

## 12. OMAN

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### Major Changes

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- The Omani air force received its first of three C-130J transport aircraft. The Air Force ordered 12 more F-16C/D combat aircraft, which will be delivered by 2016. The air force is also negotiating for Typhoon combat aircraft. Other aircraft on order include 8 CN-295 transport aircraft.
  - The Omani navy is still expecting its first Khareef combat ship – which was supposed to be delivered this year. The third ship of the class was already been launched.
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### General Data

**Official Name of the State:** Sultanate of Oman

**Head of State:** Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Said

**Minister of Defense:** Qaboos bin Said Al Said

**Chief of General Staff:** Lieutenant General Ahmed bin Harith bin Nasser al-Nabhani

**Commander of the Ground Forces:** Major General Matter bin Salim al Balushi

**Commander of the Air Force:** Air Vice Marshal Matar bin Ali bin Matar al Obaidani

**Commander of the Navy:** Rear Admiral Abdullah Bin Khasim Bin Abdullah Al Raisi.

**Area:** 212,000 sq. km.

**Population:** 3,100,000

## Oman

### Foreign Military Cooperation

Type	Details
• Foreign forces	35 US troops (as of September 2010)
• Joint maneuvers	Egypt (2001); GCC countries (2009); India (2009); Jordan (2001); Pakistan (2008); UK (2001); US (2001)
• Security agreement	GCC countries; India (2009); Iran (2003); Turkey (2001); US; Yemen (2004)

### Arms Trade

#### Arms Procurement and Security Assistance Received

Country	Type	Details
France	• Arms transfers	NH90 helicopters (2010) , A320 transport aircraft (2010)
Germany	• Arms transfers	Decocontain 3000 decontamination vehicles (2009)
India	• Military training	Trainees in India (2009)
Italy	• Arms transfers	Haras patrol vessels (2010), Centauro ACV (2011)
Singapore	• Arms transfers	Al-Ofouq OPVs (2012)
Spain	• Arms transfers	C-295 aircraft (2012)
UK	• Arms transfers	Khareef OPVs (2012), Typhoon aircraft (2012)
US	• Arms transfers	F-16C/D (2012), C-130J aircraft (2012), TASR radar (2011), Avenger SAMs (2011), DB110 reconnaissance pods (2012), Sniper ATP (2012), AIM-9X Sidewinder AAMs (2012)
	• Assistance	\$73 million military aid (2010)

#### Arms Sales and Security Assistance Extended

Country	Type	Details
UK	• Facilities	Use of airfields and naval bases
US	• Facilities	Use of airfields and naval bases; Storage facilities and prepositioning of equipment; Naval facilities at Masira and Ghanam Peninsula; Communications center; Upgraing of al-Musnanah AFB (2010)

## Oman

### Strategic Assets

#### NBC Capabilities

##### Nuclear capability

No known nuclear activity. Signatory to the NPT.

##### Chemical weapons and protective equipment

No known CW activities. Party to the CWC; Decocontain 3000 decontamination vehicles (2)

##### Biological weapons

No known BW activities. Party to the BWC.

#### Command and Control Assets

Name	Description
<b>Air defense</b>	
OFEQ-2000	National AD system, linking regional command and control centers with air surveillance radars.
Belt of Cooperation	Joint GCC communication network, combining national Aerial surveillance assets of GCC members.
Sky Guard	Local command and control system for AD assets
<b>Coastal surveillance</b>	
	Network of coastal radars and sensors

### Armed Forces

#### Order-of-Battle

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>General data</b>					
• Personnel (regular)	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000
<b>Ground Forces</b>					
• Number of brigades	4	4	4	4	4
• Total number of battalions	18	18	18	18	18
• Tanks	124 (201)	124 (201)	124 (201)	124 (201)	124 (201)
• APCs/AFVs	455 (486)	455*	455	455	455
• Artillery	147	150	150	150	150
<b>Air Force</b>					
• Combat aircraft	41	41	41	41	41
• Transport aircraft	49 (56)	49*	49	49	49

## Oman

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
• Helicopters	63	69	71	71	71
<b>Air Defense Forces</b>					
• Light SAM launchers	112	112	112	112	112
<b>Navy</b>					
• Combat vessels	9	9	9	9	9
• Patrol craft	71	74	74	74	74

\*Due to change in estimate.

