Unit 1 A Warm Welcome

1 Read the information below from a magazine article about Oman. Discuss the title. What other titles can you think of?



Oman – A Land with Something for Everyone

In 2015, the New York Times listed Oman as Number 20 out of the top 52 destinations to visit in the world. But what makes Oman so appealing to tourists? We asked a number of visitors of different nationalities what they enjoyed most about their stay.

A. Max (Germany)



I'm into action and adventure, and Oman offers plenty of both. You can go camping in the desert, or scuba diving or rock climbing. You can trek deep into mountain wadis. I like Al Jebel Al Akhdar, but for me Jebel Shams is best of all. If you're really brave, you can abseil down the canyons of Wadi Ghul.

B. Yoshi (Japan)



I love the variety of scenery in Oman. It's stunning. You've got everything here – dramatic mountains and canyons, breathtaking beaches and amazing deserts like A'Sharqiyah Sands. You've even got forests down in the Dhofar region. It's great that the landscape is mountains, not skyscrapers.

C. Donna (UK)



I'm interested in anything to do with history. The forts and castles in Oman are awesome. I really enjoyed visiting Nizwa and Bahla Forts, and Jibreen Castle. The museums are excellent too and you can learn a lot about the past. You can also see great examples of rock art hidden in caves.

D. Joe (Singapore)



I'm a city guy, so I enjoyed spending time in Oman's towns and Muscat is a perfect mixture of traditional Omani values and a modern city. There are loads of things to see and do there. But I also really enjoyed exploring the souqs in Salalah and Nizwa. I picked up some great bargains there.

E. Kate (New Zealand)



I love the great outdoors, and I found the wildlife in Oman amazing. I'd expected to see camels, but I hadn't expected animals such as oryx, and flamingoes in the Dhofar region. I loved seeing the turtles nesting in Ras Al Hadd, but the best thing was going on a whale and dolphin watching trip.

F. Fernando (Brazil)



I'm fascinated by Omani culture and heritage. The traditional craftsmen are highly skilled – for example, the silversmiths in Nizwa and the dhow-builders in Sur. I took a trip into the desert, where I met some Bedouins. They were very friendly, and proud of all their different handicrafts.