

Dammam, Eastern Province, Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia's oil-rich Eastern Province opens with wide corniche promenades, a stunning modern cultural centre, and gateway access to Bahrain — all from a brand-new cruise terminal on the Arabian Gulf.

Docked (King Abdulaziz Port)

Typical call: 8–10 hrs

Saudi Riyal (SAR; pegged ~3.75/USD)

Arabic (English widely understood)

Hot & dry; Oct–Apr best

MY DAY IN PORT

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

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Docked at King Abdulaziz Port cruise terminal

Walk to centre: ~3 km to Dammam Corniche; taxi/Uber recommended

Best For: Culture, Gulf beaches, cross-border day trips to Bahrain

Don't Miss: King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture (Ithra) in Dhahran

Getting around: **Taxi** ✓ 50–65 SAR (~\$13–\$17) · **Rideshare** ✓ Uber, Careem

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Ithra: King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture** — Saudi Arabia's flagship cultural complex in Dhahran features a stunning library, cinema, innovation labs, and rotating international exhibitions.
- Tarout Island & Castle** — A short drive north reveals Tarout Island, home to a Portuguese-era fortress and one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited settlements.
- Half Moon Bay Beach** — A crescent-shaped Gulf beach 40 km south of Dammam with calm, shallow water and good facilities.
- Day Trip to Bahrain via King Fahd Causeway** — The 25 km causeway connecting Saudi Arabia with Bahrain is itself a sightseeing event.
- Dammam Corniche & Marjan Island Stroll** — The city corniche runs along the Arabian Gulf with parks, cafes, and playgrounds.

BEST WALKS

- Dammam Corniche Waterfront Walk** 2 km each way | Easy | Free — Stroll the Gulf-facing promenade from King Abdulaziz Park south toward the Corniche bridge and Marjan Island.
- Al Khobar Corniche Promenade** 1.5 km | Easy | Free | 20 min taxi from port — Al Khobar's waterfront is slightly more polished than Dammam's, with fountains, sculptures, and the upscale Half Moon shopping area nearby.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		90°	70°	1d
Jun		105°	84°	0d
Aug		107°	86°	0d
Sep		104°	81°	0d
Oct		96°	75°	0d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:16AM–6:03PM · Jun 4:46AM–6:33PM · Aug 5:11AM–6:15PM · Sep 5:25AM–5:43PM · Oct 5:38AM–5:11PM

Saudi Riyal (SAR; pegged ~3.75/USD)

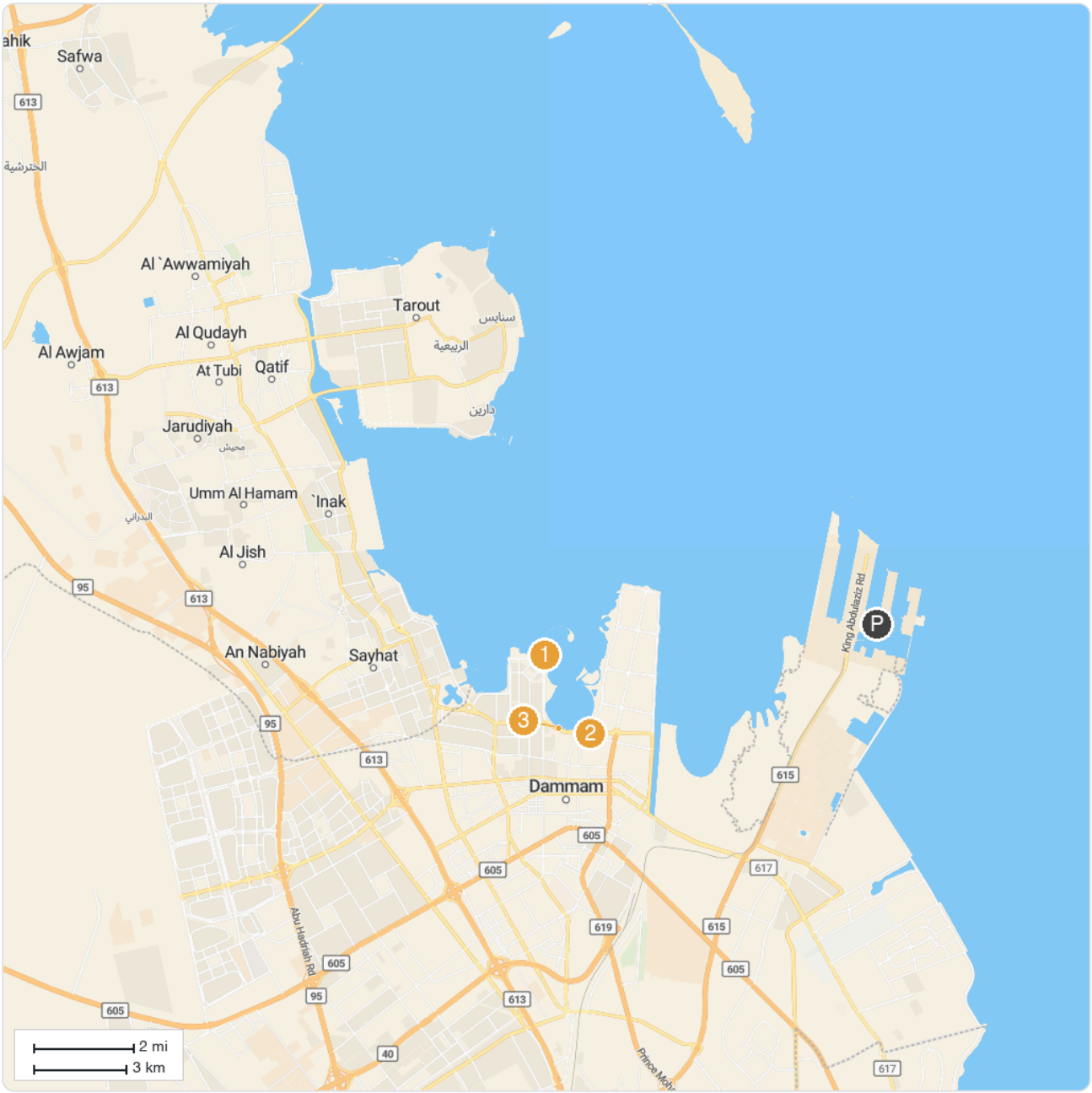
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Download Careem or Uber on the ship's Wi-Fi before going ashore — they work seamlessly across Dammam, Al Khobar, and Dhahran and remove all bargaining stress.
- Dress modestly — shoulders and knees covered for everyone. Women no longer need an abaya by law, but conservative dress is respectful and expected, especially at markets and mosques.
- Saudi Arabia is completely dry — no alcohol is available anywhere ashore. Nothing can be brought off the ship. Plan your shore day accordingly.
- Cards accepted almost everywhere — Visa and Mastercard work at malls, restaurants, and taxis. Carry a little SAR cash (ATMs in the terminal) for small souq purchases.
- Extreme heat in summer — May through September can exceed 45°C. Most cruise calls are October to April when temperatures are pleasant (20–30°C). Carry water regardless.
- Visa is required — your cruise line usually arranges a transit maritime visa, but confirm this well before sailing. Independent passengers may need a Saudi e-Visa.

Dammam, Eastern Province, 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

Dolphin Village Dammam

Family entertainment park featuring dolphin shows and rides.
- 2

Sails Roundabout

Iconic roundabout featuring a distinctive sail-shaped monument.
- 3

Dammam Corniche

Beautiful waterfront promenade for walks, recreation, and sea views.
- P

Cruise port / terminal