshots

34



Investment
Infrastructure

58



Here to
Help

68



1

Oman




At a Glance



Fact File



Head of State
HIS MAJESTY
SULTAN HAITHAM BIN TARIK

Area km ²	Capital	Local Time
 309,501	 Muscat	 +4 GMT



Official language

Arabic

Widely spoken

English, Hindi, Urdu,
Swahili



Population

February 2025: 5.2mn

Working Population

1,827,248

Source: ncsi.gov.om/Pages/NCSI.aspx



Currency

Omani Rial

1 US\$ = 0.386 baisas (fixed)

RO1 = US\$2.6



Education

28+ higher education institutes

30,000+ graduates annually



Telecommunications

98% Internet penetration

90.5% of the population are on social media

5.7mn Internet users in 2022



Connectivity

Less than 3 hours flight from 30% of the world's population

Shipping times average 30–40% lower than competing locations

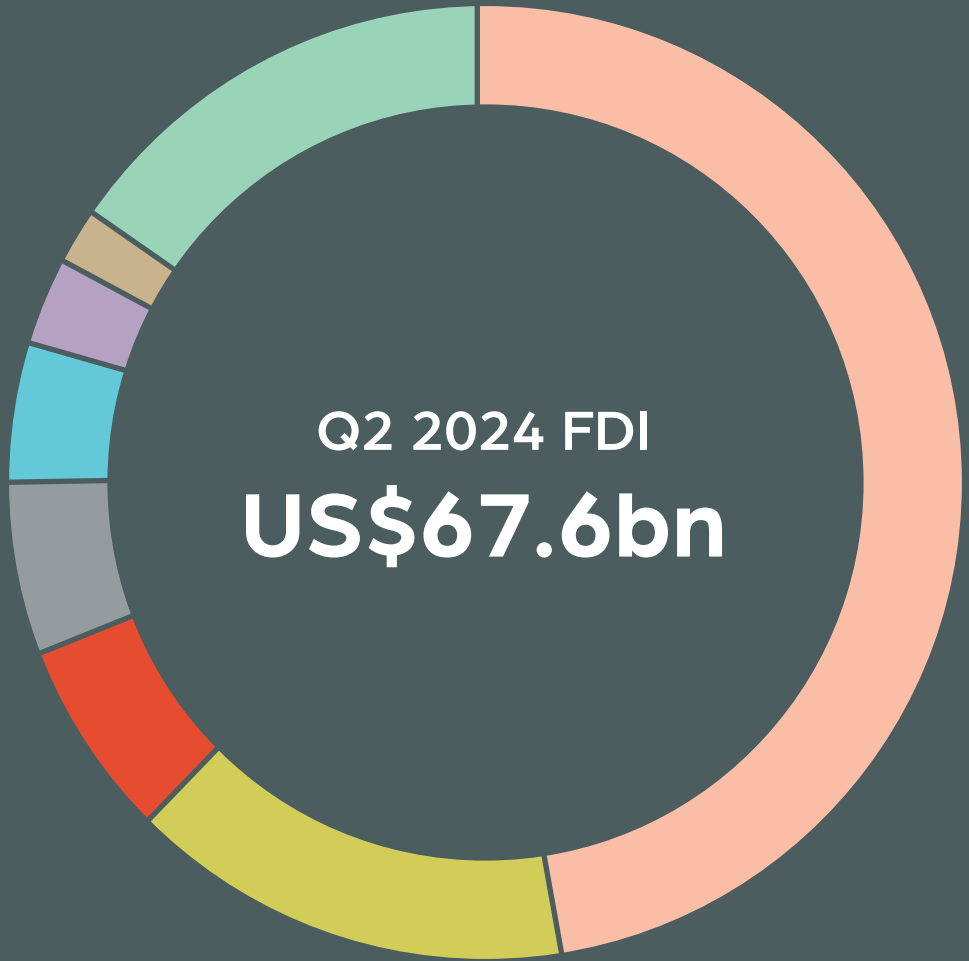


Foreign Direct Investment









Q2 2024 FDI in Oman reached US\$67.6bn, up 17.4% on the same period in 2023.

The UK is the largest foreign investor in Oman with investments of US\$34.2bn.





VALUE- US\$BN

	UK	28.6		Kuwait	1.93
	USA	9.60		Qatar	1.10
	China	3.25		Bahrain	0.96
	UAE	2.37		Others	9.66