### Personnel

	Regular	Reserves	Total
Ground Forces	25,000		25,000
Air Force	5,000		5,000
Navy	4,000		4,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>34,000</b>		<b>34,000</b>
<b>Paramilitary</b>			
• Tribal force (Firqat)	4,000		4,000
• Police/border police (operating aircraft, helicopters and PBs)			7,000
• Royal Household (including Royal Guard, Royal Yachts and Royal Flight)			6,000

## Ground Forces

### Formations

	Independent brigade/group	Independent battalion/Regiment	
Royal Guard	1HQ		
Armored	1 HQ	2+1 royal guard	
Infantry (Partly Mechanized)	2HQ	8+2 royal guard	
Reconnaissance		2 (1 inf.+1 armd.)	
Paratroops/		1+2 royal guard	
Special Forces			
Artillery			4
Air Defense			1
<b>Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>23</b>

## Oman

### Tanks

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
<b>MBTs</b>				
<b>High quality</b>				
• Challenger-2	38	38	1995	
<b>Medium and low quality</b>				
• M-60 A3	93	43	1990	
• M-60 A1	6	6	1980	
• Chieftain	27	0	1982	
Subtotal	126	49		
<b>Light tanks</b>				
• Scorpion	37	37	1980	Being upgraded
<b>Total</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>124</b>		

### APCs/AFVs

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
<b>APCs</b>				
• GKN-Defense Piranha	174	174	1995	
• AT-105 Saxon	15	15	1986	
• Spartan	23	23	1980	Including 3 Samson ARVs, 4 Sultan CPs
• VAB	23	23	1986	9 are also listed under Air Defense
• WZ-551B	~50	~50	2003	
Subtotal	285	285		
<b>IFVs</b>				
• V-150 Commando	20	20	1982	
<b>Reconnaissance</b>				
• Centauro-120	9	9	2010	With Royal Guard
• VBC-90	9	9	1986	Being replaced by Centauro ACV
Subtotal	18	18		
<b>Light armored vehicles</b>				
• VBL	132	132	1996	8 mounted with TOW
<b>Total</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>455</b>		

## Oman

### Artillery

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
<b>Self-propelled guns and howitzers</b>				
• 155mm G-6	24	24	1995	
<b>Towed guns and howitzers</b>				
• 155mm FH-70	12	12	1986	
• 130mm Type 59	12	12	1981	
• 122mm D-30	25	25		
• 105mm L-118	36	36	1976	
Subtotal	85	85		
<b>Mortars, under 160mm</b>				
• 120mm	12	12	1976	
• 120mm 2R2M SP	14	14	2008	Mounted on VAB chassis.
• 107mm M-30 SP	12	12	1986	Mounted on M106
Subtotal	38	38		
<b>MRLs</b>				
• 122mm type 90A	+	+		Unconfirmed
<b>Total</b>	<b>~150</b>	<b>~150</b>		

### Logistic and Engineering Equipment

Challenger ARVs (4); Samson ARVs (3); tank transporters (9)

### Anti-Tank Missiles

Model	Launchers	Missiles	Since	Notes
• FGM-148 Javelin	30	250	2007	
• BGM-71A TOW	26	+		8 mounted on VBL
• MILAN	32	+	1984	
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>			

## Air Force

### Order-of-Battle

Category	Quantity	In service	Notes
• Combat	41	41	
• Transport	49	49	
• Helicopters	71	71	

