

Hajj Complete Guide & Procedure

All Muslims who are physically and economically capable should go to Hajj at least once in their lives. It is the fifth pillar of Islam, and among the most powerful of spiritual journeys you will make. However, numerous pilgrims are visiting Makkah who feel confused because they are not sure what to do next, on what day to be where, and how to prevent the most frequent errors.

This manual clears the confusion. It leads you through each day of Hajj, each ritual, so that you are organized, ready, and focused on nothing but worship.

Fater Transport has years of experience serving Umrah pilgrims in Saudi Arabia. We are familiar with the routes, the schedules, and the stress areas. This guide is an amalgamation of Islamic information with common sense in transportation; hence, a hajj trip is seamless during your stay as well as while leaving.



What Is Hajj - A Brief Introduction

Hajj is the Islamic pilgrimage that is conducted every year to Makkah in the Islamic month of Dhul Hijjah. Millions of Muslims in all parts of the globe congregate at the same moment, in the same locations, practicing the same acts of worship - a living example of Islamic unity.

Hajj dates (Dhul Hijjah)

Day	Date (Dhul Hijjah)	Location
Day of Arrival	7th or 8th	Makkah
Day of Tarwiyah	8th	Mina
Day of Arafah	9th	Arafat
Day of Nahr (Eid)	10th	Muzdalifah → Mina
Days of Tashreeq	11th, 12th, 13th	Mina
Farewell Tawaf	12th or 13th	Makkah

Hajj has three major forms:

Hajj al-Ifrad - Hajj alone, without Umrah.

Hajj al-Qiran - Hajj and Umrah in a one Ihram.

Hajj al-Tamattu - Umrah followed by Ihram released, followed by Hajj Ihram re-worn (for the majority of international pilgrims)

Essentials Checklist Before Travelling for Hajj

One-half of the worship is preparation. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

"Actions are judged by intentions."

Begin your Hajj with pure intention, correct knowledge, and feasibility.

Documents & Essentials

- Valid Hajj visa and passport
- Vaccination certificates (particularly meningitis and any needed by Saudi health authorities)
- Ihram clothes (2 sets for men; modest full-cover clothing for women)
- Smooth walking shoes that are comfortable.
- Toiletries, toothpaste, and unscented soap.
- Medication and a small first-aid kit.
- A working mobile phone and Saudi Riyal cash.

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Tip: Keep all important documents in a waterproof pouch and have digital copies saved on your phone.

Physical Preparation

- Start walking 2-3 months before the Hajj.
- Hajj is a walking process of 15-20 km or more over some days.
- Keep yourself hydrated - the most prevalent health problem in pilgrims is dehydration.

Spiritual Preparation

- Learn the duas (supplications) of every ritual.
- Memorise the Talbiyah:

Labbayk Allahumma Labbayk, Labbayk La Shareeka Laka Labbayk, Innal Hamda Wan-Ni'mata Laka Wal-Mulk, La Shareeka Lak.

- Pay all your debts and forgive those whom you might have offended.
- Before departure, write a will

Step-by-Step Guide For Hajj

The following is a step-by-step process of doing Hajj.

Step 1 - Wearing Ihram

The ihram is a physical and spiritual condition. It is a record of your official arrival in Hajj.



For Men

Wear two white unstitched cloths; one around the waist (izar), the other over the upper part of the body (rida). The head remains uncovered.

For Women

The dress of women is regular Islamic clothing, which is a full-body covering. The hands and face are not covered. A niqab is not worn by women during Ihram.

What is Forbidden in Ihram?

- Hair or nail cutting
- Wearing perfume or scented products
- Sexual relations
- Killing or injuring animals
- Wearing a head covering (for men)
- Wearing sewn garments (amongst men)
- Discussing, arguing, or making obscene remarks.

