

# The Heritage Route (Riyadh to Jeddah) NEW GD Program Sept 23 to April 24

## Trip Summary

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### Day 01 - Arrival and Pick up

Arrival to Riyadh

Check in at Crowne Plaza Riyadh Palace - Crowne Plaza Riyadh Palace

Meet up Notes

### Day 02 - Riyadh City Tour

Riyadh city tour - Al Masmak - National museum

Check out at Crowne Plaza Riyadh Palace - Crowne Plaza Riyadh Palace

meal plan

Lunch at Najd Village ( included)

### Day 03 - Mud Towns Visits

Riyadh - Ushaiger - Buraidah

Check in at Best Western Plus Buraidah - Best Western Plus Buraidah

Meal Plan-Lunch

### Day 04 - Hail Tour - Camel Market and Art Rock

Visit the camel market and Drive to Hail for Juba visit Hotel MILLENNIUM at in Check

Meal Plan ( lunch and Dinner)

### Day 05 - Free Day in Al Ula

Drive to Al Ula

Lunch

Hiking Al Ula Oasis Trail 3KM

Elephant Rock

Check in at camp site

Dinner included

### Day 06 - The Dissa Valley Day Trip

Day Trip to Wadi Dissa with Lunch - 9 am to 6 pm

Meal plan

Lunch and Dinner

### Day 07 - Al Ula Tour

Hegra Tour and depart to Madinah after lunch

Check out at camp site

Lunch and Drive to Madinah

Check in at GACINE HOTEL (لؤلؤ عسرن) - GACINE HOTEL (لؤلؤ عسرن)

### Day 08 - Madinah City tour and overnight in jeddah

Madinah - City tour and Train to jeddah

Check out at GACINE HOTEL (لؤلؤ عسرن) - GACINE HOTEL (لؤلؤ عسرن)

Dinner in Hotel

### Day 09 - Jeddah City Tour

Jeddah light City Tour - Al Balad Tour ( Jeddah Historical City )

Check in at Hyatt House Jeddah Sari Street - Hyatt House Jeddah Sari Street

Meal plan

Lunch and Dinner

## Day 10 - Departure

### Departure

## Day 01 - Arrival and Pick up



### Arrival to Riyadh

Today we will be welcoming you at the airport as our guide will be waiting for you holding a sign board ,we will be taking you to your hotel where you can rest for a bit.

Welcome to Riyadh, the birthplace of modern Saudi Arabia, where old-world charm meets 21st-century vision. Riyadh Province – also known as Al-Wosta – is home to the country’s capital: a modern metropolis with a thriving financial and business centre, and a growing cultural scene. It’s a city rich in history, boasting myriad forts, palaces and museums, and some of the country’s most colorful souks.



### Check in at Crowne Plaza Riyadh Palace



#### Crowne Plaza Riyadh Palace

Prince Abdul Rahman Bin Abdul Aziz St., Ministries Area

+966 11 405 4444

### Meet up Notes

**Meeting each member of the group is at the lobby - coffee shop - at 9.30 am the next day.**

on arrival each traveler will be meeting his designated driver holding his name. we will share the contact the emergency contact

## Day 02 - Riyadh City Tour

### Riyadh city tour - Al Masmak - National museum

Outline of visits:

Driyia UNSECO

National Musuem

Lunch at Najd Village ( included)

Musmak Fort

Zal Market

Kingdom Tower

( the order of visits are subject to change )

Detailed plan

First visit is Ad Diriyah , northwest of the city and the original capital of the first Saudi state is a must-see. Its Al Turaif quarter, a carefully restored mud-brick district that was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2010, offers a glimpse into the country's extraordinary heritage.

Next will start with a historical brief about the capital of Saudi, In the National museum you will be discovering Saudi Arabia's rich past is an amazing journey that would bring you along thousands of kilometers around the whole Kingdom. An easier way to have an insight of Saudi Arabia's rich History is to visit the King Abdulaziz Historical Center in Riyadh where artifacts from all periods are exhibited and with explanations about their historical significance.