Source: <https://manafeth.ncsi.gov.om/>








Exports

Top export destinations include

VALUE
US\$BN

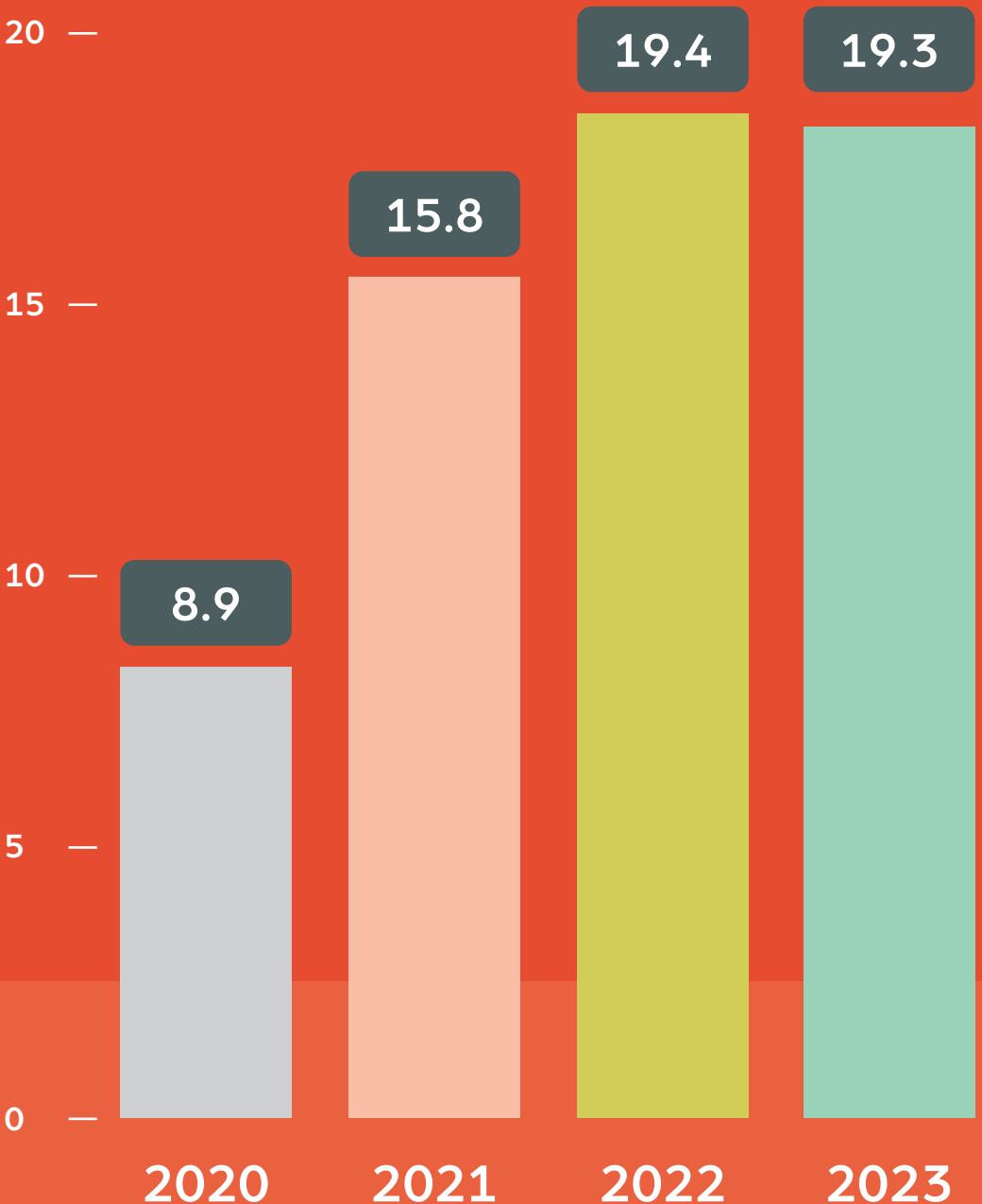
EXPORT
DESTINATION

1.5	 KSA
1.3	 UAE
1.03	 India
0.72	 South Africa
0.70	 USA

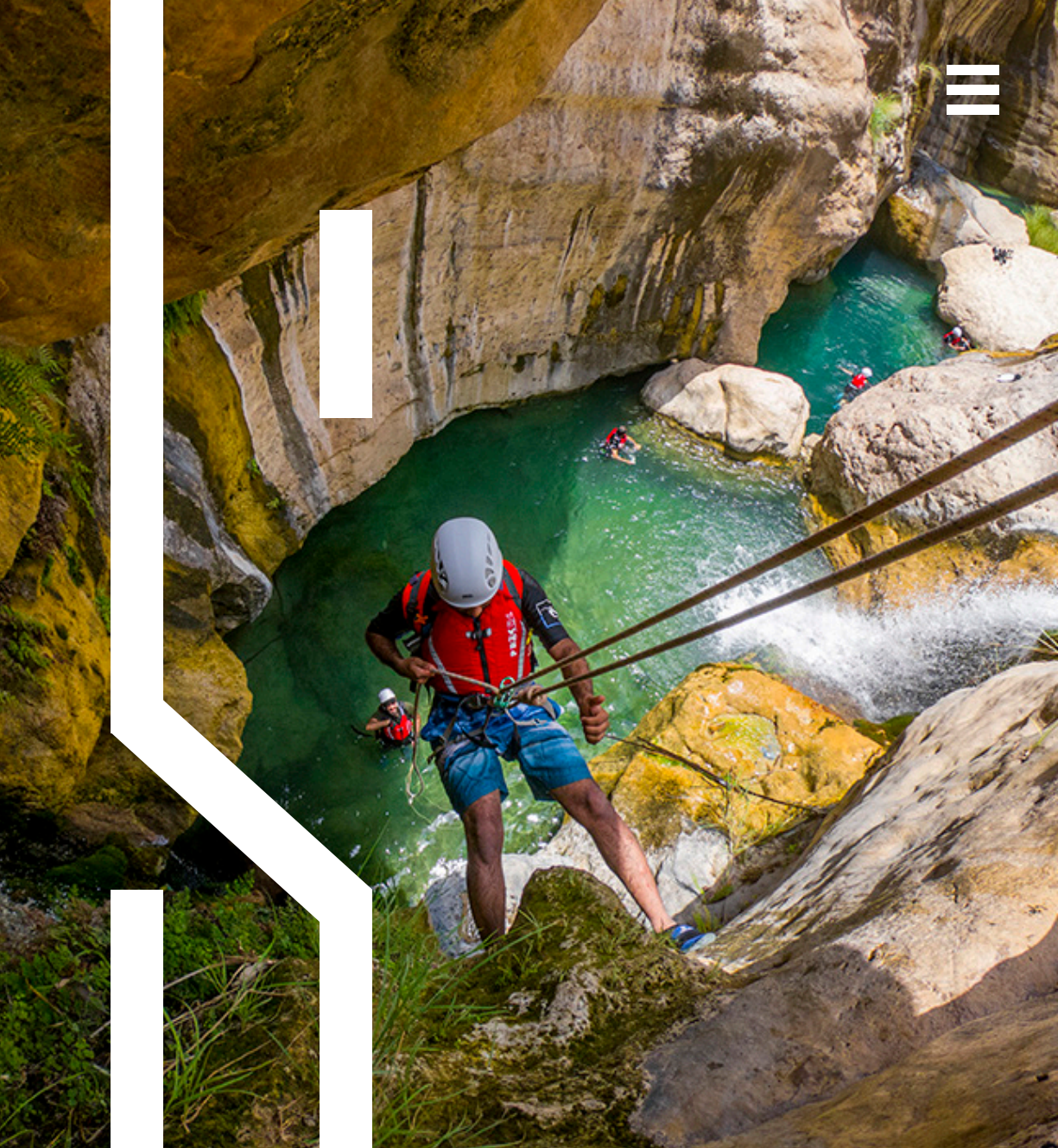


Non-oil Exports

Oman's non-oil exports to 140+ countries hit US\$19.5bn in 2022, up from US\$15.8bn in 2021.



