



# Kuwait

Photo: Arlo Magicman/Shutterstock.com



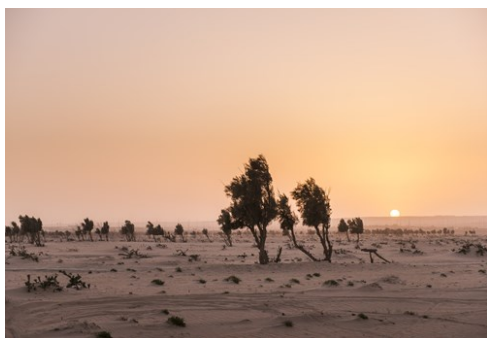
trabantos/Shutterstock.com

What oil-rich, arid Kuwait lacks in glitz and glamour it makes up for in family-friendly entertainment and cultural haunts - the coastal Kuwait City and Salmiya are laden with museums, attractions and modern amusement parks guaranteed to keep visitors to the area occupied for days on end. Shopping opportunities abound (feel free to choose from modern mega-malls and traditional souks), as do sandy beaches and swimming venues sought after in the summertime.

*NOTE: This Guide has been limited to 20 points of interest per section. For the full guide, please visit [ArrivalGuides.com](http://ArrivalGuides.com)*



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dan vojtech photographer/Shutterstock.com

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## Top 5



### Kuwait Towers

The three iconic Kuwait Towers with a Viewing Sphere elevated 120m above the...



### Grand Mosque

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### Tareq Rajab Museum

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### Scientific Center

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### Failaka Island

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## THE COUNTRY



*Philip Lange/Shutterstock.com*

The Kuwaiti desert stretches for miles till it meets the Persian Gulf in the country's East, where the nation's capital and main visitor attractions are concentrated. Summers here are smouldering hot, with temperatures reaching 50 degrees Celsius between June and August. Kuwait's coastal resorts and combed beaches provide a good means of escaping the heat, as do the country's Sea Clubs, pools, water parks and islands.

Out of Kuwait's more than 4 million total residents over half are expatriates and foreign workers, Kuwaitis making up a mere 30% of all inhabitants. Despite the staggering ethnic diversity, the country tightly holds on to its historic roots and traditions, with the average citizen bound to observing the local code of conduct - public displays of affection are not allowed, alcohol is strictly prohibited, and no food or drink can be consumed in public throughout the holy month of Ramadan. Kuwait's main travel destinations are the historic Kuwait City, along with the nearby Salmiya, where lots of hotels, restaurants and shops can be found. Further areas of interest include Rai (home to the legendary Avenues mall), Shuwaikh (an industrial area with some attractions and shops), and Hawally.

## DO & SEE



*Magic Hands/Shutterstock.com*

To familiarise themselves with Kuwaiti history and traditions, visitors may head to one of the many museums and cultural centres spread out throughout Kuwait City and its surrounding areas. The Scientific Center and dhow port are known attractions, as are the iconic Kuwait Towers offering panoramic views of the city and waters of the bay. Kuwait offers a surprising range of entertainment options for children - from the KidZania entertainment chain to a selection of amusement and water parks fit for visitors of all ages.

### Kuwait Towers



The three iconic Kuwait Towers with a Viewing Sphere elevated 120m above the ground (along with a few restaurants and cafes operating inside) are now open to visitors. Located in the heart of Kuwait City, the Towers offer unbeatable views and fantastic dining.

Photo: Sophie James/Shutterstock.com

Address: Arabian Gulf Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 8:00 - 22:00.

Phone: +965 2244 4119

Internet: [www.kuwaittowers.com](http://www.kuwaittowers.com)



### Grand Mosque



The monumental Grand Mosque (largest in the country) is a Kuwaiti landmark and place of worship. Imposing from the outside, the building

boasts elaborate inner decor and is open to visitors of all convictions. Free guided tours are available.

