

Kuwait City



The steel and glass structures of magnificent skyscrapers shine in the morning sun. Crowned by the soaring Liberation Tower, this inspiring cityscape rises above the Persian Gulf with enduring grace. Beyond Kuwait City's impressive surface, the shimmering threads of an ancient heritage weave their way through this dazzling cosmopolitan scene, forming a tapestry that combines modern vitality with a rich, historic legacy. Within sand-hued desert buildings, aged wooden doors lead to atmospheric courtyards where the vivid crimson tones of traditional Sadu rugs cover the floors and the aroma of Arabian coffee permeates the air. One of the most unforgettable destinations in the world, Kuwait City is filled with an array of intriguing contrasts.

Memorable Experiences

Great Heights

Ride a glass elevator to the revolving restaurant at the Kuwait Tower.

Divine Architecture

See modernity and tradition unite in grand mosques of impressive majesty.

Local Treasures

Discover glistening works of gold jewelry and the gems of pearl diving.

Authentic Wares

Find handwoven rugs and camel bags at Sadu House, the core of Bedouin art.

Distinctive Details

A shiny red jet ski splashes through the surf while a fleet of Lasers skims by in a parade of lilac and fuchsia sails. Along the dazzling Gulf coast, dozens of Sea Clubs offer memorable afternoons in the sun.

Starwood Preferred Guest Recommends

The Sultan Gallery

Exhibitions of photographs, sculptures, and paintings rotate through a stunning, modern space in the district of Subhan. One of Kuwait's rare sanctuaries of contemporary art, the Sultan Gallery has been featuring the work of Arab artists since 1969.

Destination Information

Country Kuwait
Province Kuwait City
Elevation 6 meters
Population 3.4 million
Language Arabic, English



Country Code: 965



Kuwait International Airport (KWI)



Transportation:
Car, Taxi (Agree upon fare before journey, no meters)



Kuwaiti Dinar

Nearby Luxury Collection Hotels and Resorts



Sheraton Kuwait Hotel

Safat 13060 / Fahd Al-Salem Street P.O. Box 5902 Safat
Kuwait City, 13060
Phone: (965) 242 2055



Culture

Remnants of ancient civilizations mingle with modern technology in exceptional museums.

Adventure



Dhow Harbour

A string of wide wooden boats borders the edge of a pier. Tied together with heavy lines, they bob with the rhythm of the tide, their timeworn hulls creaking. Known as dhows, these atmospheric vessels testify to a time when coastal trading, fishing, and pearl diving were among Kuwait's chief industries. Just behind the Scientific Center, a small, protected harbor displays a selection of these emblematic boats, including the Fateh el Kheir. The magnificent ship of Indian teak rises gloriously from jade waters while crimson flags flap against her masts

Address: The Al-Ardh area, behind the Scientific Complex

Family



The Scientific Center

Stretches of ivory fabric shade a picturesque seaside promenade lined with Saudi Arabian palms. Curving walkways lead to a mud-colored building that recalls the clay homes of old Kuwait. Within this dynamic structure, an aquarium, IMAX theater, and an interactive environment known as Discovery Place offer unparalleled encounters with the distinctive eco-systems of the Persian Gulf. Sharks and rays of the coral reef swim through the light that filters down into immense tanks, while a virtual journey to Mecca transpires upon a fifteen-meter high movie screen.

Address: Arabian Gulf Road in Ras-Al-Ardh area, in Salmiya

Phone: (965) 1848888



Tareq Rajab Museum

Lions and rabbits surround the intriguing form of an ancient bronze incense burner. The shimmering orbs of a golden necklace reveal passages from the Koran. A luminous rosette blooms from the center of a 7th century Syrian pilgrim's flask made of green glass. A trove of exquisite Islamic antiquities, this extraordinary museum houses the vast collection of Tareq Sayed Rajab, the first Kuwaiti to study art and archaeology in England. Costumes, ceramics, jewelry, manuscripts, and calligraphy are dramatically displayed in the museum's serene galleries.

Address: Jabria, Area 12, Street 5

Phone: (965) 25317358



Shopping

Stunning shopping destinations offer intriguing surprises among radiant boutiques.

Shops & Boutiques



Al Fanar

Diamonds, set into a pair of stunning earrings, sparkle from within a glass display case at Tiffany's, while exquisite timepieces line the shelves at Chopard. Within this vibrant four-level structure, the most sought after names in American and European fashion, such as Gucci and Valentino, mingle with the refined boutiques of acclaimed Middle Eastern designers. Crowned by exquisite glass ceilings reminiscent of belle époque train stations, Al Fanar is one of Kuwait's most elegant shopping destinations.

Address: Salem Al Mubarak Street, Salmiya, Hawalli

Phone: (965) 2468881



Souk Sharq

Grand colonnades stretch across an ivory façade beneath a terracotta roof. Sweeping staircases with neoclassical balustrades link tranquil, palm-fringed courtyards to gracious terraces that overlook princely fountains. Rising like a Spanish palace on the edge of Kuwait City's magnificent waterfront, the Marina Mall is home to dozens of international boutiques. Revered sporting goods brands such as Adidas and Timberland reside alongside Givenchy, Rolex, and Liz Claiborne in pristine, sand-hued corridors that converge beneath a marvelous glass dome.

