



(الخاص)

# متحف ظفار

## DHO FAR MUSEUM

(Private)





**WITH FRAGRANT OF HERITAGE  
AND PERFUME OF FRANKINCENSE**



## **Museum definition:**

Dhofar Museum is an important icon to highlight the Omani identity. It is educational and non-profit, and aims primarily to introduce the historical perspective of human cultural heritage and build a unique broad base for our contemporary thought. It also seeks to document all aspects of heritage in an integrated cultural project that describes the life aspects of our ancient heritage, as it is known and famous for the style of the ancient past in its wonderful contents and features, as it includes several environments, each of which displays a part through which the history of the region is shown, such as Islamic culture, culture, terms, images, and the embodiment of the features of the ancient past of Dhofar and the Sultanate of Oman and civilizations, including Samharam, Al Baleed, and Wabar, and their important role in the cultural, civilizational, and commercial returns, and the historical navigational role of the Omani Empire and other cultures, history, and Arab kingdoms. The visitor can also enjoy exploring these exhibits by passing through the museum corridors using modern technology for the introductory material and valuable collectibles that tell stories and memories along the interconnected kinetic path. Dhofar Museum symbolizes the antiquity of Dhofari heritage, where its location was chosen in the middle of the old region (Central Salalah) where cultures and customs are rooted, as it is the strategic residence that lies between the dimensions of farms, the beach, the plain, the countryside and the desert. It is considered one of the largest private museums in Dhofar Governorate and displays modern rock art to copies of identical ancient buildings. It is also considered one of the most entertaining museums to explore many of the collections that simulate a story and a memory that is rooted in the visitor's mind.



## **Vision:**

To consolidate and embody the noble Omani values by focusing on highlighting the cultural treasure and highlighting the Omani identity and the guaranteed history.





## **Message:**

To encourage and contribute clearly and activate belonging and raise cultural awareness and strive in the heritage, historical and cultural fields in a manner befitting the prestigious level of the Omani personality and our dear country.

## **Establishment of the Museum:**

Dhofar Museum was established in 2013 AD in the courtyard of the house of its owner, Sheikh/ Mohammed bin Abdul Mohsen Salem Al-Sail Al-Ghassani, as he was interested in collecting collectibles since the fifties until the idea developed into highlighting this inventory for an integrated museum by allocating a building for it in 2015 in compliance with the enlightening words of His Majesty the late Sultan/ Qaboos bin Said, may God bless his soul: (He who has no past has no present) and in line with the interest of His Majesty Sultan/ Haitham bin Tariq, may God protect him and preserve him, regarding preserving the Omani identity; where work was done on this desired dream with personal efforts and facing challenges; the efforts were crowned by the solidarity of many sons, individuals, experts and volunteers and the cooperation of the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism to see the light with its opening in 2024/2025.



## **Dhofar Museum Logo:**

The Dhofar Museum logo symbolizes (Legacy and Trace), as (Legacy) is the Omani architectural style and its civilization as a base rooted in gold color bearing the details of the handicraft in the palm frond industry that distinguishes Dhofar. The gradation of colors also suggests the connection between the legacy and its authenticity as a legacy to highlight the Omani identity, and (the trace) is intended as a thumbprint and an addition suggested by the shape of the logo and symbolizes the documentation of all the features of the Omani heritage.



## **Museum building:**

The Dhofari heritage style was designed on the building, as the exterior of the building indicates authenticity by simulating the old traditional style of the region among the old buildings. It was designed from the inside with antique wood for the floors and old ceilings made from local materials. The Dhofar Museum building consists of a basement, a ground floor, and shops outside where visitors can buy souvenirs and enjoy the experience of Omani coffee and some foods.



## **Museum environment:**

Coastal - rural - desert – urban

## **Museum sections:**

Sumhuram civilization - Al-Balid civilization - Omani character and Dhofari culture - Architectural heritage - Traditional crafts - Folk dances - Hunting profession - Coconut tree - Agricultural crops - Dhofari cuisine - Traditional Dhofari clothing - Dhofari weapons - Documents, manuscripts and pictures – Currencies

## **Dhofar Museum contains:**

Contain about (800) pieces, some of which date back to the fifties of the last century to the blessed Renaissance period of the seventies of the current century, in addition to some holdings of different sizes that have a relationship and a story that the owner and founder of the museum lived since its inception

## **Methodology and philosophy of display:**

- Focus on highlighting the components of the heritage society and the close historical connection to the Sultanate according to the geography and spectrum of societies.
- Focus on the historical connection and the heritage concept by highlighting archaeological material and an expressive image in a studied format that makes it easy



for the visitor or researcher to view it in more than one technique and more than one language.

-A coherent embodiment of the ancient human lifestyle of various spectra

## How can you get to Dhofar Museum?

You can get there using buses owned by tourist companies, taxis or private cars, and use the site map via the website or google map



## Landmarks near Dhofar Museum:

Sultan Qaboos Mosque and Dhofar Club are nearby landmarks, in addition to the museum being located next to the Big House (Beit Al-Sail Heritage House) and the Dar Al-Kutub Public Library, as Dhofar Museum is about 450 meters away from Sultan Qaboos Mosque and only about 100 meters away from Dhofar Club, as Dhofar Museum is located in the heart of the old central Salalah area near Al-Salam Street and you can use the turn at the exit opposite the bus and taxi station on Al-Salam Street

## Visiting controls:

- \_\_ Last time to receive the visit is half an hour before closing time.
- \_\_ All facilities are equipped with surveillance cameras.
- \_\_ Smoking is prohibited in all facilities.
- \_\_ Food and beverages are not allowed

