

Salalah, Oman

- Monday, April 11, 2022
- Docked from 8:00AM to 5:00PM
- We will be docked in an industrial port. City isn't within walking distance
- Tourist Info
 - <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/oman/dhofar/Salalah>.
- Weather
 - Average temperatures range 68°-86°F
- Ramadan is 4/2/22 to 5/2/22
 - It is illegal to eat, drink, or smoke in public
 - Some hotels may have enclosed areas for non-Muslims to dine during the day
 - It may be difficult to find restaurants that are open during the day
 - Attractions may not be open. Verify days/times before signing up for a tour

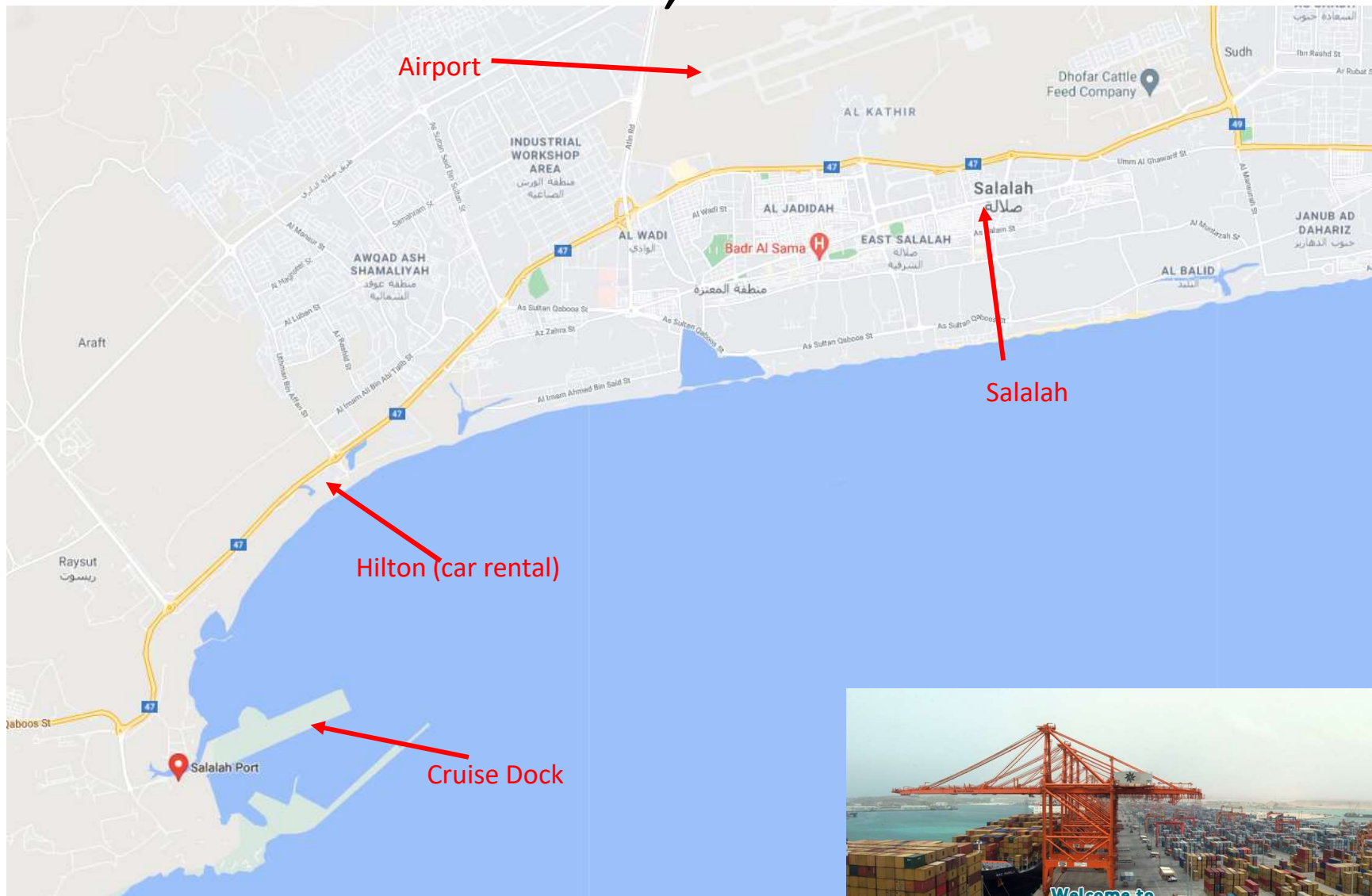
Salalah, Oman

- Named a UNESCO World Heritage Site for the unique history of its frankincense
- Salalah is the capital and seat of the governor of Dhofar, the southern province of Oman
- 2nd largest city in Oman and largest city in the Dhofar Province
- The Sultan traditionally lives in Salalah (his mother's hometown) rather than in Muscat
- Salalah is known as the "perfume capital of Arabia" and "the attar capital of Oman"
- The city is a tourism destination due to the natural attractions of the nearby mountains and the magnificent frankincense trees
- The country side is green with herds of cattle
- Beautiful beaches and coastline are also major attractions for scuba diving and bird watching
- Salalah is a city of antiquity, contains ruins of the fortified town Sumharam (Khor Rori), an important port from 100 BC- AD 400. About 45 minutes from port.