Address: Salem Al Mubarak Street, Salmiya

Phone: (965) 2244666



Marina Mall

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The Avenues

Plumes of water shoot up from an expansive pool that shimmers with every hue of aqua and sapphire. The soothing rhythm of falling water creates an atmosphere of exquisite serenity on the landscaped grounds of the Avenues. Beneath a soaring glass roof that curves like the wing of an eagle, the world's leading fashion brands such as Paul Smith, Versace, and DKNY, line up alongside art galleries, elegant cafes, and specialty boutiques where everything from fine cosmetics to designer home goods are on offer.

Address: Fifth Ring Road, Al-Rai

Phone: (965) 2597777



Cuisine

International recipes, prepared by skilled chefs, are served in gourmet temples.

Acclaimed



Maki DT – Burj Jassem

Black cod, marinated in miso, sits upon a bed of shittake mushrooms. Avocado mingles with sweet potato and beetroot in a colorful salad while blue fin tuna is sliced into premium cuts by skilled sushi chefs. Renowned as the region's most exquisite Japanese restaurant, Maki features a menu of the freshest fish, organic meats and vegetables. Enduring recipes entice with the intoxicating aromas of sesame oil and ginger. There are four Maki restaurants in Kuwait City, but the newest location offers a sophisticated dining experience in the heart of downtown.

Address: Al Murqab, Al Soor Street

Phone: (965) 22901010



Riccardo

Walnut armchairs upholstered in rich floral brocade surround a grand table set for a sumptuous feast. Candlelight gleams off golden balustrades and reflects from long mirrors as the alluring aromas of fine Italian food fill this fine dining retreat. A menu adorned with scenes of Venice's Grand Canal and the Coliseum in Rome, lists an enticing variety of appetizers, soups, and salads that lead to acclaimed main courses. Specialties include lobster marinated in garlic and pesto and fresh ravioli filled with fresh black olive pesto.

Address: Sheraton Kuwait Hotel & Towers

Phone: (965) 22422055

Local Specialty



Burj Al Hamam

Refreshing breezes drift off the crystal blue waters of the Persian Gulf. Upon a vast terrace, jade and ivory striped settees covered in citrus-hued throw pillows offer an unparalleled retreat overlooking a majestic vista. A roof of honey wood provides shade as the evocative sounds of an oud and a bandir drum fill the early evening air. Tantalizing plates of grilled lamb and beef, lobster and shrimp, and a bounty of Mediterranean vegetables emerge from a kitchen infused with the aromatic fragrance of exceptional Middle Eastern cuisine.

Address: Waterfront, Gulf Road, near the Green Island

Phone: (965) 2529095



The English Tea Lounge

A delicate aroma drifts from the graceful spout of a teapot as jasmine blossoms steep alongside a blend of fine green and black teas. Within a refined atmosphere where wood-paneled posts combine with princely chandeliers, and armchairs are upholstered in gracious plaids, stripes, and botanical prints, an authentic, English style afternoon tea transpires. Leek tarts and raspberry scones pile high upon silver trays while canapés and strawberries cover dainty china dessert plates.

Address: Sheraton Kuwait Hotel & Towers

Phone: (965) 22422055



Noteworthy

Encounters with craft making and camel racing provide a truly unforgettable experience.

Day Excursions



Failaka Island

Above the foundations of ancient, crumbling walls, Ionic columns rise up against a cerulean sky. Their stoic grace testifies to a time when Alexander the Great commandeered this magnificent isle, and established a flourishing settlement upon its desert terrain. One of Kuwait's most important historical sites, this fabled landscape, surrounded by the glorious, aquamarine seas of the Persian Gulf, is rich in archaeological wonders. Daily ferries link the mainland to the island, where pristine beaches and museums offer an unforgettable experience.

Address: 20 kilometers east of Kuwait City

Highly Recommended



Kuwait Towers

Shades of turquoise, cobalt, and aquamarine cover fifty thousand plates of steel. They blanket a trio of radiant orbs that looms above the city skyline, mimicking the shimmering hues of the magnificent Persian Gulf. These proud icons, constructed in 1975, are emblems of an enduring city. One million gallons of water fill the Middle Tower, while the Main Tower houses a series of restaurants, each one offering breathtaking panoramic views of Kuwait City. On the uppermost level, a revolving "Viewing Sphere" completes a full rotation each half hour.

Address: The Arabian Gulf Avenue in the Sharq district

Recreation



Al Atraf Camel Racing Club

A sense of excitement ripples through the crowd as jockeys line up their camels behind the gate. The long shadows of early morning glide across the barricade as it rises. Surrounded by the desert's sandy plains, the camels set off at an impressive speed around the five-kilometer racetrack, their long, graceful legs pounding the track's dusty surface. With blankets of saffron, tangerine, clover, and royal blue tied to their backs, sixty racers make their way to the finish line in a high-speed dance that whispers of a centuries-old tradition.

Address: Salmi Road, west of Jahra

Phone: (965) 5394014



Bayt Lothan Arts and Crafts

The whirl of sewing machines fills the air as a group of women piece together strips of soft cotton. In a nearby room, a row of students focuses on the small clay vases they throw upon their potter's wheels, while just down the hall multi-colored pencils cover a table in a drawing workshop. Classes on everything from Arabic calligraphy to filmmaking are held within this vibrant arts and crafts center. Housed within the former abode of the Sheikh Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, the twelfth Amir of Kuwait, the sprawling, historic complex has become a haven of creativity.

Address: Qatar Street

Phone: (965) 5755866