Miqat Where You Wear Ihram

You have to enter Ihram at or before the Miqat boundary points surrounding Makkah. 5 Miqat points are based on your direction of travel:

Miqat Name	Direction	Distance from Makkah
Dhul Hulayfah (Abyar Ali)	Madinah side	~450 km
Al-Juhfah (Rabigh)	Syria/Egypt side	~183 km
Qarn al-Manazil	Najd/Riyadh side	~94 km
Yalamlam	Yemen side	~54 km
Dhat Irq	Iraq/Iran side	~94 km

Fater Transport Tip: When you are on your way to Makkah by road and travelling between Madinah and Makkah, your driver will drive past Dhul Hulayfah. Bring your Ihram to the board. All passengers are notified by our drivers before the Miqat, and hence, you will never be taken by surprise.

Niyah (Intention) and Talbiyah

When you are in Ihram, make your intention of Hajj:

"Labbayk Allahumma Hajja" - "O Allah, here I am for Hajj."

Then begin reciting the Talbiyah continuously until you stone the Jamarat on the 10th.

Step 2 - Arrival in Makkah - Tawaf al-Qudum

Upon arriving in Makkah, the initial thing you do is Tawaf al-Qudum (the Tawaf of Arrival). It is a Sunnah to greet the Kaaba.



How to Perform Tawaf?

1. Start at the corner of the Black Stone (Hajar al-Aswad). Kiss or touch it, if you are able. When the crowd is excessively large, just raise your finger and point at it and say “Bismillah, Allahu Akbar.”
2. Keep the Kaaba on your left throughout.
3. Complete 7 counter-clockwise circuits around the Kaaba.
4. In the first 3 circuits (for men), walk briskly; this is called Ramal.
5. In the last 4 circuits, walk at a normal pace.
6. Make dua throughout. Tawaf has no prescribed dua; speak from the heart.
7. Following Tawaf, pray 2 rakaat at the Maqam Ibrahim (or any other spot in the Masjid in case it is crowded).
8. Drink Zamzam water.

Step 3 - Sa'i Between Safa and Marwa

Sa'i is walking 7 times between the hills of Safa and Marwa, commemorating Hajar (AS), the wife of Ibrahim (AS), who had to run between these hills to find water for her infant son Ismail (AS).



How to Perform Sa'i?

1. Begin at Safa. Look towards the Kaaba and repeat the ayah:
"Innas-Safa wal-Marwata min sha'a'irillah..." (Surah al-Baqarah, 2:158)
2. Walk toward Marwa. Men should jog between the two green light markers.
3. Marwa to Safa is circuit 2. Safa to Marwa is circuit 1.
4. Complete 7 circuits. You end at Marwa.
5. Make dua freely throughout.

Distance - The distance is around 394 metres per circuit- total Sa'i = around 2.76 km.

Step 4 - The 8th of Dhul Hijjah - Day of Tarwiyah (Mina)

On the 8th, pilgrims move to Mina, a tent city approximately 8 km from Makkah. This day is called Yawm al-Tarwiyah; the Day of Watering, as pilgrims historically carried water for the journey ahead.

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What to Do in Mina:

- Pray Dhuhr, Asr, Maghrib, Isha, and Fajr in Mina (5 prayers shortened to 2 rakaat each, not combined)
- Pray, read the Quran, and prepare yourself spiritually for Arafah.
- It is a night of thinking and looking forward.

Fater Transport Tip - The transportation between Makkah and Mina is highly controlled during Hajj. Fater Transport collaborates with licensed group organisers to facilitate safe, legal, and punctual transportation.

Step 5 - The 9th of Dhul Hijjah - Day of Arafah (The Heart of Hajj)

"Hajj is Arafah." Prophet Muhammad ﷺ

The Day of Arafah is the most important day of Hajj. If you miss it, your Hajj is invalid. Pilgrims gather on the plain of Arafat from after midday until sunset, standing in prayer and supplication.



The Wuquf (Standing) at Arafah:

1. Arrive at Arafat after Fajr prayer.
2. Pray Dhuhr and Asr together (combined and shortened) at Masjid Nimra or in your designated area.
3. From Dhuhr time until sunset, make constant dua, dhikr, and tawbah (repentance).
4. Face the Qiblah. Raise your hands. Ask Allah for everything.
5. This is the moment. The Prophet ﷺ said the best dua is the dua of Arafah.
6. Remain until after sunset. Do NOT leave before sunset; it is obligatory to remain.