Then we will be heading to our lunch break in one of the famous traditional restaurants at Qaria Najdya

After our historical brief and lunch, we will go see some by ourselves checking out Al Masmak Fortress ,Surrounded by sand, this squat fortification was built around 1865 and is like a scene out of the movies: a big fortress representing an empire. It was the site of a daring 1902 raid by Ibn Saud, during which a spear was hurled at the main entrance door with such force that the head is still lodged in the doorway. Highlights among the exhibits include maps and fascinating photographs of Saudi Arabia dating from 1912 to 1937, in galleries converted from diwans (living rooms). The roofs are covered with painted palm-tree, taramic and ethel wood and exude an old-world charm that evokes an Arabian painting. Inside, the information panels and short, chest-thumping films on the storming of the fortress and the 'reunification' of Saudi Arabia are reverential towards the Al Sauds but worth watching nonetheless.

In the same area and only in walking distance we will find our self in Souq Al-Zal which is one of the oldest traditional market.

At the end of the tour today, will go to check out the view of the sunset from the Kingdom Centre which is a 99-story, 302.3 m skyscraper. It will give you a panoramic view over the modern city of Riaydh.



### Check out at Crowne Plaza Riyadh Palace



#### Crowne Plaza Riyadh Palace

Prince Abdul Rahman Bin Abdul Aziz St., Ministries Area  
+966 11 405 4444



### meal plan

Lunch included

## Day 03 - Mud Towns Visits



### Riyadh - Ushaiger - Buraidah

Outline :

9 am meet up at lobby

Drive for 2.5 hours to Ushqer town and walk around

lunch

Drive to Buridha for 2.5 hours

check in at the hotel and Dinner at traditional restaurant ( at your own expense)

#### Details

Today we will be driving to Buraidah is the capital of Al-Qassim Region in northcentral Saudi Arabia in the heart of the Arabian Peninsula.

The road to Buraidah will be around 3 hours and a half however the plan is to make a stop on the way to see Ushaiger which is going to be on the way. Both towns , now small cities are a reflection of what old cities look like. We will visit one of these towns , usually the smaller one Ushaiger which is hidden in the heart of the Najd, an oasis-dotted region 200km northwest of Riyadh, Ushaiger Heritage Village provides a glimpse of a slow-paced Saudi society of old.

During our visit we will wonder around the old town which is preserved its old mud town houses where many families started from here before they moved to Riyadh. The narrow route in between the houses , the doors , and the ruins makes the place photogenetic and interesting to wonder around.

will visit one of the house displaying the interior of the houses and how life used to be back then. A local museum where we can visit and have a break for tea.

Once we are done we will pass by a restaurant for lunch then we drive to Buridha City

#### Background on the Mud towns

Bedouins first settled here 1,500 years ago and Ushaiger quickly became a popular stopping point for pilgrims crossing to Makkah, thanks to its springs and low-brimmed olive and palm groves. But far from being a dusty, deserted museum piece, Ushaiger – which, in a naming quirk, means ‘little blonde’ to reflect the nearby red mountain that looms over the yellow mud houses – still has a small community of residents, making use of its schools, shops and mosques. To walk its narrow lanes is to enter a living museum, draped with traces of an ancient way of life.



#### Check in at Best Western Plus Buraidah



#### Best Western Plus Buraidah

Faisal Bin Misha'L Road, Al Montaza Area  
+966 16 382 0606

## Day 04 - Hail Tour - Camel Market and Art Rock



#### Visit the camel market and Drive to Hail for Juba visit

8 am depart to visit the camel market

Drive for 3 hours to Hail

Lunch

visit Juba site (UNESCO) which is 90 min drive each way.

Dinner on route

check in hotel estimated 9 pm

this day is long

### Details

Before we head to Hail , will do a stop early morning around 8 a.m to the largest camel market where auction takes place a very authentic experience to see how bargaining works in the camel market and how locals value camels and negotiate pricing. Camels remain valuable to own and trade in Saudi

Next will drive for about 3 hours to Hail

Once we arrive start our trip right away heading to Jubbah which is 1:20 hour from Hail

we will be visiting Jubbah, This worldwide famous site contains some of the oldest and most outstanding carvings of the Arabian Peninsula. It was recognized in 2015 as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Jubbah is host of the two most emblematic carvings in Saudi Arabia. The first one is a character dominating another smaller one. Locals say that it is the representation of an ancient king handing out justice.

The second one is a chariot pulled by two horses which was for decades the only known example but similar ones were later found in Hail and Tabuk Provinces.

