

## Prayer Timings

Fajr .....	03:14	Asr .....	15:24
Sunrise ..	04:50	Maghrib ..	18:51
Zohr .....	11:50	Isha .....	20:23

# Local

**VACCINE BOOSTER REGISTRATION:** [https://cov19vaccine.moh.gov.kw/SPCMS/CVD\\_19\\_Vaccine\\_Booster\\_Registration.aspx](https://cov19vaccine.moh.gov.kw/SPCMS/CVD_19_Vaccine_Booster_Registration.aspx)

## Weather

## Expected weather for the next 24 hours:

**By Day:** Very hot with light to moderate north westerly wind to northerly wind with speeds of 15-35 km/h and some high clouds will appear.

**By Night:** Hot to rather hot with light to moderate freshening at times over coastal areas north westerly wind to northerly wind with speeds of 15-40 km/h.

Station	Max Exp	Min Rec
Kuwait City	43	33

Kuwait Airport	46	30
Abdaly	45	28
Jahra	46	31
Salmiyah	40	33
Ahmadi	40	34
Nuwaisib	43	30
Wafra	45	27

## 'Billions spent as going to different places in locals blood'

# Some factors that determine why Kuwaitis prefer to travel abroad

KUWAIT CITY, June 25: Traveling abroad is considered almost routine by Kuwaitis whenever opportunity arises, be it during holidays or summer seasons and there are many travel destinations and different goals for trips in light of the high tourist culture that Kuwaitis enjoy as a result of frequent travel and their constant passion for seasonal migration, reports Al-Qabas daily.

In the face of important holidays, the most important of which is the summer, citizens start booking tickets for travel abroad on tourist trips to escape from the hot summer season in Kuwait and seek to spend enjoyable periods in a family atmosphere in countries that provide the required luxury, which may not exist in the country such as nature and mountains resorts.

The mechanisms for choosing the intended destination vary according to various factors, including preferred and safe destination, the appropriate economic cost, advice from friends and campaigns of tourism offices and hotel offers and hotel discounts.

This is followed by the process of completing travel procedures which begins through the specialized programs

on the Internet or through travel offices, tourism and airline agents.

## Destinations

Travel destinations preferred by Kuwaitis vary and differ during the holiday season, and if we exclude the treatment trips which are governed by special circumstances, the most important destinations are clear after follow-up and analysis of tourism performance over the past years and citizens' surveys about upcoming destinations, the change of priorities, which can be separated for two phases – the pre-epidemic and post-epidemic Corona phase, without neglecting the intermediate phase during the outbreak of the epidemic, which witnessed some travel trips – though few – when conditions allowed at that time.

In 2019, we find that travelers headed towards nearby countries, and Lebanon, Egypt and Dubai were among the most prominent destinations during quick holidays, while they go to farther regions during summer holidays, so Turkey, London, Georgia and America emerged favorites.

While during previous years we

witnessed a clear fluctuation among Kuwaitis, with the emergence of sudden new destinations such as Bosnia, Georgia and Bulgaria, according to what was confirmed by one of the reservations officials of the Eva airline in media statements about the reservations for the summer of 2017, as destinations that the Kuwaiti traveler was not accustomed to.

According to the statistics given by Mubasher, which provides more than 600,000 hotels around the world, in 2017, the most important destinations were Dubai which accounted for 29% of Kuwaiti flights; London as a preferred destination for historical and cultural reasons; Paris, which contains fashion markets, restaurants and theaters; Barcelona with a passion for football and attending matches; Munich as one of the favorite cities for Kuwaitis, and it is close to Austria, without forgetting that Germany is a preferred destination for treatment; New York is unique to Kuwaitis, and is reserved for businessmen and politicians; Istanbul is a tourist city with a distinctive atmosphere and a special location; Rome, which captures a large share of the Kuwaiti market;

Los Angeles, which is a good outlet to other US states; Bangkok, which is one of the best cities in the world, for its cheapness and distinctive activities.

As for Hussein Al-Sulaiten, a member of the Board of Directors of the Federation of Tourism and Travel Offices and head of the media committee, he explained in his media statements that the travel season during the last Eid was for Turkey, London, Dubai and Cairo, with a strong demand for travel, because the last Eid holiday was the first holiday after the epidemic.

After the epidemic, Turkey has remarkably returned to the top of the destination for Kuwaiti tourists since last year due to overlapping factors, on top of which is the decline in the exchange rate of the Turkish lira, which was reflected in the amounts spent by the Kuwaiti on his trip, and the country does not require strict health measures around Corona, with licenses for airline tickets. No need for an entry visa.

