

# Breaking News English.com

**Saudi Arabia opens up to tourism – 30th September, 2019**

## **Level 0**

Saudi Arabia is a new tourist destination. It opened its doors to tourists from 49 different countries. They can get online visas. Saudi says it can be a top tourism destination. It has natural attractions, famous sites, beaches and unique cultures. It wants 10 per cent of its money to come from tourism by 2030.

Tourists can stay in Saudi for 90 days a year. Non-Muslims cannot go to the holy sites of Mecca and Medina. A spokesman explained how important tourism is. He said: "Opening Saudi Arabia to...tourists is a historic moment....Its unique attractions, culture and natural beauty [will] become more widely [loved]."

## **Level 1**

Saudi Arabia is a new world tourist destination. It has opened its doors to tourists. People from 49 different countries can get visas. They take just seven minutes to get online. Saudi believes it has huge potential to be a top tourism destination. It has natural attractions, World Heritage sites, beaches and unique cultures. Saudi wants to get money from different industries, not just oil. It wants 10 per cent of its money to come from tourism by 2030.

Tourists can stay in Saudi for a maximum of 90 days a year. They can go many times in that year. Non-Muslims cannot visit the holy sites of Mecca and Medina. A spokesman explained the importance of tourism. He said: "Opening Saudi Arabia to...tourists is a historic moment....Businesses from around the world will establish operations within the Kingdom as its unique attractions, culture and natural beauty become more widely [valued]."

## **Level 2**

Saudi Arabia is a new destination on the world tourism map. It has opened its doors to tourists from around the world. People from 49 different countries can get visas online. They take just seven minutes to issue. Saudi Arabia believes it has huge potential to develop into a top tourism destination. It has lots of natural attractions, deserts, World Heritage sites, beautiful beaches and unique cultures. Saudi Arabia wants to make sure it can get money from other industries, not just oil and gas. It hopes 10 per cent of the country's GDP will come from tourism by 2030.

Tourists can now stay in Saudi Arabia for a maximum of 90 days in one year. They can enter many times in that year. Non-Muslims will not be allowed to visit the holy sites of Mecca and Medina. The Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage, explained the importance of tourism. It said: "Opening Saudi Arabia to international tourists is a historic moment for our country." It added that Saudi has a lot to offer: "Businesses from around the world will establish operations within the Kingdom as its unique attractions, culture and natural beauty become more widely [valued]."

## **Level 3**

There is a new destination on the world tourism map - Saudi Arabia. The desert kingdom has decided to open its doors to tourists from around the world. It has decided to issue tourist visas to people from 49 different countries. The visas can be applied for online and will take just seven minutes to issue. Saudi Arabia's government believes its country has huge potential to develop into a prime tourism destination. It has a wealth of natural attractions, deserts, World Heritage sites, beautiful beaches and unique cultures. The government also wants to make sure it can earn money from other industries besides oil and gas. It hopes tourism will contribute 10 per cent of the country's GDP by 2030.

Tourists will be allowed to stay in Saudi Arabia for a maximum of 90 days in one year. They can enter the Kingdom multiple times in that year. However, non-Muslims will not be allowed to visit the holy sites of Mecca and Medina. Ahmad al-Khateeb, chairman of the Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage, explained the importance of tourism to Saudi. He said: "Opening Saudi Arabia to international tourists is a historic moment for our country." He added that Saudi has a lot to offer: "Businesses from around the world will establish operations within the Kingdom as its unique attractions, culture and natural beauty become more widely appreciated."

**More free lessons, listening & online quizzes at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com) - Copyright Sean Banville 2019**