

## Dubai, Oman, Sharjah and Abu Dhabi March 14-24 2020

**EARLY BIRD SAVINGS \$300 UNTIL 5/1/2019**



**Depart US/Canada March 14 2020**

**Depart Dubai March 24 2020**

**Price \$ 3999**

**Single: \$695**

**Deposit: \$600 of which \$350 non refundable.**

**Limited singles available.**

Welcome to some of the most fabulous scenery and architecture in the world. This is our second trip to the United Arab Emirates and Oman. From desert castles to ultra modern museums, this is a special departure for women who love new destinations. Flights from many cities are direct to Dubai. Weather is ideal. We combine Bedouins, souks, museums, camels, markets, gold, wadis to make the trip you will talk about forever. Canadians + US nationals visa available on arrival into the UAE and Oman.



Suggested flights for Group Transfer:

**JFK-DXB Emirates Flight 2** Departing March 14 10:40AM Arriving Dubai 8:10AM March 15. If your flight arrives at night, book a pre tour night and a private transfer. Or overnight at JFK and take the Emirates flight above.

**DXB-JFK Emirates Flights 1 or 3** Leaving Dubai March 24 8:30AM/9:10AM. Arriving JFK at 1:55PM/7PM same day

Notes: we include 2 meals daily except for one day; some are in our hotels because we are either in remote areas or we will have a day of traveling.

### **March 15 (B, L, D)**

Arrival Dubai International Airport. Meet, greet and assist by our guide, outside the airport. Transfer to hotel. **(Rooms will be booked from previous night for immediate check in)** During the transfer, our guide will brief us about our trip. After breakfast and a quick rest:



**11AM Full Day Tour of Old & New Dubai** We start in Old Dubai, Al Bastakiya, with narrow lanes and tall wind towers (Barjeels). Continue to Dubai Museum in Al Fahidi Fort and stroll the Old Souk. Visit Sheikh Saeed's house built in 1894, preserved as a museum. This museum is a has historic documents, photographs and furnishings of the ruling family.

Next is the Heritage and Diving village celebrating maritime heritage of Dubai and showcasing traditional coastal lives and rich history of the UAE's pearl diving and fishing. Get aboard the Abra (water taxi) to cross the Creek to the spice

souk. It is a traditional market of narrow lanes with open and closed-roof stores. Stores in the Spice Souk sell fragrances and spices from frankincense and shisha to herbs. The trip to the Gold Souk demonstrates why Dubai is City of Gold. It's worth the visit even if you have no intention of buying, for atmosphere of shop glinting with 18, 21, 22 & 24 carat gold, showing-off the abundant riches of this part of the world.

### **Lunch in Al Dawar Revolving restaurant**

The restaurant offers stunning views and international buffet. After lunch, continue to New Dubai. Proceed to Jumeirah Area. Photo stop at iconic Burj Al Arab Hotel. We continue to Palm Jumeirah, a fully reclaimed, palm shaped island home to the magnificent Atlantis The Palm (Photo Stop). The next stop brings us to Dubai Marina, the largest man-made marina in the world with eye popping luxury yachts. Next stop willis the base of what is currently the world's tallest building, the Burj Khalifa. Here time to admire the Dubai Fountain, one of the world's largest performing fountains.

We visit Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world. The Burj Khalifa skyscraper is a world-class destination and magnificent centerpiece of Downtown Burj Khalifa, Dubai's new urban masterpiece. The building is surrounded by hotels, must-visit shopping and entertainment options. **Dinner in hotel. A speaker TBA will join us for dinner.**

### **March 16 (Breakfast and Lunch)**

Check out 9:00AM and proceed to Sharjah, Culture Capital of UAE, also known as the 'Pearl of the Gulf'. We start with a photo-stop at the magnificent Al Noor Mosque on Al

Buhaira Corniche and proceed to the largest mosque in Sharjah, King Faisal Mosque. We visit the Islamic Civilization Museum. Several galleries display restored artifacts celebrating Islamic contributions to World Heritage. We drive to 'Old Town'. Stroll through the restored traditional market Souk Al Arsa. We proceed to Hatta. **Lunch served in Hatta Fort Hotel.**) We proceed to Muscat. Overnight Muscat

### **March 17 Breakfast and Dinner**

Oman looks and feels like the Past; the Sultan has conserved local architecture yet you see women working everywhere. The tour of Muscat begins driving through the beautiful embassy quarter en route to Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque. Visit the mosque, a splendor of unique Islamic architecture. The tour continues to Old Town on foot, strolling around Portuguese forts Jalali and Mirani and Qasr Al Alam, the Palace of HM Sultan Qaboos. Our next stop is Bait Al Zubair Museum with its wealth of information and exhibits on culture, tradition and heritage. We drive to Muttrah, a delightful quarter. Next stop is the amazing Royal Opera House. The Royal Opera House is Oman's premier venue for musical arts and culture. Discover the history and genesis in its structural boldness, technical innovation; and perhaps most of all, ROHM's breathtaking decorative artistry with motifs derived from Islamic, Mughal, Oriental and European art. One of the important highlights is viewing the very fine collection of rare instruments here. **Dinner at hotel.** Dress Code during Mosque Visit : Loose long trousers or long skirts, long sleeves and a head scarf. Rest of day is leisure. Overnight Muscat. **Dinner in the hotel.**

### **March 18 Breakfast and Dinner**

Day free for shopping at the colorful souk, or enjoy leisure time. **Optional Tour \$159**