Source: <https://manafeth.ncsi.gov.om/>



2

Competitive Offer



Robust Evolving Economy

Oman has a fast-diversifying economy with local-to-global growth prospects.

Key sectors



Manufacturing



Logistics



Agriculture



Fisheries



Mining



Education



Healthcare



ICT



Tourism



Circular Economy



Renewable Energy



**OMAN IS LOW ON
BUREAUCRACY
AND TAX AND
BIG ON AMBITION
AND ENTERPRISE.**

Business Friendly

**FOREIGN
OWNERSHIP
NATIONWIDE**

100%



NO RESTRICTIONS ON

Capital

Profit Repatriation

Currency Exchange

Dividend Transfers





**Quick hassle-free
business set-up**



No personal income tax



Legal transparency

Signatory to WTO, GCC common market, GAFTA, S&P Global Rating BB+ – with stable outlook.



**WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION**



الأمانة العامة لمجلس التعاون لدول الخليج العربية
**THE COOPERATION COUNCIL FOR THE
ARAB STATES OF THE GULF**



Promoting international trade

**S&P Global
Ratings**

BB - with stable outlook



Cost of Doing Business

The World Bank ranks Oman as one of the most cost-effective countries in the Middle East for doing business in terms of labour, utilities, facilities, transportation, financing costs

15%
corporate tax

5%
VAT

Regionally competitive
wage and business costs

Highly attractive utility rates



Strategic Location

Oman is at the nexus of trade routes and at the heart of the GCC market with its 56+mn consumers. Plus we neighbour the growing markets of Asia and Africa.

EUROPE

ASIA

GCC

SULTANATE OF OMAN

AFRICA

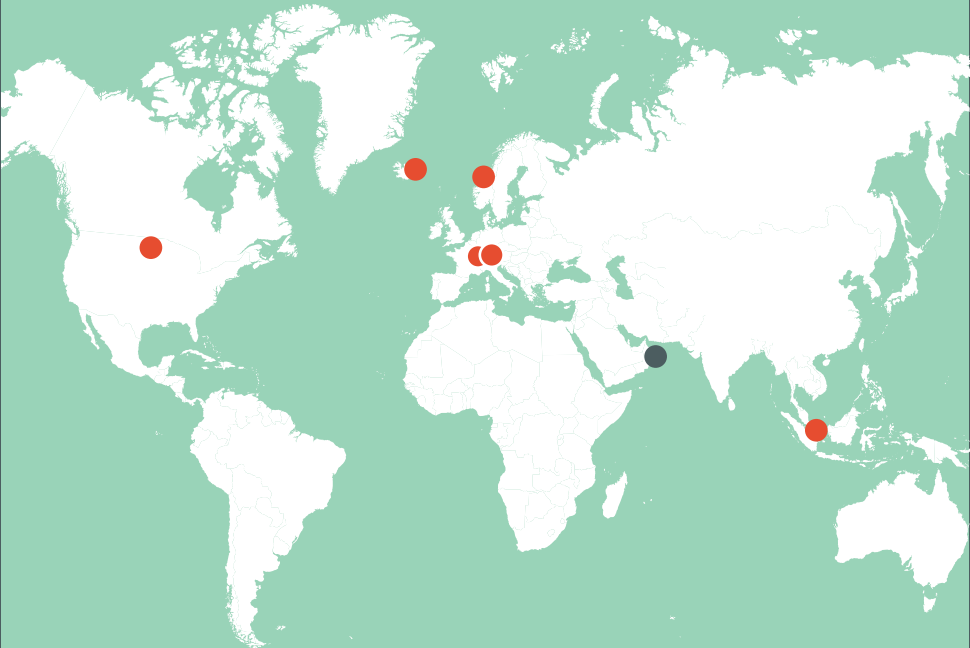
4HRS*

7HRS*

*Approximate flight duration



FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS



- USA
- SWITZERLAND
- ICELAND
- LICHTENSTEIN
- NORWAY
- SINGAPORE

By 2025, emerging markets will account for US\$30tr of consumer spend – nearly half the global total.

Thanks to our location and world-class infrastructure, reaching these markets from Oman is easy.



Natural Resources

Oman's natural resources – oil, gas, minerals, metals, fish and more provide manufacturers with a ready supply of raw materials.

For any additional resources that need to be brought into the country, our strategic location and logistics network ensure reliable supply and, as import duties are not levied on production inputs and machinery, costs are kept low.



Framework for Success

Providing a framework that supports successful investment and business in Oman are our industrial estates, free zones, special economic zones and technology parks – all future-ready and thriving hubs of enterprise and innovation.



11 industrial estates



3 free zones



2 technology parks



1 special economic zone



Intellectual Capital

Oman has an abundance of intellectual capital. Our higher education institutes have a track record of working with industry to deliver innovation across major sectors including manufacturing, fisheries, tourism, logistics, mining, renewable energy, healthcare, petrochemicals, education and ICT.





Top Talent

We have an outstanding talent pool of motivated and skilled multi-lingual individuals who are innovative and entrepreneurial.

Companies in Oman also benefit from the contributions of talent from across the world.