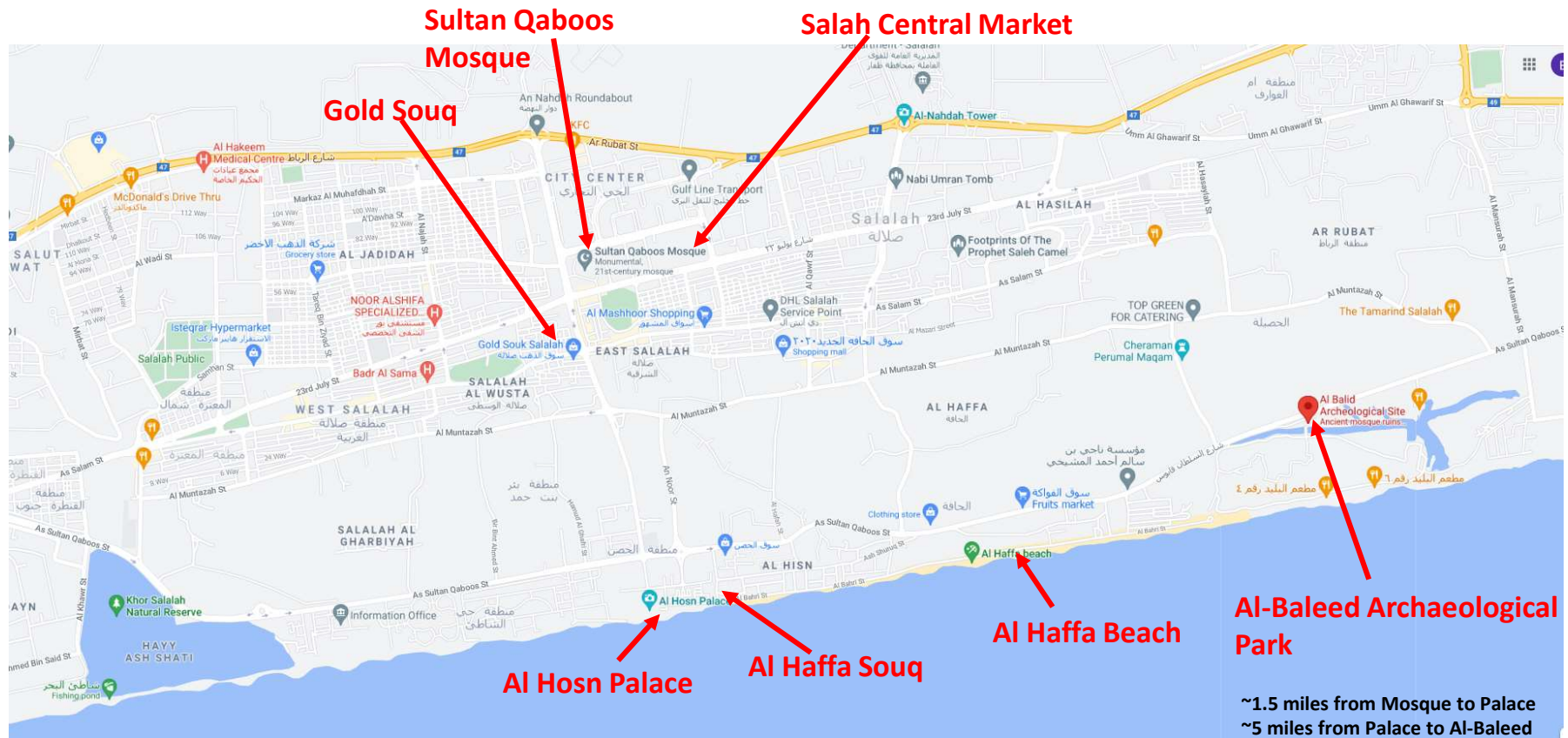
Essentials

- Money – Omani Rial (1 OMR = \$2.60); cash only in small shops; USD accepted; bring small denominations; ATMs available
- VISA – None; landing card will be distributed to ship; must keep in possession
- Safety – Normal Precautions
- Clothing – Dress modestly; fully cover arms and legs; woman must wear headscarf to visit mosque
- Internet – Free WiFi is available in several areas (<https://www.wiman.me/oman/free-wifi-Salalah>)
- Cell Service – Oman has 4G mobile network through Omantel Mobile; purchase a local SIM to avoid international roaming charges
- Taxis – Expensive ride from port to Salalah; better to arrange for private/group tour
- Bus – no HOHO
- Car rentals – Several companies available at airport or Hilton (Sixt)

