



## Classic Saudi

Day 1: Arrival Jeddah  
Day 2: Jeddah  
Day 3: Jeddah - Medina  
Day 4: Medina - AlUla

Day 5: AlUla  
Day 6: AlUla - Riyadh  
Day 7: Riyadh  
Day 8: Departure Riyadh

### Highlights:

- Catch some sea breeze at Jeddah
- Wonder the holy city of Medina
- Discover ancient desert civilizations near AlUla
- Visit the Nabataean site of Hegra
- Experience Riyadh's contemporary culture

### Overview:

The birthplace and spiritual home of Islam, Saudi Arabia is rich in attractions and stirring symbolism. As rich as it is vast, the country's absorbing cities, remarkable culture, and breathtaking landscapes offer gloriously fresh experiences for adventurous travelers.

### Day 1: Arrival Jeddah

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Jeddah is a commercial hub sitting to the west along the Red Sea with the second busiest seaport in the Middle East. It's the principal gateway to Mecca, the holiest city in Islam, and sees over a million pilgrims a year on their way to perform the Hajj. Despite this, Jeddah is perceived to be the most liberal city in

Saudi Arabia and is a popular tourist destination, offering the beauty of ancient architecture mixed with the latest luxuries.

Celebrate your arrival in the Kingdom with **sunset drinks on the city's attractive corniche**. Take a stroll to admire the artworks in the **'open air museum'** and spread out your carpet and your 'takwa', the smart Saudi picnic seat. Join the locals when the sun sets, the call for prayer sounds and the world's tallest fountain comes to life in front of the beachwalk. Complete your first day in Saudi Arabia with a welcome dinner in modern style, befitting fast-paced Jeddah.

### Overnight in Jeddah.

Distances and journey time:

Jeddah - Jeddah airport (25km): 30 mins



## Day 2: Jeddah

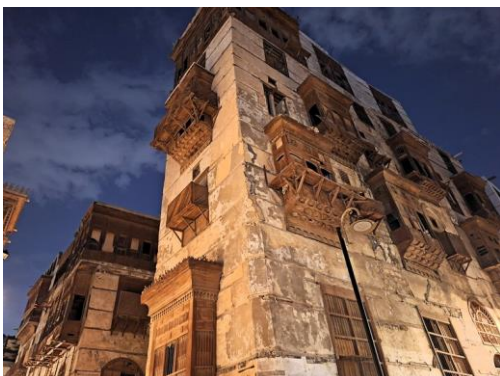
B/L/-

Start the day working on the Saudi bigger picture in the **Tayebat museum** to gain background about Islam, Saudi Arabia and Jeddah, the city to be explored first. The Tayebat museum is ideal for this, consisting of real-live, real-size examples of Saudi and especially Jeddahwi building styles, everyday tools and utensils, art and of course details about the Two Holy Cities; Mecca and Medina. which make a good base for a first talk about Islam. After visiting a selection of what is on display, let's head out into the real Saudi!

Jeddah's proximity to the Red Sea puts local seafood at the forefront, unlike elsewhere in the country. **The Central Fish Market** is the hotspot where buyers and sellers come together. Squid, shrimp, lobster and a great variety of fish, some only native to the Red Sea, are all fresh and on display. Follow the flow of the market where customers first choose their pick. Next they move on to have it weighed and get a ticket for the cleaning section, All set? Now it can be prepared in the restaurant right in the market or taken home. To stay in style, enjoy a seafood lunch in a nearby restaurant.

### **Optional Program for those who prefer a great half-day of snorkeling and swimming:**

*Experience the Red Sea! Hop on a **private speedboat** to enjoy the sea and sun. Snorkeling gear is packed to discover the **wealth of underwater life** the region is famous for. Different types of colorful coral, old sorts of exotic fish; snorkeling along the coral sites will impress. These shallow waters make it fun for all levels. The temperatures of the water are at least 21C and the high salinity is beneficial for your health. Top off the trip with a **seafood barbeque**, skillfully prepared by your skipper.*



Find out that things are equally convivial on dry land in the atmospheric **old town Al Balad**, which achieved UNESCO World Heritage status in 2014. Its traditional multi storey buildings and merchant houses are an architectural treasure trove. It is a dive back in time with the buzz of trading, pilgrims shopping and the occasional tourist mixed in. The roshan or wooden window covers are the ancient way to create shade and cool in this hot and humid climate, and they make these alleys especially picturesque. Visiting Al Balad is like a dive back in time with the buzz of trading, pilgrims shopping and the occasional tourist mixed in. In a quickly modernizing Kingdom, this area might be



the last one to find that 'real Middle Eastern mix of sights and smells' that you can find in the old souks across the region.

