
Xth International Symposium of the AiST

KUWAIT



Travel booklet

1. General presentation of the symposium

Kuwait will be hosting the international symposium of the AIST, from the 14 until the 16 of November 2016. The discussions will deal with the "Benefits of dematerialisation within the exercise of Treasury missions".

2. Venue of the international symposium

The international symposium will be held in Kuwait City, capital of Kuwait. It will take place at the hotel « Sheraton Kuwait », located at 17 kilometres away from the international airport of Kuwait.

Location of the Symposium:

“SHERATON KUWAIT” Hotel

Fahd Al Salem Street
P.O Box 5902 Safat
13060 Kuwait
[website](#)

Accommodation:

The AIST will book the rooms for all participants during their entire stay according to the dates specified in the online registration form (contact details of the flight plan or stay dates if different from the travel dates).

Please fill in the registration form carefully, especially if your hotel stay dates differ from your travel dates.

Any change of dates or cancellations must always be immediately communicated to the AIST. Otherwise, the hotel will charge cancellation penalties to the participant.

The means of payment accepted at the hotel are cash (US dollars and Euros), and VISA international credit card. Other credit cards will be declined.

The hotel offers a currency exchange service at the reception (Euros and US dollars), and has an ATM, located in the main hall.

3. Financial terms

Accommodation:

The Ministry of Finance of Kuwait will cover accommodation for 3 delegates per country (or international organization) from Sunday 13 November (check-in) until Wednesday 16 November (check-out).

Other delegates will have to pay for accommodation themselves.

Catering:

The Ministry of Finance of Kuwait will cover catering for 3 delegates per member country (or international organization) from Sunday 13 November (evening, welcoming cocktail) to Wednesday 16 November (noon).

Moreover, it is up to each participant to take their dispositions to finance their stay at the Hotel Sheraton of Kuwait City, outside the covered time period.

AIST's rates:

The following rates will be applied for participants which are not covered by the Ministry of Finances of Kuwait, from Sunday 13 November (check-in) to Wednesday 16 November (check-out):

- 94 KWD per night for a single room (breakfast included), or around 281 euros (exchange rate of 21 September 2016)
- 326 KWD per night for a double room (breakfast included), or around 326 euros (exchange rate of 21 September 2016).

These rates are added to a service rate of 15%.

4. Your journey and your arrival in Kuwait City

Kuwait City is served by the international airport of Kuwait (IATA: KWI), located at 17 kilometres away from the city centre.

❖ Visa formalities

Each visitor must have a passport, valid at least six months after the date of entry into Kuwait.

Besides, the entry may be declined if the passport includes:

- An Israeli visa;
- An input buffer in Israel;
- An input buffer in Egypt or Jordan affixed to the Israeli border.

For your information, any traveller to Kuwait must have a visa.

Nationals of countries where Kuwait has a diplomatic representation:

Nationals of those countries have **two available options** to get the visitor visa:

Option 1: The visa can be requested at the diplomatic and consular representations of Kuwait.

Kuwaiti diplomatic representation in AIST member states

ALGERIA	Kuwaiti embassy in Algiers Rue Abdul Kader Qadush 2, Hydra - Algiers Telephone: (+213) (21) 592 020 to 2
FRANCE	Kuwaiti embassy in Paris 2, rue de Lübeck - 75016 Paris Telephone: (+33) 1 47 23 54 25 Fax: (+33) 1 47 20 33 59
GABON	Kuwaiti embassy in Libreville Sablière (face à l'hôtel Etoile d'Or) - B.P. 904 - Libreville Telephone: (+241) 01 44 33 94
HUNGARY	Kuwaiti embassy in Budapest Székács utca 16 - 1122 - Budapest Telephone: (+36) 1 489 4300 Fax: (+36) 1 489 4300
LEBANON	Kuwaiti embassy in Beirut Rond-point du Stade - Bir Hassan - Beirut Telephone: (+961) (1) 822 515 to 7 Fax: (+961) (1) 842 220
MOROCCO	Kuwaiti embassy in Rabat Km. 4,3, Avenue Imam Malik - B.P. 11 - Souissi - Rabat Telephone: (+212) (537) 63 11 11 / (+212) (537) 75 17 75 / 6 Fax: (+212) (537) 75 35 91
MAURITANIA	Kuwaiti embassy in Nouakchott Nouadhibou Street - Nouakchott Telephone: (+222) 4525 4150 / (+222) 4525 4111

