

NEW FOR 2016!



DUBAI & THE ARABIAN PENINSULA

DAYS OF DESERT DELIGHTS, AMAZING ARABIAN NIGHTS Cities by the sea glitter in gold. Mosques are magnificent, palaces more palatial and museums are rife with antiquities, priceless and rare. You'll find history here, both ancient and modern, as you witness a land shifting shapes along with the sands of time. Buildings soar to new heights, then get taller still. Islands rise up with new developments and souks stand witness to cultural traditions and lifestyles revered for centuries. Experience them from waterfront hotels, by dhow, 4 x 4 vehicle, seaplane, at a desert retreat, in a falcon hospital...

1. ARRIVE DOHA

Tour begins: 7:30 PM at the Sharq Village & Spa. A transfer is included from Doha's Hamad Int'l Airport to the beachfront Sharq Village & Spa, operated by The Ritz Carlton, on the Arabian Riviera, for a two-night stay. Your waterfront resort resembles a sheikh's palace, designed around cooling pools, fountains, lush gardens and intimate courtyards. Join us for a welcome dinner tonight. **Meals D**

2. CULTURAL DISCOVERIES, ART & SOUKS

Learn about the history of Qatar and its aspirations for the future, followed by lunch at an award-winning restaurant overlooking the Doha Bay. At the Museum of Islamic Art of Doha, designed by I.M. Pei, see myriad artifacts from the 7th to 19th centuries, and stroll through the labyrinthine maze of shops at Souk Waqif this evening, dazzling with treasures, trinkets and cafés, dining as you please. **Meals BL**



Traveling Well Includes...

- Multiple-night stays in premier hotels in Doha, Muscat, Abu Dhabi and Dubai
- A private dhow boat cruise and guided visit to the Museum of Islamic Art of Doha
- Cultural exchange & exploration of the Textile Souk, Spice Souk and Gold Souk in Old Dubai
- Breaking bread at a private dinner at an Omani house
- 4 x 4 off-road adventure in Dubai with a falcon demonstration and dinner at a desert retreat
- Architectural insights by an architect in Abu Dhabi & Dubai; visit to a falcon hospital
- A seaplane tour of the Dubai skyline and Palm and World islands
- 26 meals, airport transfers as noted, service charges, taxes, gratuities to local guides & portage

3. EDUCATION IN OMAN & FLY TO MUSCAT

Board a private dhow boat this morning for a cruise of the bay, enjoying lunch onboard and an Arabic language lesson for an opportunity to master some handy phrases for use in the days ahead. Fly this afternoon to the seaside city of Muscat for four nights at an elite kasbah-style resort. **Meals BLD**

4. MODERN ARCHITECTURAL MARVELS

Start your day with a guided tour of the Royal Opera House of Muscat, Oman's premier venue for musical arts and culture, and the modern Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, gifted to Oman from the Sultan himself. The mosque, built to accommodate up to 20,000 worshippers, blends Islamic, Middle Eastern and Omani architectural styles and showcases one of the world's largest handmade Persian rugs, with 1.7 billion knots, and one of the world's largest crystal chandeliers. After lunch at a local restaurant, spend free time as you wish. Join us tonight for a private, Tauck Exclusive dinner in an Omani home, enticing with freshly baked bread crafted before your eyes. **Meals BLD**

5. CULTURAL TREASURES IN MUSCAT

A city tour this morning takes you up to an overlook at Al Alam Palace for breathtaking scenic views, down to the picturesque waterfront corniche and inside the Bait Al Zubair Museum, once a private home. See its collection of exhibits that chronicle Oman's cultural heritage before enjoying the remainder of the day to experience the city as you wish. You have a choice of dining venues for dinner. **Meals BD**

6. OFF-ROAD MOUNTAIN ADVENTURES

Venture into the countryside for a drive in a 4 X 4 vehicle as we head into the mountains. Visit a goat and cattle market and stop at the 12th-century Round Tower Fort in Nizwa, a UNESCO World Heritage Site harboring secrets and claiming a legacy of warfaring innovation. Meander through mountain switchbacks and villages along a wadi (valley) as you explore the landscapes of the Arabian Peninsula en route back to your hotel. **Meals BL**

7. FUTURISTIC SIGHTS IN ABU DHABI

An early morning flight speeds you to the future in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates. While culturally traditional, this wealthy city is in the midst of a building boom that is poised to position it as a leading metropolis. Touch down for lunch at a local restaurant and a tour of the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque. Redefining grandeur for up to 40,000 worshippers, inside you'll find seven chandeliers bedecked with millions of Swarovski crystals – the center chandelier is said to be the third largest in the world – and an immensely beautiful Persian rug measuring some 60,570 square feet with 2.27 billion knots, unrivalled anywhere else. Then it's on to your luxury beachfront hotel, overlooking the Grand Canal, for dinner at leisure and a two-night stay. **Meals BLD**

8. SOARING SIGHTS OF ABU DHABI

The sky's the limit in Abu Dhabi where everything, it seems, soars to new heights. Falconry is a centuries-old tradition in the Arabian Gulf and an integral part of its cultural heritage. These noble birds were historically used for hunting; today they are





Ride aboard a 4 x 4 vehicle for a drive out to our desert safari

part of a popular sport. Learn more about their revered status on a tour of the Abu Dhabi Falcon Hospital, the most advanced of its kind in the world, before visiting the future at Masdar City. A zero-carbon village, Masdar City is making huge strides in renewable energy and urban planning. Ride aboard a lithium battery car that flows on magnetic tracks to the center of the city for a walking tour. Enjoy an ocean-fresh lunch in the middle



