

# Weekender's Guide to Life in Kuwait

## 2007 Edition

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*Cover, many photographs were taken by Diane Peterson*

The following information was compiled by the Community Liaison Office to help you choose your leisure activities while here in Kuwait. Contact numbers, hours, and locations are subject to change, so notifying the CLO about any updated information or fun new activities would be helpful to the entire community.

For the newest information about things to do in Kuwait, look at the daily "What's Happening" pages of the **Arab Times** and the **Kuwait Times**. **Kuwait Zoom** is a free monthly publication that includes event and tourist news. Similar information can be found in the **Tower Times**, the embassy's weekly newsletter. Many of the major hotels also have events and specials in their restaurants, and checking with these establishments for further details about an event is advised. The **Kuwait Pocket Guide** is an annual publication that includes facts and figures, restaurants, shopping centers and other services and is available in bookstores and on the Internet at [www.kuwaitpocketguide.com](http://www.kuwaitpocketguide.com). It also doubles as your "Yellow Pages" phone book.

Get out there and enjoy Kuwait!

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# RESTAURANTS

## Dining out in Kuwait

**Tipping:** Not all restaurants require a tip. Look at the bill when it arrives, if it includes a 10% service charge, you do not need to include a tip. (If the service was great and you want to add 5%, go ahead.) Generally, 10% is considered a decent tip.

**Embassy Discounts:** Many restaurants offer discounts to holders of American Embassy ID's. (Show your ID to get the discount when paying the bill.) We have mentioned discounts that have been offered in the individual restaurant reviews. Let us know of other discounts, or if a restaurant manager says he/she is willing to extend a discount to the Embassy community. We will need a copy of this discount in writing.

**New Restaurants:** PLEASE give CLO an address, telephone number, & short description of interesting restaurants worth sharing with others. We can all use a new taste. Write e-mail us at [CLOKuwait@state.gov](mailto:CLOKuwait@state.gov).

## AMERICAN

**APPLEBEE'S:** Your friendly neighborhood family restaurant on the Gulf. Serving a varied menu from Baja Potato Boats for starters to Oreo Cookie Bash for the finish. You can have fajitas, burgers and grilled sirloin in between. Also serves breakfast.

**Location:** Gulf Street right next door to Fuddruckers.

**Hours:** Weekdays 8:00 am – 11:00 pm Weekends 8:00 am – 1:00 am

☎: 240-7536

**BUFFALO'S:** Specialties are Tex-mex and steaks. Has a stuffed Buffalo in the lobby. Happy Hour on Monday nights, half priced wings.

**Location:** Salmiya on Salem al-Mubarak street about 1 block from the Gulf Street intersection.

**Hours:** Weekdays 12:00 pm – 12:00 mn Weekends 12:00 pm – 1:00 am

☎: 572-8989

**CHILI'S:** A chain restaurant serving Tex-Mex. Located close enough to take a stroll to the Kuwait Towers after you eat. Credit Cards accepted.

**Location:** Gulf Street, seafront next to the Kuwait Towers.

**Hours:** Weekdays 11:00 am – 12:00 mn Weekends 11:00 am -- 1:00 am

☎: 245-3300, 245-2200

**CREPAWAY:** Not really American, a Lebanese chain, but offers much the same items as the chain restaurants with the addition of different types of crepes and a large selection of salads and sandwiches. Modern, hip surroundings with huge screens showing Arabic music videos.

**Location:** Gulf Road South of Showbiz. On land side near large Burger King

**Hours:** noon to 12:30 a.m.

☎: 572-3083

**FUDDRUCKERS:** Lots of burgers, chili, milkshakes, salads, and bakery. A great place for breakfast specializing in scrambled egg platters. Has lower prices than other similar restaurants on Gulf Road. There is also a play area for children.

**Location:** On Gulf Street across from the Safir Hotel.

**Hours:** Weekdays 7:30 am -- midnight Weekends 7:30 am -- 1:00 am

☎: 82-1000, 246-0110

**GAUCHO GRILL:** Great Argentinean steaks.

**Location:** Palms Hotel on Gulf Road next to eh Radisson SAS.

**Hours:** 12:00 noon to midnight daily

☎: 566-7370

**HARD ROCK CAFÉ:** The real thing is now here complete with music, videos, rock memorabilia on the walls and the somewhat familiar menu. Worth going to just for the authentic shirts in the gift shop.  
**Location:** On the water side of Gulf Road opposite the Salmiya Sultan Center. You can't miss the giant glass pyramid.  
**Hours:** noon to midnight daily  
☎: 982-3354

**JOHNNY ROCKETS:** Authentic 50's diner right here in Kuwait. Burgers, fries and great malted shakes. Serves great breakfast, esp. French toast.  
**Location:** Salmiya, on Salem Al-Mubarak Street, across from the Zahra Complex. Also a new location in the Marina Crescent.  
**Hours:** 7:00 am – 12:00 am  
☎: Salmiya 575-4040, Marina Crescent 575-0404

**RIB EYE STEAKHOUSE:** This steakhouse has a Western theme and offers steaks, burgers, salads and desserts.  
**Location:** in Crowne Plaza hotel.  
**Hours:** noon to midnight every day  
☎: 474-2000 ext. 7100

**RUBY TUESDAY'S:** The familiar American chain restaurant with the best salad bar in town.  
**Location:** Gulf Road just under the Kuwait Towers.  
**Hours:** Weekdays 11a.m. to midnight, weekends open until 1 a.m.  
☎: 244-4454.

**TERRACE GRILL:** Well-liked steak house. Known for their All-American Black Angus beef, your choice of cut and deliciously cooked. If you are craving meat and potatoes, this is your place. Expensive, but well worth it. Reservations recommended.  
**Location:** J.W. Marriott Hotel, Kuwait City.  
**Hours:** Lunch 12:00 nn – 3 pm, Dinner 7:00 pm –11 pm  
☎: 245-5550 ext.2288

**T.G.I. FRIDAY'S:** Soups, salads, grilled food. A nice place to unwind after work and pretend you are back in the States.  
**Location:** On the Gulf Street across from the 3rd Ring Road.  
**Hours:** 11:00 am – midnight, but till 1:00am on Thursdays.  
☎: 254-4300

## ARABIC

**AL BERDAWNY:** It's a new Lebanese restaurant with several decorative dining rooms set around an attractive garden. Specializes in classic and contemporary Lebanese and Mediterranean delicacies.  
**Location:** Salmiya, across the street from the Yacht Club. From the Gulf Road make a right on Amman Street then another right on 3rd street.  
**Hours:** noon to midnight  
☎: 566-1117, 566-1118

**AL BOOM:** Eat on a dhow (traditional local boat.) Great imported steaks. Features a buffet of typical Arabic food consistently good in a unique setting, although it is pricey. It's a nice place to impress out-of-town visitors. Credit cards are accepted. Reservations are recommended for weekend nights.  
**Location:** Radisson SAS Hotel on Gulf Street.  
**Hours:** 7:30 pm – 12:00mn  
☎: 575-6000

**AL-NOUBALA PALACE RESTAURANT:** Lebanese food in Hawalli. Also does catering. Offers a 25% discount with Embassy badge.  
**Location:** Hawalli, Musa ben Nuseir Street (between Tunis street and route 40, and Beruit street and Ring 4).  
**Hours:** Lunch 12-3, dinner 7pm onwards.  
☎: 265-5550, 265-5557

**BURJ – AL HAMAM:** A waterfront Lebanese restaurant with great views of the Gulf and the Green Island. Shisha (water pipe) is available. Large assortment of mezzah. Credit cards accepted. Recommend reservations.

**Location:** On ocean side of Gulf Street, right past The Green Island.

**Hours:** 12:30 nn-3:30 pm, 7:00 pm -11:00 pm.

☎: 252-9095

**MAIS ALGHANIM:** A popular Lebanese restaurant. The upstairs floor is for shisha smoking (water pipe) outside and in and has a great view of the Gulf and the Kuwait Towers. Ample seating is available in the restaurant's two floors and it has a kid's play area. Known for their assorted grilled meat items, plentiful salads, and hot bread fresh from the ovens that just keeps coming to your table. Good catering. Credit cards accepted. Recommend reservations for large groups and on weekends.

**Location:** Across from the Kuwait Towers on Gulf Street, on the same side as British & Saudi Embassies.

**Hours:** 12:00 nn-3:30 pm, 7:00 pm -11:00 pm. **Closed Saturdays.**

☎: 246-0455/ 6/ 7

**PALM PALACE:** Excellent hot and cold mezzah. Includes very good food in a garden or inside setting. You can watch bread being baked in the dome oven (in the evening only – lunch has regular pita bread), as well as enjoy the coffee tent and hubbly bubbly (shisha). Catering and home delivery are available.

**Location:** Hamad Al Mubarak Street in Salmiya, just off the Gulf Street, near the Marina Mall.

**Hours:** 12:30 pm – 12:00 mn

☎: 573-3030, 575-6331, and 571-5283.

**SARAI:** A new Lebanese restaurant. The décor is excellent and the waiters dress in traditional attire. A good mix of many Arabic tastes. Credit cards accepted. Recommend reservations for large groups and on weekends.

**Location:** Al Beda complex on Ta'woon St., between Shiik Flamingo and Regency Hotel.

**Hours:** 12:00 nn - 11:30 pm.

☎: 225-3180

**SHATEA AL WATYIA:** A traditional Kuwaiti restaurant offering excellent authentic Kuwaiti and Lebanese fare at a reasonable price and very generous portions. The décor is Old Kuwaiti and one of the best in town. Their mezzah (Lebanese appetizers) and Iranian bread are excellent. Afterwards you can cross the street to the Arabic tent and have hubbly bubbly (sheeshah), tea and coffee. The bill is in Arabic!

**Location:** Bebehani Complex, behind the Sheraton, Kuwait City.

**Hours:** 10:30 am to 3:00 pm, 7:00 pm – 12:00 mn

☎: 242-2077/ 88

## BAKERIES, PASTRIES AND APPETIZERS

Many small fancy bakeries are available in local Co-Ops. You'll never have to bake!

**LA BAGUETTE:** Doughnuts, pastries, candy shop, appetizers.

**Locations:** Salmiya, Hawally, Jabriya, Fahaheel

**Hours:** 7:00 am. -11:00 pm

☎: (Salmiya) 572-2444, (Hawally) 261-0928, (Jabriya) 5347649, (Fahaheel) 392-2580

**MR. BAKER:** Delicious pastries, bread, chocolate candy & appetizers. Great service.

**Locations:** Salmiya off Gulf Street, Jabriya on 4th Ring Road, Al Qurain. New location off route 45 in South Surra.

**Hours:** 6:00 am – 12:00 mn

☎: 573-2250 (Salmiya), 533-9998 (Jabriya), 543-2250 (Al Qurain)

**EDOM CAFE:** The small bakery in the hotel lobby café has excellent breads, cakes, candies and seasonal sweets. It's a great place to get a hostess gift. Also has holiday specialities. They will take special orders.

**Location:** Radisson SAS

☎: 575-6000.

**SABLE:** Pastries, doughnuts and fabulous cakes almost too pretty to eat. Next day delivery available.

**Location:** Salmiya, on Hamad Al-Moubarak Street and Hawalli.

**Hours:** Sat-Tues: 8 am- 11 pm, Wed-Fri: 8 am- 12 mn

☎: 571-0181/ 2

## BUFFETS

**AL BUSTAN:** Has buffet for breakfast (no ala carte). Buffet and Ala Carte for both lunch and dinner Credit cards accepted. **20% discount for lunch and dinner with Embassy ID.**

**Location:** Radisson SAS Hotel

**Hours:** 6:00 am – 10:30 am, 12:00 nn – 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm – 12:30 am (buffet closes at 11:00 pm)

☎: 575-6000

**JEAN'S GRILL:** A nice place to have lunch or take a break from shopping at the Sultan Center. Serves an international buffet for breakfast, lunch and dinner, as well as a la carte.

**Location:** Can be found inside each Sultan Center Supermarket area. One large buffet restaurant on Gulf Street is attached to Chi-Chi's.

**Hours:** 6:30 am – 12:30 am

☎: Salmiya 571-9620 Sharq Mall 240-9846

**KUWAIT TOWERS RESTAURANT:** "Kuwaiti hospitality from above the clouds" – so says the ad for this nice restaurant with a spectacular view of the Gulf 82 meters high. It serves international buffet. This restaurant is very popular so make reservations early, at least 48 hours ahead and confirm again 24 hours prior.

**Location:** Kuwait Towers on Gulf Street.

**Hours:** 12:30pm – 3:30pm, 7:30pm - 11:30pm

☎: 244-4021, 244-4038

**SEABREEZE:** This 19th floor restaurant at the Safir International Hotel is one of the best in town. Boasts of the most gorgeous view of the city and gulf waters! Credit cards accepted. Open Buffet daily for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

**Location:** Safir International Hotel, Gulf Street.

**Hours:** 6:30 am - 11:00 am, 12:30 pm- 4:00 pm (Friday Brunch starts at 11:00), 7:30 pm - 11:00 pm

☎: 253-3000

## CHINESE

**CAESARS:** Good Chinese food at medium prices. The Kuwait City one has a private room for 12 persons, which can be reserved ahead of time. Credit cards accepted.

**Location:** Most popular locations are the ones on Hamad Al-Mubarak St. in Salmiya and on Abu Bakr, Al Siddiq St. behind the Sheraton Hotel downtown. There is a new location in Hawalli off Tunis Street next to the Jarir bookstore.

**Hours:** 12:15 pm – 3:00 pm, 6:45 pm – 11:30 pm.

☎: Salmiya 573-3044, Kuwait City 243-1100

**GREENS CHINESE RESTAURANT:** Good food, classical and contemporary décor in relaxing surroundings. Moderate to high priced. Reservations recommended.

**Location:** in Wafra Complex off Gulf Road near intersection with 2nd ring. On land side of Gulf Road opposite T.G.I. Fridays.

**Hours:** Noon – 11:00pm

☎: 251-9520

**GULF ROYAL:** Gulf Royal is cheap to moderately priced, has a nice setting and private rooms. Large selection from buffet and ala Carte. Found in the malls too. Credit cards are ok. They will deliver.

**Locations:** Salmiya branch is behind the immigration post office near the new City Center. There is also one in the City Center souk. The Hawalli Branch is supposedly the best and is located on the corner of Ibn Khaldoun St. and Cairo St.

**Hours:** 12:00 nn – 3:00 pm, 7:00 pm – 12:00 nn

☎: Salmiya 571-0448/ 9; Hawalli 262-2770, 262-2556

**LITTLE DRAGON:** Three locations. Most folks use take out or delivery. Preferred by many of our TDY folks. Salmiya Restaurant Street location includes tables for dining in.

**Hours:** Noon to midnight.

☎: Jabriya 532-3583, 531-8388; Salmiya next to Al-Fanar 573-3923; Salmiya Restaurants Street includes dining in open until 2am 575-7121.

**NOODLES:** Very good restaurant serving traditional Chinese dishes. Many choices on weekend buffets in both branches. Take-out and home delivery available. Food is tasty and consistent.

**Locations:** in Salmiya - on first floor of SANA complex on Hamad Al-Mubarak Street. Look for the big NOODLES sign on the top of the building. Nice atmosphere with a view. (3) New one in Yarmouk in the new co-op, but it's just for take-out. Also, now in the new Avenues shopping mall.

**Hours:** weekdays 11:00 am – 12:00 mn, weekends 11:00 am – 1:00 am

☎: in Salmiya complex 574-9933. Yarmouk 535-3355

**THE PEACOCK:** Best fine-dining Chinese restaurant in town, but also the most expensive. It is a busy restaurant, so make reservations ahead of time. The setting is pleasant. Credit cards accepted.

**Location:** Radisson SAS Hotel.

**Hours:** 12:00nn – 3:30pm, 7:30pm – 11:30pm

☎: 575-600

## FAST FOOD

The same taste as in the U.S. and they deliver all over town. You can find them in most Co-Op areas.

Main numbers below for deliveries anywhere. Call them once and you're in their computers always!

