OUR LEISURE CONCIERGE CONCEPT

Discover a destination through its traditions, its cuisine, its environment, the roots of its people and their daily rituals.

Being on holiday is much about celebrating your own choices in living and cultivating your personal priorities. Because perfection is defined individually, we've carefully combined our destination know-how with all the ingredients of your lifestyle to make your stay a 'surprisingly different' experience.

Allow our Leisure Concierge Team to guide you on your discovery of the hidden treasures that abound within this fascinating destination. Our Leisure Concierges are local experts who know this region well and are passionate about sharing their knowledge with you.

Browse the following pages detailing the Alila Experiences and choose those that appeal to your personality and lifestyle.

An Expression of Your Lifestyle...
To assist you in finding that memorable experience you are looking for, our collection of Alila Experiences is categorised by lifestyle preference:

ACTIVE SPIRITS
For those who want to live life to the fullest, combine active holidays with destination discovery in an active way.

CULTURAL LEARNING
Interactive learning experiences to understand the cultural roots of the destination and local daily life. Activities vary from history, religion & ritual, flora & fauna to architecture and the art of living.

COUPLE CELEBRATION
For those who want to dedicate their holidays to their loved ones and celebrate being together.

PRIVATE PURSUITS
The creative, artistic impulse exists within each one of us. Take a chance to express yourself through engaging in activities that will expand your knowledge and experiences.

CONSCIOUS LIVING
Soak up the local wisdom on life and wellness. Learn about healthy eating and natural healing. Experience and share the knowledge sustaining our environment on the path to awareness and reconnection.

CULINARY DELIGHT
For the active gourmet traveller. Blend product understanding and selection, and secrets of spices with time behind the stove to learn how to create the flavours of the region.

All prices are in Omani Rial and subject to 17% government tax and service charge.
Besides the list of Alila Experiences that follows, our Leisure Concierge Team is always readily available to create a tailor-made experience for you, if you want to take the experience to another level or area.

Simply approach us and share your thoughts and ideas and let us assist you to develop and realise your own personal ‘dream’ experience.

ACTIVE SPIRITS

For those who want to live life to the fullest, combine active holidays with destination discovery. Activities include recommended nature walks, hiking trails, mountain biking and off-road drives.

Active Spirit experiences demand a certain level of fitness and physical ability. Therefore please take note of the difficulty level of each experience. These levels are assigned by the resort and do not reflect the official gradations used on official hike routes available (see ‘Hiking Trails’).

Activity Levels

Level 1  Easy  Light physical activity involved.
Level 2  Moderate  Trekking or cycling over mainly flat ground with a few small inclines.
Level 3  Challenging  Some steep or exposed sections. Mid to good fitness required.
Level 4  Strenuous  Continued physical exertion required over several hours. May require technical skills.
Level 5  Extreme  Full-day adventures requiring technical skills and/or good to excellent physical condition.

While activity levels are indicated, please feel free to consult us if you would like further insight into a particular experience.

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ACTIVE SPIRITS: EXPLORE ON FOOT
The ‘on foot’ series is ideal for guests who are keen to get active and explore the area mainly on foot and via occasional vehicle transportation, enjoying the comfort of refreshments served by our Leisure Concierge.

A Mirage in the Mountains
Level 1 - 2
This walk starts from the wadi (dry waterway) a few minutes from the resort. It’s a great way to get a close look at the natural wadi system, learn about the various bushes and trees around this fertile part of the mountain, as well as observe the various rock formations.

The walk ends close to a natural stone formation that forms a water cascade during rainy periods. Our Leisure Concierge will guide you on a climb up to discover our local ‘mirage’, the village of Sarab, the nearest abandoned village to the resort and the original home of the members of our community, some of whom are associated with the resort. The area can be freely explored and you can visit each ‘house’ and marvel at the life lived here not too long ago. Return via the gravel road to the main road and the resort.
3 Hours | 15

Mountain Mirages… Discovery Trail
Level 2 - 3
This walk starts a few minutes from the resort. You will be driven to the starting point from where our Leisure Concierge will guide you on an ascent via natural waterways. This active hike allows you to see the stunning natural surroundings, the trees and bushes that are native to this part of the mountain, and discover the abandoned village of Sarab and its wadi. Explore this settlement, the old houses, and follow the wadi back to the resort.
3 Hours | 15

The Village Walk
Level 3
Visit the most well-known agricultural area in Jabal Akhdar in and around the idyllic traditional villages of Al Aqr and Al Ayn. Explore terraces shaped by the Bani Riyam tribe, who cultivated the area, and which are now home to rose bushes, pomegranate plantations, olive trees as well as an intricate water system called ‘Falaj’ and its original spring source from the mountain.

