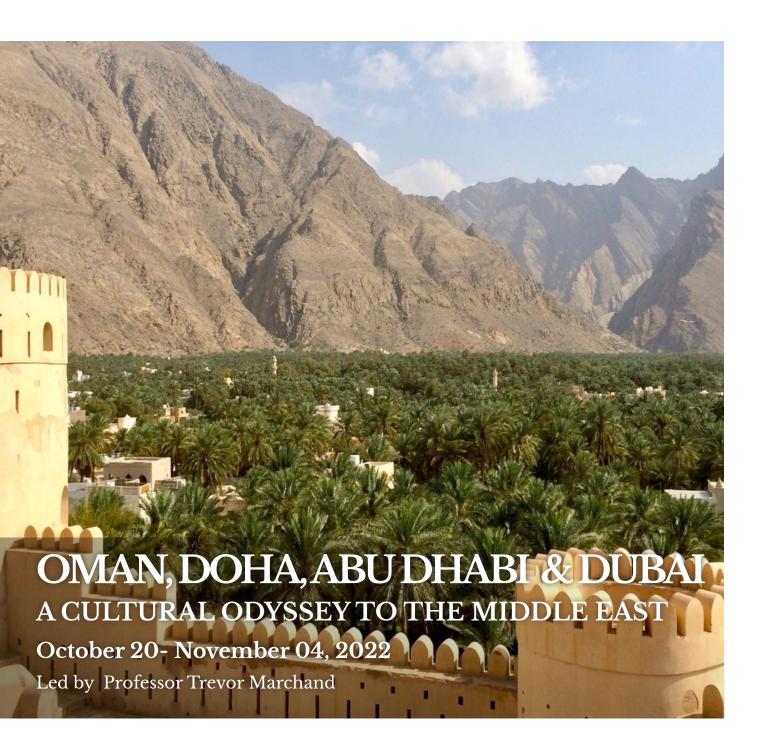
DISCOVER THE WONDERS

SPIEKERMANN TRAVEL SERVICE



Best known for their wealth and abundance of oil, the Gulf States also house some remarkable museums that display magnificent ancient Islamic art, calligraphy, pottery, embroideries and jewelry. In Qatar, you will saunter around the Old Souq (market) and down to the nearby Dhow Harbor to see some of the Gulf's traditional and distinctive trading vessels and the world-class Islamic Arts Museum. In the UAE, you will marvel at Abu Dhabi's unique architecture as one of the most futuristic cities in the world. Dubai is an emirate that has transformed itself in the last few decades from an obscure pearl-fishing village into one of the world's most important trading hubs and a land of luxuries. Oman is one of Arabia's true gems - a land of rugged coastlines and vast deserts where tradition and progress go hand in hand. This wonderful adventure takes us from the heart of its picturesque capital, deep into its desert.

Ihab ZakiManaging Director, Spiekermann Travel

Friday, October 21 Arrive in Doha (QATAR)



Upon arrival in Doha (depending on your flight schedule), you'll be met by your guide and transferred to the *Sharq Village Hotel* for check-in and overnight. **(D)**

Note: Standard check in time at hotel is 3:00 pm.

Saturday, October 22 Full Day Doha



Tour Doha's impressive Corniche to view the new architectural landmarks. Pass by the emerging **West Bay District** to admire the towers, skyscrapers, government buildings and museums. Continue to **Mathaf Arab Museum of Modern Art**. Later visit the new Jean Nouvel-designed **National Museum of Qatar** in the shape of a desert rose. Lunch on own at the museum. Return to the **Hotel**, rest and overnight. **(B,D)**

Sunday, October 23 Full Day Doha



After breakfast, drive through the downtown Doha area of **Musheireb**, a sustainable planned city, reviving the old commercial port in the ancient port of Doha. Explore Doha's traditional past at **The Souq Waqif Heritage Market**. After the visit we continue to the extraordinary **Museum of Islamic Art**. It houses one of the most comprehensive collections of Islamic Art in the world, highlighting the creative achievements of the Islamic world's richest cultures. Lunch on own at the museum. After lunch, return to the **Hotel** to refresh before the evening cruise.