129k+

129,000+ students enrolled in higher education

30k+

30,000+ university, technical and vocational graduates annually

80%

80% of Oman's new public sector employees hold university degrees

2

Oman's two most popular undergraduate degrees, Engineering & Management

25%

25% of Oman's working population is under 30 years of age



Enviably Lifestyle

Oman is an outstanding place to set up home, raise a family, grow your business and develop your career.



**SAFE,
TRANQUIL &
WELCOMING**

Oman ranked
3rd for 'General
Friendliness

**POLITICAL
STABILITY**



**EXCELLENT
HEALTHCARE**



OUTSTANDING REAL ESTATE OPTIONS

Oman ranked
5th for 'Ease
of Settling In'

FIRST CLASS SCHOOLS, COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES



RICH HERITAGE AND CULTURE





EXCEPTIONAL NATURAL BEAUTY

Oman ranked
7th 'Best Global
Destination'

5 UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES



DIVERSE ENTERTAINMENT SPORT AND LEISURE OPTIONS



Oman Ranked 2nd Globally

Global Wellness Index





3

Sector

Snapshots



Manufacturing

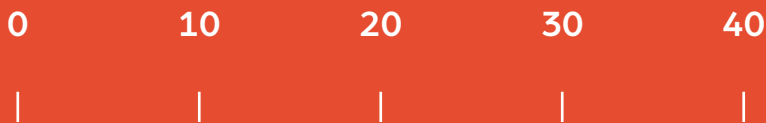
Contribution to
Oman's GDP in 2023

US\$18.6bn



249,720 employed in manufacturing in 2023

Percentage rise in non-oil exports 2022



Plastic & Rubber

13.03%

Mineral Products

27.1%

Base Metals

17.02%



Logistics

2040 expected
contribution to GDP

US\$36bn



Employs 94,504+ people



83.5%

Oman's transport and storage sector contributed US\$6.1bn to Oman's economy in 2022 a rise of 83.5% on 2020

Import clearance now 6 hours at seaports and 4 at airports

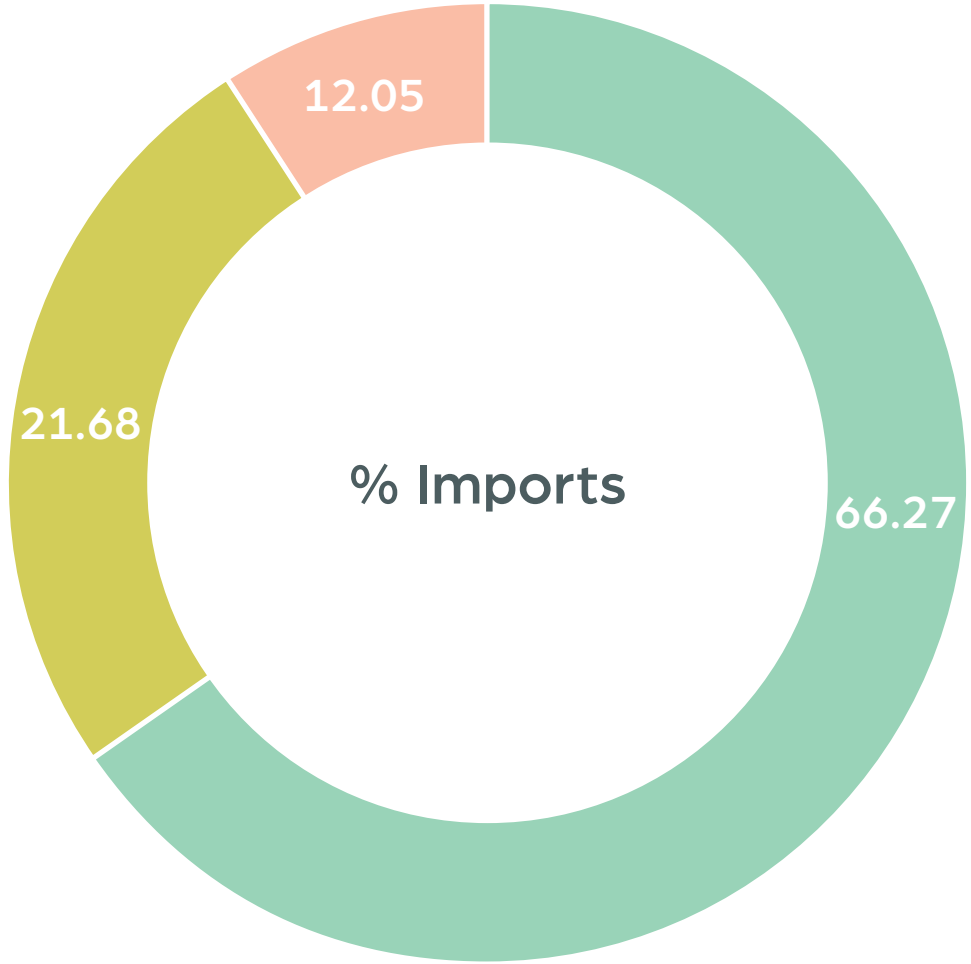
Oman ranks 12th globally for competitiveness and 5th for business fundamentals in the 2023 Agility Emerging Markets Logistics Index

Oman aims to become a global logistics hub by 2040






Imports via Sea, Land & Air

Aug 2024



PERCENTAGE
CHANGE ON 2023

	Sea	-9.8%
	Land	-2.2%
	Air	+27.4%

Source: <https://manafeth.ncsi.gov.om/>



Fisheries

2040 expected
contribution to GDP

US\$5.2bn



**Fish landed in 2022, 745,178
MT – generating US\$1.09bn**

**291,623 MT fish exported in
2022 – generating US\$364mn**



24%

**Aquaculture 1,307 MT in
2020, up 24% on 2019**

**11,000 aquaculture jobs targeted
by 2040**

**Fisheries Development Oman
oversees the development of
mega projects including the
40,000 hectare Barr Al Hikman
Shrimp Aquaculture Farm**



Agriculture

Number of employees in
Oman's agriculture sector

94,000+



Agricultural modernization and rural farm development are key pillars of Oman's Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries and Water Resources' Sustainable Development 2040 Strategy

With more than 1,200 species of plants in Oman, there are excellent opportunities to invest in the country's agriculture sector

Nitaj (Oman Food Investment Holding Company) has undertaken 11 projects since its establishment in 2012 and generated US\$1.1bn.

