

## Cost savings oman

MUSCAT: Oman's authorities have recorded tens of millions of Omani riyals in cost savings following the roll-out of a new framework for the governance of government projects contracted out for implementation via the Government Tender Board.

These savings, generated over the course of 2023, are expected to burgeon in the coming years once the new framework is meticulously applied in the tendering and award of government contracts estimated to total in excess of RO 1 billion in 2024 alone.

Development spending by the government has been on the uptrend in recent years, with around RO 505.3 million worth of government projects awarded via the Tender Board in 2022, up from RO 252.5 million a year earlier. In the first quarter of 2024 alone, government contracts with a lumpsum value of around RO 584 million were floated via the Tender Board's Esnad electronic tendering system.

Effective from 2023, new governance procedures have gone into effect to help enhance transparency, better allocation of resources, and reduction of waste to ensure the implementation of government projects in the "most effective and economical manner", according to the Oman Vision 2040 Implementation Follow-up Unit.

Following a series of engagements with stakeholders, including government and private sector organisations, consultants and engineering firms, and related entities, a new "Documentary Cycle" was formulated to help tackle bureaucratic delays attendant in the tendering process.

At the same time, the Tender Board issued a new regulation via Decision 2023/169 to strengthen governance in the management of government projects. "The regulation aims to create an effective framework that enhances the efficiency of government projects, ensures rapid implementation, reduces change orders, and adheres to approved budgets. The regulation addresses all aspects related to the tendering of government projects through 7 stages, starting from the "initiation" stage and ending with the "closure" stage," the Vision 2040 Office, which oversaw the delivery of the initiative, noted.

In the wake of the adoption of the new governance code, change orders - long blamed for cost overruns - declined 24 per cent in 2023 alone, while the procurement cycle was slashed by an average of 40 - 50 per cent. Financial savings totaling several tens of Omani riyals also accrued to the government as a result of these efficiencies, it added.

Oman is a beautiful country in the Arabian Peninsula, known for its rich culture, natural wonders, Prestigious universities and friendly people. Oman offers a balanced lifestyle with a reasonable cost of living compared to other major cities and Countries in the West Asia region. But how much does it cost to live in Oman as an international student?

In this comprehensive guide, we will explore the various aspects of the cost of living in Oman, such as food, housing, transportation, utilities, healthcare, education, and entertainment. We will also provide some tips on saving money and budgeting wisely in Oman. So dive in to get a clear picture of what to expect in living expenses in Oman.

The monthly average cost of living in Oman for a single person is around OMR 283.4, excluding rent, according to recent data from Numbeo. However, when factoring in rent for an apartment, total expenses range from OMR 141.06 to OMR 211.42. The living expenses in Oman vary depending on lifestyle choices and accommodation preferences.

The amount of living expenses in Oman is more affordable than in other Asian or Gulf countries. Students can enjoy a comfortable lifestyle without financial strain at this cost. To give you a quick overview of important categories that contribute to the average cost of living in Oman, we have provided a general breakdown in the table below:

Now, that you have got an idea about the average cost of living in Oman. Let's cover these costs one by one in detail.

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