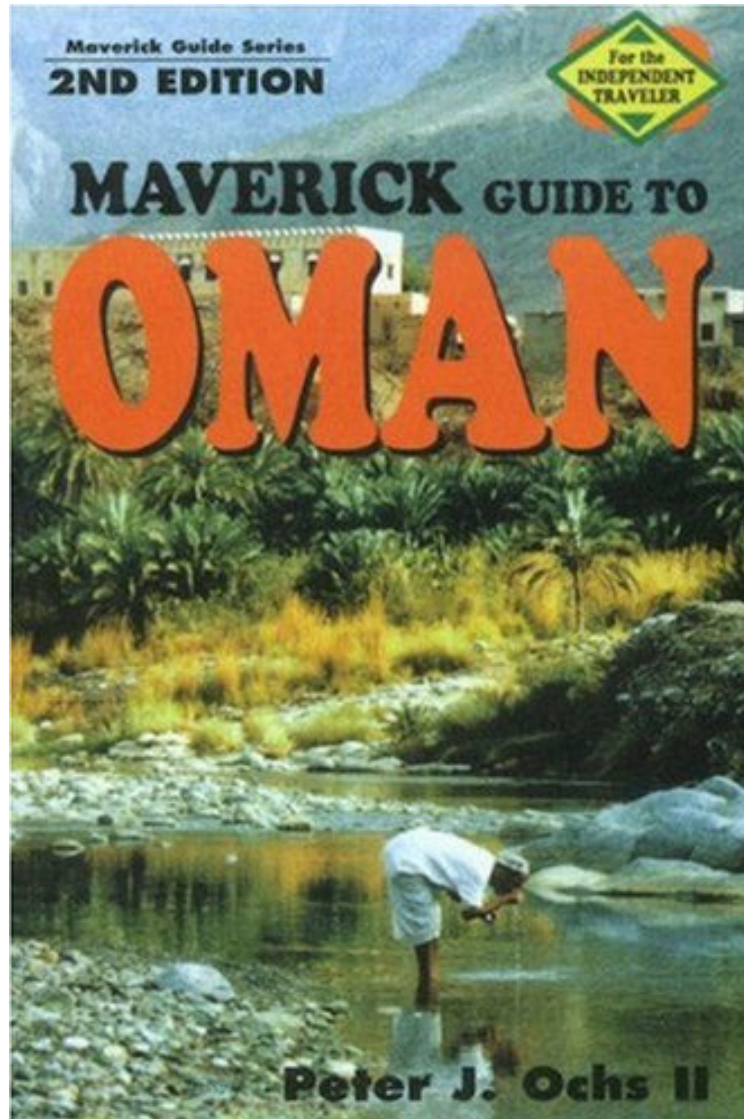


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Maverick Guide to Oman (Maverick Guide Series)

Peter Ochs II

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Peter Ochs II : Maverick Guide to Oman (Maverick Guide Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Maverick Guide to Oman (Maverick Guide Series):

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Ritz1 Great product, price, and service. Thanks. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Mavericks PAST TENSE - the roads are all paved now By Jules of Sohar Well, up until 2001 this book was relevant. Since then and especially since 2004, most of the roadsthis book calls 'off-road' are now all paved. It is completely out of date. The only think the government in Oman hasn't pavedare the

DUNES. Here are some facts, just a few of the many that have changed: Sorry, even the big Jebels (Mountains) are paved now. I drove up then when they were all loose falling rock and narrow as heck. Now, safe as daylight. As well the road from Sohar to Ibri is almost all paved !!! Masirah Island is all paved now! Incredibly fast, and a new 5 star hotel is to open shortly. The highway along the coast from Muscat to Sur is 80 percent done ! The road to Wadi Bani Khalid, paved years ago. They are also building a new airport in Sohar. And a connecting highway down the coast road from the UAE into SOHAR. The UAE government has already bought out hundreds of fishermen's homes.