**BURGER KING:** ☎ 244-4466

**DOMINO'S:** ☎ 800-800

**HARDEE'S:** ☎ 888-333

**KFC:** ☎ 888-666

**LITTLE CAESARS PIZZA:** ☎ 888-855

**McDONALD'S:** ☎ 822-000

**NAIF CHICKEN:** ☎ 808-777

**PIZZA HUT:** ☎ 246-5050

**SHRIMPY:** ☎ 802-662

**Papa John's:** ☎ 827-272

## FRENCH

**DALLOYAU:** Very charming French café atmosphere. Delicious choices of almonds, chocolates, and pastries. Big on catering.

**Location:** Mezzanine Level of Al Fanar Shopping Complex on Salem Al-Mubarak St., Salmiya (Across from the Sultan Center)

**Hours:** 9:00am – 11:00pm

☎: 571-5577, 571-2541

**LE NOTRE:** French gourmet full restaurant with excellent salad bar. Reservations recommended for groups. Can be expensive. The café downstairs serves European style meals including salads, light sandwiches, soups and pastries. Another location is at the basement of the Al Fanar Mall on Salem Al-Mubarak St. in Salmiya.

**Location:** Gulf Street next to Fuddrucker's and the Kuwait Towers; at basement of the Al Fanar Mall on Salem Al-Mubarak St., Salmiya; and at the Marina Mall shopping level on Gulf Street.

**Hours:** Café: 9:00 am – 11:30 pm, Restaurant: 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm, 8:00 pm – 11:30 pm

☎: Gulf Street 80-5050; Al Fanar, 575-8888; Marina Mall 224-4855

**LE PAIN QUOTIDIEN:** Belgian bakery featuring all natural and organic breads, pastries, teas and juices. Has the best bread in Kuwait. Has a nice restaurant serving breakfast and light meals.

**Location:** in the Palms Resort Complex.

**Hours:** 7:30 am to 11pm.

☎: 563-3684.

**PAUL:** A lovely French bakery and restaurant. Offers soups, sandwiches, light dishes, pastries and delicious breads.

**Location:** In Marina Mall outside opposite the One. Also has a location inside the mall on the lower level of the food court.

**Hours:** From 7:30 a.m. New Location in the Al Kouts Mall in Fahaheel.

☎: 224-4599/88

## INDIAN

**ASHA'S CONTEMPORARY INDIAN CUISINE:** A new idea for Kuwait. Famous Indian singer, Asha Bhosle now has a restaurant in Kuwait.

**Location:** Marina Crescent

**Hours:** 12:30 to 3 pm for lunch, 7 to 11pm for dinner.

☎: 224-4502/3/6

**BUKHARA RESTAURANT:** Elegant dining with a magnificent rooftop view. It features Indian cuisine and Tandoori specialties.

**Location:** Sheraton Hotel, Kuwait City.

**Hours:** 12:30 pm – 3:15 pm, 7:30 pm – 11:15 pm.

☎: 242-2055

**DAWAT:** Moderately priced, very good Indian and Chinese food. Accepts credit cards.

**Location:** Near the Safir Hotel in Bneid Al-Gar. Also has a new outlet in Mahboulla.

**Hours:** 12:00 nn – 3:30 pm, 6:30 pm – 11:00 pm

☎: 241-1685, 241-1728

**MUGHAL MAHAL:** Very tasty at reasonable cost with an endless menu. Eight locations in Kuwait, some with Chinese and Continental Cuisine. Also does catering and take-out. Small fast-food location is in Marina Mall.

**Locations:** Sharq is the main office location. Another is located on the top floor of Marks & Spencer building in Salmiya.

**Hours:** 11:00am to 3:00pm and 6:00pm to 11:00pm.

☎: Sharq: 242-5131/2; Salmiya 1 572-2223/4, Salmiya 2 572-9292/3, Farwaniya 1 472-6126/7, Farwaniya 2 474-0003/4, Fintas 390-0026/7, Fahaheel 391-5550/88, Marina Mall 224-4523, Jahra 456-5111/222/333, [www.mughalmahal.com](http://www.mughalmahal.com).

**TIPU SULTAN RESTAURANT:** Run by the SAS people. For a panoramic view of the city, have lunch or dinner at this restaurant specializing in Arabic, Indian and international cuisine. They take credit cards.

**Location:** Oasis Hotel near the Gulf Bank, Kuwait City.

**Hours:** 12:00 nn – 3:30 pm

7:00 pm – 11:00 pm

☎: 246-5489

**GREEN LAND VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT:** Elaborate South Indian Cuisine (Thali-Mumbai) offered with a Chowpatty juice corner. Delicious and inexpensive.

**Location:** In Kuwait City's Mubarakiya facing the money changers on Gharabally Street. It is part of the pink Heritage Souk building. Opposite the tall, brown office building of Al Ahli Bank.

**Hours:** 9:00am – 11pm. No afternoon break.

☎: 242-4246/7

## IRANIAN

**BABA TAHER:** Persian cuisine featuring BBQ beef strips, lamb and chicken served with Persian rice and bread. Lovely ambiance – it's a perfect place to take visiting family and friends. Moderate to expensive. No credit cards.

**Location:** Restaurant is located on Mezzanine Floor of the Al Tamdin Building on Al-Hilali Street, Sharq. Near the fire station. Your landmark is the Marafie Sweet Shop on the ground floor.

**Hours:** 12:00 nn – 3:30 pm, 7:30 pm – 11:00 pm.

☎: 245-6241

**SHAHRAYAR:** Has wonderful Iranian food in town, but pricey. They have an excellent, but expensive, Friday Brunch buffet, which is the only day you can get Fessengen (chicken in walnut and pomegranate sauce). The buffet also includes mini hamburgers and hot dogs – a hit with kids. The bread is excellent. Credit cards accepted here.

**Location:** Sheraton Hotel, Kuwait City

**Hours:** 12:30 nn – 3:00 pm, 7:30 pm – 11:00 pm.

☎: 242-2055

**SHIRINBANU:** Elegant ambiance with stained glass windows, ceramic tiled arches, water fountain and Persian carpets. There's even a keyboard player singing Persian songs. Great food too! Moderate to expensive. Reservations are

recommended. Credit cards accepted.

**Location:** Lower lobby, Safir International Hotel.

**Hours:** 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm, 7:30pm – 11:00 pm.

**☎:** 253-0000 ext.8154

## ITALIAN

**CIRO'S POMODORO OF KNIGHTSBRIDGE:** It's a quaint place with Syrian décor but serving authentic Italian cuisine.

The outside tables are very romantic in the moonlight. A live band plays at night. Has 22 kinds of pizza, each named after a movie star the flamboyant owner met.

**Location:** Kuwait City behind the Catholic Cathedral, in old Behbehani House No. 4 along a row of restaurants.

**Hours:** 12:00nn – 12:00mn.

**☎:** 242-4004

**JOHNNY CARINO'S ITALIAN KITCHEN:** It's a wonderful Italian restaurant where anyone can enjoy a cheery atmosphere with people of all ages. Features moderate prices and big portions. May require reservations on weekends.

**Location:** On Gulf Street near McDonalds, facing Third Ring Road.

**Hours:** Weekdays 11:00 am – 12:00 mn Weekends 11:00 am – 1:00 am

**☎:** 266-3050

**LORENZO'S:** This is a small café with delicious sandwiches, pasta, deserts and coffee. Serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. It has a wonderful atmosphere with a real Italian cook. Credit cards accepted, except American Express.

**Location:** Next to the Sheraton Hotel on Al- Sour Street. More visible is the big sign of Furla Shop beside it.

**Hours:** Weekdays 8:00 am – 11:00 pm Weekends 9:00 am – 11:00 pm

**☎:** 240-0737, 240-0747

**LA PIAZZA:** Features Italian hospitality, quality food, entertainment, and party service.

**Location:** Behind Catholic Cathedral near Sheraton Hotel. In old Behbehani Compound, House No. 3.

**Hours:** 12:00nn – 12:00mn. The pizza oven gets an afternoon break from 4:00pm to 7:00pm.

**☎:** 242-6639

**PIZZA EXPRESS:** Gourmet pizza from an open pizza oven. Great place for kids parties.

**Location:** Al Beda complex on Ta'woon St., between Shiik Flamingo and Regency Hotel.

**Hours:** 12:00 pm – 12 mn

**☎:** 225-3166

**RICCARDO:** Expensive hotel restaurant with good Italian food. Stylish ambience.

**Location:** Sheraton Hotel, Kuwait City.

**Hours:** 12:30 pm – 3:15 pm, 7:30 pm – 11:30 pm

**☎:** 242-2055

**SBARRO PIZZA:** Pizza, lasagna, stuffed pizza, salads, ziti, grilled vegetables, etc. served buffet style or take out. Home delivery service possible.

**Locations:** Main restaurant is in Fashion Way Mall next to the Salmiya Sultan Center. Branches in Salwa, Rhumaiithiya, and Shameiya neighborhoods.

**Hours:** 12:00 nn - 2:00 am

**☎:** 572-5350, 574-3180 Delivery: 572-5130

## JAPANESE

**EDO:** Authentic Japanese Cuisine in a modern, sleek interior. The restaurant menu has a wide selection of dishes. The take out menu is more limited. The food is excellent and light tasting. Credit Cards okay, just not American Express.

**Location:** Al Shaab Al Bahri, Block 8, St. 80, Villa #5. Take 30 toward the city then take the Shaab exit. Edo is on the right side of the street between Fayrouz (Lebanese restaurant) and Jacques Dessanges (Hair Salon).

**Hours:** 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm, 7:30 pm – 11:00 pm

**☎:** 265-9590

**KEI:** Excellent sushi in an attractive setting. You can watch your food being cooked in front of you Teppanyaki style. It has one private room that should be booked days in advance. Like most hotel restaurants, the price is a bit higher, but it is well

worth it. Credit cards ok. There is a new restaurant in the Marina Crescent.

**Location:** JW Marriot Hotel, Kuwait City, Marina Crescent, Salmiya.

**Hours:** 12:00 nn – 2:45 pm, 7:30 pm – 10:45 pm

☎: 245-5550

**MAKI :** Quite good here. Pricy as any Japanese restaurant is, compared to other cuisines. Small but charming place. Has a flat screen TV to keep you occupied while they are preparing your orders.

**Location:** In Salmiya. Best way to find it is to turn into the road fronting Burger King on Gulf Street. Maki is behind the building facing Burger King. Also behind the new Crepaway Restaurant.

**Hours:** 12:00nn – 3:30pm, 7pm – 11:30pm

☎: 573-3561

**SAKURA:** Best Japanese restaurant in town. Excellent catering facilities. Credit cards accepted. Make reservations through Belinda at 473-2100 ext. 7445.

**Location:** Crowne Plaza Hotel, off 6th Ring Road and Route 55. Has a new takeaway/fast food type shop called Sakura Express in the Fanar Mall in Salmiya.

**Hours:** 12:00 nn – 12:00 mn

☎: Crowne Plaza: 474-2000, Sakura Express: 571-4242.

## KOREAN

**HAN KUK KWAN:** Excellent Korean restaurant. Very friendly staff. Offers Chinese and Japanese choices, also. Offers 20% discount for all military.

**Location:** New Park Hotel, Baghdad Street in Hawalli. Right off of 30 onto Bagdad Street, on right hand side.

**Hours:** 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM, 5:00 PM – 11:00 PM

☎: **New Park Hotel: 563-4200 ext. 315.**

## MEXICAN / SPANISH

**BURRITOS:** Small take-out and delivery restaurant featuring inexpensive Mexican food. Offers tacos, enchiladas, burritos, salads, combinations and various drinks. Free delivery.

**Location:** Bneid al-Gar near intersection of 2nd Ring and 30.

☎: 252-5143, 255-2233

**CHI CHI'S:** Similar to the chain in the states. The restaurant has one private room that may be reserved in advance.

Shares the space with Jean's Grill. Credit cards are accepted.

**Location:** On Gulf Road near the Yacht Club.

**Hours:** 11:00 am – 11:30 pm

☎: 562-5811

**ISABEL'S CAFETERIA:** Not a restaurant, but a caterer. Offers homemade Mexican food by the plate or as large dishes for parties. Very tasty! Call one day ahead for plates and two days in advance for large dishes.

☎: 968-7568, 542-9038

**Buffalo's and Chili's also offer Mexican and Tex/Mex food.**

## NOUVELLE CUISINE

**BEIT 7:** Features generous portions of Pacific Rim and Mediterranean culinary delights. Menu changes every 6 months. Lovely, homey ambiance! Upstairs floor features a cigar lounge and private rooms. Reservations recommended for groups.

**Location:** In the Old Behbehani Compound, House # 7, in Kuwait City behind the Catholic Cathedral on Al-Sour St. (near the Sheraton and Gulf Road)

**Hours:** 11:30 am – 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm – 12:00 mn

☎: 245-0871, 245-0724

**BREDZ:** Offers an excellent array of salads and hot sandwiches. Great fresh breads and pastries.

**Location:** Inside Sharq Mall, on the ground floor.

**Hours:** 10:00 am – 11:00 pm

: 240-7707, 242-0505

**FRESH:** Light meals European style served in a nice quiet setting. Wonderful place to go for a quiet leisurely breakfast – great omelets and freshly baked bread and pastries. Serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. Great salads.

**Location:** Salmiya, in the Al-Khalid Complex, between Baghdad St. and Gulf Road.

**Hours:** 9:00 am – 12:00 mn; 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm (coffee, tea, salads, & sandwiches)

: 562-5838, 563-9616

**SQUARE:** Enjoy a unique dining experience where the entire setting is composed of squares. Credit cards accepted.

**Location:** Al-Watiya. In old Behbehani House 5 behind the Catholic Cathedral.

**Hours:** Noon to midnight every day

: 243-7681

## SEAFOOD

**FISH MARKET:** Choose your own fish from an iced display as you enter the restaurant and tell the chef how you want it cooked (grilled, fried, Thai style, steamed etc.). You pay by the weight of the fish. The sautéed vegetables and soups are delicious. Take-outs are popular. Ask for your **15% discount with Embassy ID.**

**Location:** At the end of 4th Ring just inside Old Salmiya. Park in the lot on the right and you'll see it.

**Hours:** Call for opening hours

: 575-5522, 571-9746

**AL NOUKHAZA SEAFOOD RESTAURANT:** A splendid hot and cold seafood buffet with a wide array of salads, appetizers and main dishes, and beautiful aquariums all around. You can select your own fresh fish cooked to your taste. Set price for the buffet includes everything. Credit cards accepted.

**Location:** Crowne Plaza Hotel, exit off 55 Airport Road.

**Hours:** 12:00 nn – 3:30 pm, 7:00pm– 11:30 pm

: 473-2100 ext. 7333/4.

**RAY'S ONE RESTAURANT:** This restaurant has a fish festival every Thursday and Friday serving a variety of fish cooked in a variety of ways – fried, steamed, grilled, smoked etc. During the week it serves an international cuisine. Credit cards accepted.

**Location:** Salmiya on Bejalat Street South of Showbiz and the Ras. It is beyond Pizza Hut and Danah's Restaurant.

**Hours:** 8:00 am – 11:30 am, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm, and 7:00 pm– 12:30 am

: 575-4440/ 1

**SS DANAH:** The restaurant is upstairs with a gorgeous view of the sea. The decor is like that of a ship, the menu is ala carte or you select what you want cooked from either the live fish, lobster, shrimp, mussels, in the aquarium or the fresh fish on ice. Order from the menu or choose from the wide variety buffet. The lobster is highly recommended. You select the fresh vegetables you want cooked as well. The scene is similar to a market, the fish are weighed and you are charged accordingly. **Offers 10% Embassy discount.**

**Location:** Salmiya on Gulf Road upstairs from Zorba's Greek Taverna.

**Hours:** Lunch- 12:30 pm- 3:30 pm, Dinner- 7:00 pm- 11:30 pm

: 571-5124

**TOTALLY FISH:** The restaurant has a wonderful fisherman's wharf décor. The menu is a la carte, but you can also choose the seafood that you want from the display counter and have it cooked to order.

