

Hajj-U.S.A. of New York



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Saudi Ministry of Health Updated Hajj Protocols (05/22/2021)

The number of pilgrims for this year has been determined by **sixty thousand** ←
pilgrims, with a review of what comes later on the pandemic situations locally
and globally, and where this year has developed the availability of effective
vaccines approved against the emerging coronavirus epidemic, which was in the
process of laboratory and clinical studies during the same period last year.

Procedures before arriving to Hajj Areas

Health requirements to enable those wishing to perform Hajj for the 1442 season:

- The age group allowed performing Hajj this year 1442/2021 is from 18 to 60 years old. ←
- A Good health condition, candidates free from acute chronic diseases (making sure they had not undergone dialysis or had chronic diseases that required hospitalization during the previous six months) with a medical report proving they are in good health as part of the requirements to get permission to perform Hajj.
- Vaccines and PCR examination for the new Corona virus before coming to Hajj areas will be as follows:

First: Pilgrims from Abroad

- Pilgrims must have received full doses of Covid-19 vaccines (that is approved by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Pfizer, Astrazenica, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson). All pilgrims are required to present a certificate attesting by the official health authorities in their country, and the period of receiving the last dose of a two-dose vaccine, or the single dose vaccine and traveling to the Kingdom more than 14 days.
- All arriving pilgrims must provide a negative PCR test certificate issued from a verified laboratory does not exceed (72) hours from the time the test is undertaken until ←
departing to the kingdom, and guests who did not provide the certificate will be denied from boarding the airplane.

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Second: Domestic Pilgrims

- In order to be nominated to perform Hajj, you must have taken at least one dose of an approved Covid-19 vaccine for a period of more than 6-8 weeks, and receive the second dose in more than 14 days before getting ready to be start the Hajj process.
- A PCR test is also required to make sure that the pilgrim is free from infection with the new Corona virus, and it will be taken within 48 hours before heading to the regions of the Pilgrimage.

Procedures upon arrival to the Hajj areas

Procedures of approved arrival points of Hajj (for domestic & foreign pilgrims)

1. Make sure of all the necessary health documents to verify their fulfillment of the required vaccinations by using of the electronic application (Tawakkalna).
2. Perform visual screening procedures.
3. Providing the necessary educational messages to assure applying the hajj protocols.
4. Pilgrims transportation vehicle movements will be within special lanes designated for Hajj only (buses or train) and subject to the application of the approved preventive measures (social distancing / wearing masks/ Hands sterilizing).

Procedures at the pilgrims' residence

1. Applying the procedures of visual and thermal screening when entering pilgrims' residence and when being transport.
2. Pilgrims' accommodation (hotels) in Makkah and Madinah, must be in accordance with the required conditions of the Ministry of Tourism, the Ministry of Hajj, and other concerned authorities. Taking into account applying all the procedures to prevent the congestion inside the rooms and the provision of catering services for each pilgrim in his own room without the need to gather in food halls and preventing all open buffets.
3. Applying quarantine for a period of three days for pilgrims from abroad upon arrival in the Kingdom in their place of residence and the performing a PCR test during the quarantine.
4. Applying the mechanism of the health advisor (health leader) from the concerned authority throughout the pilgrim stay in the Hajj areas and during his travels to ensure the implementation of preventive behaviors and measures.
5. Educating pilgrims that if they feel of any suspicious symptoms, they should go to consult a doctor directly, in order to ensure the safety of themselves and the other pilgrims.

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Procedures of Transporting to Hajj Areas

Transfer to Mena

When transferring to Mena, the number of pilgrims will be in smaller groups than what it used to be in the previous years to ensure social distancing. Also creating tents and screening points in the pedestrian road and the area of Jamarat and train stations.

Mina Stay

Residential Buildings and Tents:

- Residents' bags should be disinfected, the luggage trolley should be periodically disinfected, and assign a worker to take over this process.
- Security guards are assigned to organize the exit of pilgrims according to the time allotted to them.
- The tourist accommodation facilities protocol must be followed.

Moving to Arafat

- Each group will have their own bus and each pilgrim will be assigned to a specific seat during the entire Hajj trip, with making sure to apply the precautionary measures when getting on and off the buses.
- Pilgrims are not allowed to stand while in the bus during the trip.
- Allowing families to sit together
- In case of a confirmed case of Covid19 infection, no one is allowed to attend the bus until the disinfecting is complete.
- The number of passengers should not exceed 50% of the total bus capacity, and to leave at least one empty seat between each passenger.
- Passengers must carry their own luggage.
- Also, the bus protocol issued by the National Center for Disease Prevention must be adhered to and followed.

Day of Arafah and overnight in Muzdalifah

- Commit to residing in the designated places and not deviating from the allocated path.
- Emphasize the obligation to wear masks.
- Food should be limited to prepackaged meals only.
- Preventing gatherings and maintaining social distancing
- The number of pilgrims must not exceed 10 pilgrims per 50 square meter of the tents area.