Photo: trabantos/Shutterstock.com

Address: Mubarak Al Kabeer Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Thursday - Sunday 9:00 - 10:45, 16:45 - 18:45.

Phone: +965 2298 0800

### Tareq Rajab Museum



The museum contains a marvellous collection of hand-picked Islamic artefacts, from ancient manuscripts and carvings to objects of cultural

value produced during the past three centuries - these include jewellery, ceramics, fabrics, clothing, and musical instruments.

Photo: Hussein Alazaat/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Block 12 Street 5, Kuwait

Opening hours: Saturday - Thursday 9:00 - 12:00, 16:00 - 19:00. Friday 9:00 - 12:00.

Phone: +965 2531 7358

Internet: [www.trmkt.com](http://www.trmkt.com)

More Info: Jabriya.

### Scientific Center



The Scientific Center is a family-friendly entertainment complex that houses the Kuwait Aquarium (with see-through glass tanks),

an IMAX cinema, children's learning centre (Discovery Place) and a dhow harbour, where the historic Fateh Al Khair dhow is on display.

Photo: Bob McCaffrey/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Al Blajat Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Saturday - Thursday 9:00 - 22:00. Friday 14:00 - 22:00.

Phone: +965 184 8888

Internet: [www.tsck.org.kw](http://www.tsck.org.kw)

### Failaka Island



The islands is a local entertainment hub for summertime activities such as fishing, swimming and water sports. The Failaka

Heritage Village is also located here (accommodation in traditional-style housing, horse and camel rides, water sports facilities, access to beaches and much more). The Museum Palace of Sheikh Abdulla Al Salim Al Sabah is one of the village's many highlights.

Photo: Sawang Songmue/Shutterstock.com

Address: Failaka Island, Kuwait

More Info: Al Asimah.

### Sadu House



The Sadu House is a cultural centre that showcases the Bedouin art of weaving, along with a few other elements of the Bedouin lifestyle and

culture. The museum offers unique insight into the process of weaving and houses a gift shop with unique, hand-made items.

Photo: Forster Forest/Shutterstock.com

Address: Arabian Gulf Road, Kuwait

Opening hours: Saturday - Thursday 8:00 - 13:00, 16:00 - 20:00.

Phone: +965 2243 2395

Internet: [www.alsadu.org.kw/home.php](http://www.alsadu.org.kw/home.php)

### KidZania



KidZania is a unique venue where children enjoy a mix of education and entertainment by trying on "adult" roles and jobs inside a tiny mock-city constructed for them. Kids even receive "paychecks" in KidZania's artificial currency, which gives them a chance to learn about handling money early on.

Photo: ZouZou/Shutterstock.com

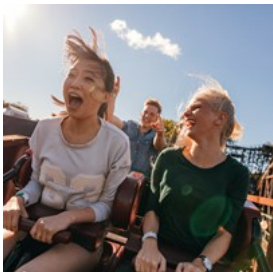
Address: Grand Avenues, Kuwait

Phone: +965 2228 3180

Internet: [kuwait.kidzania.com/en-kw](http://kuwait.kidzania.com/en-kw)

More Info: Farwaniya.

### Entertainment City



Entertainment City is the first and largest amusement park in the region and is often referred to as the Disneyland of Kuwait.

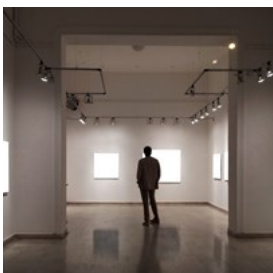
With its multiple themed rides, fun activities and recreation areas, the complex promises a delightful time to visitors of all ages.

Photo: Jacob Lund/Shutterstock.com

Address: Doha Road, Kuwait

Phone: +965 180 6806

### Kuwait House for National Works Museum



The museum details the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, and the war crimes committed against its citizens in the course of the tragic events of the

early 1990s up until the country's eventual liberation. The unique insight into this dark period of the country's history is made possible by multi-media installations and a selection of war artefacts.