**Location:** Marina Mall, Crescent side.

**Hours:** Lunch- 12:30 - 11:30 pm

: 224-4960.

## THAI

**BAMBOO SHOOT:** Worth trying - Royal Thai cuisine is its claim. Can't beat the fantastic full view of the Gulf from the 19th floor in a Bangkok- decorated setting.

No buffets; a la carte orders only. Credit cards accepted.

**Location:** Safir International Hotel, Gulf Street.

**Hours:** Sat. to Tues.: Dinner Only 7:30pm –11:00pm, Wed to Friday: Lunch 12:30pm to 3:30pm, Dinner 7:30pm – 11:00pm  
☎: 253-0000 ext. 8882

**BLUE ELEPHANT:** Definitely the most elegant Thai restaurant with matching imported furniture. Can be expensive but delicious. Has a romantic ambience because it faces the lighted swimming pool and the sea. **Offers a 15% discount with Embassy Badge.**

**Location:** At the Hilton Resort in Abu Halifa. Take Fahaheel 30 highway; straight all the way, then exit on 211 on the right side. Go under the overpass and drive straight ahead. Turn right on the 2nd roundabout. Continue ahead and you'll soon see the Hilton signboard in a few minutes on your left. Make a U-turn where it allows you to get to the other side.

**Hours:** 12:00nn – 3:00pm, 6:00pm - 12:00mn

☎: 372-5500

**THE GOLDEN GATE RESTAURANT:** Nice little restaurant with quick and friendly service. Excellent food with a large variety to choose from, including Filipino and Indian food

**Location:** Fahaheel at the Ahmed Al-Jaber Building.

**Hours:** Breakfast and lunch - 9:00 am to 2:00 pm; dinner - 6:00pm to 10:00 pm.

☎: 391-8838

**PATTAYA BEACH:** Recommended - small, clean and quick. The portions are ample, the flavors are great, and the prices are very reasonable. All the dishes are freshly cooked and the variety is enough to bring you back again and again.

**Location:** Mezzanine Floor of the Dawliah Commercial Complex behind the Kuwait Airways Building downtown. Dawliah is opposite the Al Muthana Complex.

**Hours:** 10:30 am - 9:00 pm.

☎: 240-8052

**PHUKET :** Recommended – small, clean and quick. Delivery is available. The portions are ample, the flavors are great, and the prices are very reasonable. All the dishes are freshly cooked and the variety is enough to bring you back again and again.

**Location:** Salmiya, Baghdad Street, Al-Aziziya Co. Bldg. Take Fahaheel 30 highway to 4<sup>th</sup> ring toward Gulf Road, take left at stop light. Go to right at around about and make right at La Baguette. Restaurant is on your right.

**Hours:** 12:30 am - 9:00 pm.

☎: 571-4805/6

**THAI CHI:** Excellent combination of Thai and Chinese flavors.

**Location:** Al Beda complex on Ta'woon St., between Shiik Flamingo and Regency Hotel.

**Hours:** 12:30 am - 11:30 pm.

☎: 225-3120.

## TEA ROOMS / COFFEE SHOPS

Coffee Shops are the meeting place for everyone. There are several popular chains you will see everywhere, including STARBUCKS.

**BAYT LOTHAN:** Bayt Lothan, the art center and school, has a traditional Arabic tearoom, with coffee, tea and light snacks. No credit cards.

**Location:** Off Gulf Road right next to the Marina Mall.

**Hours:** 9:00am - 11:00am and 4:00pm - 11:00pm.

☎: 575-5855, 575-5877

**LAILA GALLERY:** On the bottom floor of Laila Gallery, it is a very popular coffee shop where the stylish Kuwaitis go to see and be seen. It's a wonderful place for people watching. The shop's chocolate cupcakes, made by Candy Sultan, are the best in town.

**Location:** Laila Gallery, Salem Al-Mubarak St. across the street from the Sultan Center.

**Hours:** Open during regular shopping hours.

**LA MAISON DES CREPES:** Break for crepes in the lovely garden. Serves soups, salads, sandwiches, quiche, and of course crepes.

**Location:** Basement of the Tala Center, Salem Al-Mubarak Street, Salmiya. Tala Center is very near the Sultan Center

Supermarket.

**Hours:** 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, 5:00pm to 9:30 pm.

☎: 571-0727

**ENGLISH TEA LOUNGE** at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel, downtown Kuwait City. Beautiful atmosphere for afternoon tea! A selection of tea served with finger sandwiches, scones, and pastries.

**Location:** Safat 13058, Fahd Al Salem Street, downtown Kuwait City

**Hours:** Open daily from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM; 4:00 PM – Midnight. Friday hours: 4:00 PM – Midnight.

☎: 242-2055

**ZAHRA CAFÉ:** Yummy pastries at a relaxing setting. This is one of a few places serving date cakes. Closed Fridays..

**Location:** at the lower level of the Zahra Complex, between the BMW showroom and the big Eureka Appliance center on Salem Al-Mubarak St., Salmiya.

**Hours:** 9:30am – 2:30pm, 5:30pm – 9:30pm

☎: 571-7063/4

## SHOPPING

Stores are generally open from 9:00am to 1:00pm and from 4:00 to 9:00pm, though the hours will change during the month of Ramadan. Larger department stores may be open in the afternoons every day except Fridays. Some co-ops and some of the Sultan Center Supermarkets are open 24 hours.

### ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, AND EXOTIC IMPORTS

**ANTIQUE AND HANDICRAFTS CENTRE:** Collection of furniture, textiles and silver from India. Run by a British woman. It has the tables made from old doors.

**Location:** Al-Rai area of Shuwaikh near ACE hardware. Maps in CLO.

**Hours:** 10 am to 1:30 pm and 5 pm to 9 pm, Fridays 10 am to 2 pm.

☎: 474-0016 website [www.antiquesandhandicrafts-q8.com](http://www.antiquesandhandicrafts-q8.com).

**AL KURD CIRCLE:** Located in Hawally, the Kurdish Circle is famous for the hubbly bubbly (water pipe) shops surrounding the circle. They provide the best selection at the best prices. Select each piece for the water pipe separately to get the best pipe. Only then discuss price and bargain hard.

**BIDA'S ANTIQUES:** This is in a private home. Owner brings in a few big things from South Africa that do not jibe with his usual stock. He does better with doors and beds from India, and old windows turned into coffee tables. Has some home accessories too.

**Location:** On Gulf Road, beach side. Pass the SAS hotel going south and turn right after the first bus stop. It is the corner house from the power substation.

**Hours:** 10:00am – 9:00pm

☎: 565-7819

**CASA MAROC:** Moroccan imports, from furniture to small pieces.

**Location:** In Salmiya off Fourth Ring just after Route 30. Near Images Beauty Salon.

☎: 563-2484

**Gloria's Place:** Antique and Handicraft Centre. Includes doors, cabinets, tables, chairs and beds.

**Location:** Off of 30 going toward Fintas, exit 208 to left, first street on right. Villa # 28 and 29 Abu Al Hasania.

**Hours:** Saturday – Thursday 10:00am – 1:30pm and 5:00 pm – 9:00pm. Friday 10:00am – 2:00pm

☎: 390-8302

**HERITAGE SOUK:** Downtown on the edge of the shopping area, this rebuilt souk is a good place to go for rugs, some antiques, and has several stores featuring things from Afghanistan. Across the street are several stores with the Kuwaiti Sadu weaving.

**INDIAN HERITAGE:** Includes lots of mini-stores featuring Indian clothing, fabrics, decorating items, and furniture.

**Location:** In the middle of the Souk-Al Safat, or main building of the Fabric Souk. Has two floors.

**KUWAIT DESIGN CENTRE:** Has an assortment of small shops dealing with antiques and furniture.

**Location:** Salmiya, just down the street from Marina Mall on Salam Al-Mubarek Street. Look for the building with a beauty supply stores on the ground floor. The antique stores are in the basement. You might actually find Kuwaiti antiques here if there is such a thing.

**Hours:** 9:30am to-1pm and 4:30 pm to 10 pm

**☎:** 571-6742

**SALMIYA ANFAL MALL:** This souk/mini shopping mall is across and down the street from Marks and Spencers. There are several shops here featuring items from Iran, India and other places including silver, textiles, rugs and souvenir type items.

**THAI ART GALLERY:** Includes a large selection of cultured pearl, handicrafts and clothing from Thailand.

**Location:** Salmiya in the Shaha complex. On Salem Al Mubarak Street on the corner near Eureka. It is in the basement.

**Hours:** Sat-Thurs. 9am to 1 pm and 5 pm to 9 pm, Fridays 5:30 pm to 9 pm

**☎:** 571-0144

## BOOKSTORES

**JARIR BOOKSTORE:** Includes English and Arabic books, cards, office and art supplies, toys and computer supplies. It's a great place to go for gifts.

**Location:** Located off Tunis Street in Hawalli, it's in a shopping center that looks like a fort with carnival rides in the front. Parking is around back.

**Hours:** 9-1 mornings and 4:30-10:30 evenings. Closed Friday mornings.

**☎:** 261-0111 [www.jarirbookstore.com](http://www.jarirbookstore.com).

**KUWAIT BOOKSHOPS:** Two locations in Kuwait. The larger store is in the Al-Muthana complex and has the atmosphere of a Crown Books. Their better store is right off Sheraton Circle on Al-Soor Street. This shop has a real bookstore feel to it and claims to be the first English language bookstore in Kuwait. They have an excellent cookbook and travel section, as well as the latest novels plus a good selection of magazines.

**Location:** Downstairs at the Al-Muthana Shopping Complex across from the J. W. Marriott Hotel and on the corner of Al-Sour and Fahed Al-Salem Streets - across from the Sheraton.

**☎:** 242-4266, 242-4289

**Q8 BOOKS:** Includes new, used and out-of print books.

**Location** Downtown on Fahad Al-Salam Street opposite the General Post Office.

**☎:** 245-7505/6 website: [www.q8books.com](http://www.q8books.com).

**VIRGIN RECORDS:** Lots of books – good fiction and travel sections as well as magazines from America and Britain. Of course, you have a large selection of music CD's and videos as well as electronics.

**Location:** Marina Mall.

**OTHER BOOK SHOPS:** The gift shops in the larger hotels also have a fine selection of magazines, newspapers, paperback novels, especially "coffee table" books about the Middle East and Kuwait.

## CARPETS

Hand-made oriental carpets from many different regions are available throughout Kuwait. Some places to find rug shops include: Heritage Souk downtown and Iranian Souk off 4th Ring near Pant Souk. Some shops used by Embassy personnel include:

**AHMAD CARPET:** Located in Iranian Souk in Al-Rai, Shop no.3. Iranian Carpets.

**☎:** 965-0517, 472-7933

**AHMAD KHANY:** Iranian Carpets. In Iranian Souk area.

**☎:** 475-5957, Mobile 907-0433

**AL-OMAR:** in Heritage Souk carpet area. Persian carpets.

☎: 621-0923, mobile 966-2300

**HUSSAIN AND ALI:** Frequented by many Embassy people. It has many carpets from many lands. Located across the street from Heritage souk near Sadu (traditional Bedouin) weaving shops. Map in CLO.

☎: 242-7522

**PERSIAN CARPET EXHIBITION:** Salmiya at the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> Ring Road and Amman St. at the beginning of Old Salmiya.

☎: 573-1431.

## CRAFTS

**BARAKAT SHOWROOM TRADING CO.:** Needlepoint, embroidery, rug making, quilting, painting and knitting – you name it they probably have it.

Location: Off of Hamed Al-Mubarak St. in the Mabror Complex. Near the Circus tent. There's also a smaller branch in Fahaheel on Sinan Street in the Al-Sharhan Complex, Mezzanine.

☎: Salmiya: 574-6727/ 8, Fahaheel 392-8402

**FABRIC SOUK:** Downtown off Route 40 as it goes through town, just before Heritage Souk – across from Science Museum. Offers an overwhelming collection of fabrics from the mundane to the sublime in several large buildings. Take a photo of your garment and they can estimate the yardage. Tailors are also available on the second floor of the souk buildings. Some shops also have needlework kits. The Indian Heritage Souk is part of the largest building. It features clothing, home furnishings and other exotic items from India.

## DEPARTMENT STORES

**BRITISH HOME STORE (BHS):** British merchandise – clothing, shoes, house wares, children's attire etc. Good products, Western styles, but expensive, watch for sales.

**Locations:** Main store is in Salmiya next door to the Sultan Center. Smaller outlets are located throughout Kuwait in some co-ops.

☎: 484-2872, 391-7056

**DEBENHAMS:** Another quality British department store to browse around in. Has good sales. Merchandise includes: clothing, handbags, shoes, china, flatware, and house wares.

Location: Sharq Mall.

Hours: 10a.m. to 10p.m.

☎: 240-1500

**LANDMARK:** Kuwait's version of a Target. Men, women's and children's clothing are featured as well as shoes, house wares, furniture etc. at reasonable prices. They have large sales fairly often.

**Locations:** There are several showrooms: Salmiya just down the street from Sultan Center.; Shuwaikh – the Al-Rai area. Al-Ghazali Street between 4th and 5th Ring Roads. (Has furniture and lots of home accessories.) Hawalli on Beruit St. and Fahaheel- a brand new store is being built across the street from the Al-Kouts Mall.

**Hours:** Sat-Thu 9:30 am to 1:00 pm and 4:00 to 9:30 pm; Fri 4:00 to 9:30 pm.

☎: Shuwaikh: 473-4160, Hawalli: 264-6081/ 2/ 3, Fahaheel: 391-2485.

**MARKS AND SPENCER:** A well-known British department store with quality products. Adult and children's clothing, shoes, household products, linen, duvet and duvet covers, and a "Toys 'R Us" Express store.

**Location:** Salmiya on Salem Al-Mubarak Street next to the Marina Mall.

**Hours:** 10:00am – 10:30 pm

☎: 571-3304

**SANA:** Kuwait's version of T.J. Maxx - factory outlet products in one building. Good selection of clothing for men, women and children that is always changing. Has brand names and reasonable prices – especially during the sales. The Salmiya store has one whole floor of children's clothes. Look for great sales.

**Location:** In Salmiya, next to the Gulf Royal Restaurant on Salem Al-Mubarak St. In Shuwaikh it's next to the Wholesale Center food store on Fourth Ring and 60. There are also stores in Fahaheel and Hawalli.

**Hours:** 9:30 am to 10:30 pm

☎: Salmiya 575-3556, Fahaheel 391-7620, Shuwaikh 481-8143, Hawalli 266-6488.

**SEARS:** Good selection of toys, exercise equipment, garden tools, household items and clothing with American sizes. Has Land's End brand. Does not accept Sears charge card.

**Location:** Farwaniya, off of the 6th Ring Road, beside the Traffic Department – among all the furniture stores.

**Hours:** 9:00 am to 10:00 pm.

☎: 434-1791

## ELECTRONICS AND COMPUTERS

**ALGHANIM ELECTRONICS:** Located all over the city, Alghanim has just about everything you'd plug in - from kitchen appliances to computers to stoves to stereos. It's good place to get a cell phone. Has good sales throughout the year and discounts are almost always given.

**Locations:** Showrooms in Salmiya, Hawalli, AlRai, Fahaheel, and several other areas. New Flagship store in Al-Rai off Fourth Ring has everything. Website has maps to the various locations: [www.Alghanim.com](http://www.Alghanim.com).

**Hours:** mornings and evenings.

**CELL PHONE SOUK:** There are small cell phone shops all over town, but for sheer numbers, the row of shops in Sharq on Shuhada Street across from the new Marriott Courtyard hotel beats all other areas.

**COMPUTER SOUK:** Located in Hawalli on Bin Khaldoun Street. You will see many small computer stores located in this area. It's a great place for parts if you're a computer hobbyist. Software is probably pirated, so buyer beware.

**EUREKA:** Lots of choices – 3 floors of electronics, appliances, and many other electrical items. Like Best Buy in the states. Gives 20% discount on many items.