### Overnight in Jeddah.

## Day 3: Jeddah - Medina

B/L/-

Today is for following 'the footsteps of prophet Mohammed (peace be upon him)' to The Holy City of Medina. His early followers undertook this journey on foot and by camel. Present day's pilgrims go by Haramain, Saudi Arabia's **state-of-the-art high-speed train** system, which makes it a short (under two hours) hop to Medina, one of Islam's holiest pilgrimage sites.

Medina is one of the two most sacred cities in Islam (the other is Mecca). Medina is centered around **Al Masjid an Nabawi**, also known as **the Prophet's Mosque**, which was constructed by the Prophet himself and is also where he is buried. For a showstopping finale to a remarkable day, experience exterior views of the wonder of the Prophet's Mosque: a 10-minaret giant that can accommodate one million people. Join the throngs of pilgrims, it is hard to describe the vibe.

Non-muslims are welcome to enjoy exterior views of the mosque from the edge of the square. When the sun sinks it is a great time to visit **Mount Uhud**, a major pilgrimage site and viewpoint across the Holy City.

### Overnight in Medina

#### Distances and journey time:

Jeddah city center - Jeddah train station (20km): 25 mins

Jeddah - Medina (415 km): 1 hr 45 mins by high-speed train

Medina train station - Medina city center (20km): 25 mins

## Day 4: Medina - AlUla

B/L/-

There's much more to Medina than its primary holy site. Guests will get the chance to visit **the terminus station of the Hijaz or Ottoman railway**, which once brought pilgrims to Medina from as far away as Damascus in Syria. Guests will round out their time in Medina with some browsing time at the **city's central market**. Saudis are known for having a sweet tooth and the stalls at this bustling souk are ideal snaffling territory for goodies such as ma'amoul (butter cookies stuffed with pistachios, walnuts, almonds, or dates), luqaimat (hot, crispy dumplings drizzled in honey) and kunafa (a kind of sweet cheese pie made with semolina pastry and rose water syrup).



A fascinating road trip from Medina to AlUla, home to Saudi Arabia's first UNESCO World Heritage Site, awaits. These destinations sit deep in the desert in the northwestern region of the country. Don't expect only sand dunes, this is a volcanic area with black lava stone and mountain vistas and rich in historical significance.

Arriving in AlUla before sunset leaves ample scope for a pilgrimage to **Elephant Rock**. Set in golden desert sands and climbing into the blue Arabian skies, the rock (also known as **Jabal Alfil**) is one of AlUla's most impressive geological marvels.

### Overnight in AlUla

#### Distances and journey time:

Medina - AlUla (390 km): 4 hrs 30 mins  
AlUla - Jabal AlFil (Elephant Rock) (5 km): 10 mins

## Day 5: AlUla

B/L/-

The draw to AlUla is its remarkable natural rock formations and canyons, extensive and varied pre-Arabic rock art, and immaculately preserved tombs built more than 2,000 years ago by the Nabataeans. You'll start the day with a visit to the **Nabataean site of Hegra**, which was the southern capital of the Nabataean kingdom, dating back to the first century BCE. Today, visitors follow their 'rawee' or storyteller, to explore several of the more than 100 well-preserved monumental tombs, most with elaborate facades carved from rock formations scattered around the desert.

Next, head for the green zone that is **AlUla oasis**, and enjoy a cup of coffee at The Pink Camel, situated beautifully amid the date farms. Take a stroll where lush palm trees sway gently and the smell of citrus fills the fresh air, adding to the oasis-feeling that AlUla still retains. Follow the winding, shaded **Oasis Heritage Trail** through the orange grove, hear birds and imagine how the nomads of the past found water and refuge from the desert here.