## **Dhofar Museum visiting hours and entrance fees:**

The museum opens from 9 am to 1 pm and from 4 pm to 7 pm except Friday from 4 pm to 7 pm. As for the entrance fees to the Dhofar Museum, they are as follows:

	<b>Visitor category</b>	<b>price</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Omanies and GCC citizens</b>	<b>1 OMR</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Residents</b>	<b>1 OMR</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Tourists</b>	<b>3 OMR</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Educational institution and associations / group</b>	<b>20 OMR</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>People of determination</b>	<b>FREE</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Kids to 9 years</b>	<b>FREE</b>



## **Founder of Dhofar Museum:**

**Sheikh/ Mohammed Abdul Mohsen Salem Al Sail Al Ghassani**

### **General features of his career:**

- Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdul Mohsen bin Salem Al Sail Al Ghassani is a person with multiple interests, as he combined government, private and voluntary work, and contributed to supporting the sports movement by establishing the first bodybuilding gym in the Sultanate, in addition to his activity in establishing and managing sports clubs.
- He contributed to the development of the economic and commercial sector through his management of Al Ghassani Trading and Contracting Establishment and the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as well as being one of the founding partners in the Global Quarries Group of Companies.
- His community giving extended through his active participation in the Dhofar Municipality Committees and Tourism Development Committees and his contribution to charitable and educational work, as he chaired the Parents Council in a number of schools in Dhofar Governorate, with the aim of raising the level of education and supporting students.

### **Dhofar Private Museum:**

- He concluded his career full of giving and established Sheikh Mohammed Al-Ghassani Dhofar Private Museum (2024-2025), which represents a platform for



preserving local heritage and Omani history, and plays an awareness and cultural role to serve the community, confirming his keenness to keep the Omani heritage vibrant and transmitted to future generations

## **Professional and administrative career:**

**1. Businessman:** He has experience in the government, private, administrative, educational, community, sports and charitable sectors.

**2. General Manager of Al-Ghassani Trading and Contracting Establishment (1981-1960):** He contributed to the development of commercial and contracting activity in Dhofar Governorate.

**3. General Manager of the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (1981-1994):** He contributed to the development and revitalization of economic and commercial movement through the chamber.

**4. One of the founders of the International Quarries Group (1991-2024):** He held the position of Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, contributing to the quarry sector.

**5. Member of the Raysut Port Committee at the Ministry of Transport and Communications (1993 – 1987):** Contributed to the development of marine infrastructure and ports.

**6. Member of the Agriculture and Animal Wealth Committee in Dhofar (1992 – 1988):** Participated in supporting the agriculture and animal wealth sector in the governorate.

**7. Member of the Agriculture Committee at the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (2007 – ...):** Continued his efforts to improve the agricultural sector at the local level.

### **Sports activity:**

**1. One of the founders of Al-Shaab Club and a football player at Dhofar Club (1970 – 1978):** He practiced sports activities, and was a member of the Board of Directors and Treasurer.

**2. Owner of the first bodybuilding gym in Oman (1980 – 2017):** Introduced bodybuilding in a modern way to the Sultanate and encouraged its spread.

**3. Owner of Mohammed Al-Ghassani Sports Equipment, Marine and Travel Establishment (since 1973):** Supported the sports, marine activities and travel sector.

### **Government and community positions and committees:**

**1. Member of the Municipalities Committee in Dhofar Municipality (1984-1993):** Contributed to supporting and developing municipal services.

**2. Member of the Tourism Development Committee in Dhofar Municipality (1989-1990):** Worked to support tourism in the region, especially in Dhofar.

**3. Member of the Property Valuation Committee in the Office of the Minister of State and Governor of Dhofar (1988-1993):** Worked on property and real estate evaluation committees.

**4. Member of the Dhofar Municipality Committee (1988-1993):** His role was to study municipal affairs and propose development solutions.

**5. Member of the Autumn Festival Committee (1991):** Participated in organizing the annual Salalah Autumn Festival.



**6. Member of the Dispute Resolution Committee in Dhofar Municipality (1989-1994):**

Contributed to resolving disputes related to municipal affairs.

**7. Member of the Friends of the Municipality Camp Committee in Dhofar Municipality (1997):** Participated in organizing and implementing programs to enhance community teamwork.

## **Educational and Social Activity:**

**1. Chairman of the Parents Council at Osama bin Zaid School (1992-1993):** He led efforts to raise the level of education and assist students.

**2. Member of the Parents Council at Salalah Secondary School (1997-1998) and Member of the Parents Council at Al Saidiya School (1998-1999):** He was keen to contribute to developing and enhancing the educational process.

**3. His charitable contributions:** He contributed to a number of charitable works and community activities, based on his administrative roles and diverse experiences.

## **Establishment of the Dhofar Private Museum (2024-2025):**

- **Owner and founder of the Dhofar Private Museum:** The culmination of his career and experiences in preserving the Omani heritage and transferring it to future generations, as the museum reflects the cultural and historical identity of Dhofar Governorate and the Sultanate of Oman



## speech of the founder of Dhofar Museum

**Sheikh Mohammed Abdul Mohsen AL -Sail AL Ghassani**

We have created this edifice to be a window onto our glorious past and a bridge connecting present generations to the heritage of their ancestor .{ **Dhofar Museum** } is not just a collection of collectible but rather a realistic station that embodies the way of life of ancient man , with all its details and challenges, so that the visitor feels as if he is walking through the corridors of history  
Through this project, we have sought to revive the cultural heritage of the omani character and introduce new generations to the lifestyles that shaped our identity and inspired us with the values of patience , innovation and adaptation to life . we hope that this museum will be a source of inspiration and knowledge for all its visitors , and a message of appreciation and loyalty to those who came before us and contributed to building this great legacy and to have an impact in strengthening the heritage and tourism sectors alike