At 5:00PM. Pick-up from the Hotel and proceed for the Evening Dhow Cruise with Dinner. Enjoy a dinner cruise on a traditional dhow, affording spectacular views of the illuminated Doha skyline at night. Return to the Hotel, and overnight. (B,D)

Monday, October 24 Doha to Abu Dhabi(UAE)



After breakfast, transfer to Hamad International Airport for flight to Abu Dhabi. Upon arrival, meet and assist. The first stop will be at **Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Mosque**. Visit **Zayed Museum**, the national museum of the UAE. Foster and Partners architects designed the museum to resemble falcon wings. Visit the Frank Gehry-designed **Guggenheim Museum**. Both are located on Saadiyat Island. Drive to the *Ritz Carlton Hotel*. Check in, dinner and overnight. **(B,L,D)**

Tuesday, October 25 Abu Dhabi (Half Day)



After breakfast, visit the stunning Jean Nouvel-designed **Louvre Abu Dhabi**. Lunch on your own at the museum. After lunch we return to the old city to visit the unique **Falcon Hospital**. Return to the *Hotel*, dinner and overnight. **(B,D)**

Wednesday, October 26 Abu Dhabi-Dubai -Al Ain (drive)



After breakfast drive from Abu Dhabi to Dubai, to enjoy an architectural tour of Dubai. After lunch at a local restaurant, drive to Al Ain to visit the superb photographic exhibition about Wilfred Thesiger located in Al Jahili Fort, now a cultural center. Then visit the camel market before we proceed to *Mercure Inn* to check-in, dinner and overnight. (B,L,D)

Thursday, October 27 Al Ain- Ibri- Nizwa (Oman)



After breakfast, drive to the Al Ain border, change vehicles, cross the border and enter the Sultanate of Oman. Stop at **Ibri** to visit the **Beehive Tombs** and the **Necropolis** at **Bat**, a prototype historic site from the 3rd millennium BCE. Stop for lunch at a local restaurant before touring the magnificent **Jabreen Castle** (1675) in Bahla, one of the finest castles in Oman. Photo-stop at **Bahla Fort** (UNESCO Site), then proceed to **Nizwa** to *Golden Tulip Inn*, check-in, dinner and overnight. **(B,L,D)**

Friday, October 28 Nizwa



After a very early breakfast, depart from hotel by 4X4 vehicles to visit the renowned Friday Livestock Market at the Nizwa Souk to observe the age-old lively auction and trading by locals of cows, goats and sheep as well as honey, dates and other goods. By 6:00 AM the auction is in full swing, ending by 8:00 AM. Visit the silver shops and pottery factory as well as the antique rifle and khanjar (knife) sellers in front of the market. Visit the oasis city of Nizwa, including the 17th c. Nizwa Fort which served both as an administrative seat and a defense fort. Proceed to the village of Al Hamra and visit Bait Al Safah to experience the traditional Omani lifestyle. Afterwards observe the ancient Omani Falaj system. Lunch at Safah House. Visit Misfat Al Abriyeen, an authentic Omani mud village built into a mountainside, stopping at Misfah Old House for dates and Arabic coffee. Return to Hotel for dinner and overnight. (B,L,D)

Saturday, October 29 Nizwa- Muscat

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After breakfast, embark on a spectacular adventure by driving in 4x4 vehicles through the Hajar Mountains across the Sharaf al Alamayn Pass. The off-road drive takes us to Wadi Bani Awf. Drive along the majestic mountains and wadis towards the beautiful village of Bilad Sayt, located near the highest peak, Jebel Shams. Continue the drive toward the town of Al Awabi and onward to Muscat. On our way cross via Rustaq Fort and Al Hazm Castle (potential visits dependent on driving time and road conditions). Upon arrival at Muscat proceed to Shangri-La Al Waha Wing Hotel, check-in, dinner and overnight. (B,L,D)

Sunday, October 30 Muscat- City Tour

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After breakfast, visit the **Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque**, a scientific and intellectual resource of knowledge across the Islamic world. After visiting the **Royal Opera House**, explore the **Muttrah Souq**, a vibrant collection of colorful stalls filled with textiles, spices and antiques. Discover the Sultanate's rich history and heritage with a visit to the **National Museum of Oman**. After visiting the museum, make a brief photo stop outside the ceremonial **Al Alam Palace** and the adjacent former 16th c. Portuguese defense forts of **Al Jalali and Mirani**.. Return to the **Hotel**, overnight. **(B, L)**

