

OMAN AIR  الطيران العماني







# WINGS OF OMAN

**25**  
YEARS

Milan in summer!

Oman Air marks its 25th anniversary!  
#25YearsofOmanAir

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# Treasures from the National Museum: On the maritime routes of ancestors

Here, the National Museum's Director General, Jamal al-Moosawi, and the Head of Curatorial Unit, Moza al-Wardi, take us on the maritime routes of Oman's legendary seafaring ancestors – on board the ship *Sohar*. (With photography by Saleh al-Ruzaqi/The National Museum).

The sewn-plank ship *Sohar* was built in Sur and named after the historic Omani seaport. In 1400–01 AH/1980–81CE, she sailed from Oman to China, retracing the routes of early Islamic seafarers who had established what was at the time the longest sea-trading route in the world (9,600 km). *Sohar* demonstrated that a sewn boat could sail all the way to China. The original ship now stands on the roundabout near the al-Bustan Palace Hotel.

Ashraf bin Khalid al-Hamadani was the main model-maker for this replica of the historic ship *Sohar*. Similar to a previous model he made for the *Jewel of Muscat* project, the *Sohar* model has planks stitched together and frames lashed to the planks. Ashraf noted that he particularly enjoyed the challenge of measuring the full-size ship and calculating the correct scale of its components, as the *Sohar* represents such an important part of Oman's recent past.

#### The National Museum: Visitor Information

**Telephone:** (+968) 22081500

**Facebook:** NationalMuseumOman

**Twitter:** NM\_OMAN

**Instagram:** NM\_OMAN

**E-mail:** booking@nm.gov.om

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The National Museum is open daily from 10:00am – 5:00pm (except on Fridays 2:00pm – 6:00pm). The ticket desk closes half an hour before the Museum's closing times.



#### Model of *Sohar*

**Materials:** Cherry wood

**Length:** 2.3 metres (Scale 1:15)

**Date:** 1433 AH/2012 CE