

# 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

Saudi Arabia currently has no COVID-19 vaccination or testing requirements for entry 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.

### YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION

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.

### 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.

### 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.

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

### Other Recommended Items

- Face masks and hand sanitizer
- Sunglasses
- Simple first-aid kit
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Charging cables for electronics
- Sun block / Insect repellent
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Smartphone
- Global travel adapter

### Optional Items

- Small LED flashlight
- Small daypack or fanny pack
- Foldable walking stick

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