**Location:** Salmiya, near Landmark.

## EYEGASSES

Optical shops are almost as prevalent as coffee shops in Kuwait. Most offer a free optical exam with purchase of eyewear. The latest designer frames are available, and prices are somewhat comparable to the states. Don't be afraid to ask for a discount. They expect you to.

Here are a few shops, but there are plenty more to choose from:

**INTERNATIONAL OPTIQUE:** The main store has more frames than anywhere else. It's fun just to try them on! Also has hearing aids.

**Location:** Central Plaza, between the two Arabic hotels in Salmiya. Also has many other smaller shops in other locations.

☎: 571-4007 Closed in the afternoons.

**KEFAN OPTICS:** Offers a 25% Embassy discount in all their stores except Sunglass Hut. Has locations all over town.

☎: [www.kefan-optics.com](http://www.kefan-optics.com).

**LIQAA OPTICAL COMPANY:** Offers a 25% to 30% Embassy discount.

**Location:** At Salmiya Co-op.

☎: 573-2434.

**MATIN OPTICS:** Has a discount card in the CLO Discount book for 30% off.

**Location:** Salmiya in the Tala Center on Salem Al-Mubarak St. Ground Floor.

☎571-2347.

## GROCERIES

**ARIFJAN PX:** Has an ever-changing selection of things. Doha PX closes in summer of 2005 so Arifjan is your AAFES

option. Arifjan has 3 exchanges to choose from. Mostly snack foods are carried, but it's cheaper than Sultan Centre. Good source of American off the counter medicines. It's the only place to buy pork and vanilla extract.

**CITY CENTRE:** Sells everything under one roof: Garments, jewelry, flowers, electronics, toys, computer accessories and household items. It even has a restaurant and bakery and a supermarket. The souk surrounding the 5<sup>th</sup> ring store is really nice.

**Location:** On the corner of Airport Road (55) and Pepsi Cola Street (80) near the Mercedes Showroom. Also has a large new (2003) store at the Salmiya Souk just off Fifth Ring. This is the closest non Co-op to the Embassy.

**COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES (JAMAIYAS):** There is a large co-op in every area and small satellite shops (bakalas) within the neighborhood. The co-op is a large grocery complex with little outlets of shops – hardware, pharmacy, flower, dry cleaning and fast food restaurants. Besides groceries you can get all of your household and kitchen needs. The co-op is locally known as “Jamaiya”. You'll be surprised at the American products sold at these stores. It may not be your favorite brand but it's American! Size of Co-Op depends on the location. The newer ones are usually the largest and cleanest.

**FISH MARKET:** Fish prices are lower here than at your neighborhood supermarkets. They'll also clean and fillet the fish for you. Shrimp season runs from September to December. Kuwait has several locations – Gulf Road next door to Sharq Market; Shuwaikh – off of 3rd Ring Road towards the middle of Canada Dry Street; and Fahaheel – brand new location adjoining the Al-Kouts Mall.

**FRUIT AND VEGETABLE MARKETS:** Also called “Chappras”, they are the most economical way to buy fruit and vegetables. Produce is sold by the kilo. They are found throughout Kuwait, the main/big ones are located in Shuwaikh just off Jahra Road, the fish markets on Gulf Road in Fahaheel and next to the Sharq market downtown, and the Old Souk area downtown.

**SULTAN CENTER:** Not only a supermarket – they have housewares (kitchen, linens etc), hardware, stationary, toys, sporting goods, you name it! **It's the place to go when you want Western products.** When you see it, buy at least two.

**Locations:** Salmiya and Sharq Mall are the main stores and there are other satellite stores throughout Kuwait. The card offered by the store is not required for discounts, but your purchases add up to points which enable you to have more chances in the seasonal draws for electronics, cars and even diamonds!

**Hours:** 7 a.m – 1 a.m, some open 24 hours.

**☎:** Salwa: 561-7964, Salmiya: 434-3155

**THE WHOLESALE CENTER:** Discount outlet of Sultan Center. It has much the same things, but a few less Western items in more of a warehouse atmosphere with cheaper prices. No membership required, but you can use your Sultan Center Card to add more points.

**Location:** Shuwaikh, off Fourth Ring near the car dealers. This one has a McDonalds and play area for the kids. Newest location is in Farwaniya in the back of area where you find Sears.

**Hours:** 7a.m –1 a.m.

**☎:** 433-0111

## HARDWARE, FURNITURE, AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS

**A TO Z HOME STORES:** Household goods, toys, candles, potpourri. Also has a variety of frames.

**Location:** In Shuwaikh East off the intersection of 3rd Ring and Airport Road (55), Street 26, off Bank Street. Look for the IKEA sign. From IKEA, take the next right turn; the store is on your left across from True Value.

**Hours:** 8a.m. 10p.m.

**☎:** 484-7129, 481-4477, and 484-7180.

**ACE HARDWARE:** Just like the ACE back home for all of your hardware needs. A good selection of towels and bedding is available here as well. Also has a great selection of pet supplies.

**Location:** Shuwaikh – take the 5th Ring towards Jahra, turn right on Muhammed Ben Al Qassin St.(601), turn right on Street 9, just before you get to 4th Ring, ACE is on your left so you'll have to U-turn.

**Hours:** 9a.m. –10p.m.

**☎:** 476-9100

**FARWANIYA ON AIRPORT SIDE OF 6TH RING:** Check out the stores in this area especially for furniture and Belgian, Syrian, Egyptian and Turkish machine-made rugs. Walk through the Galleria and the shops behind Sears. You can spend the whole day there. There's a café at the Wholesale Centre store.

**Location:** 6th Ring Road to Exit 55 towards the airport. Turn right at the traffic light, then the second right. Turn left at the

mosque; Galleria is at the end of this street. Just drive around and explore all the shops.

**IKEA:** Brand new IKEA super center opened in late 2006. Just like the ones back in the States! Swedish furniture, house wares, home decor and toys. There is also a nice cafeteria/café on one of the floors. You can easily spend an afternoon wandering around "window-shopping" ..this place is huge!

**Location:** Located in the Avenues Mall, Al Rai, facing the 5<sup>th</sup> Ring Motorway.

**Hours:** Open daily from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm.

**☎:** 840-408

**THE ONE:** This store is like an upscale IKEA with a great selection of modern furniture, sheets, towels, and nice decorating items. It's a great place to go if you need a gift for someone.

**Location:** Marina Mall

**TRUE VALUE:** Everything for the home and garden, hardware, toys, craft and school supplies and lots more.

**Location:** Shuwaikh, around the corner from IKEA.

**Hours:** 9:00 am to 10:00 pm

**☎:** 483-3168

## HUNDRED FILS STORES

These are the truly fun stores for the bargain hunter. Like dollar stores in the states, but everything is about 35 cents! Unique and unusual items from China are available. Great source for children's party bags, gift bags, hair ties, unique (and cheap) jewelry, gift wrap, household goods. For even more of a bargain, try a 50-fils store.

**Location:** All over Kuwait in main souk shopping areas. Look for the tiny stores crammed full of stuff. Many have 100 (in Arabic numbers) posted outside the store. Many times the shopkeeper will be saying, "mia, mia, all e mia" – 100, 100, everything 100.

**Good venues:** Souk Moubarakea at end and sides of fruit and vegetable area; Friday Market; Old Salmiya; City Centre Souk on Fifth Ring.

## JEWELRY STORES

**GOLD SOUKS:** There are several gold shopping areas in Kuwait. The main gold souk in downtown Kuwait is spread throughout several buildings and well worth exploring. The gold souk in Salmiya is small and can be more expensive, but has some unique designs. Gold is sold by the weight. Bargain heavily with the gold sellers and it helps to bring a Kuwaiti with you if you are making a large purchase.

**Locations:** To get to the main gold souk in downtown, take Gulf Road to the Grand Mosque, turn onto Mubarak Al-Kabeer Street and then take a right at the first major intersection. Park across the street from the renovated old souk and walk down that street to the gold souk. Parking is available closer to the gold souk but it is much more congested. In Salmiya, the gold souk is on Salem Al-Mubarak Street across the street from the Marina Mall. In Hawalli, gold shops are on Tunis Street and Bin Khaldoun Street. Fahaheel has a gold section and there is a nice souk for Indian-style gold behind the Sheraton Hotel (Souk Al-Watea).

Some shops used by many Embassy people include:

**AL-ARABIA JEWELLERY:** Has gold Dhow pendants. Armen A. Sarkissian is the proprietor.

**Location:** Salmiya Gold Souk opposite the Marina Mall.

**☎:** 575-7959

**DANYAL JEWELLERY:** 18 carat Italian gold a speciality. Ask for Abbas.

**Location:** In Central Gold Market in Moubarakea - Ground Floor, Shop 85

**☎:** 242-3558

**MANO SILVER:** The place to go for something in silver.

**Location:** In Gold Souk across parking lot from My Fair Lady.

**MY FAIR LADY :** Features lots of 18 Karat gold pieces, most from Italy. Will make cartouches and other custom items.

**Location:** in Souk Moubarakea near the Central Gold Market.

**☎:** 240-1903

## OFFICE SUPPLIES

**MOGAHWI:** Stationary & office equipment: Offers a wide variety of supplies for school, home & offices. Also includes some art supplies. Everything you need is under one roof.

**Locations and ☎:** Sharq- 243-3405; Fahed Salem- 243-3713; Shuwaikh- 483-1836; Salmiya- 571-8041; Farwaniya- 473-4961

**OFFICE 1 SUPERSTORE:** No competition to Staples or Office Depot in the U.S., but you can find a lot of stuff in one store here. Main showroom is in Shuwaikh in back of Al-Ghanim automotive parts store; smaller showrooms downtown, and in Fahaheel.

**Hours:** 9a.m.-8p.m.

☎: 802-227 ext 115 (Shuwaikh showroom)

Many Co-Ops have stationery stores that have a surprisingly large selection of things. Go here when your child tells you he needs poster board late in the evening. There is also a large grouping of stationery stores downtown near the large fabric souk.

## SOUKS, MALLS & MARKETS

**THE DOWNTOWN SOUK (SOUK MUBARAKEA):** This is an awesome place with a large array of carpets, prayer beads, curiosities, house wares, tin ware, vegetables, meat fish, dates and spices. Although the large air-conditioned building with the food stalls is technically **SOUK MUBARAKEA**, the downtown souk area also includes the **GOLD SOUK** the **HERITAGE SOUK**, and many other interesting areas. Take time to explore it. The **WOMEN'S SOUK (SOUK HAREEM)** is an interesting area to visit. The vendors are Arab women dressed in abayas with veils covering their faces but their eyes don't miss anything. Traditional garments, henna, herbal shampoo, massage balms and fabric can be bargained for here. You can find traditional dress for children and men.

**Location:** Downtown in the Qibla area. Route 40 ends at the Heritage Souk. Parking can be difficult so avoid the busy times of day. There is also underground parking below the vegetable market; the entrance is on the same street as the Burgan Bank. Paid parking is very inexpensive; 150 fils or so for two hours. You'll just have to make several visits to this souk to figure out the best parking area for you. Maps available in the CLO. Stores generally closed on Friday mornings and during the afternoon every day.

**FAHAHEEL SOUK:** The Fahaheel souk is worth the visit. They have some very nice Kashmiri shops and the prices can be cheaper than in downtown Kuwait. It's a good place for souvenir-type items. There's also a good selection of gold. With the opening of the new Al-Kouts Mall in Fahaheel, real parking and clean bathrooms are now available.

**Location:** Go south on Route 30 until you see the exits for Fahaheel. Go towards the sea and you can't miss it. Parking is available around the Al-Kouts Mall on Gulf Road and in the dirt lot next to Al-Ghanim Electronics. The souk area is located around the dirt parking lot and just goes on and on. Kashmir Imports is a good place for souvenirs.

**FRIDAY MARKET:** The Friday Market is an outdoor adventure. It has several sections, including the old stuff (some antiques), the new stuff, furniture and rugs and animals. Always bargain. Wear a hat and sunscreen in hot times of the year. Bring water or buy ice-cold bottles from vendors there. They're building new covered areas, so it should be more bearable in the summer.

**Location:** Off the 4th Ring Road near the junction with Airport Road (55), behind the plant souk.

**Hours:** Thursday and Friday mornings and Friday afternoons. See CLO for a map.

**HOLIDAY FAIRS:** Throughout the year (fall, Christmas, spring) local schools and organizations hold fairs offering crafts, gifts, games, food, books and what have you. One big one to watch for is the American Women's League Holiday Bazaar, usually held in early December – almost 100 vendors! Camp Arifjan also holds bazaars throughout the year with numerous vendors selling anything from leather camels, carpets, and treasure chests to jewelry. Watch the Tower Times and the local papers for announcements.

**IRANIAN SOUK:** Pottery, carpets, dishes, wall hangings, blankets, gardening pots, plants etc. It's the best place to buy houseplants and has the lowest prices on some items. Not everyone speaks English, but most will bargain.

**Location:** Right across the street from the Friday Market off of the 4th Ring Road, behind the car dealers. Main market is the first building, but many other shops go up the street.

**KUWAIT INTERNATIONAL FAIR GROUNDS (MISHREF):** The Fairgrounds is a center hosting exhibits of products from

around the world and especially the Middle East. It's a good place to get carpets, perfume, Syrian tablecloths, Egyptian textiles, Kashmiri rugs etc. Prices are generally cheaper, especially if you bargain hard. Try to go on the first and last days of the exhibition. New exhibitions open every month except during the summer. Check the Tower Times and local papers for dates and themes.

**Location:** Mishref, off of the 6th Ring Road on 302. Very close to the Embassy, just look for the Ferris wheel and McDonald's arches.

Hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm and 4:00pm to 9:00 pm.

☎: 538-7100, 538-6907

**OLD SALMIYA:** While most expatriates are familiar with the newer or fancier part of Salmiya (with the Sultan Center and Fanar Mall), few are aware that Old Salmiya, a little further north, has a large number of curio shops, house wares, and nice clothing stores with good prices. That's why it is popular with Kuwaitis and Arab expatriates. Don't miss all the 50 and 100 fils shops with lots of cheap, fun stuff.

**Location:** From Gulf Road, turn onto Hamad Al-Mubarak Street. Go through the first light and at the second light, you will be in the heart of Old Salmiya. Your clue is that you're at a *cul de sac* or dead end. To the right are rows of shops selling clothing, jewelry, house wares, toys and other items. To the left is the Salmiya Souk, with gold shops and Turkish shawls. Parts of Old Salmiya are just across the street from the new Marina Mall. Go out the door where The ONE is and go across the street. Along this side of the street are several souks featuring clothing, gold, shoes, and various other things. Don't miss **The Fashion Mill** and the **Grand Store** department stores for the cheapest prices on clothing and house wares in Kuwait. The souk with the Grand Store also has several antique stores.

**SHOPPING MALLS:** There are a number of shopping malls offering long hours of air-conditioned strolling during those hot summer months. Many also have Cinemas. Here are a few: Laila Gallery (across from the Sultan Center in Salmiya), Zahra Complex (next to the Sultan Center in Salmiya), Al-Fanar (across the street from the Sultan Center), The Al-Muthana Complex (Kuwait City across from J.W.Marriott), the Sharq Mall on Gulf St., Marina Mall in Salmiya on Gulf Street, and the newest one, Al-Kouts in Fahaheel. The newest and largest mall is the Avenues Mall (opened early in 2007). The Avenues Mall is located off of 5<sup>th</sup> Ring Rd. and Mohammed Bin Al-Qassim St. There's even a mall in the airport (open 24 hours)!

**SHUWAIKH:** Shuwaikh has an excellent vegetable market where you can get cartons of fruits and vegetables at much lower prices than the Sultan Center or the co-ops. The fruit and vegetables are clean and fresh. Shuwaikh also has several stores where you can buy housewares and electronics at discount prices, similar to a Price Club or Shoppers Food Warehouse. If you're buying in bulk, the trip is well worth it. Shuwaikh is an interesting area to drive around in if you have the patience (traffic is a nightmare especially on Canada Dry St.). There are all sorts of motor vehicle shops, wrought iron shops, furniture showrooms, and appliance repair shops.