Exit the lush oasis at AlJadeeda, an area known also as '**Art City**' which has a colorful vibe with street art and art exhibits spread out in its walking streets. Continue exploring **AlUla historic city**, often called 'the Old Town,' a charismatic place that once sat at the crossroads of the Silk Road and the Incense Route, and that rewards a leisurely stroll. Recent renovations have turned it into a magical mix of ancient alleys and trendy restaurants and upmarket souvenirs shops.



The remaining afternoon is at leisure. Enjoy the facilities of the hotel or continue your exploration of AlUla's landscapes with an optional activity: to name a few; see the sandstone mountains from above in a helicopter or hot air balloon (in season), hop on a mountain bike and venture off the beaten path into desert dunes or climb the valley's edge to better soak in AlUla's expansive vistas.

### Overnight in AlUla.

Distances and journey time:

AlUla - Hegra (20 km): 20 mins

Hegra - AlUla Historic Town (20 km): 25 mins

## Day 6: AlUla - Riyadh

B/L/-



Enjoy a leisurely start in your hotel before a midmorning departure to Riyadh, the Kingdom's modern capital.

Arriving in Riyadh you'll immediately see how rapidly the city is modernizing. From towering skyscrapers to long boulevards, shopping centers, mosques and luxury hotels, this is a city that is set to surprise you. Put things in perspective by taking the high-speed lift to the 99<sup>th</sup> floor of the iconic **Kingdom Center** for access to Riyadh's best urban panorama. Suspended 300 meters above the city, the tower's curved **Sky Bridge** offers spectacular views across the Riyadh skyline and beyond.

### Overnight in Riyadh.

Distances and journey time:

Flight ALUla - Riyadh: 1 hr 30 mins

Riyadh airport - Riyadh city center (35 km): 45 mins

## Day 7: Riyadh

B/L/-

Discover the wealth of contrasts that distinguish Riyadh. Historical highlights here include Masmak Fort, Souq al Zel, and cultural centers such as the National Museum and the Murabba palace. And of course At Turaif in the Diriya area, once the heart and start of the Kingdom. Whilst making your way across the city you will note the contrast between these local marketplaces and the city's sparkling highrise.

Begin the day with a visit to the **Diriyah** area, the birthplace of the first Saudi state called At-Turaif which ruled between 1744 and 1818. **The UNESCO World Heritage site** has just been stunningly restored to its former glory and is poised to become a cornerstone of the Kingdom's tourism offerings. Discover all about the architecture and heritage at the site. Find out how the mud-brick houses were built; how homes were cooled during the hot summer days; and how people lived without electricity and creature comforts

It's time to explore other pointers toward Saudi's charismatic past. You'll find **Al Masmak Fortress** in the heart of the old town. A large clay and mud-brick citadel that witnessed the birth of a kingdom, the 150-year-old edifice stands as a reminder of Saudi's storied past. Justice Square is another reminder of the past. Roaming this ordinary neighborhood on foot you discover mud houses, just like this morning, abandoned not long ago. You'll learn more about Saudi history at **Murabba palace** and at the **fantastic National Museum** of Saudi Arabia.



Towards the end of a busy day head for **Souq al Zel and Souq Bisht**, two of the most characteristic traditional marketplaces in town and uniquely atmospheric hubs of Arabian commerce. This is the ideal spot to acquire a memento for your journey back. Complete the Riyadh feeling by mingling with the locals in one of the city parks or squares that come alive with socializing activities once the sun rays disappear.

### Overnight in Riyadh.

## Day 8: Departure Riyadh

B/-/-

At leisure until you check out of your hotel and transfer to the airport

Distances and journey time:

Riyadh city center - Riyadh airport (35 km): 45 mins

## Rates & Conditions

\*\*For the summer May-Sept 2024, we may have a better deal, ask us about it!