#### **FULL DAY SAFARI WAHIBA AND WADI BANI KHALID with lunch (4WD)**

Our 4WD vehicles take us through the fascinating Hajar Mountains and the town of Ibra to Wadi Bani Khalid, one of Oman's most beautiful wadis (dry river bed), famous for its lush green oases, water pools and deep canyons. The tour proceeds to the Wahiba desert for an exciting dune drive. Visit a camel camp and gain an unforgettable experience of the Bedouins way of life. Picnic lunch en route. On the way back



to Muscat there is a final stop at the village of Mudairib to see its traditional watchtowers. Overnight Muscat **Dinner at our hotel.**

### **March 19 Breakfast and Dinner**

Check out & proceed to Nizwa- Bahla- Jabreen. (8 hrs.) We start with a spectacular drive through the mountains via oases of Fanjahand Birkat AlMauz to reach Nizwa UNESCO Heritage site, and the

impressive 17<sup>th</sup> century Fort. On to Nizwa Souk famous for Bedouin silver jewelry. We continue via Tanuf and Bahla to Jabreen, to one of Oman's most beautiful forts. Check in to hotel in Nizwa and overnight. **Dinner at Hotel.**

### **March 20 Breakfast and Dinner**

Transfer to Al Ain (UAE) (Approximately 4 hrs. Including border formalities). Enjoy a day out taking in the sights of the beautiful garden city of Al Ain. En route to Al Ain, watch the fascinating and ever changing desert scenery on both sides. The tour continues with a visit of the renovated Old Palace of H.H. Sheikh Zayed, (Photo Stop) late ruler of Abu Dhabi and President of the U.A.E. Visit 'Falaj', the underground irrigation system at Al Ain Oasis. Before returning, we stop at hot springs at Jebel Hafeet. Visit the famous camel market **Dinner at Hotel** Overnight at hotel in Al Ain.

### **March 21 Breakfast and Lunch**

Check out. Transfer to Abu Dhabi City. Discover highlights of Abu Dhabi, capital of the Emirates, the Arabian Jewel. The first destination is the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, one of the largest in the world. Continue to visit the Sheikh Zayed Centre to get a glimpse into the private life of H.H. Sheikh Zayed, often referred as "The Father of the UAE". Our next stop is Heritage Village where we are taken to the past to explore life before oil was discovered. A drive along the beautiful Corniche.

**Lunch at le Vendome -Emirates Palace Hotel** (Lunch Buffet with water/ 1 glass of juice or soft drink or wine/beer). Using seasonal and carefully sourced produce, each dish is precisely fashioned by talented chefs to stand out as a star rather than just another in a hotel buffet. Check in to Hotel in Abu Dhabi Overnight Abu Dhabi. Dress Code for mosque Visit: loose long trousers or long skirts & sleeves to ankle/wrist.No tight/ transparent clothes, no visible tattoos. Women must cover head with a scarf.

### **March 22 Breakfast**

Visit to Louvre Museum, 90 minutes sightseeing speed boat –Jaalboat. Start with Date Market. Panoramic drive. Louvre Abu Dhabi is a universal museum in the Arab world. Louvre Abu Dhabi is said to be a place of discovery, exchange and education. It plays an important social and social role in the United Arab Emirates. The museum presents important objects from archeology, art and arts and crafts. It also presents all regions, periods including contemporary art and the narrative of art history. 90 minutes private guided tour. Tour will continue with 90 Min. sightseeing cruise in Abu Dhabi by private speed boat. Rest of the day free for individual activities. Overnight in Hotel in Abu Dhabi (There is a cafe in the museum for optional lunch).

**March 23 Breakfast and Farewell Dinner** Depart for Dubai AM. We stop en route at a Falcon Hospital. Arrival Dubai. **Farewell Dinner** tonight: **Al Hadeerah Desert Camp, in Bab Al Shams desert resort & spa**, with desert entertainment.Explore sights, sounds and tastes of Arabia at an authentic desert venue amidst rolling dunes. Feast under the stars +entertainment, live music, dancing and traditional instruments.

**March 24 Dubai** overnight Early departure for Emirates flights as noted. There will be one group transfer included for those early AM flights. **Breakfast (boxed)**.

Extra nights/transfers can be booked at optional cost.

**Included:**

One Group Transfer in each direction for flights arriving by 9AM. Private transfers/extra nights available at optional cost.

Hotels as below or similar

English speaking guide

All sightseeing on the itinerary with entrance fees included

Meals as listed with service charges. Water or beverages above, included at L and D.

Desert BBQ Farewell dinner in the dunes.

Entry and departure taxes of \$85 per person

Modern air conditioned bus

Porterage at hotels, 1 bag per person

**Not Included:**

Tips to guide and drivers

Personal items, beverages not listed

Optional airport transfers if not on Group Flights.

Any item not on our itinerary

Meals not on our itinerary.

Extra nights pre or post or private transfers in Dubai

2 nights at Metropolitan Hotel Dubai (**Deluxe Rooms**)

For more information about this hotel, please visit <http://metropolitanhoteldubai.com/>

3 nights Hormuz Grand Muscat (**Standard rooms**)

For more information about this hotel, please visit: <https://www.radissoncollection.com/en/hormuz-grand-hotel>

1 night Golden tulip, Nizwa (**Standard rooms**)

For more information about this hotel, please visit <http://www.goldentulipnizwa.com/>

1 night at Radisson BLU Al Ain (**Guest rooms**)

For more information about this hotel, please visit <https://www.radissonblu.com/en/resort-al-ain>

2 nights Novotel Abu Dhabi Al Bustan (**Superior rooms**) For more information about this hotel, please visit <https://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-6533-novotel-abu-dhabi-al-bustan/index.shtml>

1 night at Metropolitan Hotel Dubai (**Deluxe Rooms**) For more information about this hotel, please visit <http://metropolitanhoteldubai.com/>