

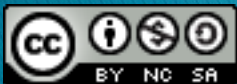
Oman: Musandam Peninsula

World Regional Geography *by Lew, Hall & Timothy*

Virtual Field Trip

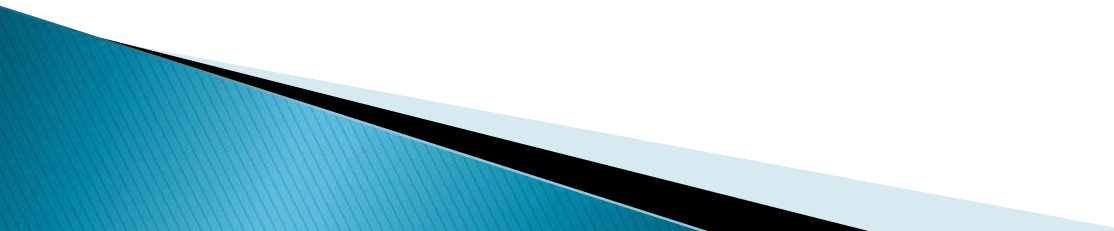
Photos and text by: Alan A. Lew

Photos Taken: 2008

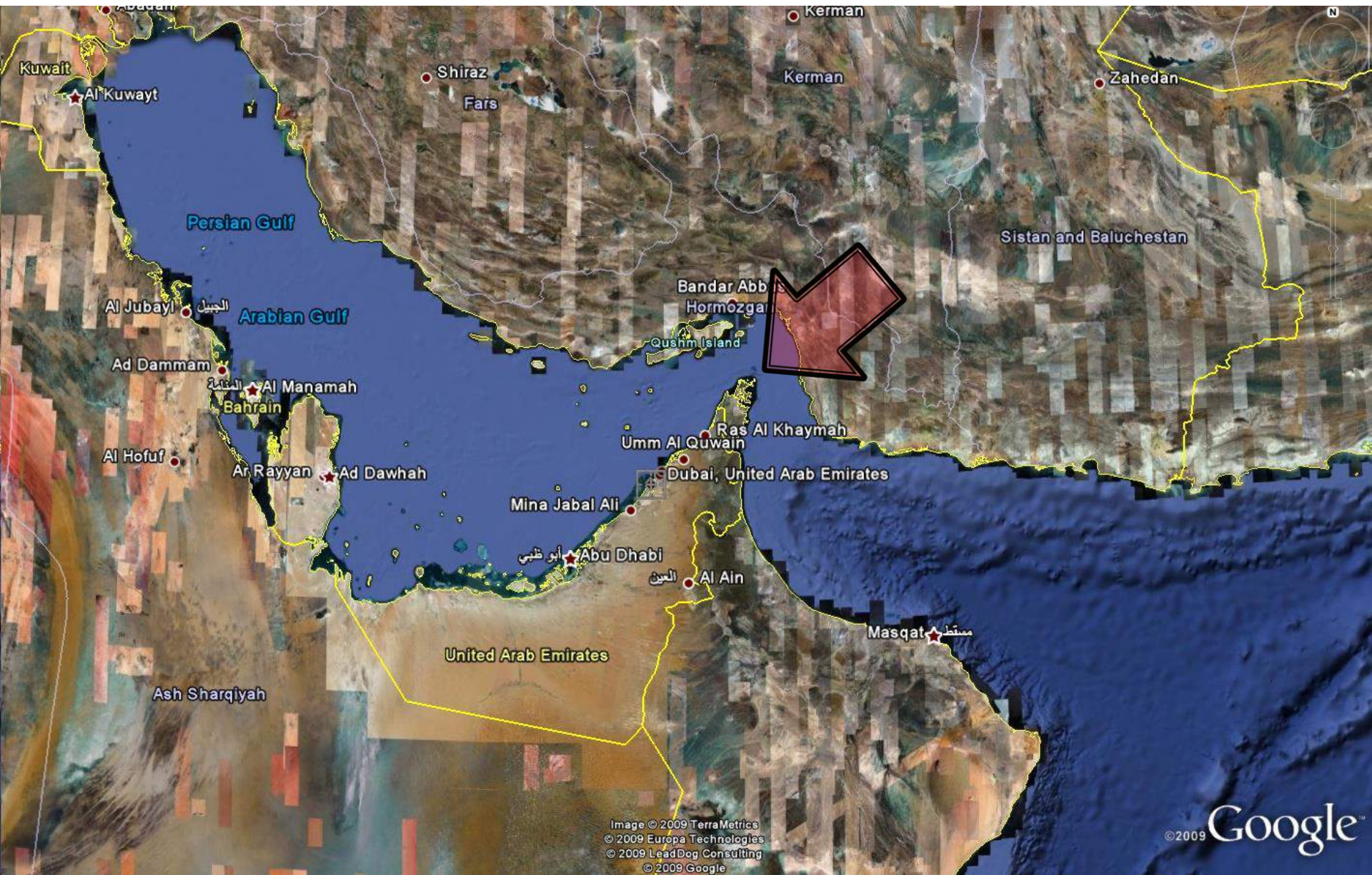


[Creative Commons 3.0. Copyright by Alan A. Lew: Some Rights Reserved](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/)

Outline

- ▶ On the Musandam (Oman) – UAE Border
 - ▶ Settlements
 - ▶ Boats and Tourism
 - ▶ A Dhow Trip
 - ▶ Dolphins
- 

Musandam Peninsula, Oman





Crossing the Border from the United Arab Emirates, which is where most of the tourists to Musandam come from.

Sign for the Bukha Castle historic site. The barren landscape and low level of development are a marked difference from the bustling UAE.



Musandam Peninsula, Oman

The Musandam Peninsula is a geographic “exclave”, meaning it is part of Oman, but is not connected to the rest of the country of Oman.