### Accommodation - Deluxe / 5\* Option

*Hotels as mentioned or Similar*

City	Hotel	Hotel Category	Room Category
Jeddah	Sheraton	Deluxe/ 5*	Club room
Medina	Elaf Al Taqwa	Superior/4* (5* location)	Standard room
AlUla	Habitas Resort AlUla	Deluxe/ 5*	Canyon villa
Riyadh	Narcissus Hotel & Spa	Deluxe/ 5*	Superior room

### Deluxe Class Pricing: in USD per person in shared twin/double

Rates are inclusive of taxes and valid until April 2025 :

Except Ramadan (28 Feb - 31 Mar 2025)

Except Hajj Season for Millenium Medina (09 May - 20 July 2024)

Number of Persons	2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-12	13-15	SGL Supp
01 Oct - 31 Dec 2024	7 900	6 900	6 700	6 500	6 300	6 100	1 900
01 Jan - 30 Apr 2025	7,700	6 700	6 500	6 300	6 100	5 900	1 900

\*\*For the summer May-Sept 2025, we may have a better deal, ask us about it!

### Our Services Include:

- 15% VAT tax & up to 5% municipality tax are included for all services mentioned in the program
- English speaking local tour guides (often station guides: 1 guide per location)
- 7 nights' accommodation in shared twin/double room with daily breakfast
- Meals as mentioned in the itinerary (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner) without any beverages
- All transfers and tours by private air-conditioned vehicles, unless otherwise mentioned
- Bottled drinking water totalling to 1lit/pax/day during touring days
- All entrance fees as indicated in the itinerary
- Exclusive cornice experience with soft drinks & local snacks in Jeddah
- Travel Insurance

### Our Services do not include:

- International and domestic flights, unless specified otherwise
- Meals other than mentioned above,
- Camera/video entrance fees,
- Personal expenses,
- Supplements for early/late transfers
- Other services not clearly indicated in the package inclusions above
- Optional private boat trip on the Red Sea in Jeddah
- Other optional tours/activities mentioned in the program, for example helicopter tour, biking , hot air balloon ride etc.

Supplement guide other languages:	
Language	Supplement per group per program USD
French / German / Italian / Spanish	Rates available on request







## Surprising Saudi

Day 1: Arrival Riyadh  
Day 2: Riyadh  
Day 3: Riyadh - Tabuk  
Day 4: Tabuk - Wadi Disah  
Day 5: Wadi Disah - AlUla

Day 6: AlUla  
Day 7: AlUla - Medina  
Day 8: Medina - Jeddah  
Day 9: Jeddah  
Day 10: Departure Jeddah

### Highlights:

- Experience Riyadh's contemporary culture
- Discover ancient desert civilizations in AlUla
- Stargaze when camping in the private valley
- Catch some sea breeze at Jeddah
- Journey through time in UNESCO-listed Al Balad

### Overview:

As it is so unfamiliar to tourists, Saudi Arabia is often misperceived. Casual observers often class it as a hyper-conservative destination with laws as harsh and unforgiving as its desert landscapes. But the vast Kingdom is far more nuanced than it is generally given credit for. This revelatory adventure unlocks the door to multi-faceted cities, remarkable culture, and breathtaking landscapes.

## Day 1: Arrival Riyadh

-/-/-

One of the wealthiest cities in the world, Riyadh is a showcase for modern Saudi Arabia. Once a walled, mud-brick way station along desert trading routes, the capital is now a hyper-contemporary metropolis with the best hotels and restaurants in the country. Its organized grid layout is lined with more than 4,000 mosques, numerous busy shopping centers and traditional souks, public parks, and a diverse set of communities and neighborhoods.

On this first day in the Kingdom, you will check the pulse of the city by taking the high-speed lift to the 99<sup>th</sup> floor of **the iconic Kingdom Center** for access to Riyadh's best urban panorama. Suspended 300 meters above the city, the tower's curved **Sky Bridge** offers spectacular views across the Riyadh skyline and beyond.

For those who arrive early, why not consider an optional trip outside town to the stunning The Edge of the World.

