

GMS Flash Alert

Immigration

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Saudi Arabia – 30-Day Grace Period for Expired Visit Visas

Effective 26 June 2025, Saudi Arabia's General Directorate of Passports ("Jawazat") launched a new initiative offering a 30-days grace period for holders of expired visit visas to regularise their status and exit the kingdom legally.

This initiative allows a legal "exit ramp" rather than immediate punishment. It is helpful for those whose visas expired unexpectedly or were unable to depart on time.

WHY THIS MATTERS

The new 30-day grace period provides a vital window for individuals on expired Saudi visit visas to exit the country legally without facing penalties, fines, or future entry bans.

In a region where visa over-stays can lead to significant legal and financial consequences, this initiative reflects a more humane and practical approach. It accommodates visitors who may have faced unexpected delays due to flight suspensions, regional instability, or personal emergencies.

It also helps embassies and consulates coordinate safe departures, especially during periods of limited mobility or crisis. On a broader level, it reinforces Saudi Arabia's efforts to maintain clear, digitised immigration procedures through platforms like Absher, making compliance more accessible and transparent.

More Details

Starting 26 June 2025, visitors in Saudi Arabia holding expired visit visas – whether for tourism, family, or business purposes – are now eligible for a 30-day grace period to exit the kingdom without incurring over-stay penalties.¹

Previously, over-staying a visit visa could result in fines, legal repercussions, or future entry bans. Under the new initiative, visitors will have a 30-day window from the visa expiry date to regularise their status for final departure only. This period cannot be used to extend the stay or apply for a new visa while still in the country.

To complete the departure process, travellers must settle all applicable fines and administrative fees and initiate the exit request through the Absher platform using the Tawasul service provided by the Ministry of Interior.²

KPMG INSIGHTS

Key Considerations for Visitors

- **Final Exit Only:** The grace period allows for legal departure only. It does not permit extensions, status changes, or re-entry during this time.
- **Use Official Channels:** Departures must be processed through the Absher platform via the Tawasul service to be recognised as valid.
- **Settle Outstanding Dues:** Any applicable over-stay fines or administrative fees must be cleared prior to exit.
- **Embassy Coordination:** Visitors without valid documentation or facing complications should contact their embassy or consulate for assistance.
- **Travel Prepared:** Ascertain passport validity, confirm flight bookings, and arrive at the airport early to help avoid disruptions.
- **Keep Records:** Save receipts or confirmation of any applications or payments made – especially if exiting close to the end of the grace period.

KPMG in the Lower Gulf will monitor developments and endeavour to keep readers of *GMS Flash Alert* informed as developments occur.

Organisations with individuals on Saudi visit visas with questions or concerns are advised to contact the General Directorate of Passports (Jawazat), their usual immigration advisers, or a member of the Immigration team with KPMG in the Lower Gulf (see the Contacts section).

FOOTNOTES:

1 According to an Alert (in Arabic) on the official social media pages of Saudi Arabia's General Directorate of Passports (Jawazat): See: [الجوازات السعودية \(@AljawazatKSA\) / X](#), [الجوازات السعودية \(@aljawazatksa\) • صور ومقاطع فيديو على Instagram](#). Please note that by clicking on this link you are leaving the KPMG website for an external site (non-governmental, non-KPMG), that KPMG is not affiliated with nor does KPMG endorse its content. The use of the external site and its content may be subject to the terms of use and/or privacy policies of its owner or operator.

2 Ibid.

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Contact us

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