

#### Al Bashair Investments Co. LLC (ABIC)

ABIC is 100% Government Company. We are a proud subsidiary of the Public Authority of Investment Promotion and Export development (PAIPED). We work in partnership with government bodies & agencies and private entities to realize His Majesty Sultan Qaboos' Vision 2020 towards sustainable development mainly to encourage, promote and facilitate investments in all sectors of the economy.

We are the one-stop shop that facilitates and supports Foreign Direct Investors (FDIs) in all sectors as they seek more value-creating operations, higher sustainable returns and new business opportunities.

Also, we assist Omani producers and manufacturers in exporting their products and services to the world. We provide facilities to the investors and organize the activities of economic work and contribute to have a more efficient operation.





# Our Vision

To assist in the development of the Omani economy and society by inviting foreign investment that would further enrich the lives of people in Oman .

### Our Mission

- 1. Promote Oman as an attractive investment destination.
- 2. Facilitate Foreign Direct Investments in all sectors of the economy.
- 3. Provide all the services and support that the Foreign Direct Investors may require through the One Stop Shop Concept.
- 4. Spreading the made in Oman products throughout the world.
- 5. Help local manufacturers improve their production, and find export opportunities for them.
- 6. Work with all our partners as administrative and business consultants.

# WHY INVEST IN OMAN

- Politically stable and secure national context.
- Excellent relationship with all neighboring countries and the international community.
- Strategic location on international maritime routes outside the straight of Hormuz. Providing Fast and easy access to emerging markets in the Middle East, Asia and Africa.
- Proximity to the giant Asian markets and oil-rich Arabian Gulf countries.
- Availability of natural resoures: such as Limestone silica, basalt, and gas as feedstock.
- Unpolluted environment, pristine beaches and abundant fish stock.
- Preferential access under GCC, GAFTA, US FTA, and Membership in World Trade Organization (WTO).
- Availability of land and offices at very competitive rates.
- Highly developed infrastructure and communication.
- Trained and multilingual manpower of various cultures.
- Availability of excellent corporate support and local partnerships.
- Availability of several Free Zones with special incentives.
- International ports (Port Sultan Qaboos tourist port, Salalah Port is one of the largest transshipment ports in the Middle East, Sohar Port, and Port of Duqm.
- International airport with daily direct flights to the Middle East, Indian subcontinent, Europe, Far east, Africa and USA.
- Wide choices for housing.
- Professional and multi-lingual schools, Universities, and colleges.
- Excellent health care.
- Wide options for shopping.
- World standard sports and recreational facilities.
- Very Rich in terms of history, culture and heritage.
- Wide choices for indoor and outdoor entertainment.

# Incentives for foreign investors

|   | Incentives  |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
| Industry Sector   | Income Tax  | Customs Duty   | General   |
| Industry and mining<br>Export of locally<br>/ manufactured<br>processed products<br>Tourism promotionoperation of hotels and  | <ul> <li>5 year tax holiday<br/>(renewable)</li> <li>Tax losses icurred<br/>during tax holiday<br/>may be claimed<br/>against future<br/>profits (no time bar)</li> <li>No personal income<br/>tax</li> </ul> | • Exemptions on<br>import of plant,<br>machinery & raw<br>material for 5 years<br>from commence<br>ment of production<br>(renewable once)  | Repatriation of<br>capital & profits<br>of the project<br>permissible   |
| tourism promotionoperation of noters and<br>tourist villages (excluding<br>management contracts)<br>Production & processing<br>of farm products- poultry<br>farming, processing/<br>manufacturing animal<br>products and agro<br>industries |   |  | <ul> <li>The businesses may<br/>not be confiscated/<br/>expropriated<br/>unless in the<br/>public interest<br/>with equitable<br/>compensation</li> <li>No import<br/>registration (upon<br/>approval of relevant<br/>authority) - import<br/>of production<br/>accessories,<br/>material, machinery,<br/>spare parts and<br/>appropriate means<br/>of transport</li> </ul> |
| Fishing, fish processing<br>& fish farming<br>Public utility projects<br>(excluding management<br>contracts & project<br>execution contracts)   |   |  |   |
| Universities, higher<br>education institutes,<br>schools, kindergartens<br>and training colleges  |   |  |   |
| Hospitals and medical education institutes  |   |  |   |
| Expansion (increase in capital-increased fixed assets for: increased production capacity, new products,<br>new services/ activities) of the above businesses are also entitled to the above concessions                                     |   |  |   |
| Industrial installations  | <ul> <li>5 year tax holiday<br/>(renewable)</li> <li>No personal income<br/>tax</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Exemptions on import of:</li> <li>Machinery &amp; spare parts for commencement, expansion, modernisation or replacement;</li> <li>Raw material &amp; partially processed goods (for 5 years, extendable)</li> </ul> |   |

# Why Invest Through AlBashair Investments

- Peace of Mind: Partnering with a government company gives investors peace of mind in knowing that they are in good hands.
- Easing the process: We have created the One Stop Shop Concept that takes care of all government registration process, and provide all the services they may need in all sectors. More details of the one stop shop concept in page 7.
- Funding & Financing: We can arrange for funding of projects through our contacts with local and international fund, financing, Banks, and through potential local partners.
- Export Advantage: We can arrange to open doors for export through our representative offices and Oman embassies around the world.