A major Nitaj project includes the US\$259mn hi-tech Mazoon Dairy—expected to produce 985 million litres of milk per year by 2040.



Mining

Contribution to
Oman's GDP in 2023

US\$1,180mn



The sector employs 47,331+ people

Oman has an abundance of dolomite, limestone, gypsum, clay, silica, ornamental stones and building materials

It is also rich in copper, gold, gabbro and limestone, industrial minerals and salt

Production set to reach 147mn MT by 2023

Estimated to contribute US\$779mn to GDP by 2030



Education

Projected share of Oman's
GDP by end of 2025

6.2%



Legislation permits 100% foreign investment in education

2,284 schools with 75,479 teachers

28+ higher education institutes

Private primary and secondary education market expected to reach US\$1.7bn in 2023

898,073 school students up 8.3% on 2020



Healthcare

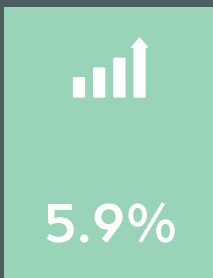
Number of employees in
Oman's healthcare sector

57,000+



Oman's healthcare spending in 2022 US\$5.1bn with over 70,000 healthcare professionals.

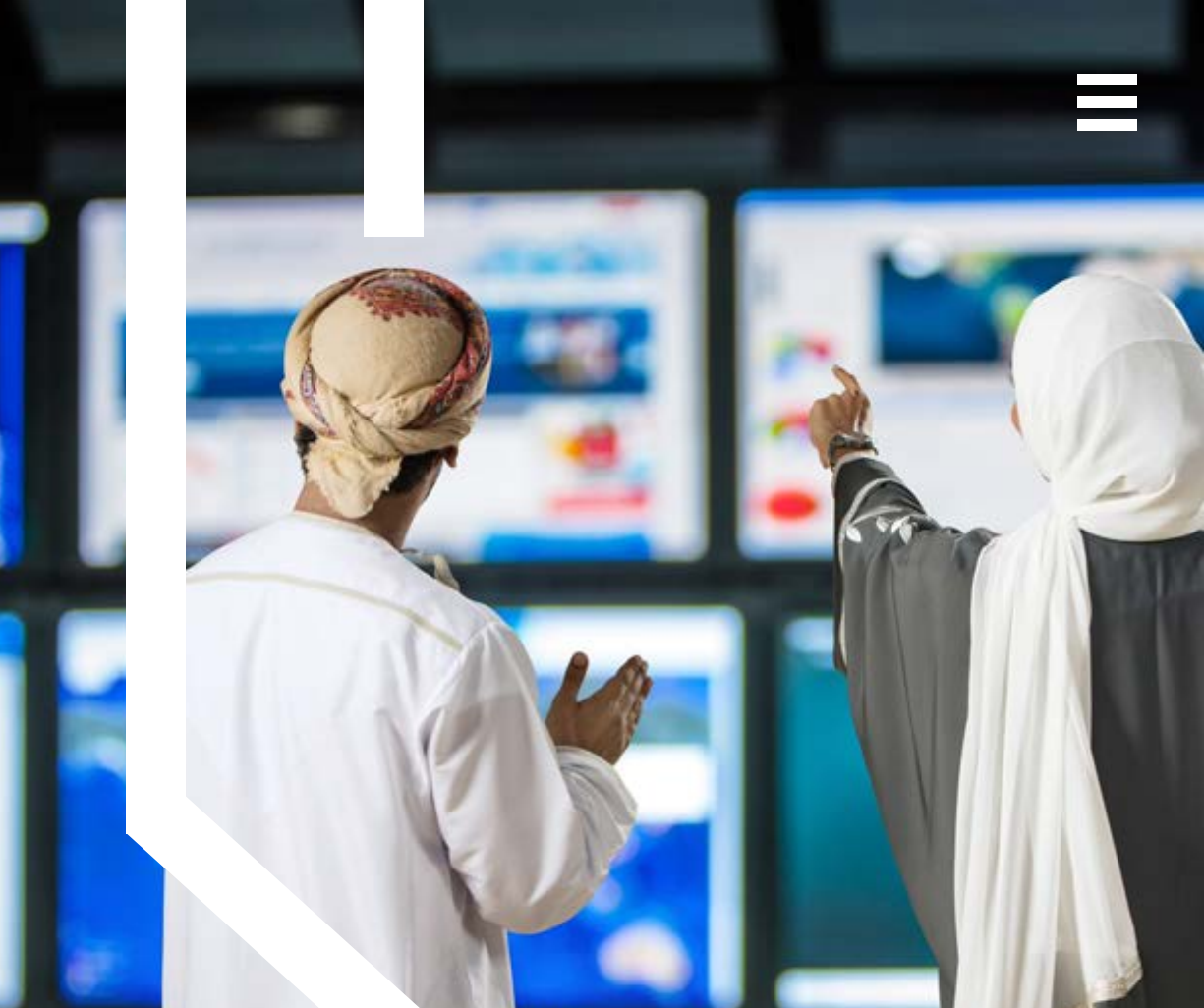
Ministry of Health is building an 18,155m² Central Public Health Laboratory in Seeb at a cost of US\$47mn.