The best time to enjoy this walk is during the morning hours (depart 8am) or around sunset time (4pm).
4 Hours | 25

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Splendour of Saiq  
Level 3 
Travel in the comfort of a resort vehicle down to the Saiq Plateau, an extensive upland plateau surrounded by craggy summits and steep gorges. Gaze across the spectacular scenery of terraced farms and valleys, and visit the agricultural village of Al Ayn, where you can see how traditional farm life has evolved and observe the 2,000-year-old ‘falaj’ water system up close.

During the season of April/May, witness the extraordinary sight of the prized Damask roses in full bloom, their bushes cascading down the mountain slopes. Our Leisure Concierge will introduce you to the families who continue to make rose water in their distilleries. Visit the picturesque abandoned village of Wadi Bani Habib and marvel at the traditional way of life as you follow the old farm trails through the wadi and farmlands growing walnut trees and pomegranate bushes. A great experience for those who wish to see the best of the region in a compact journey.

A light picnic lunch is available if you are keen to take in the moment and truly savour these surroundings.
4 Hours | 25
6 Hours with lunch | 40

ACTIVE SPIRITS : HIKING TRAILS
Despite the rough terrain, hiking remains the best way to enjoy Oman’s wonderful mountainous landscapes. The area surrounding the resort is an ideal getaway for avid hikers and nature lovers. A wide range of hikes are available using official routes. Trekking season runs from September to May, but the best time for hiking is between October and April.

i) Hikes around the resort – from Al Ilayilinah (Juniper Village)

Al Ilayilinah (Juniper Village)
Level 4 - 5
A short drive from the resort, towards the opposite banks of the valley, brings you to an area crowded with juniper trees. An off-road drive through the village of Al Jarir takes you to an open area from where the hikes can start, taking you along a variety of routes. We recommend a hike to the top of the peak for the most amazing views.

You can follow route W19, which allows you to explore this beautiful valley and return to the start point via a loop. Or, from Al Jarir, follow route W19 to Al Far located only 700 metres away, from where you can be picked up and returned to the resort.

Alternatively, hike from Al Ilayilinah following route W18, which guides you to the picturesque abandoned village of Wadi Bani Habib from where you will be collected and driven back to the resort.

An optional stop at the famed plantation villages of Al Ayn and Shoraighiah is also well worth your time, offering excellent viewpoints, particularly during April and May when the famed Damask roses blossom across the mountain slopes, and from September to October during the season of the region’s prized pomegranates.
5 Hours | 35

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ii) Hikes around the Saiq Plateau

**Saiq Plateau**

*Level 4*

The Saiq Plateau is where you can embark on the most well-known hike, dubbed ‘the village walk’. The walk meanders through the villages of Al Ayn and Shoraighiah and bringing you up close to the terraced farmlands that grow the prized Damask roses and pomegranates, as well as the intricate irrigation system known as ‘Falaj’. Engage with local farmers and allow our Leisure Concierge to introduce you to the rose water distillery process (in season only).

For those keen on extending this hike, you can continue the village walk by following route 18A to the picturesque abandoned village of Wadi Bani Habib, where you can walk among the beautiful remains of houses that offer a glimpse of traditional life in these valleys, and pass through fields of pomegranates and walnut trees.

This experience is also available inclusive of a picnic lunch served in the shade of Wadi Bani Habib.

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<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Hours</td>
<td>35</td>
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<td>6 Hours with lunch</td>
<td>50</td>
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iii) Hikes in Other Areas

**Misfat Al Abriyyin**

*Level 4 - 5*

Follow the ancient donkey trails! This long trail starts at the ancient village of Misfat Al Abriyyin 950 m above sea level, following a path through mountain terraces filled with palm trees to Aqbat Al Hamra, whose old stone houses make for stunning photos. The trail continues upward to Hayl Al Jawari (1,500 m) from where you can follow a 3.5 km walk to Sharad Al Alamayn (2,000 m), or ascend to the top at 2,197 m before returning to the start point.

This hike takes approximately 5-6 hours to ascend and 4 hours to descend, offering spectacular views of Wadi Bani Awf and the surrounding mountains. Departure time from resort: 6am

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<th>Duration</th>
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<td>Full-day</td>
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**Around Jebal Shams (Oman’s highest peak)**

Level 4 - 5

You can explore this region along various routes. Our recommendations are the ‘Rim Walk’ (route W6A) and the ‘Abandoned Village Walk’ (route W6).

For the true adventurer and hiker, rise to the challenge of the well-known ‘Summit Walk’ (route W4). You will depart from the village of As Sab (1,800 m), walk up to 2,700 m and then ascend to the peak at 2,997 m, where the sensation and views are exhilarating!

Feel free to meet with our Leisure Concierge to discuss the various options and recommended departure times and weather conditions.

Full-day | 80

**NOTE:**

Guests who wish to explore these wonderful routes and immerse themselves in the rugged nature of the area are recommended to bring their own hiking shoes and gear as no shops are available in the vicinity of the resort.

Only experienced hikers are to use the routes without guides and they must be properly equipped with GPRS tools, safety gear and first aid support.

For your safety and enjoyment, Alila Jabal Akhdar recommends using our local guides.

