

Vagabjorn 2023 Saudi Road Trip

February 2022 Ultimate Saudi Arabia Road Trip Itinerary

Ever considered traveling in the recently opened Kingdom of Saudi Arabia? Well, now is your chance! Join us on this adventurous road trip, either for one week or a two week road trip visiting all the highlights of this big and mysterious country.

Basically, the goal is to see as much as possible during a two week period. That also means that we will have to cover quite a bit of road distance.

Below you will find a rough plan/itinerary, but please note however that this itinerary most likely will change as we will have to adapt to road conditions, events and our own moods and energy along the way. Here is an overview of the distances between sights mentioned in the itinerary:

	Route	Total distance in klm	Total Travel Time
Day 1	Riyadh	0 km	0:00
Day 2	Riyadh - Ad Diriyah + Day TOUR at the Edge of the World - Riyadh	40 km	0:50
Day 3	Riyadh - Ushaiger Heritage Village - Buraydah	385 km	4:15
Day 4	Buraydah - Ha'il	280 km	3:00
Day 5	Ha'il - Al Ula	435 km	4:45
Day 6	Day Trip to Hegra & Old Town Al Ula - TOUR	0 km	0:00
Day 7	Al Ula - Medina	385 km	4:50
Day 8	Medina - Jeddah	410 km	3:45
Alternative Route (+1)	Al Ula - Umluj - Yanbu	460 km	7:45
	Yanbu - Medina	210 km	2:50
Day 9	Jeddah	0 km	0:00
Day 10	Jeddah - Mecca - Ta'if - Jabal Dakka (optional) - Al Bahah	390 km	6:00
Day 11	Al Bahah - Thee Ain Ancient Village - Raghadan Forest Park - Abha	319 km	5:00
Day 12	Abha - Al Sahab Mountain Park - Al Sawda - Rijal Alma - Abha	131 km	3:00
	Abha - Al Habala (optional) OR		
Day 13	Visit Bin Hamsan heritage village (& nearby Mushayt)	120 km	2:00
Day 14	Abha - Tihama Market (Flower Men) - Gizan (Jazan)	200 km	2:30
Day 15	Gizan (Jazan) - Fayfa - Zahran Al Janub - Najran	400 km	5:30
Day 16	Najran	0 km	0:00
Day 17	Najran - Riyadh	970 km	10:35
Day 18	Riyadh	0 km	0:00
		4.445 km	

If you are interested in joining the first week from Riyadh to Jeddah, you will find a program on [this link](#). The planned itinerary from Jeddah up to Riyadh is explained in the details below:

March 2nd: Arrive in Jeddah any time

- Today you can arrive with any flight. If we are in town we will pick you up from the airport. If not, expect to pay around 10\$ for a uber to the start hotel.

- At the start hotel, we will also collect the remainder of the money required for the tour (cash or transfer), and you will also be asked to sign a waiver acknowledging the T&C of the trip.

- We will go for dinner together and we'll answer any questions you might have.

March 3rd: Jeddah => Ta'if => Jabal Dakka = Al Bahah



- We will start early morning by driving an hour to pass by the holy city of Mecca (if the situation allows), then drive to the Dakka Mountain and Ta'if where we will visit Al Masmak Fortress.

- Overnight in Bahah, the capital city of the Bahah Region

March 4rd: Al Bahah => Thee Ain => Raghadan = Abha



- We will hop in the car and drive to the beautiful village of Thee Ain. The area will be getting more green and there will be several villages around this area which are built with mud, in a gingerbread architectural style that we can explore.

March 5th: Abha => Jizan => (Farasan Island) => Jizan



- We will drive down to the region bordering Yemen, where the culture will be somewhat a mix of the culture in the two countries
- If time permits, we will hop on a ferry that will take us to Farasan Island. If we end up going here we will most likely have to camp somewhere at an empty beach before going back with the ferry to Jizan the next morning. For those who are not interested in going here, you may also sleep in Jizan and meet up with the rest of the group the next morning

March 6th Jizan => Fayfa => Najran



- Hop in the car and drive to Fayfa and onwards to Najran.
- Najran is just 20 kilometers from the Yemeni border, so you can expect the culture to be different here from the North of the country

March 7th Najran => Desert



- Hop in the car and drive along the planned route. More info about sights will appear here.

March 8th Desert => Riyadh



- We will drive back to Riyadh where there will be plenty of activities we can do, such as visiting the Kingdom Tower or drive to the desert to see the red sand dunes.

March 9th Riyadh full day

- Today will either be a day to explore Riyadh, or, more likely we will have used this day somewhere else on the itinerary (where we have wanted to stay longer), so most likely we will arrive the city this day, instead of the day before.

March 10th Departure day

- Leave any time.

Simplified program:

Torsdag	2.mars	Jeddah arrival day
Fredag	3.mars	Jeddah-Ta'if- Jabal Dakka- Al Bahah
Lørdag	4.mars	Al Bahah- Thee Ain - Raghadan- Abha
Søndag	5.mars	Abha- Al Sahab- Al Sawda- Rijal Alma- Abha
Mandag	6.mars	Abha-Jizan
Tirsdag	7.mars	Jizan- Fayfa- Najran
Onsdag	8.mars	Najran- Riyadh
Torsdag	9.mars	Riyadh buffer day
Fredag	10.mars	Depart Riyadh any time

COST: 700 USD

Included:

- All accommodation, at a twin room sharing basis.
- Transportation between the places mentioned in the itinerary.
- Tips to guides etc (you are not expected to pay any tips on this trip)

Excluded:

- The visa to Saudi Arabia. This can be easily obtained online
- Flights to Saudi Arabia. This can be easily obtained online
- Single supplement for those who do not want to share a room (140 USD)
- Meals. Expect daily costs of 20-30\$ for this.



Useful links and resources:

Insurance: We recommend everyone to have a good insurance. I personally use a company called SafetyWing and am also registered as a partner with them. The insurance covers all countries in the World, except for Iran, Syria, Cuba and North Korea. The price for this insurance is 42\$ per month (or 76\$ if you want to include the US). You can also book for travels less or more than one month, where the price will be calculated thereafter.

If you sign up for SafetyWing, I ask you will use my referral link, since I work with them and get a signup bonus for everyone who buys their insurance:

<https://safetywing.com/ambassador/refer/24833360>

Banking solutions for travel: Honestly, I love revolut. It makes everything easier when traveling with people from different countries and using their card all around the world. There is no fees for transferring money between people, converting currencies and paying while being abroad. On our trips, most people use revolut to send/receive money, and since there is no cost for having an account I can recommend you to do the same.

If you sign up for revolut, I will ask you to use my referral link, since this will give me 20\$ signup bonus for everyone who joins. I'll happily share this bonus with you if you do:

<https://www.revolut.com/referral/?referral-code=jornbj7sp->