Fitch Solutions forecasts Oman's healthcare market to grow at a CAGR of 5.9% yielding a market worth US\$4.3bn by 2025

Mandatory health insurance legislation introduced 2019

Dhamani Unified Health Insurance Scheme links approximately 1,700 healthcare service providers



ICT

Internet penetration in 2022

95.2%

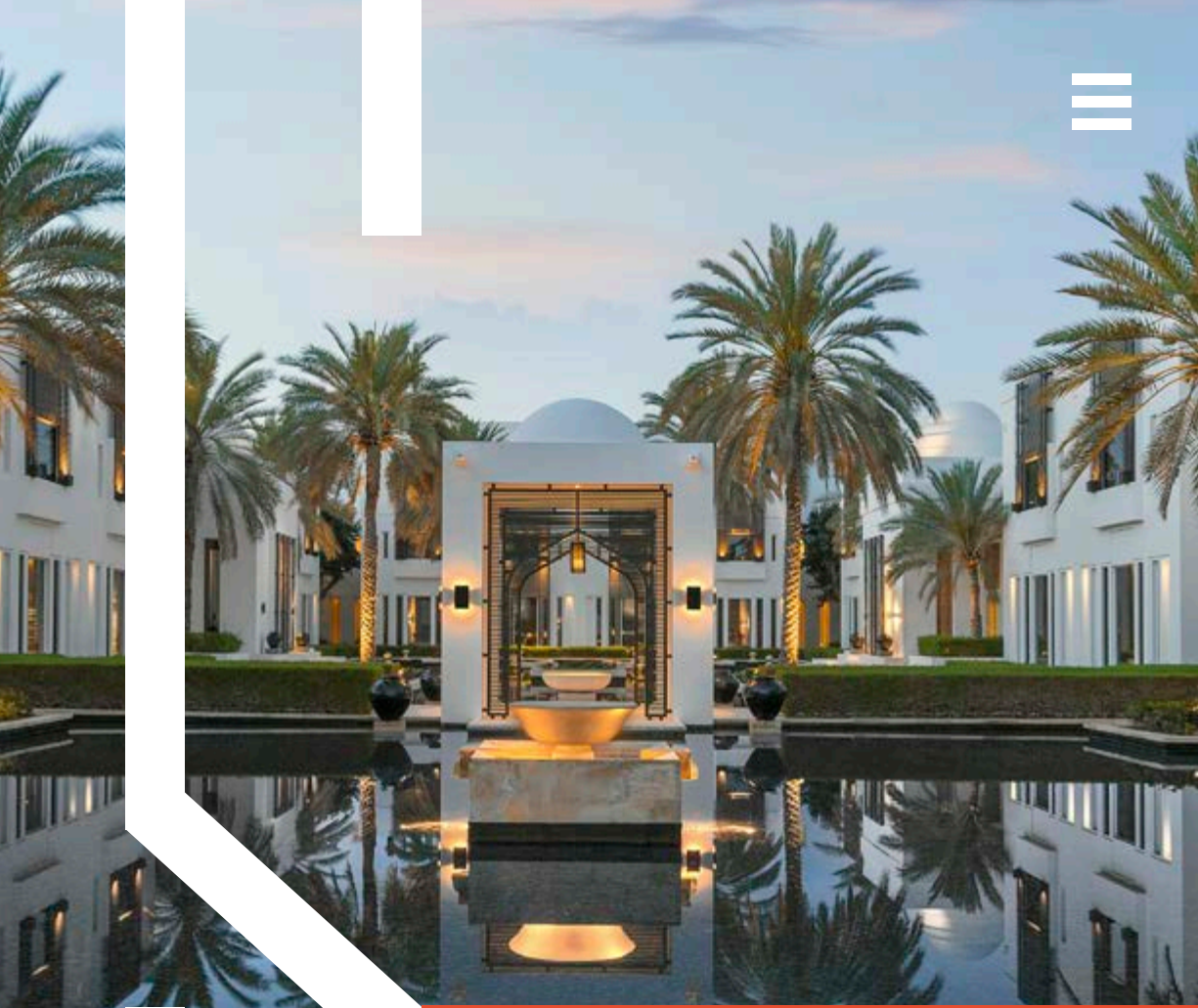


Oman first in GCC to introduce e-Government and first to offer e-ID cards

5.3mn Internet users in 2022

Economist Intelligence Unit's 2022 Inclusive Internet Index ranked Oman 1st most Internet ready country in GCC, 10th globally.

Oman ranked 21st globally and 3rd in the Arab world in 2020 Global Cyber Security Index



Tourism

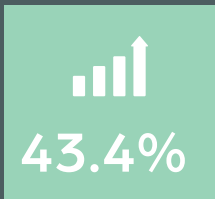
Number of employees in
Oman's tourism sector

200,000+



Tourism contributed 2.7% to GDP in 2022

Muscat International Airport served 7.4mn passengers in the first eight months of 2023. A 65% increase on the same period in 2022



Q3 2023 European 3 & 5 star hotel stays up 43.4% on same period 2022.

1.4mn 3 & 5 star hotel guests Q3 2023 – up 27.3% on same period 2022.

Oman Tourism Development Company (OMRAN) oversees high-profile tourism projects including the US\$12.9bn mixed-use development Madinat Al Irfan



Citizens from 103 countries do not need entry visas for stays up to 14 days



Circular Economy

Planned diversion of municipal solid waste into recovery–recycling–reuse initiatives by 2030

80%



Oman Environmental Services Holding Co (be'ah) oversees the solid waste management sector

An integrated system for commercializing waste streams is under development

Reduction in municipal waste generation from 1.2k /day per capita presently to less than 1kg/day per capita targeted by 2040



Renewable Energy

Percentage of Oman's electricity
needs from renewable sources
by 2030

30%



Oman has a wealth of solar and wind resources and over 50,000 km² of land to allow for their development

Hydrogen Development Oman has been set up to oversee Oman's energy transition

Hy-Fly a national alliance of public and private institutions, supports green hydrogen projects

BloombergNEF's Climatescope ranked Oman 1st in Middle East in renewable energy transition

Oman has set a 2050 net-zero carbon emissions target



4

Investment Infrastructure



Free & Economic Zones

Established by Royal Decree in August 2020, The Public Authority for Special Economic Zones & Free Zones (OPAZ) oversees the Special Economic Zone at Duqm, Al Mazunah Free Zone, Salalah Free Zone, Sohar Free Zone, Khazaen Economic City, Madayn's industrial estates as well as the technology park, Knowledge Oasis Muscat.





