



**ICOMOS** **ICAHM**

International Committee  
on Archaeological  
Heritage Management

## ICAHM 2016 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Salalah, Oman

May 2 – 5, 2016

The International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management is holding its Annual Conference in Salalah, Oman to present and discuss:

### Archaeological Park as World Heritage Site - A Management Strategy for the Future

The ICOMOS International Scientific Committee for Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM) thanks ICOMOS Oman for co-sponsoring the 2016 Annual ICAHM conference, which will be held at **Rotana Hotel Resort** in Salalah, Oman.

The focus of this conference will be the sustainable management of archaeological World Heritage Sites. In addressing this, we will take the position that an archaeological site inscribed on the World Heritage List becomes a public protected area: a park.

Please check [our website](#) and [blog](#) for updates on registration, submitting abstracts, and details for accommodations and travel.



Land of Frankincense, Port of Sumhuram.

#### Invited speakers:

**Dr. Said Nasser Alsalmi**  
**Dr. Douglas COMER**  
**Prof. Michael Jansen**

ICOMOS Oman  
ICAHM  
RWTH Aachen University Germany, GUTech Muscat – Oman

## Call for papers and posters

Your abstract must be 100-300 words in length. For detailed information please visit **the [website](#)**. Abstracts should be submitted via the website before **February 29**.

ICAHM will publish the best papers from this annual meeting in its publication series with Springer Press, "Multidisciplinary Perspectives in Archaeological Heritage Management."

Although membership in ICAHM is not required to present an abstract or poster in this conference, we strongly encourage participants to [join ICAHM](#).



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<u>Registration</u>	<u>Before 1 March</u>	<u>Regular</u>
Foreign participants from developed countries	US\$ 175	US\$ 200
Foreign participants from developing countries	US\$ 85	US\$ 100
Students from developed countries	US\$ 55	US\$ 60
Students from Oman	US\$ 20	US\$ 25
Students from developing countries	US\$ 35	US\$ 40

The registration deadline is **April 5**. Please register online: [www.icomos.org/icahm/oman\\_home.html](http://www.icomos.org/icahm/oman_home.html)

## Registration

The registration fee includes conference materials, transfer from and to the airport, coffee breaks and, in partnership with sponsor ICOMOS Oman, an excursion to the UNESCO World Heritage Site [Land of Frankincense](#).

## Lodging/meals package

The [Rotana Hotel Resort](#) offers a special package for our conference delegates including lodging and 2 meals (breakfast and dinner) a day for 50 OMR (\$130) per day. This package can be booked directly at the hotel via this [booking form](#).



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## Conference Focus and Themes

The essential value of any archaeological site is dependent upon the degree to which the materials that comprise it are kept intact and in context. These materials must remain undisturbed until sufficient resources are marshalled and deployed to systematically document them and the contexts in which they were found, and to stabilize materials that are revealed by excavation before they begin to deteriorate. Excavated archaeological materials must then be analyzed, treated for preservation, and deposited in secure and environmentally stable facilities indefinitely.

Maintaining site integrity until a well-organized and adequately financed archaeological study can be conducted has become increasingly difficult as the pace of development has increased dramatically around the world. Further, sites once hidden or in highly remote locations are becoming accessible as technologies that can detect and provide access to them have become increasingly available to the general public.



Photo: H. Goinga Dreyer.



Photo: H. Goinga Dreyer.

An archaeological site inscribed on the World Heritage List and opened to the public becomes a park, which is here defined as a protected area set aside for public enjoyment and education. Making a site a park forms the basis for protecting its scientific and historical values. It also, however, creates a threat to those values, because public use of the park can lead to potentially damaging development. The overwhelming majority of archaeological sites in the world are not open to the public; in fact, in most countries, the locations of archaeological sites are not revealed to the public. There are also World Heritage Sites under the management of traditional owners that contain archaeological resources in places to which the public is not allowed, for example, in Kuk in New Guinea, Uluru-Kata Tjuta in Australia, and some of the islands in the Rock Islands Southern Lagoon in Palau. These are the exceptions that do not become archaeological parks, in contrast to the sites that are explicitly recognized as archaeological, archaeological landscapes, and even cultural landscapes that are on the World Heritage List or on Tentative Lists.

A park can do more than simply protect the resources within it. Frederick Law Olmsted, a pioneer in landscape architecture, extolled parks as places where democratic ideals were nurtured, in that they allow people from all backgrounds to mingle and form connections by means of their shared experience and appreciation of nature and park amenities. In the United States, with a well-established system of parks, the influence of the system goes far beyond park boundaries. For example, the monitoring of air quality at Yosemite National Park in California provided an incentive to heighten air quality standards in Los Angeles. Further, the park system provides consultation, planning assistance, and sometimes technical support to areas that have become related to the system, such as National Heritage Areas, National Landmarks, and river and trails systems. Other park programs provide documentation of historic buildings and notable engineering accomplishments, grants for land and water conservation, and the preservation of historic structures—all of these at places that are outside of the formal National Parks system. Read the Salalah recommendation [here](#).