Residency in Mina and the stoning of the Jamarat

- Providing pilgrims with stones in sterile bags packed by the organizer.
- The pilgrims' departure to the Jamarat facility must be scheduled so the number does not exceed fifty pilgrims for each floor of the Jamarat facility, or according to the

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capacity, to ensure a distance of at least one meter and a half (6 feet) between individuals and according to the allotted time that has been booked in advance.

- Providing masks and sterilization materials in prominent places.

The Grand Mosque in Mecca and Madinah (Haramain)

- The continued presence of the relevant authorities at the borders of the Grand Mosque in Mecca and Madinah, prevent any person who is not authorized to enter, and apply the thermal screening at the gates of the haram.
- A permit to perform the Hajj through the electronic Hajj portal or via an electronic application.
- Ensure that there is a safe distance between pilgrims and prevent overcrowding.
- Assign entry and exit doors to prevent interference between them.
- Providing thermal cameras to measure the temperature at the entrances.
- Any employee who has symptoms or has been in contact with a confirmed infected case will not be allowed to perform their duties. This will be applied by reviewing TawakkaIna application for employees and workers.
- The permission to enter the Haram will be based on the maximum allowed capacity.
- The continuation of raising the carpets in all praying areas, and allow praying only on marble by posting the praying spots with applying a physical distance of about 2 meters.
- Providing the service in the Wudu' areas must meet health requirements, providing sterilizers, removing praying chairs (except for chairs for people with special needs) and continuing lifting of the Qur'ans, and Zamzam water thermoses.
- Banning food at the two Holy Mosques.
- Continuing to suspend lessons and Quran memorization sessions.
- Providing educational materials to raise awareness of measures and procedures.
- Educate workers of the health measurements in all participating sectors.
- The frequent cleaning and disinfecting of tools and surfaces.
- Providing sterilizers by all participating parties.

Notes to be considered:

- Continuation of the ban on praying outside haram due to the impossibility of applying visual screening outside the boundaries.
- No permits will be issued for individuals under the age of 18 or over 60 years of age.

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- The first floor is dedicated to the tawaf of people with special needs.
- It is forbidden for pilgrims to travel outside the holy sites, or to move to other regions in the kingdom.
- Create a checkpoint at all entrances, and apply the measuring of temperature and checking for any symptoms.
- Pilgrims must wear masks at all times during the Hajj journey.
- Waiting areas must be organized by placing visible signs on the ground to ensure a distance of one and a half meters between individuals.
- Providing Zamzam water with single-use containers.

The central region of Makkah and Madinah (outside Haram/Shopping malls)

- Recommending the formation of a joint committee from the relevant authorities to apply all the protocols at the hotels, restaurants and commercial centers in the central area.
- With regard to restaurants in the central area, the same necessary requirements must be applied.
- At restaurants, prohibit all gatherings or any crowds and only allow take-outs, with an obligation to provide all requirements for spacing and adherence to sterilization and the required precautionary measures.
- The competent authorities shall determine the most suitable place for parking and issue a curfew decision and sitting in the central area and setting penalties any violation.

Providers of services to pilgrims

- The seasonal employment protocols must be applied to workers during the Hajj season and be completed.
- Ensure that they receive the Corona vaccine at least 14 days before the start of the season.
- The allocation of 5000 workers in case the number of pilgrims is less than 60 thousand.
- Starting from the date of 29/11/1442H, it is prohibited for anyone to enter the holy sites (Mina, Muzdalifah, Arafat) without permission, until the end of the fifteenth day of the month of Dhu al-Hijjah, 1442 AH.
- The temperature of all service providers must be measured and recorded daily through (Tawakkalna) application.
- The suspected and confirmed cases are dealt with by workers in accordance to the procedures at the workplace.
- Care must be taken to wear masks for those in charge of the Hajj route and all workers.
- The disinfection of surfaces and toilets should be committed on a scheduled periodic basis with an emphasis on places with high potential for contacting and after every use.
- Distribute hand sanitizers and place them in prominent places.
- Ensure good ventilation.

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- Congregational prayers are permitted, with an emphasis on keeping a distance between worshipers and referring to protocols of mosques.
- Providing drinking water in single-use bottles.
- Removing or deactivating all fridges.
- Prevent crowding in toilets and ablution sinks by placing floor stickers under supervision.

Finish

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Call or text and we will respond within 24 hours

With texting, you will receive a reply within 4 hours

Hajj-U.S.A of New York advises all of our prospective clients to plan for the Hajj of '2022.

Please do not rush for this year and the virus is still not contained.

And Allah knows best.

We will start collecting deposits as early as August for the Hajj of '2022

Three will be limited Hajjis for '2022 as well, so we will do a "first come-first serve" basis.