

## Muscat electric vehicle adoption

Muscat &#8211; In a move towards promoting sustainable transportation, the Ministry of Energy and Minerals and Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology (MTCIT) collaborated to launch a field trial of electric vehicles on Tuesday.

This initiative is a part of Oman&#8217;s broader Green Mobility Initiative, aiming to enhance awareness on electric vehicles, encourage their adoption across the sultanate and provide citizens and residents firsthand experience of the latest EV models in the local market.

In a statement, the Ministry of Energy and Minerals (MEM) emphasised the initiative&#8217;s role as a platform for sharing knowledge and experiences among stakeholders in the electricity and sustainable transportation sectors. "This move is also focused on spreading awareness on the benefits of EVs, particularly their role in environmental conservation and reducing carbon emissions."

Aligning with Oman&#8217;s commitment to achieving net zero emissions by 2050, MTCIT has outlined a strategy to phase out fuel-operated vehicles. The plan includes ensuring 79% of vehicles in Oman are electric by 2035.

In 2023, MTCIT facilitated the installation of 90 electric vehicle charging stations across the sultanate, bolstering the infrastructure needed for the widespread adoption of EVs and reducing carbon emissions. The ministry announced that there are currently 100 EV charging stations nationwide, with plans to increase this number to 300 in the next two years.

Furthermore, MTCIT has issued a ministerial decision requiring all fuel stations to instal EV charging points. This mandate is part of the government&#8217;s efforts to make EV charging more accessible to the public. The decision also includes penalties for non-compliance, with sanctions ranging from a written warning for initial violations to an administrative fine of RO1,000 for repeat offences.

These measures mark a significant step in Oman&#8217;s progress towards sustainable transportation, highlighting the government&#8217;s dedication to reducing the country&#8217;s carbon footprint and fostering a culture of environmental responsibility.

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