



ALULA PRE-CRUISE LAND EXPERIENCE

4 NIGHTS / 5 DAYS

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia: Friday, March 29, 2024 To
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia: Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Price Per Person

Double Occupancy: 7,900.00 USD

Single Occupancy: 9,100.00 USD

Mr. Lefebvre and Mr. Kent extend an exclusive invitation to a limited-availability pre-cruise journey to AlUla, Saudi Arabia's captivating desert oasis. Your adventure begins in the historic city of Jeddah, where you can independently explore the bustling souk and stroll along its picturesque coastline. Following a night in the city, a charter plane awaits to transport you to the lesser-explored World Heritage site for an exhaustive exploration led by Abercrombie Kent. From viewing the iconic Elephant Rock to exploring Hegra - Saudi Arabia's first UNESCO World Heritage site, this optional overland experience offers a unique glimpse into the mysterious heritage of the Middle East. An exclusive dinner will be hosted by Mr. Lefebvre and Mr. Kent on the final night of this incredible pre-cruise enhancement and offers a unique opportunity to travel with the expert in-country knowledge and esteemed guidance of two travel luminaries.



01

FRIDAY
MARCH 29,
2024

Independent arrival in Jeddah

Arrive in Jeddah with a warm welcome and assistance at King Abdulaziz International Airport, followed by a transfer to the Shangri-La Hotel, your accommodation in the city. Tonight, if you have time, you can take the opportunity to explore Jeddah, the commercial capital and key gateway to Mecca, which has a unique charm as the historic nexus of pilgrims and traders. Marvel at the World Heritage Red Sea architecture, explore the lively souq and unwind along the beautiful coastline. Tonight, savor a delicious dinner at Shang Palace, Shangri La's modern Chinese restaurant and one of the city's most exciting dining addresses, complemented by captivating views of the Red Sea.

Meals: Dinner



Shangri-La Jeddah

Contemporary luxury hotel located along the shores of the Red Sea.



Middle East Saudi Arabia Shangri La Jeddah Sea View Room



02

SATURDAY
MARCH 30,
2024

Arrive AIUla

Breakfast at your hotel and check-out then transfer from your hotel to King Abdulaziz airport to board your charter flight to AIUla. After a short, 1h30 flight, arrive in AIUla, where you'll be met and assisted by Abercrombie Kent ground staff. Transfer to your hotel Our Habitas, an environmentally conscious hotel nestled deep in the heart of AIUla. After check-in and refreshments, head to the Elephant Rock, a 52 metre tall geological marvel, also known as Jabal AlFil (Mountain of the Elephant), which resembles an elephant standing majestically in the desert landscape. Carved by centuries of wind and natural erosion, the rock's contours and shape create a remarkable resemblance to an elephant, complete with trunk and ears. Dinner will be served at the hotel.

Meals: Breakfast Lunch Dinner



Habitas Alula

A trailblazer in sustainable hospitality, Habitas brings luxury living to AIUla in an eco-friendly way. Nestled within an ancient oasis in the desert canyons of the Ashar Valley, find yourself surrounded by sandstone cliffs and palm groves. The serene resort pathways lead up to each of the 96 guest rooms, which span three tiers: premium Celestial Rooms, Alcove Rooms and Canyon Rooms, as well as to the yoga deck, wellness and fitness centres, restaurant, and swimming pool. Each of these spaces is constructed from ethically sourced organic materials which blend seamlessly into their natural surroundings.



Alcove Villa



AIUla - Hegra and AIUla Old Town

Begin your day with breakfast at the hotel before embarking on a journey to explore the wonders of Hegra, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Positioned as the southernmost settlement of the Nabatean kingdom, Hegra, or 'Al Hijr,' was once a vital stopover on the prosperous trade route. Spanning over 2000 square meters, the site boasts relics and rock-cut tombs, including the Nabatean Well, Qasr Al Bint, Diwan Tomb, Al Farid Palace, and the preserved railway station.

After visiting the Hijaz Railway, enjoy lunch in a local restaurant. Continue the tour to AIUla Old Town, named Best Tourism Village by the UNWTO. Wander through its narrow streets, mudbrick houses, and imposing fort, sensing its rich history on ancient incense-trading routes. Explore Al Jadidah Arts District, AIUla's vibrant cultural hub adorned with murals, the world's largest hand-painted carpet, and a variety of shops, restaurants, and galleries.

Carry on to Harrat Point for panoramic views of Dadan, AIUla Old Town, AIUla Fort, and the AIUla Oasis. Arrive before sundown and witness the golden hour's magical ambiance, culminating in a breathtaking sunset and a sky filled with thousands of stars. Return to the hotel for dinner.