## Oman

### Combat Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
<b>Advanced Multi-role</b>				
• F-16 C/D	12	12	2005	
<b>Multi-role</b>				
• Jaguar Mk 1/2	18	18	1977	Upgraded
• HAWK Mk-203	11	11	1994	
Subtotal	29	29		
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>		
<b>Future procurement</b>				
• Typhoon	24			Under negotiations
• F-16 C/D	12			Delivery in 2016

### Transport Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
• A320	2	2	2009	Transport/ VIP
• C-130J-30	1	1	2012	Being delivered
• C-130H Hercules	3	3	1981	
• CN-235	2	2	1993	With police
• DC-8	1	1	1982	
• DC-10	1	1		
• Dornier Do-228-100	2	2	1984	With Police, used in MP role
• Gulfstream	1	1	1992	
• Skyvan Srs 3M	36	36	1970	7 employed in maritime patrol role
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>49</b>		
<b>Future procurement</b>				
• C295	8			Delivery from 2013, Three in MP role
• C-130J-30	3			Delivery in progress

### Training and Liaison Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
<b>Jet trainers</b>				
• PC-9	12	12	2000	
• Hawk Mk-103	4	4	1993	
Subtotal	16	16		
<b>Piston/Turbo-prop</b>				
• AS-202 Bravo	4	4	1976	

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Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
• MFI-17B Mushshak	8	8	1994/2002	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>		

### Helicopters

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
<b>Medium transport</b>				
• AB-205	24	24	1970	
• Bell 212	3	3	1976	
• AB-214	10	10	1974	Some in internal security roles
• NH90 TTH	10	10	2010	Being delivered
• AS-332 Super Puma	5	5	1982	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>52</b>		
<b>Light transport</b>				
• Bell 206 JetRanger	3	3	1970	
<b>Naval attack</b>				
• Super Lynx 300	16	16	2004	
<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>71</b>		
<b>Future procurement</b>				
• NH90 TTH	20			Delivery in progress

### Miscellaneous Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
<b>Maritime surveillance</b>				
• Skyvan Srs 3M	7	7	1970	Also listed under transport Aircraft
• Dornier DO-228-100	2	2	1984	Also listed under transport Aircraft
<b>Target drones</b>				
• TTL BTT-3 Banshee	<b>53</b>	+		

### Advanced Armament

#### Air-to-air-missiles

R-550 Magic (70), AIM-9P/J Sidewinder (330), AIM-120 AMRAAM (50), AIM-9M Sidewinder (100)



## Oman

### Air-to-ground-missiles

AGM-84D Harpoon (20) , AGM-65D/G Maverick (80)

### Bombs

BL-755 CBU, GBU-31/38 JDAM (84), GBU-10/12 Paveway -2 , CBU-97 SFW (350)

### Targeting Pods

TARS reconnaissance systems (2), Sniper targeting pods (7)

### Future procurement

DB110 reconnaissance pods (4) , Sniper ATP targeting pods , AIM-9X Sidewinder (55)

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Note: Numbers in parentheses refer to number of units purchased, not to current inventory levels.

### Air Force Infrastructure

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#### Aircraft shelters

For all combat aircraft, at Masira and Thamarit

**Military airfields** 6

Al-Musnana, Bureimi, Dukha, Masira, Muscat (Seeb), Salala, Thamarit

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## Air Defense Forces

### Surface-to-Air Missiles

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Model	Batteries	Launchers	Since	Notes
<b>Light missiles</b>				
• Mistral-2		54		On Panhard VBL
• Rapier Mk2		28		Upgraded
• Javelin		30	1989	
• Tigercat		*		
<b>Total</b>		<b>112</b>		
<b>Shoulder- launched missiles</b>				
• Blowpipe		+	1982	
• SA-7 (Grail)		34	1988	
<b>Total</b>		<b>~35</b>		
<b>Future procurement</b>				
• Avenger/ SL-AMRAAM		18		Under negotiations