Photo: Aleksandar Mijatovic/Shutterstock.com

Address: 71 Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 20:30.

Phone: +965 2484 6336

More Info: Shuwaikh.

### DINING



Paul\_Brighton/Shutterstock.com

Restaurant culture in Kuwait is booming, much due to the complete lack of nightlife establishments and the ban on alcohol currently in place in all of the country. Going out for meals is common, and Kuwait City in particular boasts quite a few lively eateries. Often, restaurants are concentrated along a single road in one of the city's main neighbourhoods.

Kuwaiti cuisine can be best described as a fusion of Middle Eastern, Indian, and Mediterranean influences. One traditional local dish is "machboos" - a rice-based dish with meat (often chicken or mutton), but fish and seafood dishes are also very popular.

### Mais Alghanim



Held to be one of the best in Kuwait, this restaurant consistently receives glowing reviews from patrons. Cuisine served is a mix of Lebanese and Kuwaiti. Dishes on the menu are varied, and the establishment is fit for both lunch and dinner meals.

Photo: Tatiana Volgutova/Shutterstock.com

Address: Gulf Road, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Saturday 12:00 - 23:30.

Phone: +965 2225 1155

Internet: [www.maisalghanim.com](http://www.maisalghanim.com)

More Info: Across from Kuwait Towers.

### Freij Sweileh



Immensely popular with locals, this authentic restaurant is well-known for the generous meal portions served. Expect Middle Eastern with a large emphasis on local Kuwaiti fares. Patrons' favourites are majboos, grilled meats and soups (served with bread).

Photo: GreenArt/Shutterstock.com

Address: Salem Mubarak Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Saturday 12:00 - 18:00. Sunday 12:00 - 1:00.

Phone: +965 2573 7030

More Info: Salmiya.

### P.F. Chang's



For Asian fare in Kuwait, P.F. Chang's is the go-to restaurant. Serving a variety of Asian dishes with an emphasis on Chinese and Mongolian,

the restaurant boasts a few very own specials, such as the "Dynamite Shrimp", which is the establishment's must-try.

Photo: gori910/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Avenues, Kuwait

Opening hours: Sunday - Thursday 11:00 - 23:00. Friday - Saturday 11:00 - 00:00.

Phone: +965 2228 3763

Internet: [www.pfchangs.com](http://www.pfchangs.com)

More Info: Plot No. 2, Al Rai Area Shuwaikh.

### Slider Station



Innovative in its interior, cuisine and general concept, the Slider Station's design is inspired by an 1940s American gas station.

They serve mouthwatering sliders (small sandwiches), along with tapas, grills, flat breads and desserts made in-house.

Photo: Ferveez Mohideen/Shutterstock.com

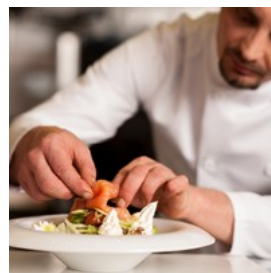
Address: Arabian Gulf Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 12:00 - 22:00.

Phone: +965 2246 5047

Internet: [www.sliderstation.com](http://www.sliderstation.com)

### Al Boom Steak and Seafood



Al Boom Steak and Seafood startles with its unbeatable location inside a large dhow (local fishing boat). Starters are abundant and an absolute

must-try, main dishes being primarily meats and seafood. The restaurant has maintained its spotless reputation in the region for over 35 years.

Photo: stockyimages/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Bida'a Road, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 18:00 - 22:00.



Phone: +965 2567 3430

More Info: Located at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Salwa.

### Shake Shack



With made-to-order burgers and shakes, Shake Shack is a hip, casual eatery whose dessert speciality is frozen custard - a thicker,

denser take on regular ice cream. Orders are to be picked up by the counter. There are several locations across Kuwait, including one at the airport.