"We are not aiming to make money from the investors, what we are really looking for are: the products, knowledge, know how, experience, and skills that the investors can bring to Oman to fulfill our vision"

# Our Services

The Sultanate of Oman encourages foreign investment that will enhance the overall development of the country. The ultimate goal is to supplement local investment in utilizing its untapped resources to facilitate transfer of technology & know-how, by benefiting from worldwide connections in opening new markets in Oman and opena window for Omani products to the world.

To facilitate this direction our rules are:

- Promote investment opportunities in Oman to Foreign Direct Investor to attract them to come to Oman.
- Participate in exhibitions and conferences around the world to promote Oman as an atractive investment destination.
- Invite foreign investors to Oman to visit the market and arrange meetings with different stake holders.
- Facilitate all governmental process and approvals to enable foreign investors to start investments at ease by maintaining a liaison between the.

investors and ministries, government departments and agencies, institutional lenders and other authorities concerned with investments.

- Provide foreign investors with all the services they may need under the one stop shop concept.
- Maintain agood relationship with all the Funds available in Oman, Banks,and all potential local partners to potentialy fund and finance the we attract.
- Join the investors as partners in their investment through continuous administrative and consultancy support.
- Provide and disseminate up-to-date information on incentives available to investors Free Zones and Ports incentives.
- Provide information, credit checks, and du diligence of local companies and firms.
- Invest directly to venture capitals and small & medium projects to support local SMEs.

# One Stop Shop Concept

We have gone through the exercise of collecting information from different investors to find out what are the services they require to start up their ventures be it in Oman or anywhere else. Accordingly, we have divided the services into sectors and then found the top three companies in each sector, then we have selected the one which provids better services and added value to the investors as follows:



### Finance Consultancy

#### Grant Thornton

#### Services offered:

- Pre-investment
- Establishment
- Pre-operation
- Operation



### An instinct for growth<sup>™</sup>

# Bank

### Sohar Bank

- Treasure Product&Services
- Trade Finance Services
- Corporate Credit Card Services
- Retail Banking Services&Products
- Investment Banking & Islamic Banking Services
- Dedicated Service unit
- Call Account
- Fixed Deposit
- Corporate Credit Card
- Corporate Internet Banking
- Branch Network
- Payroll Services
- Foreign Exchange



# Real Estate

# IG Real Estate

#### Services offered:

- Commercial & Residential Leasing
- Land and Property Sales
- Property Management
- Operation



### Interior Decoration

# ID works

- Office Planning
- Fit-Out
- Furniture
- Operation



# Marketing

# Spotlight Media

#### Services offered:

- Media & Advertising
- Event & Entertainment
- Website Solutions
- Printing & Distribution
- Gift items
- Community Relations
- Ads & Graphic Design



# HR

# Ajyal

- Developing Policies & Procedures
- Sourcing Talent Locally & Internationally
- Training & Development
- Assessment & Development Centres
- Performance Management
- Compensation and Benefits
- Job Description and Job Evaluation
- Coaching, Business Facilitation and Key Note Speakers
- Corporate Organizational Development
- e-Learning



#### Insurance

# Gargash & trade links

- personal insurance
- commercial insurance
- special risk insurances





# Hotel

Grand Hyatt Al Bustan Shangri la Intercontinental Park Inn Radisson Blu Tulip Inn









Radisson





### General Information about Oman



#### Overview

Travel to a place so beautiful and majestic that it could captivate your greatest imagination.

Discover the breathtaking natural beauty of Oman along with its fascinating culture and warm-friendly people.Explore miles of undisturbed coastline.

The shimmering emerald ocean holds a wealth of marine life and extraordinary treasures of the reefs. Climb the highest peak and experience the thrill of conquering its incredible heights.

### People

Omanis are regarded as gentle, peace-loving and warm people. They have impressed visitors with their charm, mild manners and their English communication skills. Men wear the traditional dishdasha, which is an ankle-length, collarless gown with long sleeves and a tassel (furakha) sewn at the neckline that distinguishes Omani from other Arab residents. Their head dress is the musar and on official occasions they wear the khanjar, a symbol of male elegance, around their waist.



Omani women's dress, richly coloured and worn with gold or silver jewelry, also varies in style from region to region. The main components of a woman's outfit comprise of a dress which is worn over trousers (sirwal) and the headdress, called the lihaf. Many women in Oman paint their hands and feet with henna, particularly before special occasions such as Eid holidays or weddings.

