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

Telephone Code
966

Local Emergency Phone
Ambulance: 997; Fire: 998; Police: 999

US State Dept Travel Advisory
The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens DO NOT TRAVEL to Saudi Arabia due to COVID-19. Reconsider travel due to the threat of missile and drone attacks on civilian facilities. Exercise increased caution in Saudi Arabia due to terrorism. Consult its website via the link below for updates to travel advisories and statements on safety, security, local laws and special circumstances in this country.

https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html

US Embassy/Consulate
[966] (11) 488-3800; US Embassy in Riyadh, PO Box 94309, Riyadh 11693, Saudi Arabia; RiyadhACS@state.gov; https://sa.usembassy.gov/

Religions
Muslim (85-90% Sunni and 10-15% Shia), other (includes Eastern Orthodox, Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, and Sikh); note: most forms of
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Time Difference</strong></th>
<th>UTC+3 (8 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Potable Water</strong></td>
<td>Yes, but some opt for bottled water.</td>
</tr>
<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>Tourist destinations</strong></td>
<td>National Museum of Saudi Arabia; Jamaraat Bridge; Mada’in Salih; King’s Fountain; Dumat al-Jandal; Al-Turaif District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Major Sports</strong></td>
<td>Soccer, camel racing, wrestling</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>Tipping Guidelines</strong></td>
<td>Tipping 10-15% is expected for good service. Tip a porter/bellhop $1-2 (USD) per bag and a housekeeper $2 (USD) per day.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- [World Health Organization (WHO)](http://www.who.int) - To learn what vaccines and health precautions to take while visiting your destination.
- **To obtain an international driving permit (IDP). Only two organizations in the US issue IDPs:**
  - [American Automobile Association (AAA)](http://aaa.com) and
  - [American Automobile Touring Alliance (AATA)](http://www.aataidp.com)

How to get help in an emergency? Contact the nearest US embassy or consulate, or call one of these numbers:
- from the US or Canada - 1-888-407-4747 or from Overseas - +1 202-501-4444

Tuesday, February 8, 2022