### **Optional Program for a great half-day by 4x4 to the stunning Edge of the World**

*Leave the city center and head out to Jebel Fihrayn, more famously known as "The Edge of the World". It got its nickname from the uninterrupted view of the horizon it offers atop its 300-meter-high cliffs, which overlook the plain below. Go for a stroll along the edge before you get cozy on your carpet and takwa, the Saudi picnic seat, for a prime view of the sky as it seems to melt into the barren earth. Enjoy freshly brewed arabic coffee and tea, the flames of the fire and picnic-style snacks before returning to your hotel in Riyadh*

*Time : 15:00 - 20:00*

*Distances and journey time:*

*Riyadh - Jebel Fihrayn (Edge of the World) (100 km): 1 hr 30 min each way*



## Overnight in Riyadh.

Distances and journey time:

Riyadh airport - Riyadh city center (35 km): 45 mins

## Day 2: Riyadh

B/L/D

Discover the wealth of contrasts that distinguish Riyadh. Historical highlights here include Masmak Fort, Souq al Zel, and cultural centers such as the National Museum and the Murabba palace. And of course Ad Diriya, once the heart and start of the Kingdom. Whilst making your way across the city you will note the contrast between these local marketplaces and the city's sparkling highrise.

Let's begin with some pointers toward Saudi's charismatic past. You'll find **Al Masmak Fortress** in the heart of the old town. A large clay and mud-brick citadel that witnessed the birth of a kingdom, the 150-year-old edifice stands as a reminder of Saudi's storied past. Justice Square is another reminder of the past. Modern Saudi shop in supermarkets but a few old market areas remain, like **Souq al Zel and Souq Bisht**, two of the most characteristic traditional marketplaces in town. This is the perfect place to purchase an Abaya for use during your travels. Naturally, as a foreigner the use of an Abaya is completely voluntary.

You'll learn more about Saudi history at beautiful **Murabba palace** and at the modern **National Museum** of Saudi Arabia.



Across town and pointing high into the sky as a symbol for power is **KAFD**, or **King Abdullah Financial District**, the strikingly modern heart of business of the Kingdom and more and more the wider Gulf region. Have a look at the mosque in an equally bold design before traveling further into the future visiting **The Line Experience**. This stunning complex of halls explains how The Line, the future main city in NEOM is being built and how life inside will be for its 9 million inhabitants



From the future to the past, it is time to explore **Ad Diriyah**, the birthplace of the first Saudi state called At-Turaif which ruled between 1744 and 1818. The UNESCO World Heritage site has just been restored to its former glory and is poised to become a cornerstone of the Kingdom's tourism offerings. Discover more about the architecture and heritage at the site. Find out how the mud-brick houses were built; how homes were cooled during the hot summer days; and how people lived without electricity and creature comforts.

Enjoy a great dinner at one of the **top quality restaurants of the Bujairi Terrace** to complete what was just day one!

### Overnight in Riyadh.

## Day 3: Riyadh - Tabuk

B/L/-

This morning you leave the capital by air for Tabuk, the gateway to Saudi Arabia's northwest, and for centuries a resting point for Jordanian and Egyptian pilgrims on their way to Mecca and Medina.

Life moves slowly here as you will feel wandering along the main street, checking out the 'smach' shops (Saudi headwear for men) and the all-purpose stores selling anything a bedouin needs in the desert. **The small fort** sits at the top of the street and houses a museum. The distinct Ottoman architecture is a testament to the city's position as the gateway to Saudi and the Arab world. To prove this, explore **one of the best-preserved railway stations** in Saudi Arabia. **Hijaz Railway Station** was built almost a century ago to take Muslim pilgrims from Damascus to the holy cities of Makkah and Medina but ended in ruins less than two decades after its start. This iconic attraction allows you to admire refurbished buildings that offer various Ottoman relics at this historical monument.

If you're exploring alternative activities for a more active and exciting afternoon, consider the following **optional half-day program**.

