






Appendix 1 : Trade Agreements

Oman has more than 105 international agreements.

	Agreement Name	Type	Coverage	Start Date	Current Signatories
	Gulf Cooperation Council	Customs Union	Goods	January 2003	Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates
	US – Oman FTA	Free Trade Agreement & Economic Integration Agreement	Goods & Services	January 2009	Oman, United States of America
	GCC – Singapore FTA	Free Trade Agreement & Economic Integration Agreement	Goods & Services	September 2013	Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Singapore
	Greater Arab Free Trade Area	Free Trade Agreement	Goods	January 1998	Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen
	GCC - European Free Trade Association FTA	Free Trade Agreement	Goods & Services	June 2009	Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, Oman, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain

Agreement Name	Benefits
GCC - European Free Trade Association FTA (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Exemption of industrial goods, fish and other marine products exported from GCC countries to EFTA countries from customs duties. Most imports from EFTA countries to Oman are exempt from customs duties from the first day of the entry into force of the agreement, and there is a group of goods that are released after five years of implementation of the agreement. ■ Foreigners and foreign companies may own real estate only in specified integrated tourism complexes in Oman. However, foreigners and foreign companies may enter into renewable leases for a period of 50 years in most areas in Oman. ■ Companies established in Oman with foreign participation of up to 100% must pay income tax at the same rates imposed on companies wholly owned by Omanis. However, foreign branches impose different segments of tax on them: ■ Investors from EFTA countries are permitted to fully own companies in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Construction and engineering services ■ Insurance services ■ Banking services. ■ Hotel and restaurant services, including catering
World Trade Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Oman's commitment to the rules of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the provisions of its various agreements is a guarantee for foreign investors that the Sultanate is committed to the rules of the organization. ■ Oman's membership of the WTO protects the Sultanate's current and future exports in the various member countries of the organization from discriminatory actions. This allows for the expansion of exports and makes investors more confident in establishing export industries. ■ The periodic review of the trade policy that the organization conducts on the member states, which includes the Sultanate, is a reliable source for the investor about the economic situation of the Sultanate and the extent of its compliance with the obligations under which it joined the WTO. ■ Membership of the WTO supports Oman's rankings in various international indices. ■ WTO membership provides the opportunity to resort to rules and procedures in the event of commercial disputes with other member states. ■ Benefit from the special and differential treatment of developing countries provided by various WTO agreements. ■ Benefit from the technical assistance provided by the organization to train officials and business people, enabling them to understand the rules and procedures related to the implementation of WTO agreements

Agreement Name	Benefits
GCC – Singapore FTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Agreement grants Omani products to enter Singapore without customs duties. ■ The Agreement grants 99% of Singaporean exports entering Oman without customs duties, the remaining percentage will remain subject to the original customs duty rate for a period of five years, after which it will enter without customs duties except for a number of goods that will not have any reduction or abolition of customs duties under this Agreement. ■ Omani nationals are allowed a commercial presence in the form of a registered company limited by a foreign shareholding rate of 70%, while Singaporean investors are allowed to fully own companies (100%) in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Computer and related services ■ Courier services ■ Telecommunications services ■ Insurance services ■ Banking services ■ Building and construction services ■ Registering a commercial company requires the appointment of a local manager who is a Singaporean citizen, a permanent resident of Singapore, or holder of a Singaporean employment passport. Singaporean (whereas, an Omani who is a permanent resident of Singapore or holder of a Singaporean employment passport may register a commercial company without appointing a local manager). ■ At least one director from the company must be a local resident of Singapore. ■ All branches of foreign companies registered in Singapore must have at least two (2) domestically resident agents. A person wishing to become a permanent resident must be either a Singaporean citizen, a permanent resident of Singapore, or a holder of a Singaporean employment passport. ■ Not interpret the obligations specified in market access in any sector or subsector into any form of delivery as exceeding the limits established for the financial services sector. ■ There are no restrictions on any subsidies, grants, or conditions related to the continuous receipt or receipt of these aids or grants, whether these subsidies granted exclusively to local services, service consumers, or service providers.

