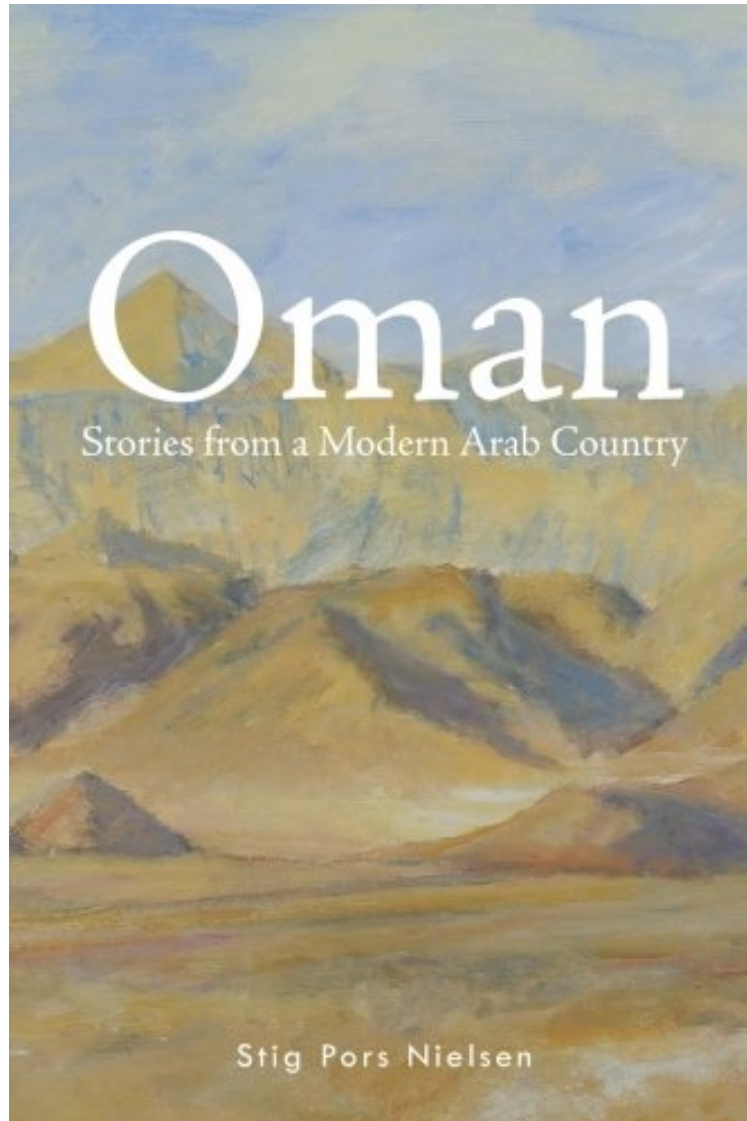


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Oman: Stories from a Modern Arab Country

Stig Pors Nielsen

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The Sultanate of Oman occupies the southeastern part of the Arab Peninsula. The country is beautiful and is full of unspoiled nature. The sun shines almost every day. The temperatures are pleasant during winter, but it is often

unbearably hot during summer. The country is as large as Italy but sparsely populated. It has oil, gas, and a variety of minerals. The rapid development of Oman takes place with respect for its cultural heritage. His Majesty Sultan Qaboos and the people of Oman are admired for having transformed Oman from a backwards, non-unified country into a modern, homogenous state with a high standard of living dominated by tolerance and growing democracy. It is blessed with a ruler, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, who has what may be called absolute power, which he uses with great care and wisdom. He is a true servant of his people.

About the Author Stig Pors Nielsen is a Danish physician who worked as a senior consultant at the Sultan Qaboos University Hospital from 1994 to 1995. His stories concern daily life in Oman then and later when he revisited. The book was written because the author wanted to remember Oman and its population and to inform the world of a country that used fewer than fifty years to attain what Europe needed five hundred years to accomplish.