

DISCOVER THE WONDERS

SPIEKERMANN

TRAVEL SERVICE



# BAHRAIN AND KUWAIT

## THE PEARL & THE MARSEILLES OF THE GULF

January 24 - January 29, 2025  
Led by Local Guides

Can be combined with the Arabian Gulf tour (January 29 - February 10, 2025)

As one of the smallest countries in the Middle East, **Kuwait** offers an array of incredible attractions and is known for its rich history, prosperous economy, and warm hospitality. It's intriguing past traces back to ancient times. The country's strategic location along major trade routes made it an important hub for merchants and explorers. The iconic Towers symbolizing the nation's resilience and progress and their distinctive blue-green domes have become an emblem of the country. The Grand Mosque, with its stunning Islamic architecture and intricate details highlights Kuwait's deep-rooted cultural heritage.

**Bahrain's** history spans over 4,000 years, dating back to ancient civilizations that have left an indelible mark on its landscape. Once a key hub along ancient trade routes, it played a pivotal role in connecting civilizations from Mesopotamia to India. Home to the ancient Dilmun civilization, Bahrain is intertwined with tales of ancient merchants, pearling expeditions, and captivating archaeological sites. Visitors can immerse themselves in this rich history by exploring the Qal'at al-Bahrain, an impressive UNESCO World Heritage site and the remnants of an ancient Dilmun capital.

With their captivating heritage, cultural vibrancy, natural wonders, and modern marvels, Bahrain and Kuwait present a delightful blend of experiences for everyone to unravel. Whether it's exploring ancient ruins, indulging in traditional delicacies, relaxing on pristine beaches, or immersing oneself in a thriving metropolis, both countries offer a remarkable journey that will leave you with lasting memories.

**Ihab Zaki**  
Managing Director

### Wednesday, January 24 Arrive in Manama (BAHRAIN)



Upon arrival in **Manama**, meet and transfer to *K- Hotel* for check-in and overnight.

*Note: Standard check-in time is 3:00 pm. If you arrive on January 23 or in the early morning of January 24, an extra hotel night needs to be booked.*

### Thursday, January 25 Manama



After breakfast, begin the city tour with a visit to the **Old Palace** and the **Guest Palace**, located in the **Gudaibiya area of Manama**. Continue to the island of **Muharraq**, where you will visit **Shaikh Isa House**, a fine example of a 19<sup>th</sup> century Arabian residence and close by is the 15<sup>th</sup> century **Arad Fort**, built in typical period style and occupied by the Portuguese for 100 years. Get the opportunity to savor the finest Arabic sweets and pastries at a typical **Arabic confectionery**. After lunch, head to visit the **Bahrain Fort** ruins, built by the Portuguese in the 16<sup>th</sup> century and its museum. Then, the **House of Qur'an**, where you see rare and precious collections of ancient Quranic manuscripts as well as Islamic works of art. Return to the *Hotel* for dinner, and overnight. **(B,L,D)**

### Friday, January 26 Manama



After breakfast, head to visit the **Al Fateh Grand Mosque**, a magnificent piece of architecture. Next, visit **Saar**, where a 3900 BC town is being excavated and then pass by **Al Jasra House**, birthplace of the Amir. Stop at the **Al Jasra Handicraft Centre** and meet locals displaying their crafts. After the visit pass by the site of **5,000-year-old burial mounds** on your way back to the *Hotel* and enjoy dinner, and overnight. **(B,L,D)**

### Saturday, January 27 Manama - Kuwait



After breakfast, transfer to the airport for our morning flight to **Kuwait**. Upon arrival, meet the guide and driver and begin the city tour with a visit to **Bait Al-Othman Historic Museum**, dedicated to the history and culture of

Kuwait - from the pre-oil era to the present time. Next, pass by the **National Assembly** (Parliament House), **Seif Palace** (Amir's Office), and will stop at the **Grand Mosque** for a photograph. Continue along **Banking Street** to the traditional **Souq of Kuwait**. At around 200 years old, this souk was one of the oldest in Kuwait and was once the center of trade prior to the discovery of oil. Goods sold here include Persian silk carpets, Arabic antiques, perfumes, fruits, meats, jewelry, and traditional clothing. Then, head down to the **Dhow Harbor** and **Fish Market** - an excellent place to take photos. Afterwards, drive back to the **Kuwait Towers** and ascend almost 400 feet to the viewing sphere for a picturesque view of the city and coastline. Transfer to *Best Western plus Hotel* for check-in, dinner, and overnight. **(B,L,D)**

### Sunday, January 28 Kuwait



After breakfast, head to visit **Dar al Athar al-Islamiyya** then continue to the privately owned **Tareq Rajab Museum**, which houses a collection of over 30,000 items collected over the last 50 years, of which approximately 10,000 are on permanent display. Then depart for a local lunch followed by a visit to the **Sheikh Abdullah Al Salem Cultural Center**, owned by the Amiri Diwan & consists of 6 components, which are Natural History Museum, Science Museum, Space Museum, Arabic Islamic Science Museum, Fine Arts Museum, etc. Return to the *Hotel* for dinner, and overnight. **(B,L,D)**

### Monday, January 29

Kuwait - USA

OR continue to **The Arabian Gulf**



After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight back to the US. **(B)**

OR join us on the exciting journey to **The Arabian Gulf**.

*"We reserve the right to change the order of activities/visits or sites due to unexpected events such as flight cancellations or changes of schedule, or any other reasons beyond our control. We will do our best to ensure that any necessary changes when/if needed to meet the needs of our clients".*

## Tour Cost (Land Only):

2-4 travelers \$2,695.00

5-7 travelers \$2,295.00

*Per person sharing in double occupancy*

**Single Supplement: \$495.00**

*Price based on group size minimum of 2 participants and maximum of 7 participants*

**Trip Grade: II Lodging Level: \*\*\*\***



### Tour Includes:

- Airport / Hotel / Airport transfers.
- Accommodations in Superior (4\*) in centrally located hotels or similar.
- Travel by modern, air-conditioned van or minibus
- Meals as mentioned in the itinerary (B: Breakfast, L: Lunch and D: Dinner).
- All Tours as per itinerary & entrance fees to the sites and museums mentioned.
- English Speaking local guides.
- All activities described in the tour.

### Trip Grade:

**II Active** – Some hikes, slightly more demanding walks at or to sites, few elevations, comfortable but busy schedule and some long rides and extensive drives.

### Lodging Level:

**\*\*\*\* Luxury:** Regular style - usually large - hotels, typical western standard with ample venues, and full amenities. (4 or 5 stars)

### Special Notes on Travel:

*Active Touring - You will be covering a lot during this journey. The roads are good, and the bus is very comfortable. Some driving days are long, but there will be several restrooms stops along the way. It is important to recognize the exhausting nature of some of the long sightseeing days, as well as some of the site visits where you may have to climb over uneven terrain, steps, rocks, and sand, as well as up inclines and stairs. Be prepared to travel with comfortable shoes. You do have the option of staying in the vehicle if some sites seem difficult to you.*



### Tour does not include:

- International airfare USA-Manama / Muscat-USA
- Bahrain Visa (obtainable on arrival for \$40.00) and Kuwait visa (free on arrival - All subject to change).
- Manama-Kuwait-Doha flights for those joining the Arabian Gulf tour.
- Items of a personal nature (camera fees, laundry, excess luggage, etc.).
- Transfers if not arriving/departing on tour dates.
- Dayroom/overnights necessitated by changes in airline schedules or misconnections.
- Gratuity to your guides, drivers, restaurant staff, etc.
- Travel protection insurance (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)

