

Kuwait



Information

Country Name	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)
Capital City	Riyadh
Major Cities	Riyadh, Jeddah, Dammam, Khobar, Dhahran, Mecca (Makkah), Medina (Madinah), Jubail, Yanbu, Abha, Tabuk
Official Language	Arabic
Business Language	Arabic is the official language; however, English is widely used in business, multinational companies, engineering, healthcare, aviation, finance and the oil & gas sector. Hindi, Urdu, Malayalam, Bengali and Tamil are also commonly spoken within many expatriate workplaces.
Currency	Saudi Riyal (SAR), often abbreviated as SR. The Saudi Riyal has been pegged to the US Dollar since 1986 (USD 1 = SAR 3.75).
Time Zone	Arabia Standard Time (AST), UTC +3. Saudi Arabia does not observe daylight saving time.
Weekend Days	Saturday and Sunday. Most government offices and private companies operate a Sunday to Thursday working week, with Friday and Saturday as the official weekend. Friday remains the most important day for religious observance. Some retail, hospitality and healthcare businesses operate seven days a week.
Population	Approximately 38 million people (2026 estimate). Around 40–45% of the population are expatriates, with several million workers from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Egypt and other countries.
Size of Country	Approximately 2.15 million square kilometres , making Saudi Arabia the largest country in the Middle East and the 12th largest country in the world. It occupies around 80% of the Arabian Peninsula.
Climate	Predominantly desert climate with extremely hot summers and mild winters. Summer temperatures regularly exceed 45°C , particularly in central and eastern regions. Coastal cities experience higher humidity, while mountainous areas in the southwest enjoy cooler temperatures. Rainfall is generally low but increases in the southern highlands during seasonal weather patterns.
Religion & Cultural Overview	Islam is the official religion, and Saudi Arabia is home to Islam's two holiest cities, Mecca and Medina. Islamic values influence daily life, public holidays and

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business practices. Saudi society places strong emphasis on family, hospitality and respect for traditions. In recent years, the Kingdom has introduced significant social reforms under Vision 2030, expanding entertainment, tourism and cultural events while maintaining its Islamic identity. Expatriates are expected to respect local customs, dress modestly in public and observe cultural etiquette, particularly during Ramadan and religious holidays.

Why Saudi Arabia is Popular with Indian Professionals

Saudi Arabia is home to one of the world's largest Indian expatriate communities, with **more than 2.5 million Indian nationals** living and working throughout the Kingdom. Indians play a vital role across construction, engineering, oil & gas, healthcare, information technology, manufacturing, logistics, retail, hospitality and financial services.

The Kingdom is undergoing one of the world's largest economic transformation programmes through **Vision 2030**, creating substantial opportunities for skilled international professionals.

Key advantages include:

- Tax-free personal income
- Strong demand for skilled professionals across many industries
- Major investment in mega-projects such as **NEOM, The Red Sea Project, Qiddiya, Diriyah Gate** and **King Salman International Airport**
- Competitive salaries, often with accommodation, transport and annual flight allowances
- High-quality healthcare facilities
- Modern infrastructure and expanding public transport
- Growing entertainment, tourism and leisure sectors
- Excellent career progression opportunities in both multinational and Saudi companies
- Large, well-established Indian communities in Riyadh, Jeddah, Dammam and the Eastern Province

For Desi region and Indian professionals seeking long-term career growth and the opportunity to participate in one of the world's fastest-growing economies, Saudi Arabia offers an increasingly attractive destination, particularly in engineering, healthcare, technology, project management, construction, logistics, hospitality and renewable energy.