Monday, October 31 Muscat- Salalah





After breakfast, transfer to the airport for flight to Salalah. Upon arriving in Salalah, the capital of the governorate of Dhofar, visit the Al Balid Archaeological Park site, touring in golf carts. Visit the Museum of the Frankincense Land, a UNESCO World Heritage Site which includes a history of the maritime trade and the ship building industry of Oman. After a drive through lush green fruit and vegetable plantations make a photo stop at the Sultan Qaboos Mosque and Al Husn Palace. Stroll through the old Al Husn Souk at Haffa, where high-quality frankincense is sold, along with other traditional Dhofari souvenirs. Transfer to Al Baleed Resort for check in and overnight. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, November 01 Salalah Ubar-Wadi-Dawkah

After breakfast, visit the **Tomb of the Prophet Job**. Continue driving via the town of **Thumrait**, formerly an important point on the Arabian Peninsula's caravan route, largely inhabited by Bedouins, Visit the lost city of **Ubar**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, also known as **Atlantis** of the sands. Ubar is referenced in the **Holy Quran** and in **The Arabian Nights** as a den of inequity which was destroyed by God. Lunch at local restaurant followed by a visit to **Wadi Dokah**, a natural reserve UNESCO World Heritage Site, home of the frankincense trees. Return to the **Hotel**, overnight. **(B,L)**

Wednesday, November 02 Salalah- East Tour

Visit the old fishing village of **Taqah**, famous for its dried sardines and old Dhofari Houses. Explore the 19th c. **Taqah Castle**. Visit the

ruins of the ancient fortified city of **Sumharam** (Khor Rori) a UNE-SCO World Heritage Site, which was the easternmost outpost of the **Hadramawt Kingdom** on the ancient incense route between the Mediterranean Sea, Persian Gulf and India. After lunch we drive to **Mirbat**, the ancient capital of Dhofar and the beginning of the "Frankincense Trail". Stroll through the streets lined with old Omani houses and make a photo stop at the twin-domed **Bin Ali's Tomb**. Visit the natural spring of **Ayn Razat**. Return to the *Hotel* for farewell dinner and overnight. **(B,L,D)**

Thursday, November 03 Salalah- Muscat



After breakfast, transfer to the airport for our flight to Muscat. Upon arrival, assist and transfer to *Novotel Muscat Hotel*. The rest of the day is at your leisure to enjoy Muscat. **(B)**

Friday, November 04 Muscat to USA



Enjoy your breakfast and then transfer to the Airport for your flight back home. **(B)**

"We reserve the right to change the order of activities or places visited due to unforeseen schedule conflicts or in order to make the itinerary run smoothly"



Burj Al Arab



Louvre Abu Dhabi

Tour Cost (Land only): \$7,995.00 *per person sharing in double occupancy*

Single Supplement: \$2,395.00

Price based on group size minimum of 15

Trip Grade: II Lodging Level: ***_***



Tour includes:

- Accommodations referenced in above itinerary
- Domestic flights- **Doha-Abu Dhabi**
- Domestic flights Muscat-Salalah- Muscat
- Transfers, meet and assist at airports
- Transportation in air-conditioned bus
- Meals as mentioned in the above itinerary
- Traditional dhow cruise in Doha with dinner
- Accompanying scholar lecturer
- Qualified English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees to all sites that mentioned in the itinerary
- Water during the tour
- All service taxes and VAT
- Tipping for guides, porters, and hotels

Tour does not include:

- International airfare from/to USA.
- All visas currently obtainable on arrival. UAE (free),
- Qatar (free), and Oman (online- Approx cost \$50) -
- All subject to change.
- Dayroom or extra hotel nights necessitated by airline flight schedule changes.
- Airport transfers if not arriving/departing on trip dates.
- Meals other than mentioned in the itinerary
- Expenses of a personal nature such as: beverages with meals, telephone, camera fees, laundry, etc.
- Travel Insurance (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED).

Trip Grade:

Il Active – Some hikes, slightly more demanding walks at or to sites, few elevations, comfortable but busy schedule and some long bus rides.