A newer part of Shuwaikh is the **FREE TRADE ZONE** near the water. Here the main store to visit is **VILLA MODA**. It's the place to go for designer clothing. The complex offers clothing from famous designers at amazing prices. For less heart-stopping moments, you can visit the two discount rooms. One is on the top floor and the other is a building at the side of the parking lot.

## SPORTING GOODS

Athletic clothing, shoes and equipment are available in many locations around the city. Shoe brands may not be familiar to you. There is a collection of sporting goods stores in Salmiya near the intersection of Hamad Al-Mubarak and Salem Al-Mubarak streets.

**ATHLETE'S FOOT SHOES:** Just like the stores at home.

**Location:** Sharq Mall, Mishref Co-Op and other locations.

**NASSER SPORTING GOODS:** Located in Al-Rai in the same area as the Ace Hardware, this is a large showroom with equipment from treadmills to table-tennis tables. There is also a good selection of clothing and shoes. Smaller stores are located throughout the city.

**Location:** Al-Rai

**Hours:** Mornings and Evenings

☎: 266-5411

## ENTERTAINMENT FOR ADULTS

**ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES:** Camp Arifjan offers College-Level classes in the **Education Center**. All are undergraduate and most are offered at night. Lecture Courses are offered from the University of Maryland and Central

Texas College. The Education Center also offers standardized testing such as the ACT, SAT, CLEP and DSST Dante exams.

☎: Camp Arifjan 389-1373/4/6

The **Kuwait University Center for Continuing Education** offers language classes during the fall and spring terms. Beginning Kuwaiti Arabic, English, French, Spanish, German, Urdu, Japanese, Italian, Turkish, Hebrew, Russian and Slovak are some of the classes offered. Classes are taught at the Center for Community Service and Continuing Education at the Khaldiah Campus. Watch the Arab Times for advertisements.

☎: 498-8888, ext 7680.

The **American University of Kuwait**, located in Salmiya, offers classes toward Bachelor's degrees as well as continuing education classes. See their web site at [www.auk.edu.kw](http://www.auk.edu.kw).

☎: 802-040, ext.203

**AMERICAN EMPLOYEES WELFARE ASSOCIATION (AEWA):** AEWA offers many services on the embassy compound to make your life easier. AEWA is located in a group of buildings next to the residential area. There is a gift shop, which sells Embassy and Kuwait souvenirs as well as offering video and DVD rental and a dry cleaning service. Men's' barbershop services on the compound on Mondays; sign up at the AEWA gift shop. Gift Shop hours are 9:30am-4:30 pm Sat-Wed. On Mondays and Wednesdays from 5pm until about 8:30 pm, a "happy hour" is hosted in this area for AEWA members and guests. AEWA also offers recreation services including special events, membership appreciation nights, holiday events, fitness and sports clinics, sporting competitions, and fitness activities for the kids.

☎: 539-5307/8 ext.2447. AEWA Rec. 539-5307/8 ext.2698

**ART CLASSES:** Bayt Lothan offers all kinds of art classes. It's located off Gulf Road, just beside the Marina Mall.

☎: 575-5866.

Also the **British School of Kuwait** offers classes for children and adults in its extra-curricular program. For further details: Contact Mr Colin Wells, Director of The British School of Creative Arts or Email: [creativearts@bsk.edu.kw](mailto:creativearts@bsk.edu.kw).

**AWARE CENTER:** Promotes the interaction between Westerners and Arabs. Offers classes in Arabic language and Kuwaiti culture, tours, lectures, and has free Internet and bistro facilities in its center in Surra.

**Location:** Surra, Block 3, Surra Street, Villa 84. Map in CLO.

☎: 533-5280, ext. 301 or e-mail [aware@info.com.kw](mailto:aware@info.com.kw).

**FORMAL DINNER DANCES:** The Marine Corps Birthday Ball in the Fall, and the Military Ball in the Spring will give you a chance to dress up. Other organizations also have dances, though they might not be formal.

**KUWAIT SOFTBALL LEAGUE:** The League started in 1991. There are men's and women's teams. Fall and Spring Seasons are played on the field at the Ahmedi Cricket Complex. Registration can be by individual or an entire team. Look for registration information in the *Arab Times*.

**LIBRARIES:** CLO has a reading room that is open during business hours. Adults may check out the key from Post One at any time. You are welcome to borrow and donate books anytime. We are between the Health Unit and the Cafeteria.

**MOVIES:** There are many cinemas in Kuwait showing Western, Arabic and Indian films. All have been censored for sex, but not violence. Check [www.kncc.com](http://www.kncc.com) for up-to-date movie schedules and locations.

☎: 80-3456.

**MUSIC CLASSES:** British School of Music - Piano, violin, guitar, and keyboard lessons only. All classes are held at the British School of Kuwait in Salwa. Ask to speak to the Music Director, Mrs. Galina Bojilova.

☎: 562-2701, 562-1701. E-mail: [music@bsk.edu.kw](mailto:music@bsk.edu.kw).

## SERVICES

### TRAVEL AGENCIES:

**AIR TRAVEL WITHIN THE GULF:** Check with the Travel Section (beside the Admin Dept.) on the upper floor of the Embassy for special package tours. Outside travel agencies have business cards displayed on the rack inside CLO.

**ALGHANIM TRAVEL:** Located on Fahad Al Salem Street, downtown Kuwait City.

: 243-2100. Web site: [www.alghanim.com/travel](http://www.alghanim.com/travel)

**DNATA:** Located behind the fire station on Ali Al-Salem Street. A one-stop travel agency with free ticket delivery.

: 249-5000.

**JUMBO TRAVELS:** Located near Souq Al-Kabir on Fahad Al-Salem Street.

: 242-7288. Web site: [www.junbotravels.com](http://www.junbotravels.com)

**BARBER SHOPS:** Seem to be on every block in Kuwait. Here are a few ...

**AEWA BARBERSHOP:** Haircutting for men available Mondays on the Embassy compound. Sign up for an appointment at the AEWA gift shop.

**SALOON CITY:** A men's barbershop used by many OMC-K'ers.

**Location:** Jabriya Al Jabriya Street 111 – across from gas station.

: 534-0827, 782-0013.

**BEAUTY SALONS (spelled Saloons in Kuwait):** Many, many beauty shops are available in Kuwait. None are unisex and men are strictly forbidden in women's salons. Prices vary and the quality of the work also varies. Here are a few frequented by embassy personnel:

**CUTTING EDGE SALON:** This shop is operated by two British stylists.

**Location:** In Salmiya, adjacent to the Kuwait Palace Hotel ( white intricate building that stands out) on Gulf Street near the Sultan Center. New 6-floor, cream- colored building, 1st floor.

**Hours:** Saturday to Thursday, 9:00am to 6:00pm

: 571-8001.

**IMAGES SALON AND DAY SPA:** Full service beauty salon run by an American woman and frequented by many ladies from the Embassy community. Services include pedicure, manicure, massage and henna painting. Look for occasional promotional packages.

**Location:** Salmiya, on the corner of 4th Ring Road and Fahaheel Expressway (30), Abu Zar Al-Ghaffari Street, Building 4, Floor 1, Flat 1.

**Hours:** Sat – Thurs 9:00am to 8:00pm; Fri - 10:00am to 6:00pm

: 563-9368.

**NSTYLE NAIL LOUNGE:** A new salon in Kuwait, which offers manicures, pedicures, massage and waxing. Open Saturday through Thursday 10 AM to 8 PM, and Fridays noon to 8 PM.

**Location:** Al Bustan Complex, First Floor, Salem Al Mubarak St. Salmiya.

: 571-9060.

**OPERA BEAUTY CENTER:** Does all the normal beauty stuff, including massages and will send the masseuse to your home.

**Location:** Hawalli near Qadisya Sports Club.

: 262-6766

**STRANDS:** Run by British stylists, Strands offers full hair, nail, waxing and massage treatments for ladies. It is frequented by many Embassy women. Open 9AM to 8PM Saturday through Thursday.

**Location:** Off Gulf Road just below Showbiz Pizza. A new location is also in the Fanar Mall in Salmiya across from Sultan Center. It features a beauty salon and nail bar.

: 572-6442/3 Fanar Mall Location: Beauty Shop 571-1237, Nail Bar 572-0823

**FLORISTS:** There are many florists in Kuwait City. Certain areas tend to have a lot. This is true on Baghdad Street in Salmiya and on Tunis Street in Hawalli. Some shops used by Embassy personnel include:

**STYLE FLOWERS CENTER:** Jabriya Block 3A, Street 1, Bldg. 95. North side of the street. Call Hares 656-7610.

**CHIC ROSE:** in Salmiya Ibin Shobah Street. Call Abdul Kader at 572-0400.

**RADISSON SAS:** The small shop in the lobby always has nice small arrangements available. They make easy

hostess gifts.

**HEALTH SPAS:** Many health spas are available in Kuwait City to help you unwind from day-to-day stress. Some are only for women, but a few have facilities for men.

**AYUR MANA AYURVEDIC HEALTH CENTER:** Ayurvedic health and beauty treatments. Gives discounted rates with Embassy I.D.

**Location:** Bneid Al-Gar, Al Bishr a& Kazmi Tower (B) First Floor Apt. 103/104. Maps in CLO.

**☎:** 240-2535 or Internet [www.ayurmana.com](http://www.ayurmana.com).

**ELYSIUM HEALTH SPA:** Elysium offers over 100 services and treatment programs. You do not have to be a member to enjoy this wonderful spa. There's a restaurant upstairs called the Renaissance. It gives you a spectacular view of the Arabian Gulf. Explore its splendid menu after a day at the spa.

**Location:** Gulf Street between Kuwait Towers and Sharq Mall, in front of Amiri Hospital.

**☎:** 245-3930

**ELEMENTS SPA:** The most "exclusive spa" in Kuwait. Just opened in November 2006. The Elements Spa by BanyanTree is located on the second floor of the Royale Hayat Hospital (Jabriyah). But don't let the word "hospital" mislead you. When entering the Royale Hayat, you feel like you are more in a 5 star hotel than in a hospital. The Elements Spa offers a full range of services from body massages, facials, hand and foot treatments, hair treatments and waxing. Drawing on Asian traditions, the Spa has a "resort-like" feel. In addition, there is an Elements Spa boutique on the first floor of the hospital where you can purchase many of the spa products. First class service with the price tag to go along with it!

**Location:** Elements Spa is located in at Royale Hayat Hospital ...off Fourth Ring Rd. in Jabriyah. Can't miss the big modern, building with "Royale Hayat" on it.

**☎:** 536-0940, [elementsspa-kuwait@banyntree.com](mailto:elementsspa-kuwait@banyntree.com)

**HILTON RESORT SPA:** Located in the Hilton Resort in Fahaheel, this luxurious spa offers massage, hydrotherapy pools, steam treatments and skin treatment. Spa packages are available. Services for men can be arranged.

**☎:** 372-5500.

**ORCHID SPA:** In the Palms Resort, the newest spa in Kuwait City is open to non-members of the Resort. It offers ladies' and men's sections with massage, hydrotherapy, and spa packages. Provides a discount with Embassy badge. Open 10am to 10pm 7 days a week. Elena provides excellent massages.

**Location:** Gulf Road at the Palms Resort, next to the Radisson SAS.

**☎:** 564-6266 [www.thepalms-kuwait.com](http://www.thepalms-kuwait.com).

**INTERNET:** There are several Internet service providers in Kuwait. Most offer services by the month or year, both dial-up or DSL. You may have problems getting DSL, as you have to own the phone line, or have your landlord sign some government paperwork. Most also offer pre-paid cards available from your local co-op.

Use the machines marked "Internet". You can try out different providers to find one you like this way.

**QUALITYNET** is the old reliable and seems to have a good reputation. They offer dial-up, DSL and prepaid card options. They are located in the Khalijeh Complex in Sharq (Pizza Hut restaurant) on the 2nd floor.

**☎:** 240-9950/ 1/ 2/ 3/ 4; fax: 243-8588; e-mail: [info@quality.net.kw](mailto:info@quality.net.kw)

**FASTTELCO** Offers prepaid cards, dial-up access as well as DSL service.

**Main Sales Office:** Al Sour Building - Ground Floor; Al Sour Street, Next to Lufthansa Airlines.

**☎:** 886-666 ext 337/338/340. e-mail [sales@fasttelcomnet](mailto:sales@fasttelcomnet).

**LAUNDRY SERVICES:** There are many small laundry shops in your neighborhood and all over Kuwait. The AEWA gift shop inside the Embassy also offers the service. The best and most reliable is the dry cleaners at the **Radisson SAS Hotel** on Gulf Street. Ask for directions at the lobby desk. They give us **10% discount**.

**☎:** 575-6000

**MASSAGE:** Massage is available in many of the salons and health spas above as well as in the health clubs. There are several massage therapists who will come to your home:

**JEAN ESCALANTE:** Home service provided – highly recommended by some Embassy personnel.

☎: 947-8671

**MIKE CABRA:** Does Swedish, Shiatsu and Reflexology.

☎: 669-1862

**NEWS IN PRINT:** There are two English language papers published in Kuwait: *The Arab Times* and *The Kuwait Times*. They provide local, Middle East and international news. *USA Today* and the *New York Times* are also available at the Sultan Center and at the hotel bookshops. *The International Herald Tribune* is now printed in Kuwait and is available at hotels, the Sultan Center and by home delivery. Call 484-7908. British newspapers and tabloids are also available in bookstores and the Sultan Center. The Military Camps receive the *Stars and Stripes* and it is occasionally found at the Embassy Post Office.

#### **PARTY:**

**Fantasy World:** For all your party decorations. They also sell a wide range of toys. Branches in Sharq (242-5717), Al-Rai (471-4611) and in Salmiya (571-4031).

**Gameworks:** A great location for all events including birthday parties, team building and farewells. Located in Marina Mall, Salmiya. ☎: 765-6049.

**Giggles:** Children's Entertainment Center next to Kamza Football Stadium, off Damascus Street. Parties for children. Dodgems, carousel, soft play area, fast food, and face painting. The big, cuddly Giggles mascot (teddy bear) is available for children's parties to hand out balloons, candy, etc. ☎ 254-8613/4, in Adailaya.

**MAGICIAN:** For event management and a magic show contact **Jewel the Magician:** 983-1933 or 953-4952. Appeared at the Embassy 4<sup>th</sup> of July party 2004.

**MAGICIAN:** Prof. Gugampoo. Magician, illusionist, and ventriloquist. [www.gugampoo.com](http://www.gugampoo.com). ☎ 950-8029 or 716-2090

**PARTYLAND:** Wide range of party decorations, balloons, etc. Various games for rent as well as jumping castles, bubble and fog machines, strobe lights, etc. Two locations: Shuwaikh (larger store) ☎ 481-8766 and Marina Mall in Salmiya (Second Floor)

**SATELLITE TELEVISION SERVICES:** The two main ones are:

**ORBIT:** Carries CNN and several other news channels, movie channels, and several showing popular U.S. sitcoms. The Orbit News Channel carries U.S. news programs and the Sunday morning interview programs. ☎: 565-8887 for information and subscription.

**SHOWTIME:** Includes several movie channels, kid's channels, Discovery, and lots of American television series – many, many channels. Watch the newspaper for specials. ☎: 807-007, or stop by their stands in the Marina Mall and Sharq Mall. [www.ShowtimeArabia.com](http://www.ShowtimeArabia.com).

**TAILORS:** It's fun to buy your fabric at the fabric souk and be your own designer. Prices are reasonable and clothing is custom-fitted.

#### **FOR WOMEN**

**DAZZAH QUWITAYA:** A very good tailor for women, especially for fancy dresses and gowns.

**Location:** Salmiya off of 5th Ring Road. Map in CLO.

☎: 561-6643. Ask for Evelyn.

**EVENING WEAR:** There are a number of tailors who specialize in eveningwear, including very fancy beading and sequins. They are grouped together in the first floor under the BARAKAT Craft Showroom in Salmiya. See map in CLO.