UUHHH..horrible right. Fisherman now live in the mountains. This place is less and less about culture and more and more about the largest hotels and capitalism in fast action. Sorry, I have met the author in the desert once, nice guy, if not totally enamoured with his own wonderful self and travels. And profiting by bringing American military types to 'Oman' on sort of tourist holiday package. And yanks who are surprised not to see all the locals holding AK-47s....mmmmm well maybe they should READ some books before they join that tour. Peter is a great story teller, and I suggest that he put his stories in book form, as they are quite nice to hear. Perhaps bedtime stories for children about Sultans, Walis, and American fathers who travel and struggle with parent hood while adventuring. haha..you might as well bring them to DISNEY LAND. This is not Oman of the 1970's. This is a glossy new mercedes and safer than a gated community. I don't recommend spending money on this book new, buy it used if you must, but new, why it is out of date with facts and figures. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Review published in 'Adventure Oman' Magazine Summer 1999 By Jill Stockbridge, Editor 'Adventure Oman' This is a fairly hefty tome, written by local tour company manager Peter J Ochs II, and published by Louisiana-based company Pelican. With only eight colour pages in a dollop near the front, the book at first looks a little dull and inaccessible, but persevere. Ochs' turn of phrase is wry and easy to read and the pages are packed with information. The frequent detailed maps that accompany the descriptions are very useful, although as with everything printed in a rapidly changing country, dating quickly. (This will be updated in the second edition, not yet available directly in Oman). The numerous hikes, drives and trips that are outlined are excellent. However, the reason to buy this book is not for Ochs' encyclopedic knowledge of the country, its people and its history, but for the throwaway lines and personal experiences that are scattered throughout the text. A good sprinkling of spice in a dish that has been served many times.

With the endorsement and assistance of the Omani government, the only guide to Oman has been thoroughly updated for the second edition. For naturalists, the rock formations, minerals, and fossils of Oman are textbook-quality, and the variety of flora and fauna is awe-inspiring. For adventurers, there is wadi bashing, hiking, camping, and rock climbing. The landscape ranges from desert to oasis to mountain to coast, and the Omani people are among the most hospitable in the world. This guide utilizes the familiar Maverick format to communicate everything a first-time traveler needs to know. The author lives in Oman and has made many of the treks he writes about. He gives insight into the customs, history, and culture of the country, as well as how to get along with the Omanis in the best possible fashion. Advice is given on everything from asking permission to take pictures, to what type of vehicle to drive in certain areas, to which forts are open to the public, to what kinds of clothes to wear.

From the Back Cover With the endorsement and assistance of the Omani government, the only guide to Oman has been thoroughly updated for the second edition. The Sultanate of Oman has always been a trading, seafaring nation. Its ships ranged far in earlier days, and the Sultanate even had enclaves from Pakistan to Zanzibar. Recently, the economy has relied on oil revenues. However, with limited oil reserves, the enlightened leadership has chosen to promote tourism, a natural for a beautiful nation with amiable and hospitable citizens. The Omani people welcome tourists with open arms, and, for tourists, Oman is a veritable treasure-trove of discoveries and new experiences. Remnants of civilizations that date to the beginning of recorded history will delight amateur archeologists. Christians will discover why frankincense was one of the gifts of the Magi and how it came, in all probability, from Oman. Naturalists will find textbook-quality examples of rock formations, minerals, and fossils, while animal lovers can see marine turtles nesting in their natural habitat and protected by law and custom. Helpful detailed maps complement the guide's directions, practical travel advice, and everything else a visitor would need to know in order to visit the region. Numerous hikes are profiled, as are the many fortresses that dot the landscape. Also included in this guide is the most current information on- Sightseeing- Guided Tours- Wildlife- Shopping- Transportation- Accommodations- Dining- Entertainment Peter J. Ochs II first went to Oman in 1991 to work for the Ministry of Water Resources as head of the Reports Section of the Information Center. During that time, he traveled throughout Oman and recorded his experiences in photographs, illustrations, and written articles. An accomplished artist, Ochs has displayed his work on Oman both in New England and in Oman itself. He still lives in Oman, where he works promoting international tourism through a line of adventure tours he has developed. The Maverick Guide to Oman is his first book. Cover Photo: Pausing for a refreshing drink from Wadi Daiqah, near Mazara. (Photo by Peter J. Ochs II) About the Author Peter J. Ochs II currently lives in Oman, where he works at MARK Tours. The Maverick Guide to Oman is his first book.