# Geography

The third largest country in the Arabian Peninsula, the Sultanate of Oman covers 309,500 km and has a coastline of 1,700 km.

It is bounded by the Republic of Yemen on the southwest, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on the west and the United Arab Emirates on the north and the Arabian Sea on the east. Oman is one of the most diverse countries of the Peninsula.



Oman's coastline borders the Sea of Oman and the Arabian Sea. The strategically important Strait of Hormuz is the only stretch of water between the Arabian Gulf and the Indian Ocean and is, therefore, a vital route for the transportation of crude oil, gas and cargo.

Oman enjoys a unique and strategic location on international maritime routes outside the straight of Hormuz. Providing fast and easy access to emerging markets in the Middle East, Asia, Africa, even Europe through Yemen and the Suez Canal. This explains why Oman was used as a hub during The days Of The Silk Route.

# Climate

Climate in Oman is diverse varies and from region to region.

Temperatures differnt between humid coastal areas and the hot dry desert interior especially during different seasons from summer to winter. During summer season, temperatures can soar to 50 degree Celsius in the northern region, making Dhofar province, in the southern part, a perfect place to stay with 18 - 23 degree Celsius when the monsoon season falls between June to September. Most visitors prefer to visit the country during the winter or cold season that comes from the middle of October through the end of March with temperatures of 14 - 24 degree Celsius.

### Religion

Islam is the religion of the Omanis. This is evident with the great number of masjids (mosques) in varied elegance installed throughout the country. Omans religious tolerance allows other religions to be practiced in churches and temples.

# Currency

The national currency in Oman is called Omani Rial. The Omani currency has a fixed exchange rate with the US Dollar. OMR 1 = USD 2.60.

# The Economy

Since the accession of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said to the throne in 1970.Oman has experienced adramatic strength in it's economy.

It has established strong diplomatic relations with Arab and othercountries and become prosperous and stable. With the discovery of oil reserves, major developments have been attained including modern infrastructure of buildings, ports and airports, multi-lane roads, prestigious schools and universities and advanced healthcare services.

### Infrastructure

Oman is a very well established country in terms of infrastructure. Oman is fully connected with a road network that is built according to the highest international standards. There are four major seaports (Sultan Qaboos in Muscat, Sohar, Salalah, and Duqm) that connect Oman to the rest Of the world with direct international lines; and there are plans to build more seaports. There are two international airports in Muscat and Salalah which are currently being upgraded, also the government is building three new airports in Sohar, Sur, and Duqm. The railway project will connect the whole country, and also connect Oman to the rest of the Arabian Gulf Countries.

# Start Up Procedures for Foreign Direct Investments

- Minimum capital to start a Foreign Investment in Oman is OMR 150,000 (USD \$ 390,000).
- Maximum foregone ownership share in Oman is 70%, they must have a local Omani partner with a minimum share of 30%.
- In the Free Zone the Foreign ownership can go up to 100%.
- The Foreign investor enjoys Tax Free for 5 years, and can be renewed for another 5 years (This is for non-trading companies only).
- The Foreign investor enjoys Free custom duty for 5 years for importing machinery and raw materials (This is for non-trading companies only).
- Special utility rates offered at the industrial Estates and free Zones.

### Documents and Requirements from

### Foreign Partners

Partners who are Non-residents in Oman:

- No criminal record certificate issued by the relevant authority in their country proving not to have been involved in any crime or felony.
- Natural individual must provide proof of ownership of any institution or company in their country certified by the competent authorities. They must submit a copy of the final accounts of the institution or company for the minimum past three years of the registration of the institution or company's head office.
- Legal persons shall submit commercial registration papers (certified) with acopy of the final accounts for the minimum past three years of the registration of the institution or company's head office.

#### Partners who are Residing in Oman:

- Provide written consent from their sponsors on their income as founders of the company.
- Provide proof of the source of funds invested through the provision of bank statements or evidence of any money or shares they own in companies inside or outside Oman.

Procedures for registration request:

- Fill a registration form of a new company, which is obtained from the onestop portal at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Check the web sites)
- To register a company under-formation, attach a bank certificate issued by an approved bank in Oman (approved format); attached with the security approval of the foreign partner.
- Attach all of the above documents for Omani partner and foreign partner.
- Submission of applications to the competent employee in the Investor Services Department to be studied initially.
- Applications will be forwarded later to be studied legally and financially.
- If approved, the registry will notify the company accordingly.
- Partners must identify the means of communication in the application form such as a mobile phone number or e-mail, through which they will be contacted

### References

For further details please visit any of the following websites:

- www.albashair.om
- www.ociped.com
- www.mocioman.gov.om
- www.peie.om
- www.salalahport.com
- www.portofsohar.com
- www.freezonesohar.com
- www.duqm.gov.om
- www.portduqm.com



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