Suhar Investment Forum 2024

منتدى صحار للاستثمار

ORGANIZED BY

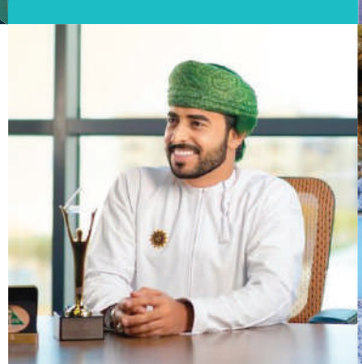
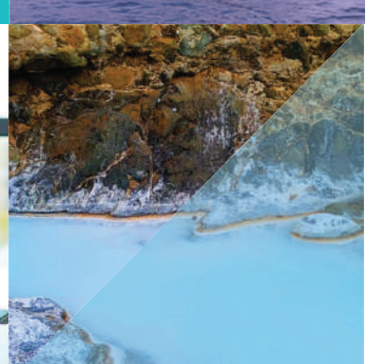
غرفة تجارة وصناعة عمان
فرع محافظة شمال الباطنة
Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry
AL Batinah North Governorate Branch

رؤية عُمان 2040
OmanVision

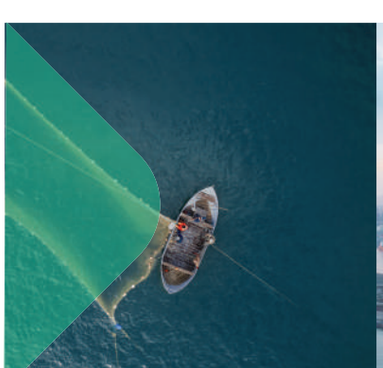




Connect. Collaborate. Capitalize

2024 | 26-27 February
Hotel Radisson Blu, Suhar
Sultanate of Oman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Oman Vision 2040 is the Sultanate's gateway to overcome challenges, keep pace with regional and global changes, generate and seize opportunities to foster economic competitiveness and social well-being, stimulate growth, and build confidence in all economic, social and developmental relations nationwide.

- His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik

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Oman – The Next Big Opportunity for Global Investors



Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has played a major role in the economic progress and social development over the decades in Oman. Over US$40 billion have been invested in Oman through the FDI route.

Despite the pandemic related economic challenges globally, the volume of foreign direct investments (FDI) in Oman by end of Q1 in 2023 increased by 23.3 per cent to reach US$ 55.31billion.

The Sultanate's friendly regulations and robust infrastructure have been the key drivers for the foreign investors keen interest in the country. Its geographical location that overlooks the major international and regional sea lanes along with the existence of multiple modern Omani ports have opened new horizons for investment and free trading.

This map is not an authority on international boundaries.