As surprising as it sounds the people trading frankincense, spices, and other precious goods coming from southern Arabian Peninsula did cross regularly the 350 km of sand dunes between these two main trade cities. The numerous so-called Thamudic inscriptions (more than 5000) testify of this intense frequentation by travelers.

After our tour in Jubbah will pass by a restaurant on route and check in the hotel



Check in at **MILLENNIUM Hotel (ملينيوم حائل)**



**MILLENNIUM Hotel (ملينيوم حائل)**

حائل, مكة لويه لويه, 55424, 8650 University Complex, +966 16 538 6111

## Day 05 - Free Day in Al Ula



**Drive to Al Ula**

Depart at 8:30

Today we will be driving from Hail to Al Ula, the road will take us around 5 hours

Once we arrive will visit our serviced camp base and settle

Today is a free day in Al Ula where we can enjoy the landscape by hiking one of many trails , visiting the old town or going to one of the view points

Hail to Al Ula : 428 KM / 4 hr 43 min

with breaks on route we estimate the drive to be 6 hours. this is the longest route drive so far. The road is flat with few stops for break but the facility is not up to standard.



### Lunch

once we arrive , we will stop for lunch

Note that it will be late lunch after 2 pm



### Hiking Al Ula Oasis Trail 3KM

This is a nice trail that can last for 2 hours suitable for anyone to enjoy the palms, mud houses and the surrounding oasis. This site is next to the old town where we can walk to and wonder around it



### Elephant Rock

After we finish our tour we will take you to the Elephant Rock, also known as Jabal AlFil, one of AlUla's many geological marvels. Unlike the ornate, hand-carved facades of nearby Hegra's Nabataean tombs, the "trunk" and "body" of this monolithic red sandstone beast were hewn by natural forces — millions of years of wind and water erosion. The beauty of the unrefined structure is enhanced by its surroundings of a fine-sand sea studded with rocky outcrops, many of which are equally impressive in size and have interesting shapes and figures.

The area has very nice atmosphere with a cafe and restaurant, the seating area are build underground filled with magical lights that its just wonderful to witness the sunset.





**Check in at camp site**



**Dinner included**

## Day 06 - The Dissa Valley Day Trip



### **Day Trip to Wadi Dissa with Lunch - 9 am to 6 pm**

The day trip starts from 9 am.

Driving is 2.5 to 3 hours depending on stops and group size.

Arrival between 12 pm to 1 pm

2 to 3 hours driving through , walking and photo stops including picnic lunch

departing the site between 3 to 4 pm

expected arrival 6 to 7: 30 pm

Dinner is included

Details :

Our trip is going to be to Wadi Al Dissa near Tabuk, our drive will be around 2 hours and a half to 3 hours. An SUV can will arrive at the camp to collect guests and start the day trip tour. This excursion will include lunch box so don't worry about it.

We will take you on a walking tour inside this gorgeous valley and explore Wadi Dissah which is a 15 kilometer long canyon running through the Jebel Qaraqir, a sandstone massif lying about 80 kilometers south of the city of Tabuk.

This natural wonder was for a long time a well-kept secret among explorers, before the road leading to the nearby city of Dissah was built and satellite images were available to the public, which made it quite difficult to find and reach. Let us tell you a little bit about this valley before we start our hike so you prepare your self and to get astonished ! The first striking feature of this wadi is its dimensions: at the eastern entrance of the canyon the side cliffs are already higher than 100 meters, but at the western entrance the gap between the bottom of the wadi and the tallest cliffs reaches as high as 500 meters! It is there, from the massive rocky peaks, standing on both sides of the canyon, that one can admire the most dramatic scenery of this magical place.

The second - and most unexpected - amazing feature of Wadi Qaraqir is a water stream that runs through the western part of the canyon towards the city of Dissah. While you are exploring Wadi Qaraqir from the eastern entrance will find abundant palm trees growing naturally along the wadi bed. But once half-way through the canyon underground water tops up all year long. As a result, lush vegetation made of 3 meter high grass, numerous palm trees and bushes, flourishes in between the majestic cliffs of the canyon! We head back to Tabuk but with a final stop on our way to have the last look on one of the beautiful view point and then will drive to our camp in AIUla.

Time of the trip is indication which could be slightly changed depending on each group and weather conditions.