ZONES



-  INDUSTRIAL ESTATES
-  FREE ZONES



-  Duqm Special Economic Zone
-  Al Mazunah Free Zone
-  Salalah Free Zone
-  Sohar Free Zone
-  Khazaen Economic City



Madayn

Madayn manages world-class industrial estates with a wealth of high-prospect capital investment choices – business, industrial and social infrastructure assets as well as projects that meet the current and future ambitions and needs of its thriving and growing communities.



Khazaen Economic City

The largest public–private partnership land development project in Oman.

Khazaen Economic City is an integrated development that brings together a range of logistics, light industrial and commercial businesses to maximize efficiency, growth and economic value creation.

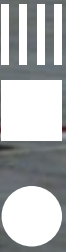


Technology Parks

Oman is home to two cutting-edge technology parks, knowledge-driven centres of excellence that are powering the country's digital evolution.

Knowledge Oasis Muscat

Innovation Park Muscat



Award-Winning Airports

Oman Airports manages,
operates, provides integrated
operations and infrastructure
management for the civil airports
of the Sultanate of Oman.





AIRPORTS



 INTERNATIONAL

 DOMESTIC



1

Muscat International Airport

2

Salalah International Airport

3

Suhar Airport

4

Duqm Airport



World-Class Ports

Four major seaports and three industrial ports each play a vital role in the diversification of Oman's evolving economy, adding value to the business environment of the country.