Until the previous Eid al-Fitr holiday, airlines achieved remarkable revenues of \$60 million, with aircraft occupancy rates rising by nearly 100% on all tourist destinations, especially those we men-

tioned, and ticket prices gradually rising from an average of \$400 to \$850 prior to the holiday. - Media reports and press interviews estimate that the revenues of tourism and travel agencies from the revenues of travel traffic during the official holidays, during these seasons, are about 20 million dinars.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) recently said air travel rebounded last February compared to January of the previous year 2022, with the effects of the Omicron mutating receding - and the report indicates that airlines in the Middle East recorded a rise in passenger traffic by 215.3% last February.



Al-Sulaiten

**Sector**  
According to a report, the travel and tourism sector in Kuwait faces a number of challenges and obstacles, on top

of which is the lack of an integrated and clear government vision to advance this sector, to take its place in supporting the national economy – which is reflected in Kuwait's classification in the tourism industry, which constitutes 2.1% of GDP; with a value of only \$2.5 billion, the country received only 182,000 international tourists, with an average revenue per tourist of approximately \$2,739.

Sources say there is no integrated and clear government vision for upgrading the sector while there is need to provide good and attractive recreational areas for citizens, the country received only 182,000 international tourists in 2017 with average revenue per tourist of approximately \$2,739.

In the latest reading of the citizens' poll about travel destinations this summer, we find the most prominent travel destinations for Kuwaitis this summer include Turkey, London, Bodrum, Cairo and Europe.

Data shows the Kuwaitis have spent about seven billion dollars on travel in 2014; 20% of spending goes to hotels and the rest goes to airline tickets, entertainment and food.

## Other Voices

# Europe is back to coal and nuclear

By Kamel Al-Harami  
Independent Oil Analyst

WITH the threat of a cut off of gas supply from Russia in the coming months, Europe has to move forward and find an alternative. However, it has no available choice except for polluted energy.

This will mean further delays in converting into new clean energy and not meeting the Paris deadline set for 2050. With the lack of alternatives, Europe and the rest of the world must face the reality.

Europe will have to face the hard reality of complete shut-down of gas supply from Russia. Therefore, it must devise a plan to deal with the situation. Due to the lack of an alternative, there will be delays in moving towards cleaner air, less pollution and less harm to the environment. Even though speeding up the process will represent a new source of cleaner energy, the immediate threat is the cut off of Russian gas supply. Gas price is going beyond any reach and is getting higher by the week.

Going back to coal and nuclear is the only available

choice in order to avoid harm to the global economy, shortage of supply, and suffering of the population of Europe.

Meanwhile, consumers must focus on reducing consumption by taking small measures to manage the temperatures especially during the summertime. This includes keeping the temperatures of the air conditioning units at 25 degrees and above.

The picture is not bright with Russia reducing gas supply by more than 60 percent to Germany. It may even cut off the supply completely like it did with Finland. Rationing supply of gas to Europe can be expected. Full cooperation is needed to keep European unity intact against the invasion of Ukraine.

Certainly, financial and physical measures are needed such as reducing tax cuts on all fuels of petrol and gas. Governments must carry on with heavy burdens for a few more years until new alternative routes for gas supply are found. Such a day will come with heavy sacrifices.

In the meantime, Europe is forced to go back, and postpone its move away from coal and nuclear until such a time. The Paris agreement for clean air and zero emission by 2050 has to wait.

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Al-Harami

## Hi-tech specifications: CEO

# KPTC inaugurates new fleet of buses

By Munif Nayef  
Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, June 25: The Kuwait Public Transport Company (KPTC) has inaugurated its new fleet of buses, which are distinguished by the best technological specifications, coinciding with the 60th anniversary of the establishment and the launch of the company's new logo.

The CEO of KPTC Mansour Al-Saad announced, in his speech during the inauguration ceremony, the start of operation of the new buses with their high and distinguished technical specifications, and with their new vision in the world of transportation.

He indicated that the new logo is aimed to better express the advanced services in order to enhance and meet all aspirations and needs.

Al-Saad said, "Today we can look back with great honor and pride towards an era and a series of successes for the company in the past decades, through which it proved to be the best carrier that always works side by side with all state agencies, institutions and sectors, at various levels, occasions and the darkest conditions.

"We have a firm belief in continuous progress to achieve the desired goal, which lies in what we do on the field, through the constant and diligent pursuit to develop the services we provide. For this, we today announce the launch of a fleet of new buses, with the best technical specifications, which we hope will meet the needs and satisfaction of customers, provide the highest levels of safety and comfort, and keep pace with technological development".