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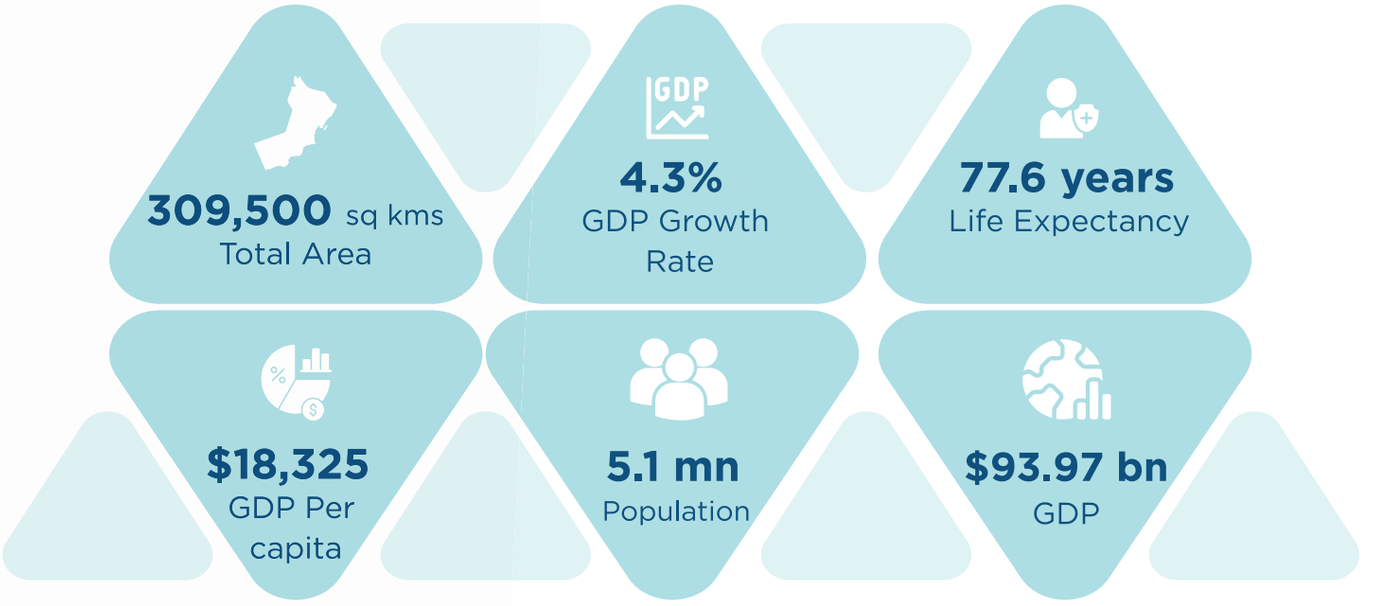
Key Features



Source: The World Bank/IMF/Central Bank of Oman

Moreover, the Sultanate is characterized by its stable leadership and economy. The country's Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the United States is a testament of the Oman's standing in the global economy. Oman is making rapid strides towards further opening the economy by introducing new business friendly regulations and creating new business opportunities in alignment with His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik's Vision 2040 to create a sustainable, diversified and innovation based economy.

Traditionally, oil & gas, manufacturing, financial services and real estate have been the major beneficiaries of FDI in Oman. Foreign investors are also showing an increased interest in other fast growing sectors such as logistics, tourism, renewable energy, technology, mining, agriculture, aquaculture and food processing, etc.

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About Suhar



Suhar, located in the Sultanate of Oman, has emerged as a highly attractive destination for foreign companies seeking to expand their global footprint. With its strategic geographical location, robust infrastructure, business-friendly policies, and stable economic environment, Suhar offers a multitude of opportunities for investors.

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Why Suhar?

Suhar has emerged as a leading destination for foreign investors over the last decade, owing to several factors. This includes:

Strategic Geographical Location

Suhar's strategic location at the crossroads of the Arabian Gulf and the Indian Ocean positions it as a pivotal point for trade and commerce. The Sohar Port and Freezone, in particular, is strategically positioned to serve as a gateway for goods entering and exiting the Middle East. The proximity to major markets in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), as well as access to the wider Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, makes Suhar a prime location for businesses engaged in logistics, distribution, manufacturing, fisheries, tourism, and more.

Multimodal Connectivity

Suhar boasts outstanding connectivity through its integrated network of air, sea, and land transportation, with promising prospects for further enhancement with the anticipated railway project. The Suhar Airport ensures swift and efficient air travel, linking the city to regional and international destinations, fostering business and tourism. The Sohar Port, strategically situated on the Oman Sea, stands as a vital maritime hub, facilitating the smooth flow of goods and bolstering the city's trade potential. The well-maintained roadways and highways provide seamless land connectivity, ensuring easy access to neighboring regions and promoting intra-city mobility.

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State-of-the-Art Infrastructure

Suhar boasts world-class business infrastructure. For reference, the Sohar Port and Freezone, which is one of the primary drivers of its economic growth ranks among the fastest-growing ports in the world and is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities to handle a wide range of cargo, including containers, bulk, and liquid cargo. The Sohar Freezone, adjacent to the port, provides businesses with a tax-free environment (for 10 to 25 years depending on various factors), modern logistics services, and world-class amenities for manufacturing and storage, making it an ideal location for foreign investors to establish their operations.