Photo: Yulia Grigoryeva/Shutterstock.com

Address: Salem Al Mubarak Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 11:00 - 00:00.

Phone: +965 2574 0603

Internet: [www.shakeshack.com](http://www.shakeshack.com)

More Info: Further locations at Al Fanar Complex, The Avenues Mall, The Gate Mall, Kuwait Airport.

### Al Forno Ristorante



Al Forno is a reliable, longstanding Italian classic on the Kuwaiti dining scene. With its in-house made pastas and a classic wood-fire oven,

Al Forno stays true to Italian culinary tradition.

Meals are genuine, and offerings range from pasta to seafood and dessert.

Photo: Elena Yakusheva/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Avenues, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 9:00 - 00:00

Phone: +965 2495 4777

### Asha's



Celebrity Indian performer Asha Bhosle pursues her culinary passion via five Asha's locations across Kuwait (and more beyond).

Inspired Indian cooking served here includes signature specialities such as murgh malai kebab, Keralan chilli garlic prawns, and Omani cuisine-influenced lamb kesar biryani.

Photo: Shaiith/Shutterstock.com

Address: Marina Crescent Building, Kuwait

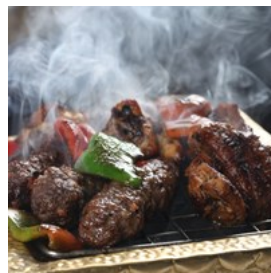
Phone: +965 2208 1374

Internet: [ashasrestaurants.com](http://ashasrestaurants.com)

Email: [asha.boulevardpark-kwt@alshaya.com](mailto:asha.boulevardpark-kwt@alshaya.com)

More Info: Further locations at Jawazat Roundabout, The Avenues, Mahboula, 360 Mall.

### Babel



The luxurious Lebanese restaurant with sandstone walls, high ceilings and spectacular panoramic windows overlooking the bay

invites for an evening of refined dining on traditional Lebanese fare with a modern twist. Reservations are best made long in advance.

Photo: Emad Omar Farouk/Shutterstock.com

Address: Gulf Road Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 9:00 - 00:00

Phone: +965 2208 1111

Internet: [www.babelkuwait.com](http://www.babelkuwait.com)

Email: [babel.gulfrd-kwt@alshaya.com](mailto:babel.gulfrd-kwt@alshaya.com)

More Info: Marina World, Salmiya.

## Katsuya



Set inside the luxurious Avenues mall, Katsuya is a refined Asian restaurant serving fusion cuisine with an emphasis on Japanese specialities.

Each season is represented by an individual dish (grilled lobster for winter and Szechuan chicken wings for summer, for example).

Photo: Marcelo\_Krelling/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Avenues, Kuwait

Phone: +965 2228 3195

Internet: [katsuyarestaurant.com/kuwait](http://katsuyarestaurant.com/kuwait)

More Info: The Avenues, Level G.

## CAFES



*Sophie James/Shutterstock.com*

Cafe scene in Kuwait is vibrant, with cafes ranging from local tea-houses to higher-end, elegant establishments serving Western-style food and drinks. Some cafes also offer shisha service. Small bakeries selling international and local pastries and bread products can be found all over.

## The Cheesecake Factory



The Cheesecake Factory is a celebrated American chain, which - apart from its world-renowned cheesecakes - serves quite a few savoury

dishes (Western-style fare such as burgers and fries, with an oriental twist). Located inside the luxurious Avenues Mall and multiple places across town.

Photo: Svetlana Foote/Shutterstock.com

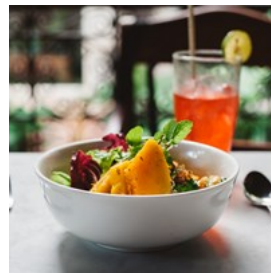
Address: The Avenues Mall, Kuwait

Phone: +965 2228 3064

Internet: [www.thecheesecakefactory.com](http://www.thecheesecakefactory.com)

More Info: Also available at the Arabella Complex and Salem Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah Street.