**FASHION TAILORS FOR LADIES:** Call Susan, the manager, for an appointment.

**Location:** In Salmiya, Al-Khansa Street, Building 107, near Al-Duion Video Co.

☎: 572-1102

**MUBAREK AL-ADWANI LADIES TAILOR:** Used by some Embassy ladies.

**Location:** Hawalli, Ibn Khaldoun St. Shop No.13 Ground Floor

☎: 608-4929

**SARA LADIES TAILOR:** Wedding dresses, embroidery, stitching and ladies tailor.

Location: Souk al Safat (Fabric Souk) Mezzanine Shop no. 4144

☎: 246-2297, 967-2794.

**TARA TAILORS:** Used by a lot of Embassy people. They can make from your photo or copy something you already own.

Hours: 9am-1pm and 4pm –9 pm

**Location:** Jabriya, Block 3B, Bld. 69, Apt.1, Gound Floor. Just off Road 103 near the traffic circle. The shop is located in back of the building.

☎: 534-0788

## FOR MEN

**DARRAS FASHION FOR MEN:** Formal attire for special occasions. Tuxedos, shirts, bow ties etc. If you don't see what you need, they can custom-make it for you.

☎: Mr. Azzam Darras, 571-0813.

**FITWELL TAILOR:** For men's suits. You'll have to select your own fabric from the souk downstairs.

**Location:** Upstairs in the main building of the fabric souk. Commercial area No.9, Block 2, First Floor, Shop #43, (behind Souk Al-Safat), Kuwait City. (Map in CLO)

☎: 242-7688.

**KARIM TAILOR:** Men's suits – does a beautiful job. Has a nice selection of fabrics.

**Location:** In Kuwait City, upstairs in the main building of the fabric souk. Across the hall from Fitwell Tailor.

☎: 241-9224, 245-9176.

**PRINCE TAILOR:** Also in the Fabric Souk. Keeps your measurements on file for future purchases.

**Location:** In Fabric Souk downtown, on outside of building facing Abdullah Mabarak Street. Shop 3241.

☎: 243-2424

**TAXIS:** Taxis are generally reliable and reasonably priced in Kuwait. When you call a cab company, you can ask for an English-speaking driver, and once you get to know someone, you can ask if that particular driver is available. Many drivers will give you their card with their personal mobile phone number. Drivers usually know their way around and can be good guides. You can ask a shopkeeper to call a taxi for you so you do not need to wait by the curb. This is customary; don't be shy in asking for assistance.

The dispatch office sets rates. When you call, tell where you are going from/to, ask how much the fare will be and when the taxi will arrive. Fares are zone based - starting at KD 1.500 within a zone and an addition of 500 fils for each subsequent zone. Sometimes this can be a problem if where you want to go is close but is in a different zone. Tipping is not required.

Do not take colored taxis off the streets. They usually pick up several passengers going to the same location and make frequent stops along a set route. Also be wary of private "unlicensed" cabs with white license plates. They will usually beep their horn to get your attention and their fares are not regulation. Treat with caution and avoid!

Some commonly used taxis:

**AL MULLA TAXI:** 244-4486, 242-9260, 242-9261

**MAKATI MANILA TAXI:** 575-3811

**PHILIPPINES INTERNATIONAL TAXI:** 575-5605/5606

There are many other taxi companies around Kuwait City.

**VETERINARY SERVICES:** The **Military Veterinarian Clinic** is now in a nice new building on Camp Arifjan. The Veterinarian offers pet vaccinations, spaying and neutering and simple veterinary procedures. It also will provide International Health Certificates when you move. (You will still have to get the Kuwaiti certificate from the Ministry.) You will be charged a small fee for these services, payable in U.S. Dollars. A checkbook comes in handy here.

Since the Vet is often out of the country visiting other military installations in the area, you should call ahead for an appointment: 389-3224.

To find the vet once you get on Camp Arifjan (another adventure in itself.): Go down the main road, Patton Blvd. Past the PX, chapel, headquarters building, and fire station. You will see the dog kennels on the left at the end of the road. Turn left just past the kennels and the clinic is the small rectangular brick building behind it.

The newest private vet clinic is the **INTERNATIONAL VETERINARY HOSPITAL**. It offers full medical and grooming services as well as boarding and is very clean.

**Hours:** Open Sat-Thu: 8:30 AM – 8:30 PM and Friday: 4:00 PM – 8:30 PM.

**Location:** Go south on 40 and exit right on Road 306. You'll see the sign for the International Vet. Hospital (with a falcon) along the roadside before the exit. Turn right at the signal and go past 2 traffic lights. You'll see another sign and the hospital is on the right.

☎: 326-1421. On the Internet: [www.ivhq8.com](http://www.ivhq8.com). Also, you can book appointments online on their website or contact them via e-mail at [ivh@qualitynet.net](mailto:ivh@qualitynet.net).

There is also a veterinary clinic in town: The **AL-DOHAMA VETERINARY HOSPITAL** is located at the Al-Rai next to the Friday Market and across the parking lot from the animal souk. This hospital offers a full medical hospital though the facility's appearance is not what many Western's might expect. They are the only vet in Kuwait that has laboratory capabilities comparable to the International Veterinary Hospital.

☎: 472-2002, Fax: 472-2007.

**Questions about Pets** ...when traveling with a pet, two good websites are [www.ipata.com](http://www.ipata.com) and [www.takeyourpet.com](http://www.takeyourpet.com). Unless you have a large animal or are shipping the animal unaccompanied, it is probably unnecessary to use a pet shipper (like IVH). United Airlines currently offers the best information about traveling with pets on their website under Special Services (<http://www.united.com/page/middlepage/0,6823,1047,00.html>). The requirements are the same across all airlines. If a pet shipper is used the IPATA ([www.ipata.com](http://www.ipata.com)) offers a list of known shippers that have experience handling animals in the countries of origin and destination.

Lufthansa, United, and KLM airlines all ship animals and are very pet friendly. Kuwait Airways will ship animals in the cargo hold on the flight that you travel on but are not as pet friendly. Emirates will not ship animals in the cabin or the hold. To enter Kuwait animals must have an International Health Certificate (from the US this is a USDA form available from most veterinary clinics) that was filled out less than 30 days before the animal's arrival in Kuwait and an Import Certificate. There is no quarantine for pets. To exit Kuwait, animals need an International Health Certificate available from the military vet at Camp Arifjan or IVH and an Export Certificate.

#### **Looking for a pet to adopt or even to foster?**

**PAWS (Protecting Animal Welfare Society)** of Kuwait has dogs and cats. See the animals available at [www.paws-kuwait.org](http://www.paws-kuwait.org). If you have a rescue animal or would like to acquire one, call PAWS at 944-0089. They are always looking for loving families to take in pets as full-time or foster families. PAWS is a member of WSPA, the World Society for protection of animals. PAWS also offers services to help you ship pets to or from Kuwait.

A second Animal Welfare society is just starting up, as well. It is the **Animal Friends League of Kuwait**. It will offer a full service shelter facility in the near future. For more information on this group, contact: Ayesah Al-Humaidhi, Executive Director, Animal Friends League of Kuwait, [www.animalfriendskuwait.org](http://www.animalfriendskuwait.org) or [ayeshah@animalfriendskuwait.org](mailto:ayeshah@animalfriendskuwait.org).

## **RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

### **CAMP ARIFJAN CHAPEL SERVICES**

There are three Chapels: Zone 1, Zone 2 and Arlington.

Does offer services on Fridays, though most services are on Sundays.

Services offered include: **Catholic Mass, Contemporary and Traditional Protestant, General Protestant, Gospel, Episcopal/Lutheran, Seventh Day Adventist, Spanish Protestant, Latter Day Saints, and Islamic.** Types of services depend on the types of chaplains deployed at the time.

For more information call the Zone 1 Chapel at 389-1387.

### **CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS**

Services are held in Jabriya on Fridays. Contact Juanito La Corte 254-0219, mobile 947-8443.

### **EMBASSY CHURCH SERVICES**

Held in Multipurpose Room

#### **PROTESTANT**

Fridays Religious Education 10:30 am, Worship Service 11:30 am

Child-Friendly and welcoming church community!

## CATHOLIC

Fridays Religious Education 3pm, Mass 4 pm  
CLO can provide contact names.

## HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL

Mass is held in English, Monday through Thursday at 7:00am and 6:30pm; Friday: 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:00am and 6:00pm; Saturday: 7:00am, 5:30pm and 6:30pm; Sunday: 7:00am, 5:45pm, 6:45pm and 7:45pm.

**Location:** Al-Soor Street, Kuwait City next to the Sheraton Hotel.

☎: 243-4637 website: [www.catholic-church.org/kuwait](http://www.catholic-church.org/kuwait).

## NATIONAL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

English Language Congregation

Senior Pastor: Jerry A. Zandstra

Sunday: 5:00PM (Lighthouse), 6:00PM (Old Building)

Friday: 8:00AM (Lighthouse), 10:00 AM (Lighthouse), 12:30 (Old building), 3:30PM (Lighthouse)

Also has daycare (ages 3-5) , a Christian Academy (grades Kindergarten to 8), and a Christian bookstore.

**Location:** Beside the National Assembly Building on Shudada Street and Gulf Road.

☎: 240-7195, Fax: 243 1087, Internet: [www.elonline.net](http://www.elonline.net)

## SEED OF LIFE WORD MINISTRIES

A Southern Branch of the National Evangelical Church

English Language

Friday: 9:30-11:30

Sunday: 6:30 – 8:30

Also has Cell groups, Women's group, Men's Group and Youth Group.

**Location:** Funaitees, Off Fahaheel Expressway (30) near exit 208.

☎: 390-5588/99

## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

Anglican (Episcopal)

Family Eucharist Sundays 6:30PM

Holy Communion Fridays 12 noon at NECK Kuwait City

Chaplain: Rev'd Canon Stephen M. Wright

**Location:** 7 Sixth Street North, Ahmadi-6. Map in CLO

☎: 398-5929, 666-1314. E-mail [sontom@yahoo.com](mailto:sontom@yahoo.com).

# LEISURE CLUBS

**AMERICAN WOMEN'S LEAGUE (AWL):** The American Women's League meets monthly for socializing, to share ideas and interests, to participate in social and cultural activities, and to become acquainted with the customs and culture of the Arab community in Kuwait. They sponsor weekly outings for adults only, as well as a number of children's events. Any female resident of Kuwait, who is a citizen of the United States, or whose husband is a citizen of the United States, is eligible for membership. For information on joining, contact the CLO.

**CALEDONIAN SOCIETY:** This is a Scottish Heritage society, which sponsors outings and events on a regular basis. Look for scheduled activities in the Arab Times, in the "What's On " column.

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S GROUP:** A small social organization of diplomatic wives, Kuwaiti women, and other expat women. See CLO for information on contacting this group.

**KUWAIT ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF CHILDREN IN HOSPITAL (KAACH):** Volunteers spend once a week (9:00am to 12:00nn) at the Amiri Hospital playing games and helping raise the spirits of sick children.

☎: 246-4723. Office hours 7:30 to 1:30 Saturday through Wednesday. Director: Margaret al-Sayer.

**KUWAIT BRIDGE CLUB:** For those who like duplicate bridge. Meets every Sunday and Tuesday evening at the New Sea Club in Ras al Salmiya. Play is from 8 to 11:30 pm. To play or take lessons contact Mr. Hinawi, 932-3100, or Mr. Al-Turki at 970-7404. The club website is: [www.kuwaitbridge.com](http://www.kuwaitbridge.com).

**KUWAIT CHAMBER PHILHARMONIC:** For classical music fans, this group holds several concerts a year, usually at the

Radisson SAS. Check the local papers or the Tower Times for announcements.

☎: 264-9357, 264-9354

**KUWAIT LITTLE THEATER:** The Kuwait Little Theater is located in Ahmadi and puts on several plays a year. Read the Arab Times "What's On" column for information about specific events.

☎: 598-3753, leave a message and the appropriate person will get back to you. Internet: <http://www.TheKLT.com>

**KUWAIT PLAYERS:** This is an amateur theater group that works out of the Club House in Rumaithiya. They are a really active group with plays, parties, dancing and a lot more going on all the time! They announce all auditions and requests for volunteers in the *Arab Times* "What's On" column.

**KUWAIT SINGERS:** This is an amateur singing group consisting mainly of Western expatriates. They have rehearsals every Saturday evening at the Gulf English School at 7:30 pm and put on two public concerts per year.

☎: For more information contact Mike Kempster 563-6062 or Juan Saavedra 566-4581.

**KUWAIT TEXTILE ASSOCIATION:** This group meets one Saturday of each month except during the summer months. The association has monthly programs and lectures, special interest trips, and offers classes in weaving, embroidery and quilting. Events are posted in the *Arab Times*.

**MILITARY LADIES COFFEE GROUP:** The OMC-K ladies organize this informal group. All women associated with the Embassy, i.e. direct hire employees, spouses and FSN's are welcome to attend. The coffees are held once a month and hosted by volunteer members. Watch the *Tower Times* or call CLO for time and location.

**OLEK:** Organizacion Latinoamericana y Espanola de Kuwait – Founded in 1992, it is a group of Spanish-speaking women in Kuwait. Meetings are the last Wednesday of the month. The club also organizes an annual Valentine's Dance and other activities. E-mail [Olek@mersep.com](mailto:Olek@mersep.com).

## HEALTH CLUBS

**CROWNE PLAZA** – Free access for Embassy badge holders. Features a well-equipped gym with Nautilus equipment, a sauna, steam room and Jacuzzi. The health club offers aerobics, squash courts, a temperature-controlled outdoor pool and personal fitness training. Also has a special gym area for kids ages 8-16 with trainers. It has no beach.

**Location:** off Route 55 between 5th and 6th Ring Roads.

☎: 474-2000.

**EMBASSY FACILITIES:** Two tennis courts, heated pool, kiddie pool and playground, new volleyball court, great space for roller blading, aerobics, and new basketball court. There is a well-equipped gym (the Sand Pit) with cardio and weight machines in the Marine House. The snack bar is open every day from 7:00am to 3:00pm.

**RADISSON SAS HOTEL** – Free access with Embassy badge. The Viking Club has an Olympic-size adult pool, indoor pool, children's pool and playground, a beach, two squash courts, an exercise studio, billiard room, table tennis room, and a fitness center. The main locker rooms have saunas, steam room and jacuzzi. It also has a snack bar and poolside waiter service. Some water sports are available such as water-skiing, sailing, and banana boats. It's a great place to relax.

**Location:** Salwa area along Gulf Street.

☎: 575-6000.

**PRIVATE BEACH CLUBS:** There are several private health clubs with annual membership fees. Some examples are the Kuwait Hilton Beach Club, The Palms Resort, and the Kempinski Julai'a. Many have daily fees or free visits if you would like to check out the facilities.



## SPORTS

**AEROBICS:** Classes are available at the SAS Viking Club and the Crowne Plaza for a fee. Classes are also offered periodically at the Embassy by AEWA Rec. See the *Tower Times* for details.

**BOWLING:** Just like being at home – shoe rental and all. There is a new large bowling alley in the City Centre Souk just off 5th Ring called Cozmo Bowling. Also includes a large video game arcade, billiards and foosball. Can arrange for children's and adults parties. Open 11am to 1 am.

☎ 574-4975/6. [www.cozmobowling.com](http://www.cozmobowling.com).

Another small bowling alley/billiards hall is located in Salmiya just upstairs from Starbucks. It is called “the King”.

**CAMPING AND OFF-ROAD DRIVING:** Although it is the national pastime in the winter months, desert camping and off-road driving is not recommended in Kuwait. There is still a lot of unexploded ordnance in the desert from the first Gulf War and it can be very dangerous. Call RSO or Post One if any is ever found and DON'T TOUCH IT!

**DIVING AND SNORKELING:** Certification classes are periodically offered at the Embassy pool for a fee. Local dive centers also offer classes, dives and equipment.

**BBR DIVE CENTER** –In the Palms Resort, right next to the Radisson SAS. They offer PADI instruction in all levels with an indoor training pool, a retail facility, and daily diving trips. Call 565-1075 or visit their website at [www.bbrdive.com](http://www.bbrdive.com).