### **Optional Program for a hidden Hisma Tour by 4x4**

*Immerse yourself in Hisma's unique desert landscape. Explore unknown areas of the majestic desert of NEOM from the comfort of a 4x4. The tour will include wonderful sightseeing opportunities from some of the best vantage points in NEOM. See historical inscriptions and spectacular rock formations. You will also have the opportunity to hike in shaded areas, reaching hidden locations. The trip will end with breathtaking sunset views and an authentic Bedouin experience at the camp.*

*Time : 12:00 - 21:30*

*Distances and journey time:*

*Tabuk - Hisma (125 km): 1 hr 30 mins (incl. off road)*



### Overnight in Tabuk.

## Day 4: Tabuk - Wadi Disah

B/L/D

Enjoy a leisurely morning with some free time before we embark on our journey to explore the wonders of Tabuk region. Embark on a journey southward, traversing the arid desert and rugged mountains, immersing yourself in the captivating landscape.

Reach **Wadi Disah**, one of Saudi Arabia's most spectacular natural attractions. Loosely translated as **the Valley of the Palm Trees**, the beautiful valley is characterized by mountain forms and tall rocky columns in various colors, and a freshwater spring which creates a real oasis feeling. **Hop in a 4x4 for an off road adventure** into the wadi itself. For those fancying a stroll, step out and walk for a bit, enjoy the birds singing and once it's enough, the jeep soon catches up with you.

Continue to Disah village and settle in on a fruit farm where more will be learned about agriculture in this arid climate.



When the daylight fades, jump in a local 4x4 for a short transfer to a secluded corner of the valley to reach **a private, tented camp**, set up just for you! Recline on takwa, the Saudi picnic seat, while the campfire creates a warm glow. A **traditional bbq dinner is served under the star-filled night sky** and your guide will explain to you how these stars help desert travelers navigate and share a good story or two over freshly brewed arabic coffee.

When it is time to sleep, cozy Bedouin tents await for an unforgettable night under the stars. Bedouins traditionally sleep in tents to be able to follow their herds, which go after the rains that fall scattered across the desert. Your tent has a proper bed

and other required comforts for a good night sleep. Bathroom facilities are shared.

### Overnight in a private tent in Wadi Disah.

Distances and journey time:

Tabuk - Wadi Disah (215 km): 3 hrs 15 mins

## Day 5: Wadi Disah - AlUla

B/L/-

See the sun appear from behind the mountains while a fresh local breakfast is prepared around the fire. Next, like true Bedouin, break up camp and move on.

The destination today is **AlUla, home to Hegra Saudi Arabia's first UNESCO World Heritage Site**. Situated deep in the desert, the draw to AlUla is its remarkable natural rock formations and canyons, extensive and varied pre-Arabic rock art, and immaculately preserved tombs built more than 2,000 years ago by the Nabataeans, and for most travelers the biggest highlight of their Saudi adventure. It's a vast area with many highlights.

When the afternoon light starts to turn golden it is the right time for a pilgrimage to **Elephant Rock**. Set in desert sands and climbing into the blue Arabian skies, the rock (also known as Jabal Alfil) is one of AlUla's most impressive geological marvels.



### Overnight in AlUla.

Distances and journey time:

Wadi Disah - AlUla (270 km): 3 hrs 30 mins

AlUla - Jabal AlFil (Elephant Rock) (5 km): 10 mins

## Day 6: AlUla

B/L/-



The draw to AlUla is its remarkable natural rock formations and canyons, extensive and varied pre-Arabic rock art, and immaculately preserved tombs built more than 2,000 years ago by the Nabataeans. You'll start the day with a visit to the Nabataean site of **Hegra**, which was the southern capital of the Nabataean kingdom, dating back to the first century BCE. Today, visitors follow their 'rawee' or storyteller, to explore several of the more than 100 well-preserved monumental tombs, most with elaborate facades carved from rock formations scattered around the desert.

Next, head for the green zone that is **AlUla oasis**, why not enjoy a cup of coffee at The Pink Camel, situated beautifully amid the date farms. Take a stroll where lush palm trees sway gently and the smell of citrus fills the fresh air, adding to the oasis-feeling that AlUla still retains. Follow the winding, shaded **Oasis Heritage Trail** through the orange grove, hear birds and imagine how the nomads of the past found water and refuge from the desert here.

Exit the lush oasis at AlJadeeda, an area known also as '**Art City**' which has a colorful vibe with street art and art exhibits spread out in its walking streets. Continue exploring **AlUla historic city**, often called 'the Old Town,' a charismatic place that once sat at the crossroads of the Silk Road and the Incense Route, and that rewards a leisurely stroll. Recent renovations have turned it into a magical mix of ancient alleys and trendy restaurants and upmarket souvenirs shops.