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Shopping

- **Al Haffa Souq (Al Hosn Souq/Frankincense Souq)** - open air market by the beach in Haffa district; specialized market selling Frankincense, Bukhoor (wood chips that have been soaked in perfume oil), perfumes, traditional clothes, other souvenirs, and everyday items; most shops are closed 12-4PM
- **Salalah Central Market** - relatively newer Souq in the City center; this market has a lot of food shops (fish, meat, fruit, and vegetables) and a few restaurants
- **Gold Souk** – new air-conditioned Souq in a modern shopping mall (Salalah Gardens Mall); gold and silver ornaments, traditional Omani Khanjar and other souvenirs; it's not big, but it's near the Central Market and Mosque

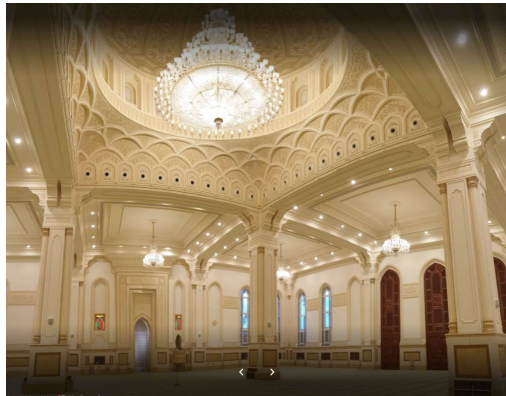
Attractions (1)

- **Al-Baleed Archaeological Park** – UNESCO World Heritage Site. Well-labelled ancient ruins of Al Balid belong to the 12th-century trading port of Zafar. Frankincense was shipped from here to India in exchange for spices. Little is known about the port's demise, but the excellent on-site **Museum of the Frankincense Land** charts the area's settlement since 2000 BC and illustrates the nation's maritime strength, including its recent renaissance. The site includes several kilometers of landscaped paths and the adjoining reed beds make for good birdwatching. A golf cart (0.5 OMR) takes visitors on a 20-minute lap of the extensive grounds. There's also a handicrafts shop and cafe on site. Entry fee 2 OMR per car.



Attractions (2)

- **Sultan Qaboos Mosque** - This newly completed, single-dome mosque with two minarets is a gift from His Majesty to the people of Salalah. Can accommodate 5,000 worshippers. Non-Muslims can visit from 8-11AM. Women must cover arms, legs, and head. Men must wear long pants.
- **Al Hosn Palace** - This enormous palace complex, with villas and landscaped gardens along the beach front, is home to Sultan Qaboos Bin Said. While not open to the public, it is noteworthy because its crenellated walls dominate the southern end of town, making for an unmissable landmark for the adjoining Souq.
- **Plantations** - Salalah is famous for its plantations of coconuts, papayas and bittersweet, small bananas. Stop at one of the many colorful fruit stands along As Sultan Qaboos.
- **Beaches** - Al Haffa Beach; popular with locals



Private Tours

- Oman Day Tours - <http://www.omandaytours.com/salalah-day-tours.php>
- Tours By Locals - <https://www.toursbylocals.com/Salalah-Tours>
- Mark's Tours - <https://www.marktoursoman.com/>
- Beautiful Salalah - <https://www.beautifulsalalah.com/>

HAL Tours

- **Best of Salalah** - \$155; 7 ¾ hrs; visit; Souq; Al-Baleed; Taqah Castle; Khor Rort Creek; lunch at a hotel; Mughsail Beach blowholes; 34 steps to blowholes over rocky ground
- **Leisurely Salalah** - \$55; 4 ¼ hrs; Drive past Frankincense trees; view Mughsail Beach and blowholes; panoramic drive to Tomb of Job; stop at orchard for fresh coconut water; stop for photos at Al Hosn Palace; visit Souq; 34 steps to blowholes over rocky ground
- **Sumhuran & Taqa Castle** - \$80; 5 hrs; visit Ayn Razat and Taqah Castle; old frankincense port in Sumhuran; stop for photos at Al Hosn Palace; visit Souq; stop steps and rocky ground at Samhuran
- **The Frankincense Trail & Tomb of Job** - \$100; 4 hrs; Mughsail Beach and blowholes; tap your own frankincense tree; visit Tomb of the Old Testament Prophet Job; stop for photos at Al Hosn Palace; visit Souq; 34 steps to blowholes over rocky ground; women must wear headscarf at tomb
- **The Lost City of Ubar & the Sands of Arabia** - \$200; 8hrs; 4 wheel drive to Khadaf Dunes; drive amid the red sand dunes; Ubar excavation site (UNESCO World Heritage Site); picnic lunch; bumpy ride; no guide in each vehicle
- **Salalah Private Touring** - cars/minivans with guide and driver \$400-1250; half and full day options