

## His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said

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His Majesty was born in Salalah in Dhofar on the 18th of November 1940. He is the only son of the late Sultan Said bin Taimur and is eighth in the direct line of the Al Busaidi dynasty, which was founded in 1744 by Imam Ahmad bin Said, who was a leader of outstanding ability and came to power after a period of civil war bringing peace and stability to the land. Like his famous ancestor Sultan Qaboos took over a country in stagnation and conflict; but his early life gave no hint of what was to come. His Majesty spent his youth in Salalah where he was educated. At the age of 16, his father sent him to a private educational establishment in England. In 1960 he entered the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst as an officer cadet. Having passed out of Sandhurst he joined a British infantry battalion on operational duty in Germany for one year and also held a staff appointment with the British Army. After his military service His Majesty studied local government in England and went on a world tour before returning home. The next six years were spent in place with the private sector replacing the Salalah studying Islam and the history of his country and people. On the abdication of his father and his own accession on 23rd July 1970, His Majesty arrived in Muscat to begin the task for which he had been destined.