SENEGAL	Kuwaiti embassy in Dakar Boulevard Martin Luther King - X Aime Cesaire - Dakar Telephone: (+221) 338 241 723 / (+221) 338 698 989
SERBIA	Kuwaiti embassy in Belgrade Tolstojeva 42B - Belgrade Telephone: (+381) 11 2661 417 / (+381) 11 2661 414 Fax : (+381) 11 2668 462 / (+381) 11 2668 436
TUNISIA	Kuwaiti embassy in Tunis 32, Rue Al Mansoura - 1004 El Menzah IV - BP316 – Tunis Telephone: (+216) 71 754 556 / (+216) 71 754 843 Fax: (+216) 71 767 659 / (+216) 71 766 811
UKRAINE	Kuwaiti embassy in Kiev 19, Obolonska Naberezhna Str., Building 1 - Kyiv 04053 Telephone: (+380) 44 391 51 60 Fax: (+380) 44 391 51 64
VIETNAM	Kuwaiti embassy in Hanoi 10, Le Hong Phong Street - Ba Dinh District - Hanoi Telephone: (+84) 4 38 48 99 55 / 66 / 77 Fax: (+84) 4-3848 9933

Option 2: The visa can be obtained at the arrival at the airport. Concerned participants will address a copy of page 2 and 3 of their passport (identification and photography pages) before the deadline, on **20th October** to:

- The president of the host committee of the symposium, Mr. Abdulghaffar AL AWADHI at the following email address: jsahly@mof.gov.kw, asagheer@mof.gov.kw
- A copy shall be addressed to the General Secretary of the AIST at the following email address: aist@aist-tresor.com

Nationals of countries where Kuwait has no diplomatic representation

Concerned participants must address a copy of page 2 and 3 of their passport (identification and photography pages) before the deadline, on **20 October** to:

- The president of the host committee of the symposium, Mr. Abdulghaffar AL AWADHI at the following email address: jsahly@mof.gov.kw, asagheer@mof.gov.kw
- A copy shall be addressed to the General Secretary of the AIST at the following email address: aist@aist-tresor.com

List of AIST member states where Kuwait has no diplomatic representation:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| – BENIN | – DJIBOUTI |
| – BURKINA FASO | – IVORY COAST |
| – CAMEROON | – GUINEA |
| – CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC | – HAITI |
| – CHAD | – MADAGASCAR |
| – COMOROS | – MALI |
| – CONGO | – NIGER |
| – DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO | – TOGO |

❖ Your transfer to the « Sheraton Kuwait » hotel



You will be welcomed upon your arrival at Kuwait City's airport by a welcoming team of the Organizing Committee of Kuwait's Ministry of Finance.

A sign bearing the AIST logo will help you to easily find the welcoming team at the airport.

The team will also accompany you through the administrative formalities at your entry into the Kuwaiti territory.

Notice that the quality of the reception at the airport will depend on the flight details you previously sent us, such as:

- Date and time of arrival;
- Airline company;
- Flight number.

Any potential modification or cancellation of your flight plans should thus be immediately communicated:

- To the AIST Secretariat General at the following email address: aist@aist-tresor.com
- With a copy of the email to: isahly@mof.gov.kw, asagheer@mof.gov.kw.

The transfer from the international airport of Kuwait to the hotel will be taken care of by the Organizing Committee, at your arrival, as well as on your departure date (2 hours before your flight boarding schedule).

❖ Custom formalities

Kuwait is an alcohol free country. The importation of alcoholic beverages of any type is strictly prohibited. Visitors are however allowed to import 500 cigarettes or 2 pounds of tobacco products (about 900 grams) tax free. Moreover, videos, DVDs and books are subject to censorship and the penalties for smuggling contraband are very severe.

❖ Health formalities

Being up-to-date with its immunisation against diphtheria-tetanus-polio is recommended.