## Gia Cafe



Gia Cafe serves healthy, delicious Mediterranean food that is a feast for the eyes just as much as it is for the taste buds. A wide selection of dishes is

available for breakfast, and hearty dishes are served all through the day for lunch and dinner.

Photo: zjuzjaka/Shutterstock.com

Address: 3 Street 6 Lane, Kuwait

Phone: +965 2564 0257

More Info: Salmiya.

## Layali Al Helmeya



Layali Al Helmeya is a waterside cafe that serves Middle Eastern food and a variety of drinks. Seating is available inside and on

the outdoor terrace right by the beach, from where the landmark Kuwait Towers can be seen

in the distance. Shisha service is also available.

Photo: Berna Namoglu/Shutterstock.com

Address: Arabian Gulf Street, Kuwait

More Info: Shaab.

### Le Nôtre



This upscale, refined cafe is an elegant venue with exquisite decor, which a very popular place to be for breakfast (served buffet-style). There are a

few locations around the city, all featuring an adjacent chocolate boutique with artisan sweets on sale.

Photo: NEstudio/Shutterstock.com

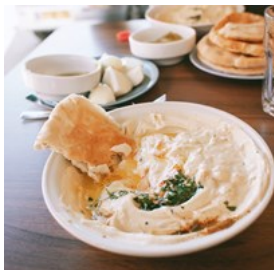
Address: Gulf Road, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 9:00 - 23:30

Phone: +965 180 5050

Internet: [www.mmckuwait.com/lenotre](http://www.mmckuwait.com/lenotre)

### Cafe Bazza



The cafe serves a variety of dishes, a fusion of Mediterranean and Middle Eastern fares with an emphasis on local Kuwaiti foods. A few

branches operate in the region, and food is served all throughout the day (including breakfast). In- and outdoor seating available.

Photo: Nastya Dubrovina/Shutterstock.com

Address: Gulf Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 7:30 - 23:00

Phone: +965 186 0860

Internet: [www.cafebazza.com](http://www.cafebazza.com)

Email: [info@cafebazza.com](mailto:info@cafebazza.com)

More Info: Bneid Al Qar.

### Bait Ahmad



Beit Ahmad is an oriental wonderland located inside a traditional interior decor shop in Kuwait's central Souk Mubarakiya. Once in, expect to be treated to some authentic Arabic coffee or one of the many tea varieties on offer. Foods to go along include falafel, kebab, and a variety of desserts.

Photo: Nataly Landar/Shutterstock.com

Address: 25 Saud Bin Abdulaziz Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 9:00 - 22:30

Phone: +965 2246 7373

### Le Pain Quotidien



Originally from Belgium, Le Pain Quotidien has taken its organic enterprise far beyond its home country borders, and now boasts several

locations across Kuwait. The chain is a breakfast and brunch favourite, serving up some of the frothiest cappuccinos around, along with great omelettes, soups, salads, and bakery.

Photo: Anna Mente/Shutterstock.com

Address: 25 Marina Crescent, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 7:30 - 23:00

Phone: +965 2208 1128

Internet: [www.lepainquotidien.ae](http://www.lepainquotidien.ae)

More Info: Further location at The Avenues Mall.

### The Breakfast Club



The wildly popular breakfast spot entices with a plethora of breakfast meal options, ranging from savoury omelettes and eggs to



syrup and sauce-smothered pancakes and delectable waffles. The Mahboula Breakfast Club branch (Aliah & Ghaliah Towers) operates 24 hours on a daily basis.

Photo: Elena Veselova/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Al-Shuhada Street, Kuwait  
Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 6:00 - 12:00  
Phone: +965 2294 3212  
Internet: [www.breakfastclub.net](http://www.breakfastclub.net)  
Email: [info@breakfastclub.net](mailto:info@breakfastclub.net)  
More Info: KIPCO Tower, Mezzanine 1 Floor.