Enjoy your remaining **afternoon at leisure**. Enjoy the facilities of the hotel or continue your exploration of AlUla's landscapes with an optional activity: to name a few; see the sandstone mountains from above in a helicopter or hot air balloon (in season), hop on a mountain bike and venture off the beaten path into desert dunes or climb the valley's edge to better soak in Al Ula's expansive vistas.

### Overnight in AlUla.

Distances and journey time:

AlUla - Hegra (20 km): 20 mins

Hegra - AlUla Historic Town (20 km): 25 mins

## Day 7: AlUla - Khaybar - Medina

B/L/-

Today's journey goes through the desert and mountains to Medina along an ancient pilgrimage route passing **the oasis of Khaybar**. Don't expect only sand dunes, this is a volcanic area with black lava stone and mountain vistas and rich in historical significance. Before the rise of Islam in the 7th century, the Khaybar region was inhabited by Arabian Jewish tribes. In 628 AD, Muslims under the leadership of Prophet Muhammad took over the city during the Battle of Khaybar. Visit the remains of the mud city situated in a steep wadi or valley, with its several fortresses towering over thousands of green palm trees. The area has been recently reopened after renovations.





One of the two holiest cities in Islam (the other is Mecca), Medina is centered around **Al Masjid an Nabawi**, a 10-minaret giant that can accommodate 1 million people also known as **the Prophet's Mosque**. Join the throngs of pilgrims in the heart of the city, it is hard to describe the vibe. Non-muslims are welcome to enjoy exterior views of the mosque from the edge of the square. When the sun sinks it is a great time to visit **Mount Uhud**, a major pilgrimage site and viewpoint across the Holy City.

### Overnight in Medina.

#### Distances and journey time:

AlUla - Khaybar (225 km): 2 hrs 25 mins

Khaybar - Medina (175 km): 2 hrs

## Day 8: Medina - Jeddah

B/L/-

There's much more to Medina than its primary holy site. Guests will get the chance to visit **the terminus station of the Hijaz or Ottoman railway**, which once brought pilgrims to Medina from as far away as Damascus in Syria. Guests will round out their time in Medina with some browsing time at the **city's central market**. Saudis are known for having a sweet tooth and the stalls at this bustling souk are ideal snaffling territory for goodies such as ma'amoul (butter cookies stuffed with pistachios, walnuts, almonds, or dates), luqaimat (hot, crispy dumplings drizzled in honey) and kunafa (a kind of sweet cheese pie made with semolina pastry and rose water syrup).



After lunch overlooking Al Masjid an Nabawi, it's time to board one of Saudi Arabia's **state-of-the-art high-speed trains** to make the short (under 2 hours) hop to the coastal city of Jeddah. Celebrate your arrival with **drinks on the city's attractive corniche**. Spread out your carpet and your 'takwa', the smart Saudi picnic seat. Join the locals when the sun sets, the call for prayer sounds and **the world's tallest fountain** comes to life in front of the beachwalk.

### Overnight in Jeddah

#### Distances and journey time:

Medina - Jeddah (420km): 2hrs by high-speed train

Jeddah train station - Jeddah city center (20km): 25 mins

## Day 9: Jeddah

B/L/D

Jeddah is a commercial hub sitting to the west along the Red Sea with the second busiest seaport in the Middle East. It's the principal gateway to Mecca, the holiest city in Islam, and sees over a million pilgrims a year on their way to perform the Hajj. Despite this, Jeddah is perceived to be the most liberal city in Saudi Arabia and is a popular tourist destination, offering the beauty of ancient architecture mixed with the latest luxuries.

**Experience the Red Sea!** Hop on a **private speedboat** to enjoy the sea and sun. Snorkeling gear is packed to discover the **wealth of underwater life** the region is famous for. Different types of colorful coral, old sorts of exotic fish; snorkeling along the coral sites will impress. These shallow waters make it fun for all levels. The temperatures of the water are at least 21C and the high salinity is beneficial for your health. Top off the trip with a **seafood barbeque**, skillfully prepared by your skipper.