Depending on hygiene conditions and the length of stay, vaccination against typhoid fever, viral hepatitis A and hepatitis B are strongly recommended.

A screening test for HIV infection may be required at the entrance into the country.



5. Your stay in Kuwait City

❖ Health services

Participants of the symposium have to cover all costs related to the use of health services. It is therefore essential that you are equipped with a personal health insurance before your arrival in Kuwait.

Prescription medicines are available in pharmacies with the original or a copy of the doctor's prescription.

Emergency services:

-  Emergency number: 112
-  Fire department: 100 & 105

Hospitals:

Al Seef Hospital

Ras Al-Salmiya
Kuwait City – 36904
Phone: 00 965 1 881 122

British Medicafe Centre

Salman Al Dabous Bldg
Ahmadi Expressway
Kuwait City – 1875
Phone: 00 965 3 713 100

❖ Climate

In November Kuwait enjoys a good amount of sunshine. The average temperatures vary between 25°C and 30°C.

❖ Money and banking

The currency is the Kuwaiti Dinar.

Money can be exchanged in all the commercial banks and exchange offices in Kuwait. Credit cards such as American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa are accepted everywhere in the country and traveller's checks are widely accepted. ATMs are widespread throughout the country and accept all major credit cards as well as Cirrus.

Banks are open from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. from Sunday to Thursday.

❖ Time zone

The official time of the country is UTC/GMT +3

❖ Dialling code

The dialling code of Kuwait is « 00 965 ».

Example: for a call from overseas, dial 00 965. xxxxxxxx.

❖ Electrical voltage

Voltage in Kuwait is 220 V. Plugs and sockets are NOT the same as in Europe. Adapters are widely available in stores.

If an electronic device requires a different voltage, an electric transformer is necessary.

❖ Language

The official language of Kuwait is Arabic. English is widely spoken and understood.

Kuwait



Kuwait is a small state in the Middle East, overlooking the Arabian Gulf Persian, wedged between Iraq in the north and Saudi Arabia in the south. The Bay of Kuwait City, the capital, is the only natural harbour in the Gulf that hosts many cargo ships, tankers and yachts.

Besides the beautiful beaches along the Arabian Gulf, the rest of Kuwaiti territory consists of a vast desert plain. The country has no interior waterholes neither does it have rivers nor lakes or other natural reserves.

Nine small islands are attached to the Kuwaiti coast. Bubiyan is the biggest one,

connected to the mainland by a bridge. Failaka, with its Greek ruins, is the most well-known. Reopened to the public, its houses in ruins are reinvested by some fishermen. In the upcoming years, Failaka surely will become one of the major touristic attractions of the country alongside Kuwait City.

Kuwait City symbolizes the harmonious coexistence of traditional Arab culture with ultra-modernity. The city is a juxtaposition of buildings and mosques, oversized malls and traditional souks, luxury hotels and museums with their collections of Islamic art and Bedouin tapestries. In other words, Kuwait City is a bustling city where you can meet people bearing the guthra and Kuwaiti businessmen with briefcases.

The Kuwait Towers, three futuristic towers built in reinforced concrete, have become the visual signature of the country. Nearly 2.5 million people live in Kuwait. But, more than 50% of its population is composed of foreign workers from around the world. Therefore, even though the official language is Arabic, English is also widely spoken in Kuwait.

Spring is the best period to travel to Kuwait. Summers are extremely hot (+ 50°C in July and August), but the heat is dry. The winter months are cool in the evening but mild during the day with temperatures varying around 18°C. Dust storms occur throughout the year and are more frequent in spring.

Member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Kuwait is one of the richest countries when it comes to crude oil reserves. Indeed, Kuwait's underground contains 10% of the world oil reserves. The country's production amounts to 2.3 million barrels per day, but the country aims to achieve 4 million barrels per day in 2020. 90% of the government revenues come from oil. Therefore, the country wants to invest heavily to modernize its oil industry facilities.

Kuwait has undergone many impressive transformations which have harmoniously reconciled tradition and modernity. Between the warm waters of the Gulf and the mysteries of the desert, the souks and luxury shopping malls, Kuwait has much to offer and much more to unveil to its visitors.