



Makkah Al-Mukaramah

A few favourites to take with you

Visitors come to Makkah for Umrah.

We'd encourage you to experience more than the rituals.

Here, Islam becomes a common language. Different backgrounds, countries and cultures come together with the same intention to worship, connect and share the journey. Makkah is where strangers become sisters, meals become conversations, and a simple salaam can bridge worlds. Umrah is at the heart of the journey, but the sisterhood and sense of belonging you find along the way become part of what you take home.

We hope you'll add a few notes of your own.



The drive from Jeddah International Airport to Makkah takes around 50 minutes. Don't rush it. Let the anticipation build, and take it all in , after years of praying to be here, you're finally on your way.

BEFORE YOU DRIVE TO MAKKAH

Make sure you have some cash ready to tip your driver, activate your roaming data through the Holafly app, and save the prayers you'd like to recite during your Umrah on your phone so they're easy to access when you need them.

WHAT TO LINGER OVER

Being in the moment

Don't rush away after Umrah. Take a moment to sit, breathe, and simply be there. Look around you the people, the lights, the movement, the Kaaba and let it all sink in.

There is something special about realizing that a place you've prayed about, dreamed about, and perhaps imagined for years is now right in front of you.

Put your phone away for a little while. Take a deep breath. Let yourself feel grateful, overwhelmed, peaceful — whatever comes.

WHAT TO FIND

Bakhoor

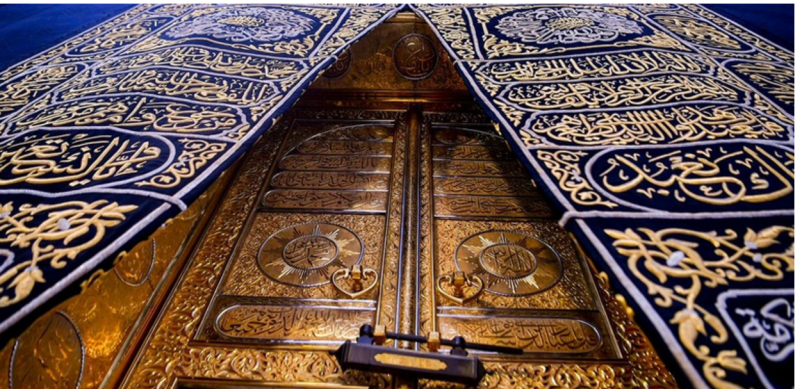
Before leaving Makkah, pick up some bakhoor, one of the most distinctive scents of Saudi Arabia. Made from fragrant wood chips infused with oils and perfumes, it fills clothes, homes, and gatherings with a warm, rich aroma. Ask for the "Kaaba scent" , a particularly strong and authentic blend inspired by the fragrance associated with the Kaaba. A beautiful little piece of Makkah to take home with you

WHAT TO TASTE

Asimah Icecream shop

After Umrah, follow a local tradition passed down through generations and walk over to Asimah Ice Cream, just a short walk from the Haram.

I always go for the vanilla, simple, not too sweet, cold and refreshing after the heat of Makkah.



WHAT TO EXPERIENCE

Zamzam Water

Make sure to drink Zamzam with intention. It's more than a way to refresh after Umrah it's part of the story and tradition of Makkah, and a beautiful reminder of the journey of Hajar (AS).

Book an Umrah Guide

We encourage you to book a local Umrah guide to accompany you through the rituals. Having someone who can explain what you're doing, answer your questions, and share the stories behind the places can make the experience feel more meaningful and personal.

ONE LAST THING...

If you'd like to pray in front of the Kaaba, try to enter the Haram at least two hours before prayer time. This gives you a better chance of finding a comfortable, shaded spot without rushing.

And remember, you don't have to perform Umrah every time you enter the Haram. Sometimes, the most beautiful moments are simply sitting there, watching the Kaaba, making dua, reflecting, and having a quiet conversation with Allah.