The focus of this conference will be the sustainable management of World Heritage Sites that are made into archaeological parks. ICAHM is in the process of developing guidelines for the management of such World Heritage Sites. The list of suggested session topics reflects these guidelines:

***World Heritage Archaeological Site Guidelines.***

- Management Planning
- Inventory and Evaluation
- Management Facilities
- Management Capacity
- Inclusion of and working with Stakeholders

***Economic Valorization of Archaeological WH Sites.***

How are we to judge the economic value of an archaeological World Heritage Site? This session will look at current and promising approaches to this and the related topic of equitable sharing of economic benefits, particularly with local communities.

***The Archaeological Heritage of Salt: Preserving and Interpreting.***

The Heritage of Salt provides opportunities to explore the relationship between tangible and intangible cultural resources. Specifically, it explores the economic, social, and ideological values attached to salt and the production of salt in ancient times and today.

***Preserving Archaeological Sites, Landscape, and Artifacts in Conflict Areas.***

This session will present programs and activities that are intended to preserve archaeological sites and landscapes in conflict areas. Given the scope of areas in which intense conflicts are ongoing, it is imperative to better understand the value of what might be lost so that priorities can be set and used to allocate scarce resources. This session should also examine the economic dimensions of looting.

### **Aerial and Satellite Remote Sensing in Archaeological Research and Heritage Management**

With the publication of "Mapping Archaeological Landscapes from Space: In Observance of the 40th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention," ICAHM highlighted novel applications of aerial and satellite remote sensing to research and management programs. To build on this success we welcome papers that demonstrate best practices with emerging technologies, new approaches to remote sensing for research, and case studies for heritage management applications.

### ***Innovative Applications of Non-Destructive, Non-Invasive Technologies.***

Great strides have been made in the use of on-ground remote sensing technologies, including the use of magnetometers and ground penetrating radar. Terrestrial laser scanning technologies are also widely employed to record and monitor built heritage. This session will examine recent developments and exemplary uses of these technologies.

### ***Underwater Archaeology.***

Oman provides an ideal location to survey and assess the potential of underwater archaeological research in Africa and the Middle East. This session will assess how research at underwater archaeological sites has increased our understanding of maritime trade and conflict in these regions and ways that these sites can be protected until they are examined by underwater archaeologists.

### ***The Creation and Use of Three-Dimensional Models.***

Three-dimensional models can be created and used in research and heritage management in many ways. This session presents some of the ways that such models can be produced and how they have or might be used in the future to understand, document, and present archaeological sites and landscapes

### ***Tourism and Archaeological Parks.***

Many archaeological sites on the World Heritage List struggle to avoid damage caused by environmental changes or development. There are opportunities for tourism at archaeological World Heritage Sites, or archaeological parks, to address environmental and social issues relevant today, such as regional environmental degradation or the persecution of minorities.

### ***West African and Middle Eastern Trade Routes.***

Goods have been traded among African and Middle Eastern groups for much longer and with greater intensity than is generally appreciated. Here we look at the variety of these routes over land and water, how they changed over time, and why.

### ***Water: It's Role in Social Organization and Conflict in Ancient and Contemporary Worlds***

Recent archaeological examination of water management techniques in the ancient world go far beyond Wittfogel's hydraulic hypothesis. Current research will be presented here and consideration will be given to its relevance to social organization and conflict in the past and present.

## Travel

### VISA AND PASSPORT

Please note that in order to travel to Oman you will need to acquire a visa and your passport must be valid for at least 6 months on entry to Oman. For many countries a visa can be obtained for \$30 at the airport. It takes about a half hour. This is the case for most Western countries. Please contact the Oman Consulate in your country of residence to find out what the situation is for your country, or visit this website <http://www.omanair.com/en/travel-info/tourist-visa-to-oman>.

In any other case, please follow this procedure two months before departure:

1. Complete the visa form (last page of this brochure).
2. Send the completed form, a clear photo copy of your passport, a digital passport photo and your CV to: [culture@omantel.net.om](mailto:culture@omantel.net.om)
3. You will receive a digital copy of your visa via email, and the original will be fixed to your passport in the airport in Oman. To facilitate this process please provide the organizers with your flight details as soon as possible at [conference@icahm.icomos.org](mailto:conference@icahm.icomos.org).

### VACCINATION

If you are arriving from a country where yellow fever is endemic, you will be required to present a valid yellow fever vaccination certificate to be allowed entry into Oman.