Step 6 - Muzdalifah; Night Under the Stars

After sunset on the 9th, pilgrims move immediately to Muzdalifah, located between Arafat and Mina.



What to Do at Muzdalifah:

1. Pray Maghrib and Isha combined (shortened) upon arrival.
2. Sleep outdoors under the open sky; this is Sunnah.
3. Collect 49 to 70 small pebbles (chickpea-sized) for stoning the Jamarat.
4. Pray Fajr. Make dua from Fajr until just before sunrise.
5. Depart for Mina before sunrise (the weak, elderly, and women may leave after midnight).

Pebble Collection Guide

Type of Pilgrim	Pebbles Needed	When to Leave Muzdalifah
Healthy adult	49 (minimum) to 70	After Fajr, before sunrise
Elderly/weak	49 to 70	After midnight
Women with children	49 to 70	After midnight is permissible

Step 7 - The 10th of Dhul Hijjah; Eid al-Adha (Day of Nahr)

The most eventful and busiest day of Hajj is the 10th. You perform four big acts, preferably in this sequence:



1. Rami - Stoning the Jamarat

On the day of Hajj, visit the Jamrat Bridge of Mina and strike 7 pebbles on the biggest pillar, Jamrat al-Aqabah (the Big Jamarat). Say Allahu Akbar with every throw. This is in remembrance of Ibrahim (AS) stoning Shaytan.

2. Hady - Animal Sacrifice

Slaughter an animal (sheep, goat, cow, or camel) or arrange for one to be slaughtered on your behalf. Nusuk is a pilgrimage application that many pilgrims use for the Hajj package to organize this. It is a compulsory performance for Hajj al-Tamattu and Hajj al-Qiran pilgrims.

3. Halq or Taqsir - Shaving or Trimming Hair

Men either shave their heads (Halq) or trim their hair massively (Taqsir). Women trimmed off the end of their hair by a fingertip. Following this, the majority of the Ihram restrictions are removed (except for sexual relations, which are not allowed until Tawaf al-Ifadah is performed).

4. Tawaf al-Ifadah - The Obligatory Tawaf

Go back to Makkah and take 7 circuits of Tawaf around the Kaaba. This Tawaf is an obligatory pillar (rukun) of Hajj; it cannot be omitted. And follow it with Sa'i when you are doing Hajj al-Tamattu.

All Ihram restrictions are removed after doing Tawaf al-Ifadah and Sa'i.

Step 8 - Days of Tashreeq; 11th, 12th & 13th Dhul Hijjah (Mina)



You spend the Days of Tashreeq in Mina and stone all three Jamarat in a day.

Daily Stoning Schedule

Day	Small Jamarat	Medium Jamarat	Large Jamarat	Total Pebbles
11th Dhul Hijjah	7	7	7	21
12th Dhul Hijjah	7	7	7	21
13th Dhul Hijjah (optional)	7	7	7	21

Stoning Time - After Dhuhr time each day. Do NOT stone before Dhuhr on these days.

Leaving Early (Nafr Awwal): You have permission to leave Mina on the 12th before sunset, not stoning on the 13th. This is permissible. But, if sunset passes, when you are in Mina on the 12th, you have to remain and stone on the 13th also.

In between stonings, sleep in your tent, study the Quran, make dhikr, mingle with fellow Muslims, and pray a lot. These are blessed days.

Step 9 - Tawaf al-Wida - The Farewell Tawaf

Before leaving Makkah, every pilgrim must perform Tawaf al-Wida, the Farewell Tawaf. This is your final 7 circuits around the Kaaba.

It is your goodbye to the House of Allah.

Stand at the door of the Masjid after completing Tawaf and look at the Kaaba one last time. Make your final dua. Many pilgrims weep here, and that is completely natural. You are saying farewell to the most sacred place on Earth.