**ACTIVE SPIRITS : EXPLORE ON WHEELS**

**A World Above the Mountains**

Explore the A’roos and Saiq Plateaus in the comfort of a resort vehicle with the guidance of a personal Leisure Concierge. This is a wonderful way to take in the full beauty of the region from spectacular vantage points. Immerse yourself in another time and place, discovering abandoned villages such as Sarab, witnessing life in local communities, and passing by the best selection of farm areas known to the locals. Stand in awe of the largest and oldest trees on the Arabian Peninsula – majestic 2000 to 3000-year-old juniper trees that stand in the dust bowl on the upper Saiq Plateau. Unmissable!

Enjoy an invigorating off-road drive to Juniper Village that offers incredible panoramic views of deep valleys, nature walks and juniper trees. Take an unforgettable trip to the village of Sogra where you can follow ancient paths through the canyons to the walnut groves and pomegranate fields, and be amazed by the sight of stone houses plastered against the steep mountain slopes.

If you don’t want this day to end too soon, continue on to Managkher and the picturesque village of Al Ayn, stopping for a picnic lunch overlooking the magnificent views. Follow the trail to Al Aqr or A’roos, bringing the day to a close in the glow of the sunset.

Half-day | 55

Full-day | 80

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CULTURAL LEARNING

Engage in interactive learning experiences to understand the cultural and historic roots of the destination and local daily life.

Forts & Souks of Nizwa
Take a spectacular drive through the mountains down to the town of Nizwa, the birthplace of Islam in Oman and the country’s ancient capital. One of Oman’s most popular tourist destinations, Nizwa was once a centre of trade, religion, education and art due to its strategic location at the crossroads of key caravan routes, and is the site for many historic castles and forts. Visit the most formidable of these, the imposing 17th century Nizwa Fort that is the largest fort in the Arabian Peninsula, offering stunning views of the city and surrounding plantations from its circular tower.

Then lose yourself in Nizwa Souk, famous for its Bedouin silver jewellery yet bustling with vendors selling everything from fresh produce and spices to pottery and leather goods. On your return journey to the resort, stop by Misfat Al Abriyyin, a medieval village built into the rock face. Take a walk down the worn steps into the village and explore its narrow streets and alleyways.
Half-day | 55

Friday Goat Market & Birkat Al Mouz
Experience the liveliness of the Friday Goat Market in Nizwa, where local farmers gather early in the morning to trade livestock – mainly goats, cows and sheep – by auction. Join the crowds for a truly unique opportunity to observe this traditional local custom.

Then visit the 17th century Nizwa Fort, the largest and one of the oldest forts in Oman distinguished by its unique round shape. Explore its maze of halls and rooms connected by narrow staircases and corridors, and enjoy the 360-degree views from the top of the tower. Stroll to the nearby Nizwa Souk, hunting for souvenirs among stalls selling an endless variety of items.

After a delicious lunch, head back to the resort, stopping along the way at the village of Birkat Al Mouz. Its name means ‘Pool of Bananas’, and in this lush oasis at the base of the mountain, bananas as well as date palms grow in abundance. Walk through the ruins of old houses that appear to emerge right out of the rocks, and observe one of the best examples of the ancient ‘falaj’ water system.
Half-day | 55

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Castles & Forts – Jabreen & Bahla
Castles and forts are among Oman’s most distinctive cultural landmarks. Visit the town of Jabreen, home to Jabreen Castle, built in 1670 as a beautiful palace for the Imam and his family. Featuring five floors and 55 rooms, the castle is distinguished by authentic Omani craftsmanship found in its ceiling murals, beautifully carved doors, and the inscriptions and frescoes that adorn its walls.

This trip also takes in the sights of Bahla, which lies about 20 km from Jabreen. The town is renowned for its ancient UNESCO-protected Bahla Fort with its mud-brick walls and towers on stone foundations. Bahla is also famous for handmade pottery. Besides being blessed by land that contains special clay, it is said that the potters of Bahla are born with magic in their fingers! See for yourself their clay creations in the many pottery factories and workshops dotted around town. Enjoy the chance to observe everyday life as you dine on a lunch of local cuisine.

Half-day | 55

COUPLE CELEBRATION
For those who want to dedicate their holidays to their loved ones and celebrate being together.

Starlit Private Dining
Delicious food…a sensuous experience… Allow us to create an intimate private dining experience for two, whether you wish to celebrate a special occasion or simply savour a special moment together. Choose from a variety of dining locations – a private table beneath the stars on the deck of Juniper Restaurant or the Rose Lounge, a candlelit table setup out on your own private room terrace, or a romantic location beyond the resort where you can feast your eyes on a beautiful sunset.

Feel free to consult with our Leisure Concierge on how we can create your memorable dining experience.

Spa Rapture
Unite in blissful spa pampering together with a 90-minute Spa Alila couple’s treatment, complete with a private steam room session, followed by a private dinner for two. Divine indulgence for all the senses!

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