Lodging Level:

**** **Superior:** Lodges and hotels with additional amenities, refined service and comfort level acceptable to western standards. (4-stars)

**** Luxury: Regular style- usually large- hotels, typical western standard with ample venues, and full amenities. (5 stars)

Special Notes on Travel:

Active Touring - Active Touring - You will be covering a lot during this journey. The roads are good, and the bus is very comfortable. Some driving days are long, but there will be several restroom stops along the way. It is important to recognize the exhausting nature of some of the long sightseeing days, as well as, some of the site visits where you may have to climb over uneven terrain, steps, rocks and sand, as well as, up inclines and stairs. Be prepared to travel with comfortable shoes. You do have the option of staying in the vehicle if some sites seem difficult to you.



Note on Visas:

Your passport must be valid for at least six months after the end of your tour, and it must have at least three blank pages for visas.

Qatar Visa: US visitors are eligible for visa-free entry into the State of Qatar and can obtain a visa waiver upon presentation of a valid passport with a minimum validity of six months and a confirmed onward or return ticket. The waiver will be **valid for 30 days** from the date of issuance. **UAE Visa:** Does not require a visa for US citizens to enter.

Oman Visa: All nationalities need to apply for the visa in advance through www.evisa.rop.gov.om



TOUR RESERVATION & BOOKING FORM FOR SOCIETY FOR ASIAN ART OMAN, DOHA, ABU DHABI & DUBAI - A CULTURAL ODYSSEY TO THE MIDDLE EAST

OCTOBER 20 - NOVEMBER 04, 2022
PLEASE COMPLETE, SIGN, DATE & RETURN ALONG WITH A CLEAN COLORED COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT S 1 PAGE (THE ONE THAT YOU INTEND TO USE FOR THIS SPECIFIC TOUR)

Please note that you must be a member of the Society for Asian Art to go on this trip. If you are not a member, you may join or renew at the SAA website, www.societyforasianart.org/membership. Applications will be accepted by mail only and inclusion in the trin will be based on the nostmark date.

Trip Name:	Trip Dates:	
Name (& relationship): Telephone Describe any health problems food/dietary restrictions (By signing for this trip, I admit and confirm my full understanding of the nature of the tour and the physical requirements to be able to keep up with the pace of the visits and the sightseeing and that I am not in any way going to cause delays to the tour group or its other fellow members and if I cause so, I could be denied participation in the tour).		
Accommodation Would like to share room (Y / N) I'll share accommodations with (name) Single Supplement cost is \$2,395.00 (Single travelers for v supplement charges)		
Air Booking (Depending on airline policy, air ticket may be un ☐ I will do my own international air ☐ I want STS to help me book my ticket (Extra Cost, as the Intern Please contact our office for the air reservation assistance. Notes: * Depending on airline policy, air ticket may be unchangea * Seat assignment based on availability Airlines have m allow) mileage accrual and STS is NOT responsible in any w	national air is not included in the tour): ble/nonrefundable after issue) nany convoluted rules regarding fares that allow (or not	
□ Check payment Online through our website: https://www.pa □ Charge my credit card: # Security code (the 3-digit code next to signature on back of card Signature for cr □ I would like to authorize STS to charge further payments an	rvation, unless specified differently on the particular O days prior to departure unless otherwise specified. [If different amount than \$500.00] for this tour. [Interpretation of the particular of the particu	
when the due date comes up or to issue my air ticket without any		

