Oman

Full name: Sultanate of Oman
Government: monarchy

Location: Middle East, bordering the Arabian Sea, Gulf of Oman, and Persian Gulf, between Yemen and UAE
Capital: Muscat
Area: 309,500 sq km (119,500 sq miles); slightly smaller than Kansas

Climate: dry desert; hot, humid along coast; hot, dry interior; strong southwest summer monsoon (May to September) in far south
Terrain: central desert plain, rugged mountains in north and south
Natural Hazards: summer winds often raise large sandstorms and dust storms in interior; periodic droughts

Population: 3 million (UN, 2005)
Ethnicity: Arab, Baluchi, South Asian (Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Bangladeshi), African
Major Language: Arabic
Religion: Ibadhi Muslim 75%, other (includes Sunni Muslim, Shi’a Muslim, Hindu) 25%
Life expectancy: 73 years (men), 76 years (women) (UN)

Currency: 1 Rial = 1000 biaza