## NIGHTLIFE



*Philip Lange/Shutterstock.com*

Alcohol is illegal in Kuwait, which means the country lacks nightlife establishments of the bar and club varieties. Instead, people "go out" shopping and dining, exploring the busy souks and high-tech shopping malls or international restaurants scattered throughout. Shisha smoking is common, with a number of cafe offering shisha and/or water pipe services. Some large hotels host live music evenings open to guests and visitors.

## SHOPPING



*Ekaterina Pokrovsky/Shutterstock.com*

Kuwait is a tax heaven, with no VAT or income taxes in place for citizens and expat workers. Combined with an abundance of shopping spots ranging from traditional souks and markets to ultra-modern shopping centres, this makes for the perfect set up for a shopping experience of a lifetime. A number of malls, especially those in Kuwait City, feature incredible entertainment centres for visitors of all ages.

### The Avenues



The largest mall in Kuwait and one of the largest in the world, The Avenues will easily occupy shoppers for a full day or longer. More than 800 international brand boutiques, entertainment centres (children's KidZania and Magic Planet both located here), restaurants and cafes all await visitors under one roof.

Photo: Naufal MQ/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Road, Kuwait  
Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 10:00 - 22:00  
Phone: +965 2259 7777  
Internet: [www.the-avenues.com](http://www.the-avenues.com)  
Email: [marketing@the-avenues.com](mailto:marketing@the-avenues.com)  
More Info: Between Ghazali Street & Mohammed Bin Alqasem Street.

### Souk Al-Mubarakiya



For an authentic Kuwaiti shopping experience head to this traditional market, where vendors offer deals on items ranging from local handicrafts and gold

jewellery to spices and edibles. The souk also contains a few inviting sit-down cafes and restaurants.

Photo: me (image cropped)

Address: Mubarak Al-Kabeer Street, Kuwait

Phone: +965 2246 5489

### Marina Mall



Marina Mall impresses inside and out - located next to a scenic bay and in the Marina Crescent area, it offers a wide selection of stores and

boutiques along with a whole variety of cafés and restaurants dotting the Marina Crescent.

Shoppers may also take in the skyline of Abu Dhabi which is visible from the mall's top floor.

Photo: Mila Supinskaya/Shutterstock.com

Address: Salem Al Mubarak Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 9:00 - 11:30

Phone: +965 2224 4666

### 360 Mall



The 360 Mall specialises in higher-end shopping, with a selection of shops and boutiques representing various international brands

housed under its roof. The mall's entertainment centre includes a cinema complex, bowling alley and a flight simulator.

Photo: Aaron Amat/Shutterstock.com

Address: Sixth Ring Road, Kuwait

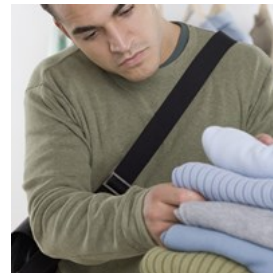
Opening hours: Sunday - Wednesday 10:00 - 22:00. Thursday - Saturday 10:00 - 23:00.

Phone: +965 180 0360

Internet: [www.360mall.com](http://www.360mall.com)

Email: [gla.reception@gla.ae](mailto:gla.reception@gla.ae)

### Souk Sharq



Souk Sharq is much more of a modern shopping mall than a traditional bazaar, with a large variety of stores and boutiques (both local and

international) represented. The Souk's scenic location by the water makes for a relaxing evening promenade venue.

Photo: Blend Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: Arabian Gulf Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 10:00 - 23:00

Phone: +965 182 2680

### The Gate Mall



Located in a lively area south of Kuwait City, the Gate Mall is a pleasant, clean shopping centre with an abundance of stores. The mall houses

stores by well-known international and regional brands selling fashion-forward clothing, cosmetics, accessories, and more.

