The King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre (KFSH&RC) in Riyadh is an 890+ bed tertiary medical and research facility.

Located in the capital city of Saudi Arabia, the hospital is the national referral centre for oncology, organ transplantations, cardiac surgery, genetic diseases and more.

The Hospital has a staff of over 8,000 comprising 63 different nationalities. Nursing staff come from all over the world including United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Europe, Philippines, Saudi Arabia and other countries.

The King Faisal Specialist Hospital undertakes research in five main areas: cancer, genetics, cardiovascular diseases, environmental health and infectious diseases. The laboratories contain state-of-the-art equipment equal to those available in other major laboratories throughout the world.

The King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre (KFSH&RC) in Jeddah is a 300-bed acute care referral hospital. KFSH-Jeddah offers 24-hour emergency care, short stay surgery, ophthalmology, dentistry, neurosciences, medical oncology, and cardiovascular services. Jeddah is thought to be one of the most beautiful cities in Saudi Arabia and is an excellent location for those who wish to live in a beautiful seaside location.
Saudi Arabia

Due to its entry restrictions, Saudi Arabia is a destination that many travellers are intrigued by.

A culturally rich and fascinating country with spectacular desert and mountain scenery, Saudi Arabia also offers some of the Middle East’s best archaeological sites.

Many expatriates will live and work there for 20 to 30 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Full country name:</strong></th>
<th>Kingdom of Saudi Arabia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population:</strong></td>
<td>Approx 30 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capital City:</strong></td>
<td>Riyadh (pop. 7 million)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>People:</strong></td>
<td>Arabs, Bedouins, Najdis and expats from all over the world</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language:</strong></td>
<td>Arabic, English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Currency:</strong></td>
<td>Saudi Riyal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Religion:</strong></td>
<td>Islam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Government:</strong></td>
<td>Monarchy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Major Industries:</strong></td>
<td>Oil, steel, cement, wheat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Climate

Classified as having a desert climate, temperatures during the summer months are very hot in Riyadh with an average temperature of 35.5 °C.

Winters are warm with cold, windy nights and an average temperature of 15°C. The overall climate is arid, and the city experiences very little rainfall, especially in summer, but receives a fair amount of rain in March and April.

Living In Riyadh

Riyadh is one of the most popular and Colourful cities in Saudi Arabia. It is a well developed city with landmark architectural buildings and modern shopping facilities.

The culture is bound by tradition and religion, and it is wise to adhere to some guidelines outlined below:

**PHOTOS:** Caution should be used when taking photographs. Always ask Saudi men for permission to take a photograph, never photograph a woman.

**ALCOHOL:** is strictly forbidden throughout Saudi Arabia. It is a very serious offense to sell alcohol to Muslims.

**DRUGS:** Illegal drug-taking is banned in Saudi Arabia. Punishments for drug dealers and users can be very severe.

**PORNOGRAPHY:** All materials of a pornographic nature are forbidden in the Kingdom.

**DRIVING:** Women are not permitted to drive on public roads.

**SHOPS:** close at prayer times.

Ramadan

If you arrive during the Holy Month of Ramadan, take extra care to behave in a manner demonstrating respect for the Kingdom’s values and traditions. You should not eat (including chewing gum, sweets), drink or smoke in front of Muslims during the daylight hours of Ramadan.

Mutawa – The Religious Police

Identified by their long beards and short thobes. Avoid confrontation with them where possible!

King Faisal Benefits

Financial

A tax free salary is one of the major benefits of working at KFSH&RC. This provides the opportunity to save a significant amount of your monthly salary provided you can keep away from the shopping malls and souks (traditional markets).

Nurses and some clinical staff in need of extra pocket money can work overtime as available.

An annual bonus equivalent to one month’s salary is paid to professional staff at the end of a two-year contract and at the end of each subsequent year spent at the hospital.

Staff members are also entitled to severance pay for every year worked at the hospital. This payment is in addition to the annual bonus and is cumulative with each contract year. However, it is only paid out when the employee leaves the hospital.

Relocation Allowance

A relocation allowance is offered to all new international employees. This allowance is offered on initial hire only, and the amount depends upon your point of origin and your contract status. It is advised, however, that you bring enough money (in US dollars) with you to cover your expenses for the first three weeks in the Kingdom. Approximately $1000 should be more than sufficient.

Annual Leave

You are entitled to 54 vacation days per year, comprising 36 days annual leave and 18 official additional holidays. This allows ample opportunities to take extended trips to your home country or to see the world and experience international travel at its best. Leave time is calculated in calendar days.
In the event of a death of an employee’s natural parent, spouse or child, expatriate employees will be eligible for seven days leave with pay, if travelling home for the funeral, and three days’ leave if remaining within the Kingdom.

In the event of the employee travelling, they will be reimbursed in cash for the ticket upon return from leave, by producing the original death certificate. If an employee fails to provide full evidence of the death upon return, they will not be reimbursed.

Emergency/Compassionate Leave
State of the art equipment and systems alone are not enough when it comes to delivering the level of care practiced at KFSH&RC. It is therefore no surprise that a strong emphasis is placed upon the recruitment and retention of staff. KFSH&RC aim to ensure that all new employees are appropriately informed prior to leaving home and also to ensure a smooth transition upon arrival to Riyadh!

Accommodation
Housing is provided free to all employees. Physicians and their families are generally housed on the main hospital compound.

Single males and couples usually live off-compound in hospital provided housing. Single females must live on the hospital compound, and usually share their housing with one other person.