Business-Friendly Regulatory Environment

The Sultanate of Oman has adopted a business-friendly regulatory framework to attract foreign investment, and Suhar is no exception. The Omani government actively encourages foreign participation in various sectors of the economy, offering incentives such as:

- 100% foreign ownership in most sectors
- Competitive corporate tax rates
- No personal income tax
- Repatriation of profits and capital allowed
- Intellectual property protection

Oman has strong laws and regulations, which are constantly amended to provide a flexible and up-to-date legal framework to do business in. Business disputes are adjudicated by the commercial courts.

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Diverse Investment Opportunities

Suhar offers a wide range of investment opportunities across various sectors. Some of the key sectors that have seen significant growth and present attractive prospects for foreign companies include:

- **Manufacturing:** Suhar's industrial hub includes sectors like petrochemicals, metals, food processing, and automotive manufacturing.
- **Logistics and Transportation:** The region is a logistics and transportation hub with opportunities in warehousing, distribution, and supply chain management.
- **Renewable Energy:** Oman is actively pursuing renewable energy projects, making it an attractive destination for companies involved in renewable energy development.
- **Tourism and Hospitality:** The country's tourism sector is on the rise, presenting opportunities in hotels, resorts, and related services.

Stable Political and Economic Environment

Oman is renowned for its political stability and prudent economic policies. The government's commitment to diversifying the economy away from oil dependency has resulted in a stable economic environment with consistent growth. Oman's focus on economic diversification aligns with the interests of foreign investors looking for sustainable, long-term opportunities.

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Sultanate of Oman سلطنة عُمان
وزارة التجارة والصناعة وترويج الاستثمار
Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion

استثمر في عُمان
Invest OMAN

نزدهر
NAZDAHER
البرنامج الوطني للاستثمار وتنمية الصادرات
Oman National Program for Investment & Export Development

الهيئة العامة للمناطق الاقتصادية الخاصة والمناطق الحرة
Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones
Sultanate of Oman سلطنة عمان

مدائن
madayn

SOHAR
PORT / FREEZONE

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Key Investments in Suhar



Investments in the Wilayat have predominantly revolved around its transformation into an industrial city. Notable among these investments in Suhar are:

Public/Private Partnerships:

- Sohar Port and Freezone (Ports & Logistics)
- Sohar Aluminium (Manufacturing)
- OQ Refinery (Petrochemicals)
- Liwa Plastics Industries Complex (Petrochemicals)

Private Sector Investments:

- Jindal Shadeed Iron & Steel (Manufacturing) Taghleef Industries (Petrochemicals)
- L&T Modular Fabrication Yard (Heavy Engineering)
- Al Tamman Indsil Ferrochrome (Manufacturing)
- Oman Methanol Company (Petrochemicals)
- Majan Glass Company (Manufacturing)
- Sohar Steel (Manufacturing)
- Oman Formaldehyde Chemical Company (Petrochemicals)
- Sohar Galvanizing & Steel Industries (Manufacturing)
- Sohar University (Education)

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Suhar Investment Forum Overview



The Suhar Investment Forum 2024, hosted by the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) – North Al Batinah, is poised to become a pivotal event aimed at ushering in a new era of investment opportunities and economic growth in the Governorate of North Al Batinah. Over the course of two dynamic days, this forum will serve as a beacon for both local and international investors, offering a plethora of investment prospects and fostering collaboration through informative workshops, engaging forums, and captivating exhibitions.

Unveiling Prosperity: The primary objective of the Forum is to showcase the abundant investment opportunities within the Governorate. By doing so, we aspire to catalyze the growth of investment projects across various sectors, including business, industry, tourism, and logistics services. These opportunities are not only lucrative but also integral to achieving sustainable economic development in the region.