Visit the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi (left) on a guided tour and go inside the 12th-century Round Tower Fort in Nizwa, a UNESCO World Heritage Site

of a fish market, bustling with a real-time glimpse of daily life. The remainder of the day is free for you to explore as you wish. Dine as you choose this evening. **Meals BL**

9. ARCHITECTURAL INSIGHTS IN THE U.A.E.

Meet and travel with a local architect today as he shares firsthand insights of the building boom taking place in the United Arab Emirate cities of Abu Dhabi and Dubai. He will explain the cities' transition from village to metropolis as we drive to "New Dubai" for an architectural tour of Jumeirah and man-made Palm Island, entirely reclaimed from the Persian Gulf and shaped like a palm tree. Check into your hotel before our guided sightseeing continues in downtown Dubai. Dubai is the busiest of the seven emirates and construction of new buildings is virtually non-stop. Ascend to the observation deck on the 124th floor of 160-floor Burj Khalifa, currently the tallest building in the world, for amazing views of the city, the sea – and the sunset. Spend free time exploring the sights and shops in the Dubai Mall and enjoy dinner this evening as you wish. **Meals BL**

10. OLD DUBAI & A ROYAL DESERT RETREAT

As much as you have witnessed the modern-day building that is going on all around you in Dubai, vestiges of "Old Dubai" still remain. Take a virtual journey back in time at the Dubai Museum housed within the Al Fahidi Fort. Explore Dubai through the decades, from its origins as a seaside village and its history of pearl diving to the archaeological finds discovered here. Next up is a visit to the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding, housed in a former Emirati home. Experience the center's "open doors, open minds" mission as we take part in a cultural exchange with the locals. Souks still stand as





Experience a glimpse of daily life from waterfront sights in Doha to Dubai's Textile Souk (above), Spice Souk and Gold Souk

testament to the past and are a great way to discover the true flavor of life here. Join us for a walk through the Textile Souk, past a street lined with a Hindu temple and wares of all kinds. Your explorations continue by boat as we cross the creek to the Spice Souk, fragrant with local color and tastes; take a look at the early architecture of the city at the Heritage House; and view the golden bargains that glimmer at the Gold Souk. After lunch at the hotel, ride aboard a 4 x 4 vehicle for a drive out to our desert safari. Arrive at our tented camp in the Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve for an evening of fun and festivities fit for royalty. Enjoy a falcon demonstration, a desert dune sunset, camel rides, henna tattoos, shisha pipes, music and dancing during dinner in this uniquely rich oasis in Dubai. **Meals BLD**

11. SEAPLANE OVER DUBAI

The best way to truly envision the urban scale and size of Dubai is on today's flight excursion aboard a seaplane. Weather permitting, soar over the skyline for a bird's-eye perspective of the city and get a real sense of the extraordinary shapes of Palm and World islands. The rest of the day is free. You may want to see the unusual attractions inside the city's malls, from an indoor ski resort to an impressive aquarium; wander through the vast array of treasure-filled souks; relax poolside at your gracious hotel or indulge in a spa treatment at the hotel. Tauck's farewell reception and dinner tonight celebrate your once-in-a-lifetime memories in a city that's literally on the move as it evolves and reinvents itself for the future. **Meals BD**

12. JOURNEY HOME

Tour ends: Dubai. Fly home anytime; a transfer is included from The Palace Downtown Dubai to Dubai International Airport. Please allow a minimum of three hours for flight check-in. **Meals B**

12 DAYS FROM \$7,290* PLUS AIRFARE
(11 Breakfasts, 8 Lunches & 7 Dinners)

BEGINS DOHA

Jan 17, 31 Feb 28 Mar 13 Sep 18 Oct 16 Dec 25

Go to tauck.com for up-to-the-minute space availability; additional departure dates may become available as these sell out.

PRICE PER PERSON

January - March 26; November - December 24

***LAND PRICE + ON-TOUR AIR (2 flights) = TOTAL PER PERSON**

Double	\$7290	+	\$700	=	\$7990
Single	\$9232	+	\$700	=	\$9932
Triple	\$7055	+	\$700	=	\$7755

March 27 - October

***LAND PRICE + ON-TOUR AIR (2 flights) = TOTAL PER PERSON**

Double	\$7890	+	\$700	=	\$8590
Single	\$10,068	+	\$700	=	\$10,768
Triple	\$7577	+	\$700	=	\$8277

December 25 - 31

***LAND PRICE + ON-TOUR AIR (2 flights) = TOTAL PER PERSON**

Double	\$8290	+	\$700	=	\$8990
Single	\$11,392	+	\$700	=	\$12,092
Triple	\$7674	+	\$700	=	\$8374

International Airfare is additional. Call Tauck for special rates on international air for travel originating in the U.S. (subject to availability).

Please ask at time of booking about additional hotel nights before or after your tour and about our comprehensive Guest Protection Product.

FINE HOTELS / GREAT LOCATIONS

Night 1,2	SHARQ VILLAGE & SPA	Doha, Qatar
Night 3-6	SHANGRI-LA AL HUSN	Muscat, Oman
Night 7,8	THE RITZ-CARLTON ABU DHABI, GRAND CANAL	Abu Dhabi, UAE
Night 9-11	THE PALACE DOWNTOWN DUBAI	Dubai, UAE