Meals: Breakfast Lunch Dinner

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AIUla - Maraya Building and Ancient City of Dadan and Ikmah mount

If you want a thrilling start to your day, why not book our optional hot air balloon ride? Get a bird's eye view overlooking the ancient oasis of AIUla on this magical balloon ride, and discover the area and its landmarks from an unbeatable vantage point. Return to the hotel for a leisurely breakfast and morning.

In the afternoon, embark on a journey to the Maraya Building, a stunning piece of art set in the desert canyon of Ashar Valley. Covered in 9,740 mirrored panels, the building reflects AIUla's beauty, and seamlessly blends into the environment, offering visitors a magical experience.

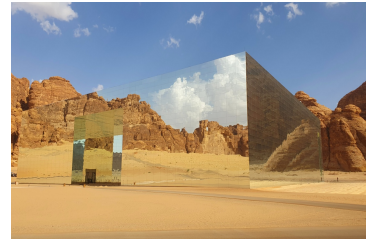
After lunch at a local restaurant, explore Jabal Ikmah, a mountain near the ancient city of Dadan. This site dates from the 1st millennium BCE and is known as an open-air library with a rich collection of inscriptions. Excavations reveal large fortified cities, showcasing a unique culture influenced by Arabian traditions and surrounding empires. Explore tombs adorned with carved lions, symbolic of the oasis' importance and Mesopotamian influence.

Return to the hotel for refreshment and relaxation before Mr. Lefebvre and Mr. Kent host an evening cocktail and dinner.

Meals: Breakfast Lunch Dinner

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Alcove Villa



05

TUESDAY

APRIL 2, 2024

from AIUla to Jeddah

After an early breakfast and checkout (by 06.30 am), proceed to AIUla airport for a 09:00 flight to Jeddah. Upon landing, you'll be warmly greeted by your Abercrombie Kent guide who will take you on a tour of the old city.

Start with an exclusive visit to Angawi House, located within the residence of Saudi architect Sami Angawi. Managed by the hospitable Angawi family, this masterpiece offers intricate insights into Jeddah's history, Islamic architecture, and traditional patterns in the Hijaz. Admire ornate window frames (Al-Roshan), Al-Manjoor woodwork, and decorations reminiscent of the old buildings in Jeddah and Makkah Al-Mukarramah.

Continue your exploration with an exclusive visit to the Tayebat Museum. Situated in the Al Faisaliyah district, this multiroom complex recreates traditional Hijazi architecture, featuring bay windows adorned with intricate wooden lattice work and ornate coral masonry. With multiple floors of detailed exhibits, the museum provides a captivating journey through the 2,500-year history of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, and the broader Arabian Peninsula. A dedicated floor is reserved for the city's rich Islamic heritage, offering a comprehensive understanding of its cultural roots.

After lunch, visit the Floating Mosque, before a tour of Al-Balad, the historic heart of Jeddah. Al-Balad has been recognized for its cultural significance, earning the status of a UNESCO World Heritage site. The area is not only a living testament to Jeddah's storied past but also a vibrant and dynamic part of the city where modern life intertwines with tradition. It remains a must-visit destination for those seeking an authentic experience of Jeddah's cultural and architectural heritage. Embark Crystal Symphony in time for dinner and begin your cruise.

Meals: Breakfast Lunch



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please note:

Guests on Saudi Arabia Overland program will need to apply for a E-Tourist Visa: This is the regular tourist visa which can be applied online, and it is available only for select nationalities: America - Canada, United States; Asia - Brunei, China (Hong Kong, Taipei, Macau), Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Japan; Australia - Australia, New Zealand; Europe - Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Please refer to <https://visa.visitsaudi.com/> for information and to apply for the visa.

All Alcoholic drinks are totally banned in Saudi Arabia. This includes consuming, importing, brewing, and selling alcohol.

Additional price for the hot air balloon ride in AIUla is 329 USD per person.

Included:

- Accommodation as mentioned in the program description
- Airport transfers in modern air-conditioned vehicle with service of Tour Coordinator
- All tours as described in the program with private local English-speaking tour guides
- All the admissions for the sightseeing stated in the program
- Charter flight Jeddah/AIUla
- Charter flight AIUla/Jeddah
- All meals as mentioned in the program, including tea, coffee, and mineral water
- Portage at airports and hotels
- Mineral water in vehicle
- All taxes and services charge

Excluded:

- International flights to reach Jeddah on March 29
- Any meal that is not mentioned in the program
- Beverages rather than what is mentioned under inclusions will be charged as per consumption and payable directly to the restaurant suppliers
- Optional Hot Air Balloon Ride in AIUla
- Camera charges at sights where requested

