

Al Wajh, Tabuk Region, Saudi Arabia

A quiet Red Sea port town punching far above its size — the highway to Hegra's ancient Nabataean tombs, Saudi Arabia's first UNESCO World Heritage Site, plus pristine coral reefs just offshore.

- Tender port
- Typical call: 8-10 hrs
- Saudi Riyal (SAR)
- Arabic (English in tour context)
- Hot & arid year-round

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender to commercial dock, ~5 km from town centre

Hegra (Mada'in Salih): ~4 hrs by coach each way; book cruise excursion in advance

Best For: History buffs, divers, desert adventurers

Don't Miss: Qasr al-Farid, the 'Lonely Castle' tomb at Hegra — Saudi Arabia's Petra

Getting around: Taxi 40–70 SAR (~\$11–\$19) · Rideshare Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Hegra (Mada'in Salih) — Saudi Arabia's First UNESCO Site** — The centrepiece of any Al Wajh call.
- Al Wajh Town Walk & Souk** — Explore the corniche past date palms and mosques, browse the local souk for frankincense, camel milk soap, and spices, and see the Al Wajh Fort with...
- Red Sea Snorkelling & Diving** — The reef systems off Al Wajh are among the Red Sea's least-dived — vivid coral gardens, reef fish, and the occasional wreck in warm, clear water.
- Desert Safari & Sandboarding** — The golden dunes of the Tabuk region start just inland.
- Island-Hopping in the Al Wajh Lagoon** — The shallow lagoon north of town holds a chain of small coral islands with nesting seabirds and isolated beaches.

BEST WALKS

- Al Wajh Corniche & Old Souk** 1.5 km · Flat · 45-60 min — From the dock, taxi or walk into town and stroll the seafront corniche south toward the old market.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				DAYLIGHT & MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:11AM–6:57PM · Jun 5:41AM–7:27PM · Aug 6:06AM–7:10PM · Sep 6:20AM–6:38PM · Oct 6:33AM–6:05PM	
Apr	84°	69°	0d		
Jun	93°	78°	0d		
Aug	95°	82°	0d		
Sep	93°	80°	0d		
Oct	90°	75°	0d		

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Visa matters:** Saudi Arabia requires a tourist or e-visa. Most cruise lines arrange a group shore-pass — confirm before sailing; individual visas can be issued online but must be sorted in advance.
- Heat is serious:** Al Wajh sits in one of the world's hottest regions. Call days outside October–March can see 35–45 °C. Bring water, sunscreen, and a hat for any outdoor time.
- Dress modestly:** Saudi Arabia expects conservative dress in public — shoulders and knees covered for both men and women. This is especially important on the Hegra excursion and in the town souk.
- Book Hegra early:** Entry to the Hegra archaeological site requires advance reservation (online or through your cruise line). Ship excursions handle this — independent travellers must pre-book via the AIUla Experience platform.
- Cash & cards:** Saudi riyals are the local currency; international cards work in hotels and larger outlets near AIUla but carry some SAR cash for the local souk.
- Photography rules:** Photography of people without consent and of certain government or military facilities is prohibited. At Hegra, follow the site rules — the tombs are sacred heritage sites.

Al Wajh, Tabuk Region, Saudi Arabia — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



1 **Al Wajh Old Town** Historic Red Sea coral-stone buildings in this quiet Saudi port town.

P Cruise port / terminal

2 **Al Wajh Reef Lagoon** One of the Red Sea's largest lagoon reef systems, prized for diving.