Meanwhile, the Director of Public Relations and Marketing at KPTC Ohoud Al-Masoud praised the efforts and cooperation of the Avenues Mall management for rendering a success of the event.

She indicated that the aim of the ceremony was to shed light on the inauguration of the new buses in a joyful and colorful atmosphere for children and adults through a number of different entertainment programs.

It is worth highlighting that the ceremony witnessed the honoring of a number of concerned parties, including the delegation of the General Traffic Department, represented by the Assistant Director-General for Technical Affairs Brigadier General Muhammad Al-Adwani, and a delegation of the Ministry of Education headed by the Director of Educational



CEO of KPTC Mansour Al-Saad honors Mohammad Al-Adwani.



The new bus on display.

## Amazon can offer cloud computing services: CITRA

KUWAIT CITY, June 25: Saud Al-Zayd, a full-time board member of the Communications and Information Technology Regulatory Authority (CITRA), revealed about the initial approval to grant the global company Amazon the required permission to provide AWS OUTPOST programs in Kuwait, a system that works with hybrid computing, reports Al-Rai daily.

He revealed that the responsibility for data classification using these programs rests with government agencies.

Amazon will be the second global company to obtain permission from Kuwait to provide cloud computing

programs, after Microsoft last month obtained permission to provide Microsoft 365, which is the productivity cloud. It is a set of applications that help the user to remain connected, accomplish tasks and manage work, including applications such as Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Al-Zayd explained that the expected permission will allow Amazon to provide computing services in Kuwait that include all products and platforms included in the Amazon Web Services program, or what is known as AWS. This program is the most comprehensive and reliable cloud platform on a wide scale in the world, providing

more than 3,000 fully featured cloud computing services.

Al-Zayd affirmed that CITRA has addressed all international companies to provide cloud computing services in Kuwait, indicating that granting permission to Amazon and Microsoft will encourage many similar companies to expand to the local market.

It is worth mentioning that each entity must classify its data before April 2023, which is the end of the time limit specified in this regard. The model prepared and approved for the use of government agencies is hybrid solutions, which are equipped for cloud storage purposes.

# Many found working in noon sun; ban violated

Companies warned, citations issued

KUWAIT CITY, June 25: The inspection teams of the Occupational Safety Center at the Public Authority for Manpower (PAM) recently recorded dozens of violations by companies that forced their workers to break the ban on outdoor work during the afternoon hours, reports Al-Qabas daily.

According to the "Heat Kills Them" campaign by the Kuwait Society for Human Rights, 730 similar violations had been recorded from June 1 to June 21.

The inspection teams carried out a wide inspection campaign on companies that violated the decision to ban outdoor work during the noon time, based on communications they received concerning the Hessa Al Mubarak suburb of the Capital Governorate.

During the tour of the construction projects in the suburb, dozens of violations were recorded, including the presence of motorcycle delivery workers at the construction site.

Head of the inspection team in the Capital Governorate Eng. Mohammad Al-Ajmi explained that workers delivering orders using motorcycles and in open places are covered by the decision to prevent outdoor work during noon time. However, they are not stopped on the roads for their safety.

Contact was made with their companies after recording their presence during the ban period. The citations issued are related to workers who are in violation of the residency or domestic labor law.

The inspectors apply the law on the violating companies, and their officials are summoned, after recording the notifications, to sign a pledge to abide by the decision before re-discovering and recording the violations.

Engr. Al-Ajmi called on companies to register as absconding those workers who do not adhere to the labor law or work in places other than their workplace. The authority records notifications and refers the files of violators of the residency and labor laws to the concerned authorities, if they are in projects they do not belong to. The companies bear the responsibility at that time.

Meanwhile, the "Heat Kills Them" campaign of the Kuwait Society for Human Rights issued a statistics this week, as per which 272 violations of the decision were detected through workers delivering orders via motorcycles, and 254 violations through construction workers.

Also, 113 cleaners were spotted working in the afternoon, as well as 27 road workers and 64 guards of accommodations.

**Kuwait ranks fifth:** In terms of mobile Internet speed for the month of May on the "Speed Test" index, Kuwait ranked fifth globally and third in the Gulf region after the UAE, which is second globally and Qatar, which is third globally, reports Al-Rai daily.

In fixed broadband Internet speed, Kuwait ranked second in the Gulf and 22nd globally.

The mobile Internet download speed in Kuwait was 104.47 MB per second, and 105.07 MB per second for the fixed broadband Internet download speed.

