**Saudi Arabia**

**Passport/Visa Requirements**
US citizens should make sure their passport will not expire for at least 6 months after they enter the country even if they do not intend to stay that long. They should also make sure they have at least 1 blank page in their passport for any entry stamp and or visa that will be required. A visa is required. US citizens will need to get in touch with the country’s embassy or nearest consulate to obtain a visa prior to visiting the country.

**Vaccinations**
An International Certificate of Vaccination for yellow fever is required for travelers arriving from countries with a risk of yellow fever transmission and for travelers having transited through the airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission. Vaccinations required for certain visa classes. See WHO recommendations.

**Climate**
Harsh, dry desert with great temperature extremes

**Currency (Code)**
Saudi riyals (SAR)

**Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)**
220 V / 60 Hz / plug type(s): G

**Major Languages**
Arabic

**Religions**
Muslim (citizens are 85-90% Sunni and 10-15% Shia), other (includes Eastern Orthodox, Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, and Sikh); note: despite having a large expatriate community of various faiths (more than 30% of the population), most forms of public religious expression inconsistent with the government-sanctioned interpretation of Sunni Islam are restricted; non-Muslims are not allowed to have Saudi citizenship and non-Muslim places of worship are not permitted

**Time Difference**
UTC+3 (8 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Potable Water</strong></th>
<th>Yes, but some opt for bottled water.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>International Driving Permit</strong></td>
<td>Suggested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Road Driving Side</strong></td>
<td>Right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cultural Practices</strong></td>
<td>Do not point at people, better to keep hands flattened and gesture instead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Telephone Code</strong></td>
<td>966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Local Emergency Phone Numbers</strong></td>
<td>Ambulance: 997; Fire: 998; Police: 999</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please visit the following links to find further information about your desired destination.

- [World Health Organization (WHO) - To learn what vaccines and health precautions to take while visiting your destination.](http://www.who.int)

To obtain an international driving permit (IDP). Only two organizations in the US issue IDPs:

US citizens may call the US Dept of State (+1-202-501-4444) for emergencies abroad.

Last updated

Thursday, April 02, 2020