**THE KIM CENTER** at the Hilton Resort, Villa 530 offers diving and snorkeling instruction and trips. It's open every day from 9 to 5. Telephone 371-6002.

**DO DIVE SCUBA CENTER** in Kuwait City also offers NAUI Diving instruction in all levels and offers diving and snorkeling packages. Visit their web site at [www.dodive.com](http://www.dodive.com) or call Mr. Raed Alroomi at 757-7101.

The **KUWAIT MANTAS** is a British diving club in Kuwait. On the web: [www.kuwaitmantas.com](http://www.kuwaitmantas.com).

**GO-KART RACING:** (1) The Mishref Exhibition Center has two tracks, each for a different age group. They are located near the Embassy on route 303 and 6th Ring Road.

(2) The Aqua Park has a go-kart track with twenty-two cars. Must be 12 years and above to drive.

**GOLF:** There are two golf “browns” in Kuwait – The **AHMADI GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB**, and the **BUCKSANDS GOLF CLUB**. Golf in Kuwait is unique – you play on sand and carry your own Astroturf. The browns (vs. greens) are mounds of sand with oil poured on them. Ahmadi has trees, while Texaco has water. You must bring your own clubs. Note: “Browns” can be very abrasive on clubs.

The **BUCKSANDS GOLF CLUB** is located in the SAT Camp south of Kuwait City. Maps in the CLO. Membership is available to non-Chevron/Texaco personnel for singles or families and the membership year runs from July1 to June 30. Perspective members can play a complimentary round to check things out. Afterwards non-members can pay a 7KD fee for a maximum of three rounds. No food available – bring your own.

☎: Mohammed at the golf club: 395-0444 ext 225 or Matt Portacci, Golf Club President at 604-2757 or e-mail at [portamj@chevrontexaco.com](mailto:portamj@chevrontexaco.com) for more information.

**THE AHMADI GOLF CLUB** is open without reservations Saturday through Wednesday, KD7 per person. Weekends are for members, but non-members can call ahead for a tee-time. Maps in the CLO.

☎: 398-3650.

**HASH HOUSE HARRIERS:** This organization is open to all, from slow walkers to experienced runners. Everyone has the

same fun. It is more a social group than an athletic organization. There are two groups that meet in Kuwait on Thursday and Saturday evenings.

☎: Contact CLO on ext. 2523 or try the web at [www.q8hhh.com](http://www.q8hhh.com).

**HORSE RACING:** The Hunting and Equestrian Club has a tree-lined track on the 6th Ring Road. Races are held on Mondays from October to April except during Ramadan.

☎: 471-7270/ 1 or 473-9199. (try 476-7697 or 473-9758).

#### **HORSE RIDING**

**ARABIAN EQUESTRIAN CENTER:** Lessons available for all ages and experience. See their web site for the latest information.

Location: Off Route 30 in Abu Fatira Jaber Al -Ali.

☎: 390-4840. [www.horseridingQ8.com](http://www.horseridingQ8.com).

**HUNTING AND EQUESTRIAN CLUB.** A membership is required in order to ride.

Location: off of 6th Ring Road.

☎: 471-7270/ 1.

**KUWAIT RIDING CENTER.** Ms. Noaf Al-Essa is the instructor. Lessons for beginners to advanced, with English-speaking instructors, are available.

Location: off Fahaheel Expressway (30) at exit 208. Map is available in CLO.

☎: 390-1830.

**ICE SKATING:** The ice-skating rink is Olympic sized and well maintained. It offers several 1-1/2 hour sessions per day. It is open from 8:00am to 1:00pm and 3:00pm to 11:00pm. The best times to go are Thursday and Friday mornings when there is no crowd. The worst times are evenings at 8:00pm. Skates are available for rental.

Location: Off 1st Ring Road across Al-Soor Street from the Ministries Complex.

☎: 241-1152.

**MARTIAL ARTS:** Camp Doha, SAS, Messilah Beach Hotel and the Crowne Plaza Nautilus Center all offer courses in various forms of martial arts. Call the hotels for details. Also, the Kuwait Judo and Taekwondo Federation in Hawalli holds international competitions. Check your local paper for announcements.

**MOTOR RACING:** Auto races are held all year long on Thursdays at a track off of 6th Ring Road. Motorcycle races are also held from May to October.

**RACQUETBALL:** Courts are available at the Fitness Club of the Kuwait Regency Palace (former Hyatt Regency). You must be a member to play or guest of a member.

Location: Gulf Street north of Radisson SAS Hotel.

☎: 572-8000

**RUGBY:** **Kuwait Rugby Club** has men's, women's and children's divisions. Contact Simon Cottrell 784-5392 or Nigel Tatham 759-5168.

**SHOOTING:** **The Shooting Range Complex** has target shooting for guns and air pistols. Guns and ammunition can be rented and ammunition purchased. Gun safety classes are also given. Non-members are welcome to shoot evenings from 5 to 9. Men and women welcome with children from age 11 allowed to shoot air pistols and teens from age 15 allowed to shoot handguns. Located off Sixth Ring near the Hunting and Equestrian Complex. Maps in CLO.

☎: 475-9999

**SQUASH:** Several hotels have squash courts including the Radisson SAS and the Crowne Plaza. Call the hotel health clubs to make court reservations. The **Kuwait Duffers Squash League** is a social league offering a chance to play in an informal, friendly atmosphere. For more information, contact Mike Ling at [mike.ling@total.com](mailto:mike.ling@total.com) or by phone at 983-3297.

**TENNIS:** The Embassy has nice courts that are lighted for night play. Tennis lessons can be arranged. Call AEWA REC ext.4205.

**WALKING PATHS:** Many neighborhoods (i.e. parts of Mishref, Surra, and Jabriya) have paved walking paths along their exterior boundaries. There is also a three-mile path along the Gulf Road, which has a nice view of the downtown towers at sunset. Walking paths stretch along the coast starting at the Kuwait Towers and continue south for several miles.

**WATER SPORTS:** The SAS offers sailing, banana boats, water skiing and windsurfing.

The KIM CENTER AT THE HILTON RESORT, Villa #530 offers all water sports except jet skis - fishing, kayaks, water skiing, kite boards, scuba and snorkeling instruction and trips, and much more. Call 371-6002. Open 9-5 every day.

**YOGA:** Several health clubs offer yoga classes for a small fee. The British School of Kuwait extra-curricular program also offers yoga classes.

In Surra there is a Yoga Studio: **THE YOGA AND WELLNESS CENTER**, which offers classes for ladies. Surra Block 4, Street 6, House 29, Apartment 1.

☎: 982-4657 e-mail terril@qualitynet.net.

## KUWAITI CULTURE

**AL-HASHEMI MARITIME MUSEUM:** Located in the Radisson SAS Hotel off Gulf Street, this museum exhibits many large models of Arabic dhows, the locally made boats used for pearl diving, commerce and fishing in olden days, and sometimes even used today. You can't miss the Hasemi II - the world's largest hand-made wooden boat. It's part of the hotel's conference center. The mosaic tile pictures depicting Kuwaiti history in the parking garage underneath are interesting. Admission is free.

**Hours:** 8am to 5pm every day.

**Location:** Arabian Gulf Street in the Radisson SAS

☎: 575-6000

**AL-QADIRI ART GALLERY:** A private residence featuring the works of the owner's wife, Thuraya Al-Bagsami, and their daughter. Call for an appointment for a private showing anytime.

**Location:** Salwa, Block 5, Street 7, Villa 69.

☎: 562-4673

**AL-QURAIN CULTURAL FESTIVAL:** Annual month long cultural festival held in November which showcases Kuwaiti, Arab and Western cultural events including music, dance, art exhibits, poetry readings and a book fair organized by the National Council for Culture, Arts and Literature. Look in the local press for details or check with CLO or Public Affairs Dept.

**AL-QURAIN HOUSE:** This house was the site of a bloody battle between the Iraqis and resistance fighters just before the end of the 1991 occupation. It has been kept as a museum in memory of those who died there.

**Location:** In the Al-Qurain area just off of Road 208, between Fahaheel (30) and Maqreb (40) Expressways. Take 40 south, exit on 208 and head toward the Gulf, turn right at the first light and follow the signs to the Museum. Look for the blue signs. (Map in CLO.)

**Hours:** Sunday through Wednesday – 8:30am to 1:00 pm and 4:30pm to 7:00 pm. Thursdays, evenings only.

**ARAB ORGANIZATIONS BUILDING (ARAB FUND BUILDING):** A must see! From the outside, it looks just like an ordinary square structure with lots of windows. But inside is a spectacular collection of Arabic art from all over the Arabic world. It is a museum in itself. The multistory atrium filled with trees is a very nice place for tea. Don't miss the CLO tours, or you can call the Arab Fund Building and ask for Osama Wanas (Engineer Osama), to arrange for a private tour.

**Location:** In Shuwaikh off 60, just before you get to the port.

☎: 484-4500 ext.2011 or e-mail owanas@arabfund.org.

**ARABIC CLASSES:** The post offers some classes, and several local institutes offer Arabic classes. The AWARE Centre offers beginning classes and the University of Kuwait Continuing Education Program offers classes in beginning Kuwaiti Arabic. Classes are advertised in the newspapers and Tower Times. See CLO for a listing of programs and contact numbers.

**ARABIC PLAYS:** "The Travels of Ibn Battuta" is an interesting and unique audio-visual production of the accounts of a man who roamed Central Asia, India, and China from his birthplace of Tangier. Performances are in the Dar al-Athar al-Islamiyyah Cultural Calendar booklet published annually

**Location:** at Maidan Centre next to the Al Shaab Leisure Park.

☎: 563-6528 for tickets and information.

Plays in Arabic are presented around town during the year. Consult the local newspapers for dates and times.

**BEIT AL-BADER:** This former home of a wealthy Kuwaiti was built between 1838-1848 and displays a fine example of an old Kuwaiti door. Exhibitions are held which show local handicrafts. Permission must be obtained to visit the house.

**Location:** The house is located on Gulf Road between the Sadu House and the National Museum.

**☎:** 242-9158

**BEIT AL-SADU:** "Beit" is the Arabic word for "house". Sadu House is a good example of a traditional home that has recently been restored. It gives one a flavor of how the Kuwaiti merchant families lived before oil was discovered in Kuwait. At times, usually in the afternoon, Bedouin women may be available to demonstrate Sadu weaving. Their weaving is a little more expensive than what you'd find in the old souk, but better quality. The Textile Association sometimes holds its monthly meeting/lectures there. Check the local papers for date and time.

**Location:** Beit al-Sadu is located on Gulf Road in the National Museum Complex. Entry is through the Museum. Closed on Saturday.

**Hours:** 8:00am to 1:00pm and 5:00 to 7:00pm

**☎:** 243-2395

**BEIT LOTHAN:** Beit Lothan's arts and crafts center has a permanent display of Kuwaiti handicrafts as well as crafts from different countries. Local and international artists hold shows here. They also offer courses in a variety of crafts, languages, and music. Watch the newspapers for show times and dates.

**Location:** Just off Gulf Road between Hamad Al-Mubarak and Qatar Streets. Right next to the Marina Mall.

**Hours:** 9:00am to 1:00 pm and 5:00pm to 8:00 pm.

**☎:** 575-5866

**BOUSHAHRI ART GALLERY:** This art gallery has a range of interesting exhibits. You'll just have to go to see for yourself. The gallery is closed during the summer and re-opens again in September.

**Location:** Salmiya, Salem Al-Mubarak Street. Phone for the hours.

**☎:** 571-4882, 573-9993.

**CAMEL RACES:** The races are held every Thursday between 2:30 and 5:00 pm (approximate times). Attendance is free and you can get a flavor of Bedouin life in Kuwait. There are usually a couple of camels "dressed up" in colorful saddles and head trappings. Racing season usually runs between September and May.

**Location:** Take 6th Ring Road towards Jahra. Take the Sulaibiya exit, turn right onto Sulaibiya Road. Continue on this road past the power station and the horse racing track. The entrance to the Camel Racing Club is on your left just a short distance past the radio broadcasting station (on the right). There will be signs and flags. Just follow the road to the track. Maps are available in CLO. Warning: **the Kuwait Camel Races** have been noted by the Human Rights Watch for abusing the human rights of underage jockeys but robotic jockeys are supposed to be used now.

**DANCING/MUSICAL FOUNTAIN:** Beside the ice skating rink off 1st Ring Road is a fountain that has traditional dancing and light shows. Open daily 6:00am to 11:00pm.

**DAR AL-ATHAR AL-ISLAMIYYAH:** The Dar is the largest collection of Islamic Art in Kuwait. It used to be housed in the National Museum, but renovations to this part of the museum have not yet been completed. Many of the treasures stolen by the Iraqis in the Gulf War have been returned and travel around the world and are shown at various famous museums. The Friends of the Dar (DAI) have an outstanding series of lectures and concerts related to Islamic world throughout the year. The schedule is published in the local English-language newspapers and the Tower Times.

**Location:** Lectures and concerts take place at the al-Maidan Cultural Centre at the Abdullah Salem School in Maidan Hawalli. (Between Sha'ab Leisure Park and the New Park Hotel.) Maps are available in CLO.

**☎:** 563-6528 e-mail [info@darmuseum.org.kw](mailto:info@darmuseum.org.kw).

**DHOW HARBOR AND DHOW MAKERS ASSOCIATION:** The Dhow Makers Association welcomes visitors and has small dhows for sale. You can also wander along the harbor and take pictures of the fishing dhows. It is located just off Gulf Road past the Fish Market.

**DHOW TRIPS:** Dhow trips usually have to be arranged with a Kuwaiti who knows some dhow owners. CLO also arranges lunch or dinner cruises on a dhow with the SAS Al-Gazeer Voyages, whenever possible. Contact Florence Brunel, Sales Manager at the SAS, for SAS hosted dhow trip. She can be reached at 575-6000. A minimum of 13 people will be required for the Al-Gazeer cruise.

**FAILAKA ISLAND:** Take a ferry ride over to the island to see historic ruins and archaeological digs of the Bronze Age and a 3<sup>rd</sup>. Century BC Greek settlement. The Kuwait Government would like to develop this island into a tourist resort, so see it while it's empty. The inhabitants were forced out during the Iraqi occupation and the abandoned houses remain. It's a popular place for camping and picnicking. You can take your car over for a fee, but there's no guarantee you'll have a spot

coming back. It's also a good place for biking. Go in the cooler months and bring an umbrella, hats, water, lunch and snacks. Save about 6 hours for the trip – the ride over is about 1-½ hours. The ferry doesn't go on Mondays or Saturdays. Call 571-3544 for the day's schedule, which goes according to the tides.

**Location:** From Gulf Road in Salmiya, turn towards the water at Showbiz. Take the first right at the traffic circle. The Marina is the tan building on your left with the fence around it. You can park in front. The sign is in Arabic but it is Marina Ras Ardh. There is also a new way to go from the Marina Crescent yacht basin.

**FISH MARKET:** The fish markets in downtown Kuwait and Fahaheel are an experience. The best time to go is about 4:00 pm after the fish auction. At about 3:00pm you can watch the fishermen bring in their catch. When in season, shrimp is very inexpensive and porters will de-shell your shrimp for a small fee. Vendors sit outside and sell fishing baskets, tackle and other curiosities.

**Location:** On Gulf Road next to the Sharq Market; In Fahaheel, on the coast adjacent to the souk.

**GRAND MOSQUE OF KUWAIT:** The Grand Mosque should not be missed. Anyone can arrange a group tour or you can tag along with another group. Women should be well (loosely) covered and bring a headscarf to wear during the tour. You'll see most of the mosque without your shoes, so no holes in your socks! Women will be loaned an abaya to cover their clothing for the tour.

**Location:** Gulf Road across from the Seif Palace.

☎: 246-7058, 246-7105. Contact Mohammed Al-Meteb.

**HALA FEBRUARY:** Kuwait is trying to get into the Gulf Shopping Festival round with this annual, month-long event. It includes popular music concerts, sales and discounts at the stores and prize drawings at many of the malls. Look in the *Kuwait Zoom* or newspapers for schedules of events.