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## Oman

### Other Air Defense Systems

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
<b>Air defense systems (missiles, radars and guns)</b>				
• Skyguard AD system	+	+	1995	With 35mm guns
<b>Short-range guns</b>				
• 40mm Bofors L-60	12	12	1987	
• 35mm Oerlikon Contraves	+	+	1995	With Skyguard
• 23mm ZU 23x2	4	4	1980	
• 20mm 20x2 VDAA SP	9	9	1986	Mounted On VAB
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>		
<b>Radars</b>				
• AR-15	+	+		
• S-713 Martello 3D	2	2		
• S-600	+	+		
• Watchman	+	+		
<b>Future procurement</b>				
• TASR/ MPN-14	2			

## Navy

### Combat Vessels

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/ armament
<b>Missile corvettes</b>			
• Qahir class (Vosper Thornycroft)	2	83.7/1,450	1xHelicopter 8xExocet MM40 SSMs 1x8 Crotale-NG SAMs 1x76mm gun 2x20mm guns 6x324mm torpedoes
<b>MFPBs</b>			
• Dhofar class (Province class)	4	56.7/394	8xExocet MM40 SSMs 1x76mm gun 2x40mm guns 2x20mm MGs
<b>Gunboats</b>			
• al-Bushra (P-400)	3	54.5/475	1x76mm gun 2x20mm guns

## Oman

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/ armament
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>		2x12.7mm MGs
<b>Future procurement</b>			
• al-Ofouq OPV	4	75/500	Delivery in 2016
• Khareef OPVs	3	98.5/ 2,500	Helicopter deck 8x Exocet MM40 Block 3 SSM 12 VL MICA SAMs 1x76mm gun 2x30mm AD guns Delivery in 2012

### Patrol Craft

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/ armament
• Haras	3	52/810	With Police Helicopter pad
• CG-29	3	28.9/84	2x20mm guns with police
• Mk-V	3	27.4/54	1x12.7mm MG 2x7.62mm MGs
• Seeb (Vosper Thornycroft)	4	25/60.7	1x20mm gun 2x7.62mm MGs
• CG-27	1	24/53	1x20mm gun with police
• Dheeb al Bahar (D- 59116)	2	23/65	1x12.7mm MG with police
• Vosper 75 ft	5	22.9/50	1x20mm gun
• P-2000	1	20.8/80	1x12.7mm MG with police
• P-1903	1	19.2/26	2x12.7mm MGs with police
• Rudman 58	14	18.5 m	
• Zahra (Watercraft type)	5	13.9/16	2x7.62mm MG with police
• Cougar Enforcer 33	20	10.8/5.4	
• Seaspray Assault Boats	12	9.5m	
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>		

## Oman

### **Landing Craft**

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/ armament
• Nasr al Bahar LST (Brooke Marine)	1	93/2,500	Helicopter deck 4x40mm guns 2x20mm guns 2x12.7mm MGs 400 tons or 7 tanks; 240 troops; 2 LCVP
• Shinas	2	64.8/146	Fast transport ship 56 vehicles, 200 troops
• al-Munassir LCT	1	64/850	56 troops
• Vosper 230-ton LCM	3	33.0/230	100 tons
• Al-Neemran LST	1	25.5/30	
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>		

### **Auxiliary Vessels**

Type	Quantity	Length (m.) / displacement (t.)	Notes/ armament
• Mabukah (Brooke Marine training ship)	1	62/900	1x40mm gun 2x20mm guns helicopter deck ex-royal yacht
• Al-Sultana (Conoship Groningen)	1	65.7/1,380	
• Fulk al Salamah	1	136.4/3,239	Supply ship
• Haras SAR vessels	2	52/900	100 troops
• Survey craft	1	15.5/23.6	
• Diving craft	1	18/13	

### **Naval Infrastructure**

Naval bases	4
Mina Raysut (Salala), al-Khasb, Muscat, Wuddam	
Ship maintenance and repair facilities	
Muscat	