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A Regional Hub: North Al Batinah Governorate, with Suhar at its heart, aspires to become a regional logistic and business hub in the Middle East. This ambitious vision aims to leverage the strategic location of Suhar and the vast economic potential it offers. Through the Suhar Investment Forum, we aim to attract both local and foreign investments that will drive innovative development in the Governorate and bolster its position on the global economic stage.



Gateway to Success : The OCCI Branch in North Al Batinah Governorate plays a pivotal role in promoting investment opportunities to both local and foreign investors. The Forum will unveil a plethora of investment prospects within Sohar Port, Free Zone, Suhar Industrial Area, as well as opportunities in tourism and commercial centers. These projects will not only stimulate economic growth but also create jobs, enhance development, and address key challenges facing the investment landscape.

Regulating Growth: The Suhar Investment Forum will provide valuable insights into the laws and regulations governing investment in North Al Batinah Governorate, ensuring that investors have a clear roadmap for their ventures. It will foster collaboration between the public and private sectors, fostering a conducive business environment and creating employment opportunities for job seekers.

600+ Delegates

40+ Speakers

30+ Knowledge Sessions

20+ Exhibitors

100+ Participating Companies

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The 2-Day Power Packed Event Includes:

The Forum

Exchange of information, knowledge, views and investment opportunities

B2B Meetings

Exclusive designated private meeting rooms for the VIP delegates

Investor Exhibitor Slot

Companies from public and private sector showcasing the investment gateways and opportunities for investors

Suhar Investment Forum felicitation

Honouring the most successful FDI initiatives in different sectors in a gala evening ceremony

Site Visits

The Site Visits activity provides attendees with a unique opportunity to explore carefully selected locations and projects that are at the forefront of shaping the business landscape in Suhar.

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Event Highlights



Keynote addresses by global experts
Speeches by top policymakers on Oman's open regulatory landscape
Focused presentations on US$10 billion plus investment opportunities in Suhar and their benefits
Interactive panel discussions with industry experts
Participation of 600+ delegates from Oman, the region, and international markets
Congregation of 200+ global investors including HNIs and institutions
Unique platform for never before networking between investors, project owners and regulators
High decibel media coverage local, regional and international media
Felicitation of successful FDIs in Suhar
Exhibition of major investment projects in Suhar
Extensive exposure in international & regional media – digital, print, TV & radio

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Agenda Day 1

Main Hall

08.30 – 10.30:

Session 1: Focus on Suhar as an Investment destination and ease of doing business.

Delve into the vibrant potential of Suhar as an investment destination. This segment will highlight the strategic advantages and opportunities that Suhar offers to investors and discover how Suhar's favorable business environment, coupled with its commitment to innovation and sustainability, makes it a prime choice for investment.

- Welcome speech
- Keynote speeches by leading government officials
- Signing ceremony on major Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) on investments in Suhar.

- Exhibition Opening

10.30 – 11.00:

Networking Break

11.00 – 14.00:

Session 2: Special focus on incentives, opportunities and the promise of Suhar as an investment destination

Unravel a world of incentives, opportunities, and endless possibilities for investors, and discover the wealth of benefits that await those who choose to invest in Suhar, from strategic advantages to thriving sectors ready for growth.

- Presentation on key investment opportunities that signify a remarkable showcase of diverse and enticing prospects for investors looking to engage with the city of Suhar.

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- Presentations by senior officials of key investment promotion bodies, relevant ministries and major investors in Suhar.
- Panel Discussion on 'Incentives, opportunities and the promise of Suhar as an investment destination'

Learn how Suhar offers a compelling trifecta of incentives, abundant investment opportunities, and a promising future as an investment destination. With tax benefits, strategic location, and robust infrastructure, the city beckons investors to participate in its economic growth story, making it a beacon of opportunity in the region.