It is also at the narrowest point on the Strait of Hormuz – just 29 miles (54km) from Iran. Some 40% of all the oil carried by sea passes through this Strait.





The 29,000 people living in the Musandam area are connected to Muscat, the capital of Oman, by what is said to be the world's faster passenger ferry.

New and old residential areas can be seen in the photo above. Date palms accompany many of the homes.



Here in the northernmost part of the Musandam Peninsula, the people speak a Persian (Iranian) related language.





**A modern mosque
(left) and a small
town with its
traditional
mosques (below)**





Boats are a major part of traditional life in the Musandam Peninsula. They are used for fishing, smuggling, and recreation and tourism

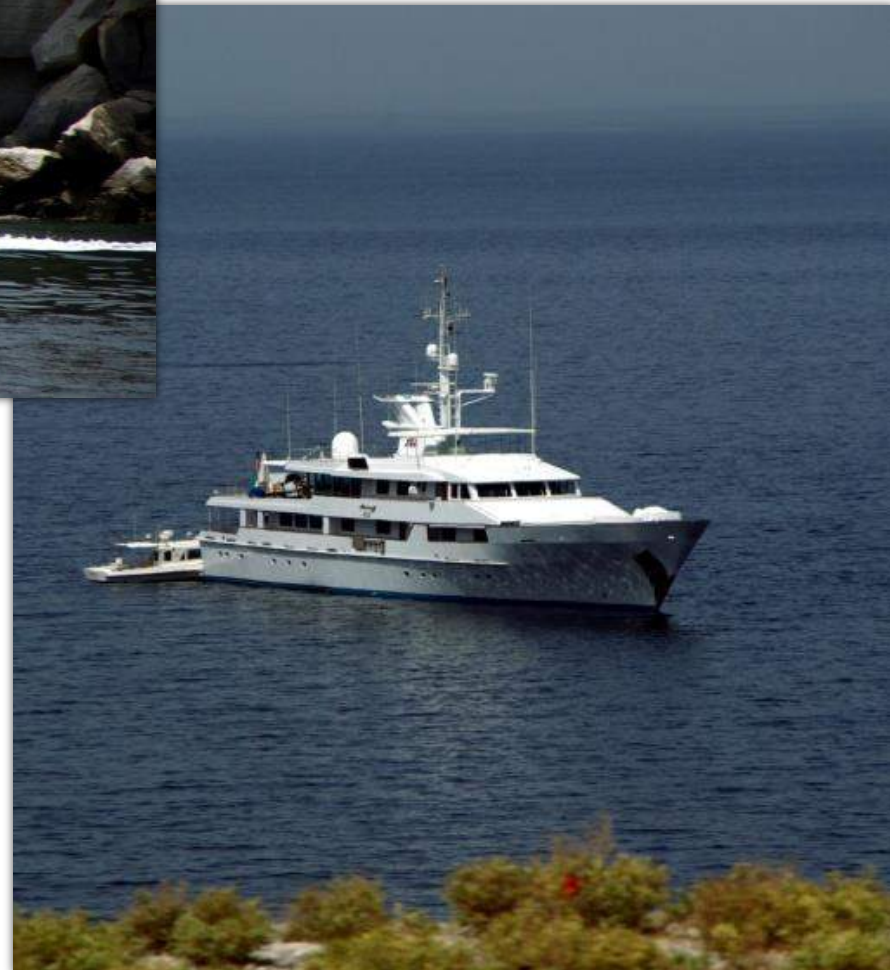


Recreation and Tourism



The boat above is taking a group of campers to an isolated beach for an overnight picnic and barbecue.

