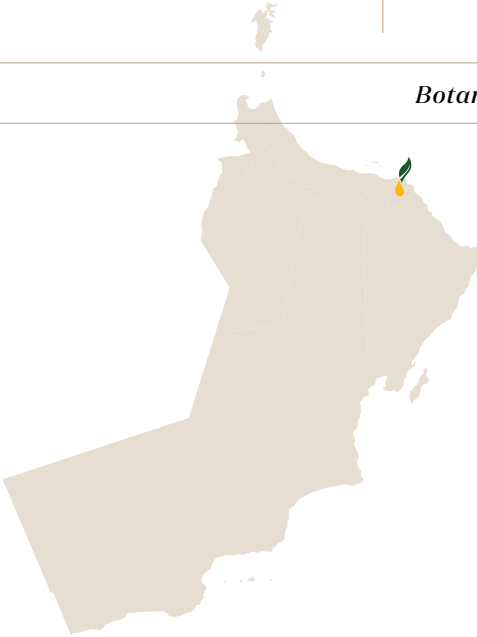


Muscat, Oman

# ARABIAN FRANKINCENSE DISTILLERY

Partner Since 2010

*Botanical sourced from this distillery: Sacred Frankincense*



## DISTILLERY LOCATION AND BACKGROUND

Young Living is the first company in the world to distil and export Omani Sacred Frankincense essential oil and bring it to the Western world. Young Living Founder D. Gary Young and Co-Founder Mary Young traveled to Oman in 1995 and learned the rich history of the *Boswellia sacra* trees that have been harvested there over the past 5,000 years. Gary was determined to build a distillery there and enlisted the help of Dr. Mahmoud Suhail and his agricultural family of frankincense growers and harvesters to help Young Living bring Sacred Frankincense essential oil to our members everywhere.

## BOTANICAL BACKGROUND

Frankincense is extracted from the resin produced by the *Boswellia sacra* tree, a native to southern Arabia. The name *frankincense* is derived from an old French word that means “pure incense.” Frankincense has enjoyed widespread use and was valued as a royal gift across several ancient cultures, including the Greeks, Romans, and Chinese.

**The Arabian  
Frankincense  
Distillery is known  
for its frankincense  
obtained from the  
*Boswellia sacra* tree.**

## DISTILLING

Essential oil is extracted from frankincense resin through a process called hydrodistillation. The extraction chamber of the distiller is equipped with an agitator that rotates back and forth, slowly grinding and stirring the resin. About one-fourth of the chamber is filled with resin and then halfway filled with water. The agitating action continues while the water is heated slightly to help melt the resin and release the oil vapor into the water. The vapor is then carried upward with steam, where it passes through the condenser and travels on to the separator.

This distillery’s new facility in Muscat boasts 17 extraction chambers that can operate simultaneously, running for 24 hours a day, six days a week, if necessary. Dr. Suhail is currently designing a new hydrodistiller that will further increase the distillery’s capacity to help keep up with demand for this beloved essential oil.



## HOW THE DISTILLERY GOT ITS START

Young Living Founder D. Gary Young traveled to Oman several times in the early 1990s to learn as much as he could about *Boswellia sacra*, the tree species that is famous for producing frankincense. He dreamed of one day building a distillery in Oman so he could share this ancient oil with members around the world.

After visiting many Middle Eastern countries, Gary decided to build his distillery in Salalah, Oman. He soon met Dr. Suhail, and the two became friends and partners. They built the distillery, starting with a single distilling chamber in January 2010. Five months later, they added a second extraction chamber, making their facility the first large commercial distillery in modern times devoted to extracting Sacred Frankincense essential oil.

Demand for the oil grew so much that Dr. Suhail started a larger facility in Muscat, the capital of Oman, where it would be easier to expand operations. Oman also offered more options for testing and collaborative scientific research and placed the distillery in a good position to import supplies easier, export oil, and stay up to date on the latest government regulations.



## DID YOU KNOW?



The limestone cliffs of Oman's Dhofar Mountains provide ideal conditions for frankincense trees to grow.



The Dhofar region, home to abundant groves of frankincense trees, belongs to the Hadhramaut, the ancient kingdom ruled by the fabled Queen of Sheba.



The first two distillers Gary brought to Oman are well-maintained and kept in the Gary Young Memorial corner of the distillery.



Hanging on the wall of the memorial are Gary's first instructions about distilling, dated March 11, 2010.

## LOOKING AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY



Developing reforestation areas. The original Salalah distillery is working with the government to restore Oman's rightful place as the frankincense capital of the world. Together, they are developing reforestation tracts to strengthen the frankincense industry. Local farmers work several hours a day to care for the trees in these areas.

Relying on ancient methods to produce sustainable frankincense. For the past 5,000 years, resin collectors have harvested from the region's *Boswellia sacra* trees using the same methods and schedule as their ancestors. Each frankincense tree can be harvested only once every 12 months, which requires strict monitoring and care.