Find out that things are equally convivial on dry land in the atmospheric old town, **Al Balad**, which achieved UNESCO World Heritage status in 2014. Its traditional multi storey buildings and merchant houses are an architectural treasure trove. It is a dive back in time with the buzz of trading, pilgrims shopping and the occasional tourist mixed in. The roshan or wooden window covers are the ancient way to create shade and cool in this hot and humid climate, and they make these alleys especially picturesque. Have your guide take you out for one final taste of Saudi cuisine before you can say 'hay maa al-salama, goodbye, until next time.'



## Overnight in Jeddah

### Day 10: Jeddah - Departure

B/-/-

At leisure until you check out of your hotel and transfer to the airport

Distances and journey time:

Jeddah - Jeddah airport (25km): 30 mins

## Rates & Conditions

### Accommodation - Deluxe / 5\* Option

*Hotels as mentioned or Similar*

City	Hotel	Hotel Category	Room Category
Riyadh	Narcissus Hotel & Spa	Deluxe/ 5*	Superior room
Tabuk	Grand Millenium Tabuk	Deluxe/ 5*	Deluxe room
Wadi Disah	Private tented camp	First class*	Private tent (shared facilities)
AlUla	Habitas Resort AlUla	Deluxe/ 5*	Canyon villa
Medina	Elaf Al Taqwa	Superior/4* (5* location)	Standard room
Jeddah	Sheraton	Deluxe/ 5*	Club room

### Deluxe Class Pricing: in USD per person in shared twin/double

Rates are inclusive of taxes and valid until April 2025 :

Except Ramadan (28 Feb - 31 Mar 2025)

Except Hajj Season for Millenium Medina (09 May - 20 July 2025)

Number of Persons	2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-12	13-15	SGL Supp
01 Oct - 31 Dec 2024	9 900	8 900	7 900	6 900	6 400	5 900	1 900
01 Jan - 30 Apr 2025	10 900	9 900	8 900	7 900	7 400	6 900	1 900

\*\*For the summer May-Sept 2024, we may have a better deal, ask us about it!

### Additional Airfare Indication:

Indicative Rates valid between 01 Jan 2024 - 30 April 2025

Route	Airline	Estimation in USD / Person
Riyadh - Tabuk	Saudia or Flynas	190
<b>Note:</b> All airfares are subject to change upon reservation & without prior notice by the airlines.		

### Our Services Include:

- 15% VAT tax & up to 5% municipality tax are included for all services mentioned in the program
- English speaking local tour guides (often station guides: 1 guide per location)
- 9 nights accommodation in shared twin/double room with daily breakfast
- Meals as mentioned in the itinerary (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner) without any beverages
- All transfers and tours by private air-conditioned vehicles, unless otherwise mentioned
- Bottled drinking water totalling to 1lit/pax/day during touring days
- All entrance fees as indicated in the itinerary
- Exclusive cornice experience with soft drinks & local snacks in Jeddah
- 4x4 off road adventure in Wadi Disah
- 2D1N, private camping experience at Wadi Disah - all activities (like BBQ dinner, camel riding and stargazing) take place in the desert.
  - Overnight camp **1-4pax** in the desert. Desert facilities provided are private tents (2pax/tent, with real beds) and shared, portable toilet and washing basin.
  - Overnight camp for **5pax up** on the farm. Farm facilities provided are private tents (2pax/tent, with real beds) and shared bathroom with toilets and showers.
- Private boat trip on the Red Sea in Jeddah including seafood lunch

### Our Services do not include:

- International and domestic flights, unless specified otherwise
- Meals other than mentioned above,
- Camera/video entrance fees,
- Personal expenses,
- Travel insurance, tips, visa,
- Supplements for early/late transfers
- Other services not clearly indicated in the package inclusions above
- Other optional tours/activities mentioned in the program, for example helicopter tour, biking , hot air balloon ride etc.

Supplement guide other languages:	
Language	Supplement per group per program USD
French / German / Italian / Spanish	Rates available on request