**KUWAIT FIBER ARTS:** Fiber arts by Diane Al-Tukhaim. Modern and traditional wall hangings. Diane uses natural fibers, camel and goat hair and sheep wool that she buys from the Bedouin women in the desert. This is a private gallery in her home. She holds an annual exhibition of her work in May, but you can call her for an appointment anytime.

**Location:** Jabriya, Area 7, Street 10, House 33.

☎: 532-9731

**THE KUWAIT GALLERY FOR FINE ARTS:** The Kuwait Society for Formative Arts often sponsors exhibitions by local artists. Check the local papers for announcements.

**Location:** Hawally, Beirut Street, behind the Commercial Studies College, opposite the Hatta Hawalli Court.

☎: 265-5728

**KUWAIT HOUSE OF NATIONAL WORKS MEMORIAL MUSEUM:** Includes information about the history of Kuwait, focusing on the invasion in 1990, the occupation and liberation in 1991. Includes models, photographs, and videos. Open 9-12, 5-9 Saturdays through Thursdays. Call ahead to view the video presentation.

**Location:** Northern Shuwaikh Villa 32, next to Shabi Theater.

☎: 484-5335 or 484-6336.

**KUWAIT OIL COMPANY:** CLO occasionally organizes trips to the KOC Display Center in Ahmadi. It is well worth the trip. At the Visitor's Center you see a short film, then a display of petroleum development, repair and recovery from the 1991 Iraqi damage. Then you are taken to the nearby oil fields to see some of the damage first-hand.

**Location:** Ahmadi – CLO has maps.

☎: Mohammed Abdul-Salam 398-2642

**KUWAIT TOWERS:** Everyone should visit the Water Towers at least once. It is the symbol of Kuwait most recognized on CNN. The visitor's level gives a panoramic view of the city and the Gulf. Just stand at the revolving platform and read out the points of interest printed on the window. There is a little gift stand on this level and a small cafe. The middle level holds a fancy restaurant.

**Location:** Arabian Gulf Road, Dasman.

**Hours:** 10:00am to 11:30pm

**Entrance Fee:** 1KD per person.

☎: 244-4021

**MARTYR'S MUSEUM – BAYT AL QURAIN:** This is a house in Qurain, which was nearly destroyed during the invasion in 1990. It is now a museum, which tells about the battle that took place around the house including documentary films about the invasion.

☎: 543-0343.

**MOSQUES:** There are over 800 mosques in Kuwait. Whether large or small, each mosque displays a unique architectural design expressing the Islamic faith. You can spend weekends driving around the city and comparing the various designs of the mosques. Remember that mosques are places of worship and visitors must inquire before entering. Show due respect – remove your shoes and observe silence. Women must wear head coverings.

Besides the Grand Mosque, there are several renowned mosques. There is the Fatima Mosque on Dahiat Al-Salem known for its gumdrop-shaped domes and colorful patterns; the Pyramid Mosque on Gulf Road in Ras Salimiya; The Blue Mosque in Jabriya which is known for its ceramic tiles, and the Al-Masjid Al Kabier Mosque in Safat which has two-tone brick layers.

**MUSEUM OF MODERN ART:** The collection includes painting and sculpture. The museum is in a newly restored building. Formerly it was a school known as the Sharqeya School, which was attended by the Amir. The architecture has the feel of "Old Kuwait" with stucco walls and wooden beams, but it serves well the space and light needs of a modern art museum.

**Location:** On Ibraheem Al-Modaf Street, across Gulf Road from Sharq Market, in the middle of a large sandy lot. (CLO can show you on a map, if those directions are confusing.)

**Hours:** Open daily, 9am-1pm and 5-9pm.

**☎:** 246-8348.

**NATIONAL MUSEUM:** The National Museum was destroyed during the invasion and is slowly being restored. Most of the collection stolen by the Iraqis has been returned, but museum is still not up to the standard it was before the 1991 invasion. You can visit the Sadu house, a traditional Kuwaiti house located on the Museum grounds, or the Popular Traditional Museum, which shows life in Kuwait in the old days with full-sized dioramas. The Planetarium also has regular shows.

**Location:** Gulf Road just south of the Parliament building, beside the Sadu House. The entrance is behind the Sadu House. Traditional Museum is in the building on the left.

**Hours:** 8:00 am to 12:00 noon and 4:00pm to 7:00pm Closed Saturdays. Free admission.

**☎:** 245-6531

**PARLIAMENT BUILDING:** This is an interesting example of Arabic architecture and visitors are always welcome to view the main hall. Parliament meets every Tuesday and Embassy personnel are welcome to attend the sessions. Guests must have an entry ticket, which you can get from the Political section. Outside the seating area are boxes of headphones for simultaneous English translation. If you cannot find them, ask any of the men in the lobby for assistance. Guests sit in the middle section of the seating area.

**Location:** Arabian Gulf Street, downtown.

**TAREQ RAJAB MUSEUM:** This museum is privately owned with an extensive collection of jewelry, Arabic clothing and manuscripts from throughout the Arab world and Asia. The curator gives tours by appointment. You may visit without a tour when the museum is open. They have a nice website at [www.trmkt.com](http://www.trmkt.com). Admission is free.

**Location:** Jabriya, Area 12, Street 5 - down the street from the Iranian School.

Take the Jabriya exit off Fahaheel Expressway and turn left. Go past the Hadi Clinic and take your 3rd right after the Clinic. On the corner is the Iranian School.

**Hours:** 9:00am – 12:00nn, 4pm to 7pm, Friday 9 am to noon.

**☎:** 531-8060, 531-7358

**WAFRA:** The farms in Wafra can be a pleasant surprise, especially in the springtime. The best way to visit a farm is to ask a Kuwaiti friend to take you. Many Kuwaitis have a relative who runs a farm (usually a hobby rather than a business) and would enjoy taking you on a tour. On Friday there is an open-air market that sells fresh fruits and vegetables.

**Location:** Take the Wafra exit on Highway 40 and drive 40 kilometers south. Take a left at the Wafra farms exit and drive about 10 more kilometers. It is a nice drive and a chance to get away from downtown Kuwait.



# THINGS TO DO WITH KIDS IN KUWAIT

Some of these activities have appeared before in this guide, but we thought kids would be especially interested in this section.

**BOWLING:** Just like being at home – shoe rental and all. There is a new bowling alley in the City Centre Souk just off 5th Ring. Cozmo Bowling. Call 574-4975/6 for more information. [www.cozmobowling.com](http://www.cozmobowling.com).

**BRITISH SCHOOL OF KUWAIT:** BSK offers a wide variety of academic and leisure pursuits as extra-curricular activities. These activities are open to adults and students from other schools and are marketed under the title of The British Schools. Presently there are 14 British Schools. They include: aerobics& water aerobics, computing, drama, ballet, basketball, creative arts, dance, gymnastics, karate, languages, music, soccer, speech and drama, swimming and yoga. Registration for each term is well publicized in the English-language newspapers. BSK also offers a summer day camp for kids.  
☎: 562-1701/2701. [www.bsk.edu.kw](http://www.bsk.edu.kw).

**COLOR ME MINE:** A paint-it yourself ceramic studio. Has pre-fired bisque that you glaze with help from the staff. Offers specials on various days and also offers summer camps. You pay a studio fee and then for each individual piece.  
Location: Marina Crescent off Gulf road in Salmiya.  
☎: 224-4604. website: [www.kuwait.colormemine.com](http://www.kuwait.colormemine.com).

**EDUCATIONAL SCIENCE MUSEUM:** Located downtown on Abdullah Mubarak Street directly across from the Fabric Souk and Indian heritage souk. Contains many displays and also has a planetarium. Open 9 AM to noon and 4:30 to 7:30 PM every day except Thursdays and Fridays.

**DOWNTOWN SOUK – MOUBARAKEA:** There are many sections – all are fascinating. Kids might find the food part interesting. Several inexpensive pay parking lots are available. Most shops are open mornings until about 1:30 and in the evenings until about 9 PM. For those who are less adventurous, try the Souk Salmiya in the City Centre just off Fifth Ring.

**EMBASSY PLAYGROUP:** Parents and kids (toddler age) from the Embassy community meet once a week for a few hours for play and to go on field trips. It's a great way to meet new families. Meets Sunday mornings at 10:30. Call the CLO for more information.

**FRIDAY MARKET:** Open Thursdays and Fridays in the mornings and at night. There are several sections: the used stuff, the new stuff and the animals. All is very interesting and free (unless you buy something!) You can use strollers there. Located between Fourth and Fifth rings and 55 and 60 behind the Plant Souk. You can park on either side of the market. The animal section is not recommended because of widespread animal abuse.

**GAMEWORKS:** Located in the Marina Mall, second floor opposite Virgin Records. It is a large arcade and restaurant. You can eat and purchase a debit-type card for play on the machines. Older children and teens would like Gameworks.

**GIGGLES:** Offers inside games and fun. Will organize birthday parties for you. Sort of like Chucky Cheese in the U.S. Telephone: 254-8513. In Adiliya, next to Kazma Sports Stadium.

**GO-CARTS:** There are several tracks around town, but the closest is at the International Fairgrounds in Mishref. It's open daily after 4PM.

**LITTLE GYM:** Offers gymnastics and other sports classes for children, ages 3-12. Also offers summer camps and birthday parties. Website: [www.thelittlegym.com](http://www.thelittlegym.com).  
Location: Jabriya, block 1A street 105, building 41.  
☎: 534-4844.

**KUWAIT SCHOOL OF DANCE:** Founded in 1974, the school caters to children four years old to 18. The studio offers lessons in: jazz, ballet, creative movement, modern dance, classical ballet, choreography, workshop and performance. Registration is in the fall with three academic terms of ten weeks. Their Performing Company has performances in April. Call for information.

**Location:** They are currently meeting in the New English School in Jabriya.  
☎: 562-2136 - Mrs.Andi Hicks.

**KUWAIT ZOO:** A small pleasant zoo. Recently re-opened after extensive renovations. Young children enjoy it because they are close to the animals. They also love the train and small rides. The gift shop has some nice educational -type toys. It's between Fifth and Sixth rings just off Route 55. Open every day except Saturday from 8 AM to 8 PM.  
**Phone:** 473-3899.

**THE LITTLE JUNGLE:** A small private zoo located in Funaitees. It includes petting and hand feeding areas and rides on camels and ponies. You can arrange to have a party there or have them bring the animals to you! It also has a café. Admission is 250 fils per person, rides and clover for the animals is extra.  
**Location:** Off Route 30. Take Al Messilah Bridge and go away from the sea into Funaitees. Map available in CLO.  
**Hours:** April 1 to Sept. 16, weekends and holidays 4pm to midnight. Saturdays to Wednesdays 4:30 pm to 10:30 pm. Sept. 17 to 31 March - weekends and holidays 9 am to 11 pm and Saturdays through Wednesdays 2:30 pm to 10:30 pm.  
**Phone:** 390-2635.

**LITTLE LEAGUE:** Contact CLO for the current information. Little League has been active in Kuwait for many years.

**THE MOVIES:** Cinemas showing English-language films are available throughout the city. For schedules and location see: [www.kncc.com](http://www.kncc.com). All sex is censored out, but violence is not.

**NATIONAL MUSEUM:** It's on Gulf Road near the National Assembly building. Has several large buildings, but only a few are restored from the first Gulf War. In the building on the left as you go into the central square is a nice museum of traditional Kuwaiti culture. It includes life-sized dioramas of life in old Kuwait City that kids would like. The museum also has a planetarium with some English language shows. Open 8 am to noon and 4-7 pm.

**PARKS:** Many sections of the city have green areas and they are especially green at this time of the year. Here's one place to find playgrounds. It's also a nice place for a picnic. Mishref Park is a large park that is nearby.

**PAINTBALL KUWAIT:** An exciting sport for those who are more adventurous.  
**Location:** The Paintball field lies on the sea front right behind the Kuwait Towers (behind Aqua Park). The field consists of two castles, seventeen pro-ball obstacles (air-filled), four war-like ditches, grass platforms, and much more.  
**Phone:** 243-1101 **Internet:** <http://www.paintballkuwait.com/>

**THE SAS VIKING HEALTH CLUB:** Free with the Embassy badge. Includes a beach, outdoor pool, and indoor pool. Also offered are jacuzzis, steam rooms, and saunas for teens and adults. Tae-Kwan-do classes are offered for kids (for a fee). There are restaurants in the hotel and a café in the Health Club. There is also a free Maritime Museum and several large dhows to explore on the hotel grounds.

**SCIENTIFIC CENTER:** Located on Gulf Street at the end of Salmiya. Includes the aquarium, IMAX theatre, Discovery Place – a hands-on place for children, a dhow harbor, gift shop, and restaurant. Open Saturday through Wednesday from 9 am to 12:30 and 5 pm to 9:30 pm, Thursdays from 9 am to 9:30 pm, and Fridays from 2 pm to 9:30 pm. Look at their website: <http://www.tsck.org.kw> for show times and more information.

**SCOUTS:** U.S. Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts for all age children are available in Kuwait. Contact CLO if you would like to volunteer or join a troop.

**TOURISTIC ENTERPRISES ATTRACTIONS:** (on the web: [www.tec.com.kw](http://www.tec.com.kw)) this company operates most of the "tourist" attractions in town.

**AQUA PARK:** The park, opened in April 1996 and operates from April to November. There is plenty of fun to last for hours. No bikinis, please, though it is certainly a place the whole family can go. Mothers with small children seem to find weekday mornings the most enjoyable. Thursday is Family Day with a live band and contests for the children. NO SINGLE MAN ALLOWED unless accompanied by a woman as a "couple". Tuesday is Women's Day – that is, women and children (only boys under 10 years of age). There is a new Speed Zone Go-Kart Track for drivers age 13 years and above.  
**Location:** at the base of Kuwait Towers on Gulf Street.  
**Hours:** Daily 10:00am to 10:00pm, with a 1:30 to 3:30 maintenance break.  
**☎:** 243-1960.

**ENTERTAINMENT CITY:** Located very near Camp Doha. The theme park is divided into sections including a Tour of Europe, African Safari, Arab and Space Worlds. It has a variety of well-maintained rides including a large carousel, roller coaster and water log ride. Strollers are available as well as an array of fast food restaurants.

**Location:** Go north towards Jahra on ring 5 or 6, then on to Doha Port. Follow the signs for "Entertainment City".

**Hours:** In the Summer (April 1 – October 31) Sunday through Friday 4 pm to 12pm.

in the Winter: Sunday - Wednesday 3 PM to 11 PM, Thursday 10 AM to 10 PM, Friday 10 AM to 9 PM, Mondays are for ladies only.

**☎:** 487-1567, 487-3677

**GREEN ISLAND:** Located off Gulf Road. This is a large island park made from filled land off the coast, connected by a causeway. It has restaurants, walkways, flowers and trees, as well as an electronic arcade. It has a small pond with paddleboats, trampolines, bumper boats and other rides for younger children. You can also rent bikes. You'll do lots of walking, so go on a cool day.

**Hours:** Open daily from 3:00 to 11:00pm.

**ICE SKATING HALL:** It is off 1st Ring Road across Soor Street from the Ministries Complex. It has an Olympic-sized ice surface, a shoe changing room, a skating equipment store, a first aid center and Swenson's Ice Cream. Open from 8-1 in the mornings and 3-11PM. It can be very crowded after 8PM.

**KUWAIT TOWERS:** The most-known Kuwait landmark. The view is amazing from the main tower as it slowly revolves around to show you all of Kuwait City. There is an expensive restaurant on top and a reasonably priced café available on the viewing deck. Off Gulf Road near Dasman.

**MUSICAL FOUNTAIN:** A large illuminated fountain where the water jets go along with music. Located near downtown off First Ring, near the ice skating rink. Open 4-12 (at night) the fountain is surrounded with seating, cafeteria and playground for kids.

**AL-SHAAB GARDENS (OR SHAAB LEISURE PARK):** Located off Gulf Road near the big McDonald's. This is a large amusement park with many rides. It is open Saturday through Wednesday from 3 PM to midnight and Thursday and Friday from 10AM to midnight.