14.00:
Lunch

15.00 – 17.00:
Tour of Sohar Port & Freezone and Industrial Estate
A journey through the heart of Suhar will explore the dynamic synergy of industry, innovation, and natural beauty on the bespoke tour. This curated experience promises to be a captivating blend of tradition and modernity, showcasing the key features and highlights of Suhar's thriving landscape and the supporting Port and Freezone.

Parallel Track (Large Meeting Room) – B2B Meetings with Teams of:

10.00am - 11.00am: Government foreign investment promotion bodies
11.00am - 12.00pm: Sohar Port and Freezone
12.00pm - 1.00pm: Tourism & Real Estate
10.00am - 1.00pm: Project financing

19.00 – 21.00
Evening Gala Dinner - Main Hall (By Invitation)

- Welcome address
- Felicitation of key investors and event partners
- Dinner

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Agenda Day 2

Main Hall

8.30 – 11.20:

Session 1: Investment opportunities in Energy & Minerals

Investment opportunities in Suhar's energy and minerals sector are aplenty for exploration. The region is a hub for diverse mineral resources like limestone and gypsum, and is also a hotspot for renewable energy projects, including solar, wind power, and now green hydrogen and its derivatives

- Presentations by senior government officials and major investors in energy and minerals sector
- Panel discussion on Investment opportunities in Energy & Minerals

Session 2: Logistics & Supply Chain – Growth and Investment Opportunities

Suhar's logistics and supply chain sector is experiencing rapid growth, presenting lucrative investment opportunities owed largely to its strategic location, state-of-the-art port, and freezone facilities. The session will focus on how investors can tap into this dynamic sector, poised for continued expansion and innovation

- Presentations by senior government officials and major investors in logistics & supply chain

11.20:

Networking & Coffee Break

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11.40 – 13.30

Session 3: Suhar – A gateway to new opportunities in diversified sectors

A session highlighting how Suhar is a gateway to new opportunities across diversified sectors. Its strategic location, robust infrastructure, and business-friendly environment make it an ideal destination for investors in tourism, food processing, .

- Presentations by senior government officials and major investors in tourism, food processing, transport, IT and energy.
- Panel discussion on Suhar – The gateway to new opportunities in diversified sectors

1.30pm:

Lunch

Parallel Track (Large Meeting Room) – B2B Meetings with Teams of:

10.00am -11.30am: Oil & gas, petrochemicals, power, renewable energy & minerals
11.30am - 1.00pm: Manufacturing, industrial estates and major investors
10.00am -1.00pm: Project Financing

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Focus Areas

- Changing global economic landscape
- Oman Vision 2040
- New foreign investment laws
- New single channel FDI fastrack processing
- Free zones
  - Industrial cities



Sectors

- Manufacturing
- Petrochemicals
- Logistics
- Tourism
- Agriculture
- Fisheries
- Mining
- Energy
- Food processing
- Technology
- E-Commerce
- Healthcare
- Education
- Retail
- Real Estate
- Low carbon economy

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Why Attend?

- Gain knowledge on the new, more open & friendly foreign investment laws in Oman
- Direct face-to-face interaction with decision makers for fastrack FDI processing
- Explore a wide variety of tangible over $10 billion investment opportunities in over 15 industries across Oman
- Networking opportunities with top officials, business owners, joint venture partners and global investors (institutional & HNIs)
- Showcase your vision, services, products & infrastructure to the leaders from all over the world

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Who Will Attend?

- Omani ministers & undersecretaries
- Top business owners in Oman
- C-Level executives of Oman's public & private sectors
- Heads of special economic zones, freezones and industrial cities in Oman
- Heads of regional & international chambers of commerce & industry
- Heads of regional & international sovereign funds
- Heads of regional & international public & private investment funds
- Top leaders from business consulting firms
- Top regional & global business owners
- C-level executives from regional & global firms
- Top officials of current institutional investors in Oman
- Ambassadors, Consul Generals & Commercial Attaches – Embassies & Consulate Generals
- Heads of foreign trade missions & bodies
- Heads of bilateral friendship clubs

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