### GETTING THERE

There are daily flights between Muscat and Salalah, as well as other Arab Gulf states. Non stop flights to Salalah Airport are available from; Abu Dhabi – UAE (Rotana Jet), Doha – Qatar (Qatar Airways), Dubai – UAE (Oman Air, flydubai), Kozhikode- India (Air-India Express), Muscat- Oman (Oman Air), Sharjah - UAE (Air Arabia), Trivandrum- India (Air-India Express). ICOMOS Oman will be providing shuttle busses to the conference venue from Salalah Airport.

### STAYING THERE

The Rotana Hotel Resort, where the conference is held, is offering a special package for 50 OMR (130\$) a day including lodging and 2 meals (breakfast and dinner). Please click [here](#) for the reservation form.



Sultan Qaboos Mosque, Salalah



Beach Salalah. <http://www.omantourism.gov.om>

### MUSLIM CULTURE, WOMEN TRAVELERS AND ALCOHOL

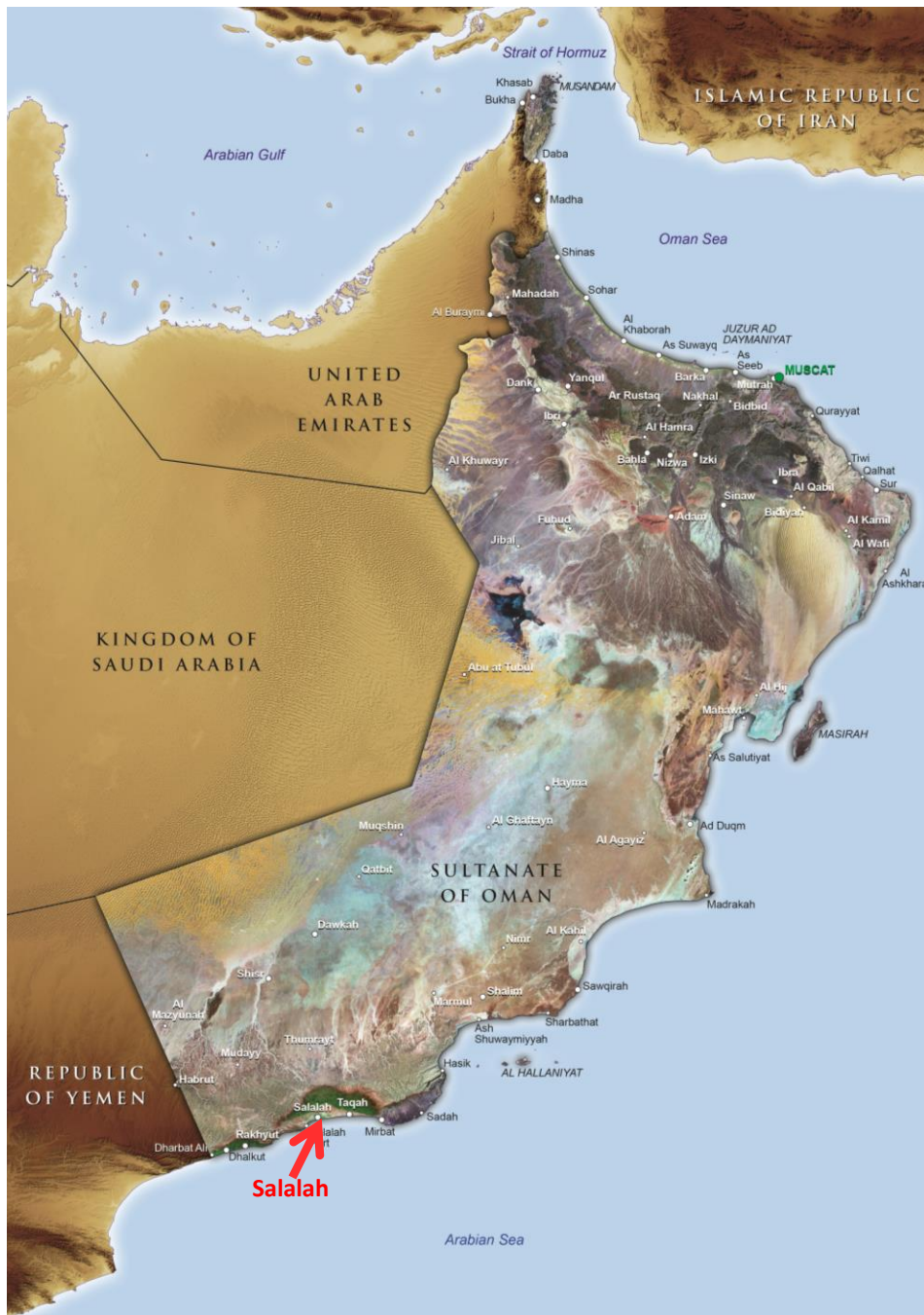
Oman is a Muslim state and Islamic customs. You should respect local traditions, customs, laws and religions.