Also, the mobile Internet download speed in Kuwait reached 22.40 Mbps, and 26.33 Mbps for fixed broadband. According to the Global Speed Test Index for the month of May, Norway and Singapore topped in terms of global mobile speeds with average download speed of 129.40 Mbps and fixed broadband speeds of 209.21 Mbps.

It should be noted that Ookla's Speed Test index compares Internet speed data from around the world every month.

The global benchmark data comes from hundreds of millions of tests conducted by real people who use Speedtest every month to test their performance online.

The Ministry of Electricity and Water withdrew 420 megawatts from the estimated daily reserve of 600 megawatts to meet the electricity needs of the public, as the daily consumption rate recently set a new record -- 15,040 megawatts; reaching the 'yellow' level with a big difference of 876 megawatts compared to the maximum consumption on the previous day when the index recorded 14,164 megawatts, reports Al-Seyassah daily quoting sources from the ministry.

Sources clarified that despite the significant increase in consumption, it is still under the expected maximum load of 16,800 megawatts for this summer out of 18,600 megawatts -- the total operating capacity of all stations.

According to the global temperature index, Jahra recorded the highest temperature with 50 degrees Celsius under the shade, followed by Wafra with 49.7 degrees Celsius.

On the other hand, Deputy Head of the Judicial Control Team at the ministry and a member of the Bachelors Committee Ahmed Al-Shammari confirmed that the inspections campaigns are continuing in Farwaniya, Jahra and Capital Governorates. He said the team has issued six citations for various violations since the beginning of June; including the disconnection of electricity from a real estate property for violating law number 48/2005 and ministerial Decision No. 121/2017 that applies to all types of housing, including the government sector.



KUNA photo  
Photo taken during the renewal of the Syrian refugee relief partnership between the UN refugee agency and Kuwait's Sheikh Abdullah Al-Nouri Charity Society.

## Partnership renewed

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Jordan and Kuwait's Sheikh Abdullah Al-Nouri Charity Society renewed on Thursday their partnership deal, which provides relief for nearly 2,100 Syrian refugee families worth USD 500,000.

The UN refugee agency honored the visiting delegation from the registered Kuwaiti charity, headed by Board Chairman Jamal Abdulkhaleq Al-Nouri, for their efforts targeting displaced Syrians at several refugee camps in Jordan.

The event saw UNHCR Deputy Representative Carolyn Ennis praise the support provided by the charity to the agency's endeavours, reiterating pride in their partnership, which aims to support efforts to alleviate the suffering of the refugees. (KUNA)

## Europe hopeful

# '\$30 per barrel cost added due to crisis'

KUWAIT CITY, June 25: Bloomberg Agency quoted the CEO of the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, Nawaf Saud Al-Sabah, as saying that \$30 per barrel was added to the costs of oil production due to the Russian-Ukrainian war, reports Al-Qabas daily.

Al-Sabah said on the sidelines of the Qatar Economic Forum: "There are additional costs or what we call (war premium) of about \$30 per barrel in oil prices currently. There are no indications of the destruction of demand in the oil markets due to the high prices, despite the slowdown in growth."

He added, "European buyers are hoping for more refined oil from Kuwait, before the Al-Zour refinery is fully operational, as we receive more European orders for Kuwaiti oil products, and by the end of the year we will produce about 615,000 barrels of oil per day that will be refined into diesel and low-sulfur fuel oil."

He added, "Kuwait has sufficient production capacity to reach its full production OPEC quota and respond to any future increase," and added that there are no plans now to list units of the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation on the stock exchange, but that may change over time.

**Registration begins:** The Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences announced the opening of registration for the "Hackathon Entrepreneurship Through Virtual Reality Technology (Metaverse) competition" in cooperation with the Teaching, Learning and Research Center at Gulf University for Science and Technology from July 4-6, with the aim of developing and refining the digital skills of young people to find solutions to the challenges presented by the competition.

The Foundation clarified in a press release on Saturday that the "hackathon" is the first of its kind competition in Kuwait and an educational experience with enriching content, and implemented using the Metaverse technology for the first time in the region.

It stated that the participants will review, during the hackathon, tools, programs and digital skills in order to qualify them for success in the business world, noting that the hackathon content is the result of fruitful cooperation with the latest educational technology companies and the development of digital educational content in the Republic of Singapore.

Young people from 20 to 24 years old are invited to register through the Foundation's website until the 28th of this month, where a three-day training camp will be held on the fourth of next month, noting that the first three winners will receive valuable cash prizes. (KUNA)