The campers, like the luxury boat (right) are most likely from the UAE.



A cruise ship and a public beach



Tourism Businesses in the Musandam Peninsula

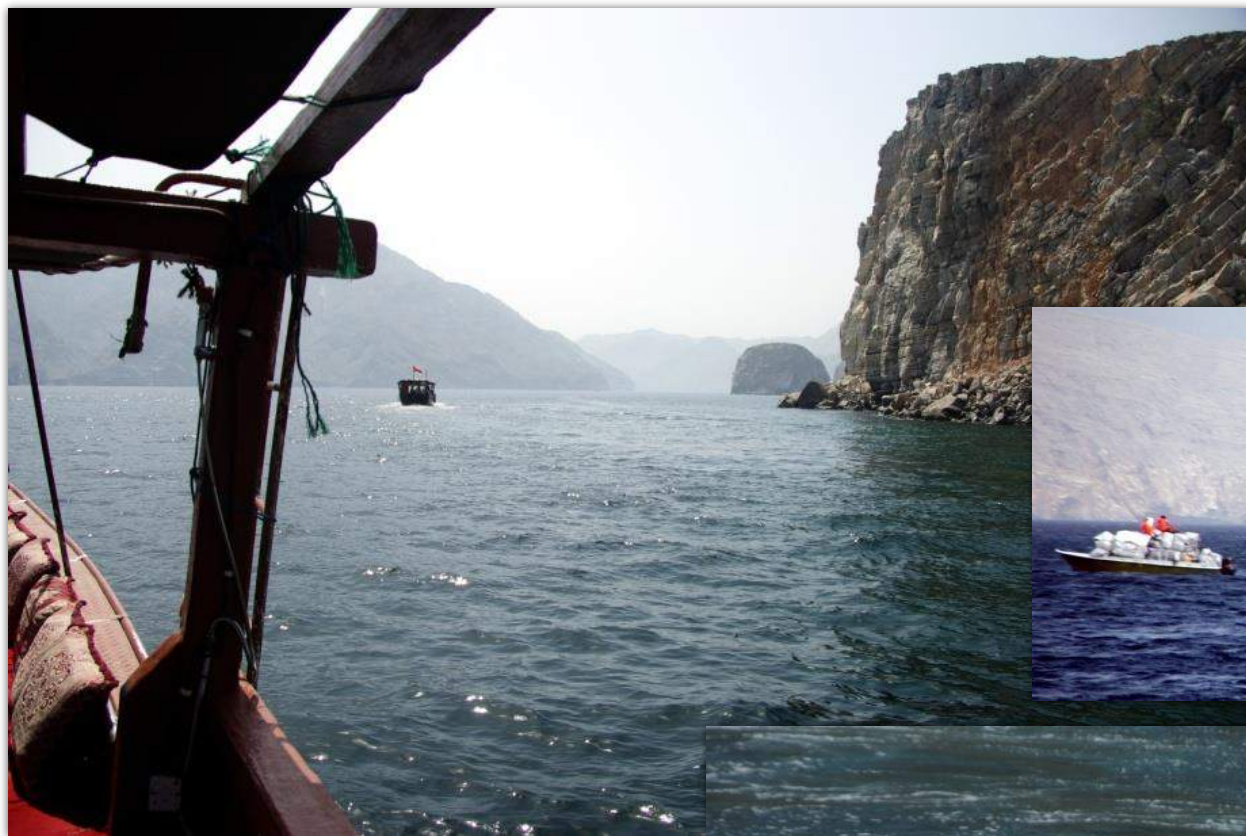




Dhow Boats

Dhows are traditional fishing boats. These, however, are outfitted to carry tourists and are booked through local travel agencies.





**Passing by
smuggling boats
that regularly run
to and from Iran.**





A Multinational Dhow

On our dhow was a Emirati couple, an Indian family, and an Indian couple, plus us two Americans.

The three dhows below are all looking for dolphins.





Finding and chasing dolphins



A small bay and beach on Oman's Musandam Peninsula, which can be accessed either by boat or by a steep trail from a small parking lot.