Photo: VannPhotography/Shutterstock.com

Address: Block 5 104 Road, Kuwait

Phone: +965 2205 6100

Internet: [www.thegatemall.com.kw](http://www.thegatemall.com.kw)

Email: [info@thegatemall.com.kw](mailto:info@thegatemall.com.kw)

More Info: Eqaila.

## The Fish Market



Kuwait's fish market is where many will encounter the oddest marine creatures they've ever seen outside an aquarium. Arrive early to

see the busy market come to life with buyers scouting for the finest fresh seafood caught daily in local waters.

Photo: Johanna K M Nilsson/Shutterstock.com

Address: Arabian Gulf Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 7:00 - 12:00.

Phone: +965 2225 4022

## Gold Souk



There are several places to shop for gold in Kuwait, and purity of the noble metal in the Middle East is believed to be superior to those

elsewhere. Mind that starting prices are often high and can be significantly brought down by haggling (although will not go lower than making value). Most locations will provide a certificate of authenticity upon request.

Photo: Fedor Selivanov/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ali Al-Salem Street, Kuwait

Opening hours: Saturday - Thursday 10:00 - 22:00

More Info: Further souks in Salmiya and Fahaheel.

## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



Arlo Magicman/Shutterstock.com

### Travel Advice



Prior to visiting Kuwait, travellers are advised to familiarise themselves with the social norms and legal regulations in place in the country. Modesty

in behaviour and clothing is generally advised, and women are discouraged from wearing tight-fitting and/or short garments anywhere in the country. Bikinis may be acceptable at hotel pools, but conservative swimwear is expected in public places.

Alcohol sale and consumption is illegal, and attempts to import alcoholic beverages (as well as drugs, pork products and pornographic material) may lead to fines and imprisonment. Public displays of affection of any kind (especially by same-sex couples) are not allowed and must be avoided. Co-habitation between unmarried partners is also considered illegal. Travellers must be especially careful when photographing local landmarks - taking pictures of government buildings, including military and industrial complexes, is punishable by law (this applies especially to anything that concerns oil production).

During the month of Ramadan no eating,



drinking or smoking in public is allowed to anyone regardless of religious convictions. Fines and imprisonment may follow for violating any of the above mentioned restrictions.

There is an ongoing terrorism threat in Kuwait. Travellers must exercise precaution in public places.

Photo: aalbedouin/Shutterstock.com

### Passport/Visa



Citizens of Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates do NOT require an entry visa. Citizens of an additional 52 countries

may obtain a three-month visa on arrival (by air only) or an electronic visa prior to arrival. These include all countries of the European Union (with the exception of Croatia), Andorra, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, San Marino, Vatican City, Turkey, Monaco, Switzerland, Australia, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, Swaziland, United States, Vietnam. A passport with a validity period of 6 months is required for entry.

Those arriving by land or sea are required to obtain a visa in advance, as do nationals of countries not listed above. Nationals of some countries may be entirely barred from entry (Ethiopia and Israel), or have significant difficulty obtaining a visa.

Photo: TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com

### Kuwait International Airport



The Kuwait International Airport is the only civil air hub in Kuwait, with several local and international carriers connecting the country to

destinations worldwide.

Visitors requiring visa on arrival should obtain one before exiting into the baggage claim area (get a ticket and wait in line till your turn is called).

The airport has its own taxi service, and regular cabs operating in the city are not allowed to pick up passengers for fear of hefty fines. Some hotels arrange shuttles for guests, but reaching the city by public bus is possible, too - route number 501 connects the airport to the main bus station of Kuwait City and makes several stops along the way (bus stop outside the arrivals area).

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: Gazali Expressway, Kuwait

Phone: +965 2431 9829

Internet: [rentals@imallbookings.com](mailto:rentals@imallbookings.com)

More Info: Farwaniya.

