

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

## SAUDI ARABIA: DESERT KINGDOMS

### PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends and should have a minimum of one (1) blank visa page for entry and exit stamps.

**An Electronic Visa (eVisa) is required for U.S. and Canadian passport holders for entry into Saudi Arabia.**

To apply for an eVisa, visit [Welcome to Saudi Arabia - Visit Saudi Official Website](#). The current fee for a multiple-entry visa, which is valid for one year, is 535 SAR (approximately USD \$142; subject to change without notice). Read and follow all instructions carefully to ensure a smooth arrival in Saudi Arabia.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at [visacentral.com/abercrombiekent](https://visacentral.com/abercrombiekent) or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

### COVID-19 COUNTRY ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & TRAVEL ADVISORIES

A&K requires proof of COVID-19 vaccination for travel on this journey.

The following are the current COVID-19 screening requirements for entry into the Saudi Arabia for U.S. and Canadian residents. Visit the U.S. Department of State at [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) or the Government of Canada at [travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories](https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories) for up-to-date information and travel advisories. All requirements are subject to change.

- All travellers are required to carry a certificate of travel insurance which specifically includes coverage for medical treatment and hospitalization costs for COVID-19 for the duration of travel.

### VACCINATIONS & MEDICATIONS

A yellow fever vaccination is only required to enter Saudi Arabia if you are arriving from, or have transited through, a yellow fever-endemic area in South America or Africa. The CDC and WHO each provide a current list of all affected countries. If vaccination for yellow fever is necessary, you must carry an International Certificate of Vaccination provided by your physician; you may be denied entry without it. If your physician advises against receiving the vaccination because of your personal medical history, he or she can provide you with the necessary documentation for the country/countries you are visiting.

### LOCAL HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

While there are currently no generalized face mask requirements for public spaces Saudi Arabia, masking regulations may apply in select settings, such as health care facilities. We encourage you to bring your own masks; a supply will be on hand where needed. Note all protocols are subject to change in accordance with relevant guidelines, local regulations and conditions.

### CASH & CREDIT CARDS

Cash transactions should be made in local currency. Major credit cards are widely accepted for goods and services. Access to ATM machines is widespread in cities and towns but may be limited in rural areas.

## OF SPECIAL NOTE: ALCOHOL IN SAUDI ARABIA

The importation, possession and/or consumption of alcohol in Saudi Arabia is prohibited and punishable by law. All beverages offered throughout this journey are non-alcoholic.

## PACKING LIST

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to collect and manage your luggage for you.

### Safe Travel Essentials

Be sure to bring personal protective equipment (PPE), including face masks, travel-sized hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, facial tissues and disinfecting wipes or spray.

### General Dress Code in Saudi Arabia

As a traditional Islamic nation, Saudi Arabia observes a strict dress code that must be adhered to at all times. Women should wear long skirts or loose-fitting pants and ensure that their ankles and arms are properly covered. Men should keep their arms covered as well. Though it is not legally required, women may occasionally be asked to wear an abaya (long robe) or hijab (headscarf).

Please note that men and women cannot use swimming pools at the same time in Saudi Arabia. There are designated times when each can use the pool, generally with women's swim hours being during the day. Check with your hotel for specifics.

### Clothing

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather (or level of air-conditioning) requires. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Casual slacks                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Abaya</i> (a long, loose black robe) for women                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Hijab</i> (scarf large enough to cover neck and shoulders for women) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long comfortable skirts for women                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Long sleeved shirts or blouses  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sweater or lightweight jacket                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Comfortable walking shoes with traction                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brimmed hat for sun protection                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Foldable umbrella to use as sun shade                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleepwear  | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal garments   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Socks  | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimwear/cover-up   |

### Other Recommended Items

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|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sun block / Insect repellent   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Simple first-aid kit            | <input type="checkbox"/> Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses | <input type="checkbox"/> Smartphone   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charging cables for electronics | <input type="checkbox"/> Global travel adapter  |

### Optional Items

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Small LED flashlight | <input type="checkbox"/> Foldable walking stick |
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- Small daypack or fanny pack

Laundry service is available at most hotels and dry cleaning is available in larger cities. Check costs and return times before using these services.

#### TIPPING GUIDELINES

As a convenience, all staff gratuities are included on your Limited Edition Small Group Journey: *Saudi Arabia: Desert Kingdoms*.

Any additional gratuities that you may wish to bestow upon any specific member/s of your tour staff are left to your personal discretion.

For extra nights or Tailor Made services added to your main journey, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars).

	<b>Tailor Made Journeys</b>
Local Guide (driving own vehicle)	\$40 per person, per day (full day)
Local Guide (with separate driver)	\$25 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	\$15 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	\$2 per bag
Housekeepers	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	10-15% unless already added
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added