**Meal plan**  
lunch included

## Day 07 - Al Ula Tour

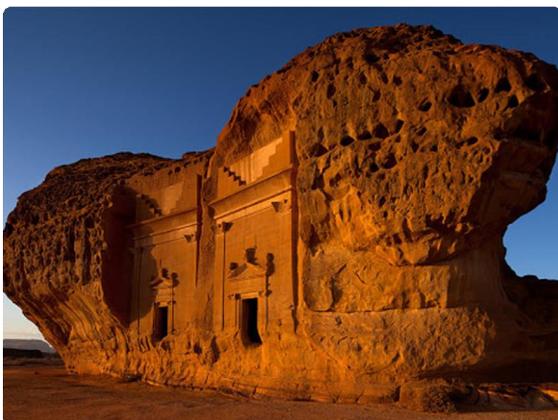


### Hegra Tour and depart to Madinah after lunch

**Hegra tour ( the tomb ) : timing is subject to the time slot assigned to this tour by Alula Authority. We will do our best to make it in the morning.**

The importance of Madain Saleh is ostensibly displayed by its 111 monumental tombs, among which 94 were decorated with majestic facades on the sandstone massifs of the area, especially the Jibal lthlib. The smallest tomb is barely 2,7 meters tall but the biggest reaches an impressive 21,5 meters! Madain Saleh was the second largest city of the Nabatean kingdom whose capital was Petra (in today's Jordan) where the Nabatean people created more than 600 tombs. What most people don't know that there are many other fascinating archeological sites attest to the thousands of years of human occupation of the area thanks to the underground water available for millennia. Don't worry we are showing everything you need to see !

**Please note that Hegra is guided tour by Bus and last from 2 to 3 hours max. These tours are done by Al Ula Tourism Board which is a third party and as such sometimes the inclusions of these tours or and timeline changes by the operator . In such incidents we will do our best to inform you about these changes as much as we can during daily brief**



**Check out at camp site**



### Lunch and Drive to Madinah

Estimated drive is 4 hours with no stops or 5 hours with some stops for breaks.



### Check in at GACINE HOTEL (فندق غسن)



#### GACINE HOTEL (فندق غسن)

Prince Mohammed Bin Abdulaziz rd., جدة, Al Madīnah, 42314 مكة لوريه السعودية

## Day 08 - Madinah City tour and overnight in jeddah



### Madinah - City tour and Train to jeddah

Will star the tour at 9 am by visiting the main site Prophet Mosque where Prophet Mohammed was living and this is the second holiest site in Islam.

we will stop for a phot stop at Hijaz Railway

Another stop would be the Qiba Mosque which is the first Mosque in Islam

A lunch stop in one of the Arabic restaurants

we will visit one of the dates factory or farms incase you are interested to purchase the dates that are produced locally

we will do one final stop at the Dar Al Madinah Museum before departing to the train station for 6 pm or after ( depends on the availability ) to arrive at Jeddah. the train takes 2 hours

Note : Train station accept 1 Luggage with 25KG. Any excess will be shipped same day to the hotel after arrival and could cost around USD 25 per luggage.

we will check in at hotel - Dinner is included



### Check out at GACINE HOTEL (فندق غسن)



#### GACINE HOTEL (فندق غسن)

Prince Mohammed Bin Abdulaziz rd., جدة, Al Madīnah, 42314 مكة لوريه السعودية

## Day 09 - Jeddah City Tour



### Jeddah light City Tour - Al Balad Tour ( Jeddah Historical City )

Outline

Cornish visit 9.30 am

Tybbat Musuem

lunch

House of Islamic Art

Old town + 30 min free time for shopping

King Fahad Fountain - 20 min stop

Dinner

this day is long usually ends at 9.30 pm

The tour will start at 9 am

we will first stop at the Cornish a famous Jeddah sign for a photo stop , another favorite stop further on the road to enjoy a free walk along the red sea. many coffees are around.

11 am will be moving to Tybbat Museum which is a 3 story building used to be a house and his owner was collecting several items till it was turned into museum. during the visit we will focus on some interesting section about the history of the country

Lunch break at one of the indoor malls so you can pick your suitable place to eat and break for the sun heat.