### Best Time to Visit



The summer months between April and September can get extremely hot and humid (August especially so), so a trip to Kuwait is best

made somewhere between September and May (ideally, September to October and March to May), when temperatures are comfortable but some rainfall is to be expected.

Photo: VectorA/Shutterstock.com

## Public Transport



There are two public transportation authorities: the KPTC (Kuwait Public Transport Company) and the City Bus (and KGL operates

long-distance routes to neighboring countries). There is a fairly extensive bus route network covering the metropolitan area, buses run at regular 10-minute intervals and stop at designated bus stops. Tickets are fairly inexpensive and may be bought on board. Even though the public bus system was established primarily to fit the needs of residents rather than visitors, most Kuwaiti landmarks may be reached by walking 10 to 20 minutes from the bus stops. Consult the website for routes, or pick up a schedule from the main bus station. Ferries circulate between Ras Al Ard in the district of Salmiya and Failaka Island (operated by the KPTC). There are also water routes connecting Kuwait to Iran and several other Gulf nations.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Address: Al-Shuhada Street, Kuwait

More Info: Main bus station located next to the Liberation Tower.

## Taxi



Taxis are a convenient way of getting around, with a few different varieties currently in operation. Taxis often do not use meters, in which

case it is recommended to agree on the fare prior to boarding, but general pricing is in place depending on the distance and area.

"Call taxis" are often found at hotels, and are

usually white. As the name suggests, they can be ordered via phone. Fares for these taxis are usually announced by the taxi dispatcher during the call.

Another type of cabs, orange in color, usually runs along specific routes, and can be shared with anyone going in the same general direction. These taxis are allowed to drop off and pick up passengers along the way, which can make the journey longer, but prices are normally lower than those of call-taxis.

The airport has its own taxi service, with fixed fares that are usually indicated inside the vehicle.

Kuds Taxi

+965 241 3414

British Taxi

+965 2391 2282

+965 2239 1229

Emirates Taxi

+965 2474 5006

+965 2474 5007

## Post Office



There are a few post offices in and around Kuwait City, but most are difficult to locate due to the lack of exact address. Like most government

establishments, post offices open and close early (7:00 to 14:00).

Main Post Office

Fahad Al-Salem Street, Kuwait City

Salmiya Post Office

Al-Salmiya, Kuwait City

+965 2574 5171

Photo: Andy Fuchs

### Pharmacy



Pharmacies are widely available and marked by a green cross. Hospitals often have 24 hour pharmacies on their premises. Hawally Center

#### Pharmacy

Humoud Al Nasser Street, Salmiya

+965 2561 4895

#### AAW Abyaar Sharq Pharmacy

Ahmad Al Jaber Street, Kuwait City

+965 2243 2642

#### Al Fahad Pharmacy

Ground floor, 59 Bahrain Street, Salmiya

+965 2574 7476

Photo: Gemma Garner

Address: Humoud Al Nasser Street, Kuwait

Phone: +965 2561 4895

More Info: Salmiya.

### Telephone

Country code +965



Photo: Jardson Almeida

### Electricity



220-240 Volts, three-pin plugs (British, Indian)

Photo: Stirling Tschan

#### Population

4.053 million (2016)

#### Currency

Kuwaiti Dinar (KD)

KD1 ~ US\$3.3

#### Opening hours

The working week in Kuwait goes from Sunday to Thursday, which is when most businesses and government offices operate. Working hours usually start around 7:00 and finish around 14:00, with much shorter hours during Ramadan. Most shops are open from 9:00 to 13:00 and 16:30 to 21:00 Saturday through Thursday, with opening hours between 15:30 and 20:30 on Fridays.

#### Newspapers

Kuwait Times

The Times Kuwait

Arab Times

#### Emergency numbers

Emergency Line in Kuwait 112

Fire Department 100, 105

Kuwait Police Department 199

#### Tourist information

Information Centre

Block 9, Arabian Gulf Street (following Amman Street, by the water)

+965 180 6806