Agreement Name	Benefits
United States – Oman FTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Agreement provides opportunities for investors from both countries to enter into investments because of the liberalized sectors, which allows 100% ownership except for that mentioned in the negative list. ■ Allows foreign investors to establish projects in the Sultanate in order to benefit from the advantages of the Agreement regarding exemption from customs duties on Omani products exported to the United States. ■ The Agreement enables international investors to capitalize on Oman's geographic location and proximity to larger regional markets . ■ The Agreement acts as a catalyst in attracting further investment to Oman
GCC Customs Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Unified customs tariff towards the international community ■ Standard customs regulations and procedures ■ One point of entry when collecting unified customs duties ■ Movement of goods between GCC countries without customs or non-customs restrictions, taking into account the application of veterinary and agricultural quarantine regulations, and prohibited and restricted goods ■ Treat goods produced in GCC states as national products. ■ Unifying a set of commercial laws among GCC countries. ■ Provide equal treatment, without distinction or discrimination, among GCC nationals in all economic fields covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mobility and accommodation ■ Work in government and private sector ■ Social insurance and retirement ■ Practice professions and trades ■ Engaging in all economic, investment and service activities ■ Owning property ■ Transfer of capital ■ Tax treatment ■ Trading and buying shares and establishing companies ■ Access to educational, health and social services.

Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement

Oman currently has 34 effective double taxation treaties (comprehensive and limited) with other countries/territories to prevent double taxation and allow cooperation between Oman and overseas tax authorities in enforcing their respective tax laws.

Countries	Benefits
<p>Oman's network of effective double tax treaties currently includes tax treaties with People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Republic of Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, People's Republic of China, Republic of Croatia, France Republic, Hungary, The Republic of India, The Islamic Republic of Iran, Italian Republic, Japan, The Republic of Korea, Lebanese Republic, Republic of Mauritius, Republic of Moldova, Kingdom of Morocco, Netherlands, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Portuguese Republic, Republic of Seychelles, Republic of Singapore, Republic of South Africa, Republic of the Sudan, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Spain, Kingdom of Thailand, Republic of Tunisia, Republic of Turkey, United Kingdom, Republic of Uzbekistan, Socialist Republic of Vietnam and .Republic of Yemen</p> <p>Bilateral Investment Treaties</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Local trade benefits in expanding investment base, as well as providing full direct and indirect protection for goods and services. ■ Encouraging the exchange of services and capital movement, in addition to its contribution to diversify sources of national income, and strengthen partnerships with countries with which Oman has active trade relations. ■ Encouraging commercial activity in general and an effective tool in enhancing the Sultanate's development goals, diversifying sources of income, increasing the effectiveness of investments, attracting foreign investment and increasing the volume of imports and exports.
Countries	Benefits
<p>Republic of Uzbekistan, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Republic of Turkey, Republic of Yemen, Republic of Tunisia, Swiss Confederation, Kingdom of Sweden, Republic of the Sudan, Republic of Singapore, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Netherlands, Kingdom of Morocco, Lebanese Republic, The Republic Korea, Kingdom of Jordan, Japan, The Islamic Republic of Iran, Federal Republic of Germany, France Republic, Republic of Finland, Arab Republic of Egypt, People's Republic of China, Bulgaria, Republic of Belarus, Republic of Austria and People's Democratic Republic of .Algeria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Local trade benefits in expanding investment base, as well as providing full direct and indirect protection for goods and services. ■ Encouraging the exchange of services and capital movement, in addition to its contribution in diversifying sources of national income, and strengthening partnerships with countries with which Oman has active trade relations. ■ Encouraging commercial activity in general and an effective tool in enhancing the Sultanate's development goals, diversifying sources of income, increasing the effectiveness of investments, attracting foreign investment and increasing the volume of imports and exports.