Before the departure from Makkah, each pilgrim is required to carry out Tawaf al-Wida, the Farewell Tawaf. It is the last 7 circuits around the Kaaba.

It is the farewell to the House of Allah.

After Tawaf, see the Kaaba one final time, standing at the door of the Masjid. Make the final Dua. There are lots of pilgrims who cry here, and nothing wrong with that. You are saying farewell to the holiest place on earth.



Who is Exempt - Menstruating women are exempted of Tawaf al-Wida. They can go without doing it.

After Tawaf al-Wida, do not linger extensively in Makkah. The Sunnah is to leave relatively soon after.

Most Common Hajj Mistakes to Avoid

Even well-prepared pilgrims make mistakes. The most common ones are:

Mistake	Why It Matters	What to Do Instead
Leaving Arafat before sunset	Ruins the validity of Hajj	Stay until the sun fully sets
Stoning Jamarat before Dhuhr on Tashreeq days	Not valid, must be repeated	Wait until after Dhuhr
Using perfume after Ihram	Breaks Ihram, requires kaffarah	Use unscented products only

Not performing Tawaf al-Wida	It is an obligatory Wajib act	Always perform before departure
Rushing Sa'i without intention	Sa'i requires intention (niyyah)	Declare intention before starting
Dehydration on the Day of Arafah	Very common health emergency	Drink Zamzam every hour

Hajj Transport

One of the most significant problems that pilgrims encounter is transport during Hajj. At the same time, millions of people are moving between the same locations. It is not a luxury to understand the schedule and employ a reliable transport provider, but a necessity.



Key Transport Routes During Hajj

Journey	Timing	Distance
Makkah → Mina	8th Dhul Hijjah morning	~8 km
Mina → Arafat	9th Dhul Hijjah morning	~14.4 km
Arafat → Muzdalifah	9th evening after sunset	~9 km
Muzdalifah → Mina	10th early morning	~6 km
Mina → Makkah (Tawaf al-Ifadah)	10th Dhul Hijjah	~8 km

A large number of pilgrims tread these paths. Nevertheless, old pilgrims, women, and those with health issues are advised to book licensed transport in advance.

Fater Transport

Fater Transport is a registered land transport company in Saudi Arabia (Naqaba GSC#238) and is now available for booking through the official Nusuk platform for Umrah companies. We operate sedan cars, minivans, GMC luxury vehicles, Hiace minibuses, and coasters, giving groups of all sizes a transport solution.

Our drivers know the Umrah routes, the timing windows, and the crowd patterns. We work with the Hajj days for non-Hajj service, as Hajj service is only authorized by the government.



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Duas You Must Know for Hajj

Entering Ihram

Labbayk Allahumma Labbayk...

Seeing the Kaaba for the First Time

O Allah, You are Peace, and from You is peace. So greet us, our Lord, with peace.

At Arafah

La ilaha illallahu wahdahu la shareeka lah, la hul mulku wa la hul hamdu wa huwa ala kulli shay'in qadeer.

(There is no god but Allah alone, with no partner. His is the dominion and the praise, and He has power over all things.)

During Sa'i

Rabbi ighfir warham wa antal a'azzul akram.

(My Lord, forgive and have mercy, for You are the Most Mighty, the Most Generous.)

Tawaf al-Wida

Make any personal dua from the heart. Request Allah to grant you all you require in this world and the other world.

Final Tips for a Blessed Hajj

Be patient - You will be in crowds, heat, and tiredness. All of the hard times are paid off. The Prophet ﷺ declared that the reward of accepted Hajj is none other than Paradise.

Be safe - Always know your group leader's number. Always have your Hajj badge. The Saudi Arabia emergency number is 911.

Remember to drink water - Makkah can get up to 40 °C during the Hajj season. Always drink Zamzam water. Under or after Ihram, wear light, breathable clothes.

Transport planning - Transport planning is the greatest cause of stress in the Hajj. Book with a licensed, reliable provider like Fater Transport well before your journey.

Stay connected to Allah - The rituals are the vehicle. The destination is His pleasure. Make every step, every circuit, every pebble throw a conscious act of worship.