After lunch we will make another visit to Museum of Islamic Art includes between its six sides many collections and works of art that shorten time and represent many schools for different fields of Islamic civilization of historical and cultural value, to address the senses of society in all its segments Dialogue, knowledge exchange and communication between specialists and society

At 4 pm to 4: 30 pm

We will start our tour in Al Balad as local call it which means “ the town” as reference to the base of Jeddah. Al-Balad was founded in the 7th century and historically served as the center of Jeddah. Al-Balad's defensive walls were torn down in the 1940s. In the 1970s and 1980s, when Jeddah began to become wealthier due to the oil boom, many Jeddawis moved north, away from Al-Balad Al Balad is registered as a world heritage UNISCO site and since then the old buildings with its unique window designs and doors are being preserved along with its unique buildings which some have been built using sea shells and stones !. The old buildings once housed the famous Jeddah families and hosted the founder the late King Abdulaziz when first entered Jeddah. Our tour will go through the history of these building including going inside one of the buildings to see the interior designs , furniture and life back then Will also explain the historical importance of some sites and locations while we wonder around the narrow streets to explain how merchants used to sell their goods and how pilgrims used to get their supplies of cloth and food before they head to Makkah through the Makkah Gate in Al Balad.

After the old town tour we will stop at King Fahd Fountain which is the tallest fountain in the world ( sometimes due to weather the fountain might not be functioning)

a farewell dinner and return to hotel.



### Check in at Hyatt House Jeddah Sari Street



#### Hyatt House Jeddah Sari Street

Street West, Jeddah, Makkah Province, SA, 23436



### Meal plan

Dinner is included

## Day 10 - Departure



### Departure

Today where we say goodbye to beautiful Saudi , we will be dropping you off to the airport according to your flight schedule

## Information & Documents

### Cancellation Terms and other terms

10% down payment non-refundable 30 days before the trip

Balance due 4 weeks before the trip

Last call 14 days before the trip or when the tour is fully booked



### INCLUSION & EXCLUSION

#### Inclusion :

- Airport Pick up/Drop off
- Accommodation in 3,4 and 5 stars hotels upon availabilities with BF
- Meal plan : 5 Meals
- train ticket -standard
- Activities and entry tickets
- Local site guides in 5 locations and Tour Manager with the group all days
- Private transportation in a new Bus
- VAT 15%

**Exclusion :**

- International or domestic flights
- Visa
- Insurance
- Activities and meals other than mentioned
- Personal expenses

**Important Notes for Travel Agents and Tour Operators**

Please consider the following notes to best management expectation. We expect the guests to be briefed about the below for best possible post tour feedback.

1. Meeting will be the first day of the tour with the tour manager at the lobby at 9:00
2. Time of visits are for indication and subject to change. the guest should expect 45 min +- in visits depending on the size of the group , traffic and external factors
3. Tour manager is not a guide , his a local person experienced in managing groups and logistics. This tour is designed to meet 5 site guides at each location
4. Estimated total drive ( city to city ) including train for this tour is 18.5 hours with no stops. Guest should be aware the long distance. Total number of cities visited are 7 cities and 4 UNESOC site.
5. We have highlighted in some days of the long drives or long days. The definition of the long drives are over 4 hours in one day and long day when expected check in at hotels passes 8 PM
6. There are 5 Meal plans in this package. we will offer the clients mostly Arabic food which is vegetarian friendly. Meal budget is within the range of USD 10 to USD 25 based on menu selection
7. This tour will be in English language and most of the guest are from Europe and North America with max size of 16 and average of 10 per departure
8. In a very exceptional cases the hotel mentioned could be changed to same class or higher in each city which by then we will notify the agent for the change and share a simplified itinerary ( similar to the attached )
9. Sept , Oct and Nov are warm month degrees are still above 30 degrees. Dec till March temperature is below 20 ( except Jeddah). Dress accordingly

**Other General Notes**

- **Saudi Arabia is a dry country Alcohol is absolutely forbidden.**
- **Dress is modest and women do NOT need to cover their heads and wear Abayas except in The Holy City of Madinah .**
- **Be aware that most places in the Kingdom shut down between noon and 3 pm every day as well as several other times during prayer times in such rare cases we replace it with other visits.**
- **Sometimes sites can be closed for no foreseen reasons or authorities can also deny visit of certain places without prior notice, are NOT responsible for any such events/acts. Although the situation has improved drastically , it's a possible scenario and as such we compensate it with other visits in the same city or other cities.**