In public, general modesty of behaviour and dress is expected from women. Avoid wearing shorts or tight-fitting clothes, particularly in downtown areas.

Non-Muslims can import alcohol, to a maximum of two litres per family. It can be bought at a duty-free shop at the airport on arrival, but within Oman, you can only buy alcohol by personal license or at licensed hotels and restaurants.

## ABOUT SALALAH

Salalah is the capital of the Dhofar Region, situated in the south of Oman. The city lies 1,040 kilometres away from Muscat and temperatures never rise above 27 degrees Celsius. Dhofar includes a distinctive natural diversity where the coast blends with the mountains and the desert in wonderful harmony so that the mountains look like a fertile crescent, rising to a height of 1,500 metres and then descending into a flat plain that embraces sandy beaches stretching for hundreds of kilometres. (<http://www.omantourism.gov.om>)



## Land of Frankincense Sites Excursion May 5th

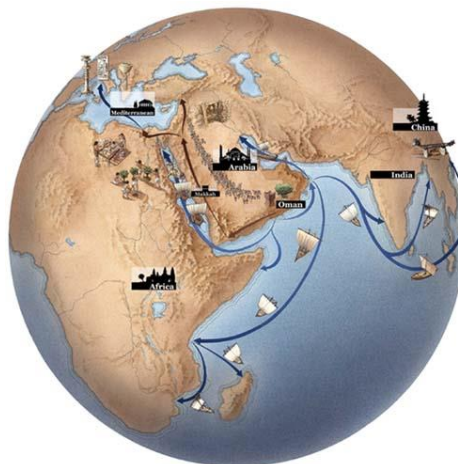


On the 5<sup>th</sup> of May there will be an excursion to the Land of Frankincense UNESCO WH site. This excursion is included in the registration fee and will take you to two of the Frankincense sites: the ports of Khor Rori and Al-Baleed.

The frankincense trees of Wadi Dawkah and the remains of the caravan oasis of Shisr/Wubar and the affiliated ports of Khor Rori and Al-Baleed vividly illustrate the trade in frankincense that flourished in this region for many centuries, as one of the most important trading activities of the ancient and medieval world.



Frankincense tree. Photo: D. Comer



Frankincense Trade Routes. <http://www.omanwhs.gov.om>

Frankincense formed a bridge of communication between the East and the West. Frankincense is a gum resin extracted from the trunk of *Boswellia sacra* trees through an incision. Legend says that flying snakes protected frankincense trees. The value of frankincense derives from its use in religious, medical and incantation rituals. Oman had the main role in giving the tree its value through the frankincense trade.

The sites linked to this trade had such worldwide importance that in 2000 UNESCO inscribed them as World Heritage sites. This highlights the civilisations that flourished in the south of the Arabian Peninsula from the Neolithic Age until the late Islamic Period and were economically, socially and culturally interconnected. These links revolved around the frankincense trade network that expanded as far as the Mediterranean, Red Sea, Mesopotamia, India, and China. Sumhuram, Al Baleed, Raysut and Mirbat were the most important ports engaged in the export of frankincense by sea. Camel caravans also played an important role in the trade of frankincense by way of the land routes of the Arabian Peninsula.



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**INFORMATION REQUESTED FOR  
VISA PURPOSES (OFFICIAL VISIT)**

Please supply the following information:

1-	FULL NAME :	.....		
(Please supply a photocopy of passport)				
2-	MOTHER'S NAME:	.....		
3-	NATIONALITY:	.....	RELIGION :	.....
4-	PASSPORT NO:	.....	TYPE:	ORDANERY-DIPLOMATIC-SPECIAL
(Delete as appropriate)				
5-	DATE OF ISSUE OF PASSPORT:	.....		
6-	DATE OF EXPIRY OF PASSPORT:	.....		
(Passport must have at least six month to run from date of entry into the Sultanate)				
7-	COUNTRY AND CITY WHERE PASSPORT ISSUED:	.....		
8-	COUNTRY AND CITY OF BIRTH:.....	.....		
9-	DATE OF BIRTH:.....	.....		
10-	ORGANIZATION/ COMPANY EPRESENTED:.....	.....		
11-	POSITION/JOB TITLE WITHIN ORGANIZATION:.....	.....		
12-	FULL ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION:.....	.....		
13-	TELEPHONE NO:	.....(0).....(h)		
14-	FAX NO:	.....(0).....(h)		
15-	EMAIL:	.....@.....		
16-	PHOTOGRAPHS; Three (3) passport– size photo to be attached to this application.			

**NOTE: THE PASSPORT SUBMITTED FOR VIST PURPOSES MUST BE THE SAME AS THAT USED TO TRAVEL OTHERWISE ENTRY INTO THE SULTANATE WILL BE REFUSED.**