Release of Liability: STS acts only as an agent for the passenger with respect to transportation, hotels, cruise and all matters of reservations and operation of the tour. STS and its agents and representatives do not accept responsibility for loss, damage, injury, accident, delay, irregularity, expense or liability caused by negligence or default of any of their subcontracting organizations, their employees, their agents or representatives, including consulates, passport agencies, mail couriers or border & airport security conditions. Any such losses or expenses shall be borne by the participant. We reserve the right to cancel the tour prior to departure in which case the full payment of the "land portion" will be refunded to the participant without any further obligations on our part. It is understood that air tickets when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the carrier concerned. STS or any of their subcontractors in various countries are not held responsible for any act, omission, unforeseen change or event that will affect the passenger while heading to their destination or returning from it. Any sickness, injury, accidents, dismemberment, terrorist attacks, complications to the tour due to civil unrest or disturbance in the political climate at the destination or in relations between the USA and the visited country or in case of death of a passenger is not the responsibility of STS, its agents and representatives, or the airlines involved. Clients have been advised of the option of purchasing individual travel protection insurance. By signing up for this trip, I acknowledge my full awareness that the visited country (ies) may have a travel warning issued by the US State Department and it is with our complete free will that we are joining that specific tour. I could consult their web site at www.travel.state.gov. I voluntarily apply to participate in this tour with knowledge of the inherent hazards and risks involved in travel. I also am aware that unforeseen events can happen (completely beyond STS's control) and may also cause the cancellation of the tour or alteration of the proposed itinerary and I accept such risks and the costs involved with it and will not hold STS liable for any damages or losses. As we plan your tour arrangements many months, in advance we may occasionally have to make changes or cancel the whole tour (for lack of participation or for Force Majeure) and we reserve the right to do so at any time. We seldom need to change trip leaders or choice of used airlines and we have the right to do so if necessary. We will accept your tour booking on the understanding that you realize the safety facilities in the developing world - in the vehicles, on the roads and at the tourist sites often do not match ours in the USA. If you have any valid and legitimate complaint about any of your tour arrangements, you must tell our relevant local supplier at the time. In the event that your complaint cannot be resolved by our local representative at the time, please contact our US office directly. If you fail to follow this simple procedure, we will have been deprived of the opportunity to investigate and rectify your complaint whilst you were in the destination and this may affect your rights under this contract for any compensation.

SIGNATURE (I have read & accept this entire Release of Responsibility)
Data	

Passports & Visas: Your passport must be valid for 6 months from the date of return to the USA and must contain empty "Visa" pages. You are also responsible for checking with the appropriate consular sections of the country/ies visited if a visa is required. STS is not responsible for any passport or visa problems, delays or any unforeseen conditions that can affect the trip. Traveler is responsible to provide STS with the valid passport that will be used for the specific trip she/he signed up for and any amendments and changes to the used passport could cause a problem obtaining visas and/or will add additional expenses in resubmittal of information. A fee of \$50 will be added to the final invoice in case of such passport changes. Upon acceptance of my application this agreement shall be deemed to have been entered into and performed in Eastpointe, Michigan and shall be construed according to the laws of Michigan only. In the unlikely event a legal dispute should arise involving any subject matter whatever, I agree that the dispute shall be settled by binding arbitration through the American Arbitration Association in Michigan. Should the arbitration provision prove to be unenforceable, I agree that any legal action shall be brought before the appropriate court in Macomb County, Michigan, or Federal Court in Michigan. I further agree that should the plaintiff fail to prevail in any legal dispute before a court said plaintiff hereby agrees to pay all reasonable attorneys' fees for the defendant in the dispute. With regard to credit card sales for services related to this tour, the client will hold STS and its agents and representatives harmless for all charge-backs exercised by them or their credit card companies, originating from any complaints for any unsatisfactory services or for any reason for which the client did not use part of the prepaid tour or for any reasons whatsoever.

Cancellations & Refunds: Cancellations must be received **in writing,** and will be processed according to the date the written notice is received. Although a verbal cancellation is appreciated, it will not be accepted as final notice. Departure is defined as the date of the first flight from USA, or the trip departure date as indicated on our Trip Schedule, whichever comes first.

1. Money will be refunded minus the following cancellation fees/penalties per person (unless different for a particular trip, then the special cancellation schedule of that trip will apply):

From time of booking up to 90 days prior to departure \$250 per person 59-31 days prior to departure 50% of total trip cost 89-60 days prior to departure \$500 per person 30-0 days prior to departure No refund

- 2. Aside from the above penalties, any additional penalties on airline tickets imposed by the airlines- in cases of cancellation or date changes after issuance of tickets will be totally charged to the traveler. In addition, any costs involved in obtaining visas will also be collected from the traveler and cannot be reimbursed by STS or its suppliers.
- 3. Hotel rooms booked on our tours are run of The House (ROH), any special rooms with views or upper floors will entail a supplement that clients will be responsible to cover.

I have read & accept this entire Release of Responsibility and I have read and accept the complete Terms & Conditions of the trip I am booking, including notification of cancellation penalties. I fully understand all contents of this document and agree to the same. By making this booking with STS you guarantee that you have the authority to accept & do accept on behalf of your party the terms of these booking conditions.

SIGNATURE (1) _	Date
. ,	
SIGNATURE (2) _	Date