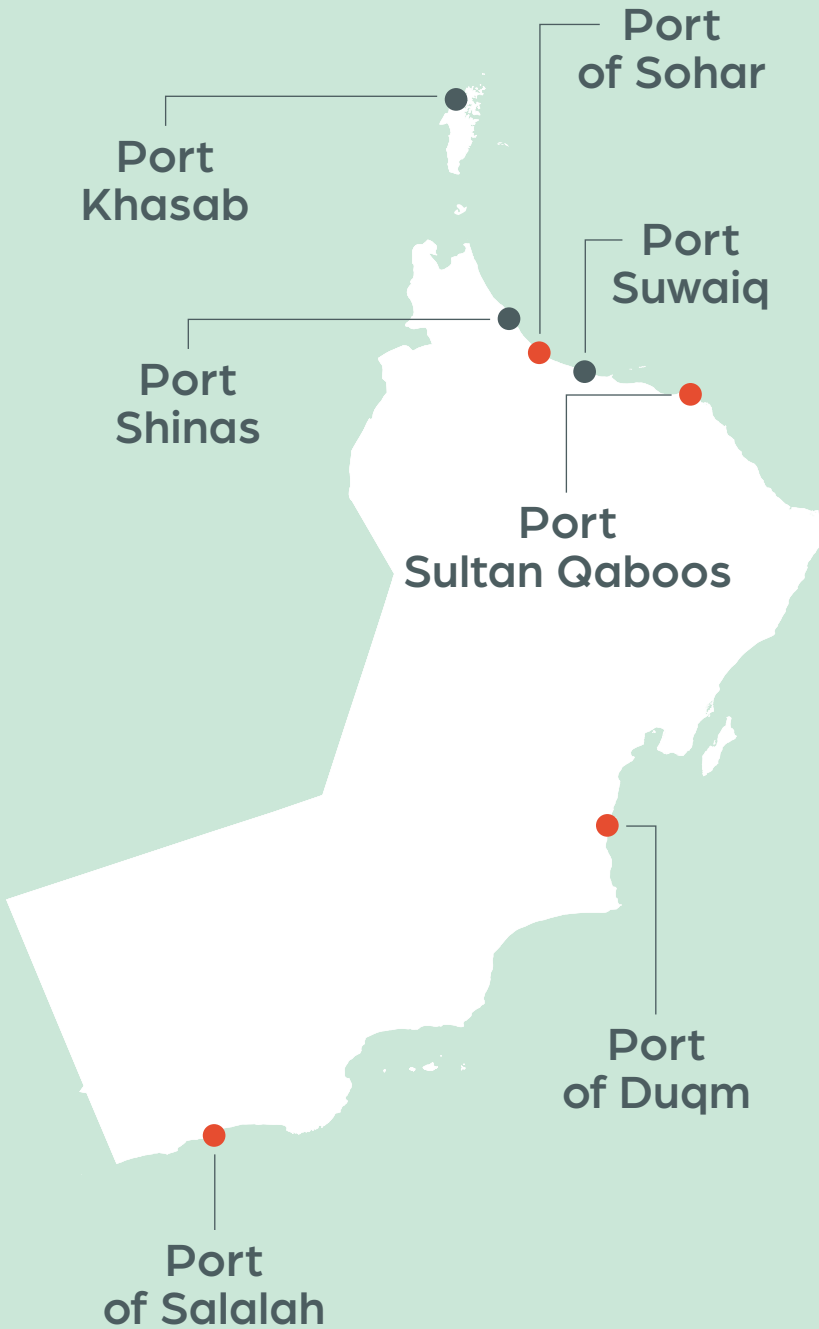


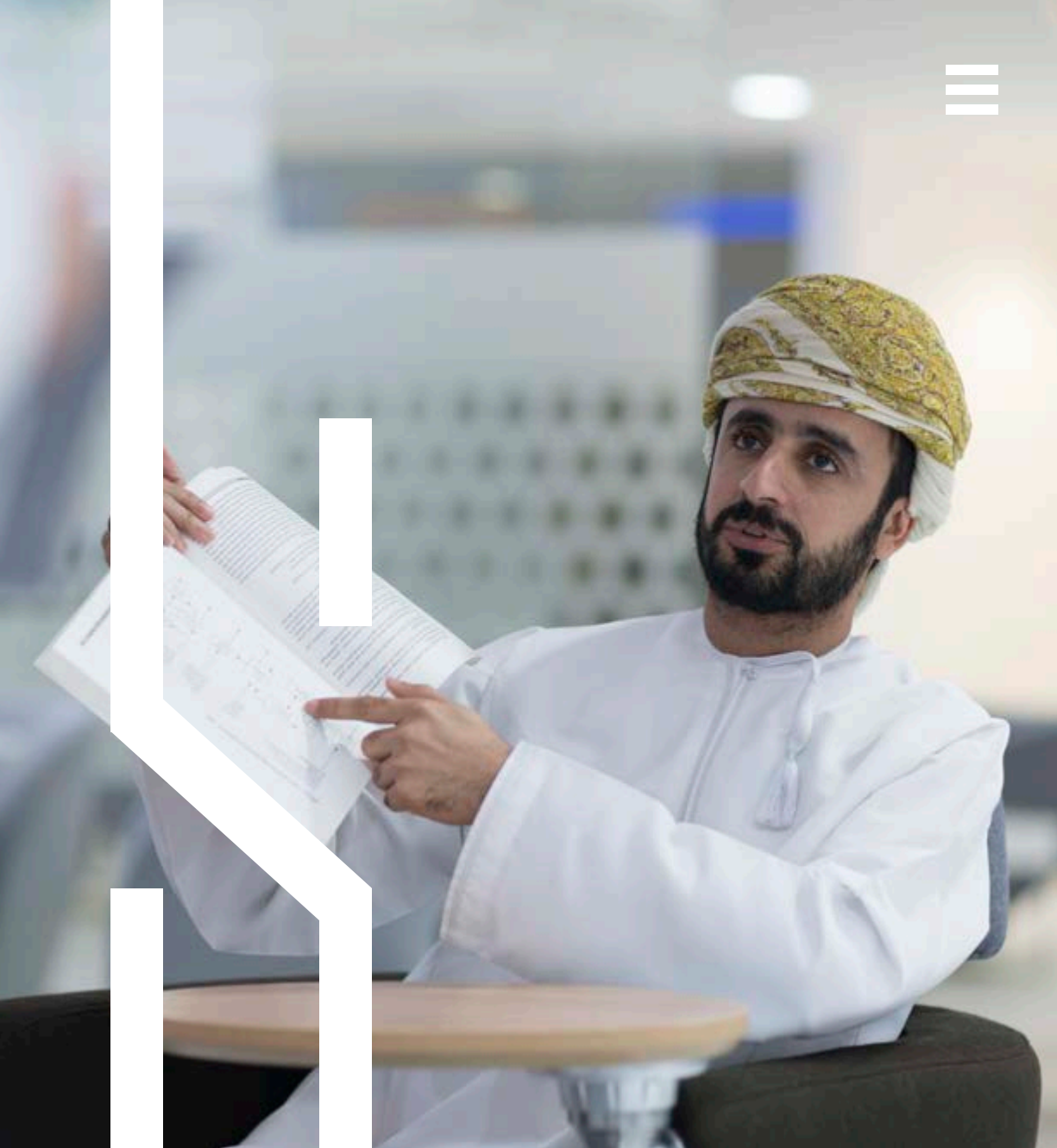
PORTS



● SEAPORTS

● INDUSTRIAL PORTS





5

Here
to help



Foreign Investment

From start-ups and SMEs to MNEs, MoCIIP offers an extensive portfolio of in-person and online support services and expert assistance.

Whether you are looking to set up in Oman, find a local partner, ramp-up your company's exports or develop your enterprise in any way – our expert team is here to help you get maximum value from being part of our growing and ambitious economy.



منصة عُمان للأعمال
Oman Business Platform

Oman Business Platform

New businesses can register and obtain licenses from 18 leading authorities and approval for 1,500+ economic activities in a matter of minutes through Oman Business Platform – MoCIIP's online one-stop-shop for investors.

The Oman Business Platform has issued over 507,000 licences 41,000+ to international investors

www.business.gov.om

Invest Oman



استثمر في عُمان
Invest OMAN

Browse, engage, and invest in Oman's strategic future. As the gateway to high-impact investment, Invest OMAN connects you with large-scale opportunities in key sectors. Beyond showcasing innovative projects and businesses, the platform provides essential insights and guidance, streamlining every step of the investment and establishment process in the country.

www.investinoman.om



Investor Residence Visa

Launched in November 2021, the Investor Residency Visa Program offers two extended residency options through real estate and commercial investment on a five and 10-year basis.

To date, we have issued over 890 visas to citizens from 30+ countries, bringing in investment to the value of US\$910mn.

[Discover more](#)



General Online Services

Employers can now apply for work permits online by visiting

www.pamr.gov.om

Visit and residence visas can be obtained at

www.rop.gov.om

A variety of commercial services including the certificate replacement and details of company data can be obtained at

www.chamberoman.om

Making importing and exporting easier is the Bayan service

www.customs.gov.om



Export

We provide help for exporters, assisting Oman-based companies as they

Explore new markets

Find the right business opportunities and partners

Innovate and grow internationally

Participate in overseas trade shows

Network at international B2B events



Terms & Conditions

Any redistribution or reproduction of part or all of the contents in any form is prohibited other than the following:

You may print or download to a local hard disk extracts for your personal and non-commercial use only.

You may copy the content to individual third parties for their personal use, but only if you acknowledge the application as the source of the material.

You may not, except with our express written permission, distribute or commercially exploit the content. Nor may you transmit it or store it in any other website or other form of electronic retrieval system.

Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion ©2025

نتقدم بثقة
Moving Forward
with Confidence

