

SANDY CAMPING

1. Read the text about holidays in Saudi Arabia.



Campsites in Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia is a country in the Middle East, Asia. Saudis prefer to live in modern cities with houses, stores and coffee shops. When they are on holidays, many families look forward to go camping in the desert far from traffic, crowds, and work or school. They usually leave early in the morning to beat the mid-day heat.

Saudi Arabia doesn't have campsites like America or Europe. Most campsites are a three-hour drive from the city where there are no highways or fast food restaurants for miles. Because there aren't any food stores in the desert, you have to bring everything with you in coolers. The camps don't offer any swimming pools, showers, playgrounds, or hiking trails.

Dining in the desert

A good desert breakfast includes hard-boiled eggs, peanut butter and honey sandwiches, a thick yoghurt, fruit, olives, and tea and milk to drink. Saudis make lunch over a fire pit constructed of a combination of coal and sticks. *Kapsa* is the national dish, and it's their favourite on camping trips. It's made with chicken or lamb, rice, vegetables, and special seasonings. Saudis also enjoy salads with their lunches. Very often, they eat a snack or a dessert of cheesecake or traditional honey cake in the afternoon. At around ten in the evening they enjoy a fine Saudi barbeque. They grill chicken and lamb and on the side they eat salad and a spread made with roasted eggplant and enjoy fruit drinks.

Fun in the desert

Children love camping. Their days are filled with games. Kids shoot marbles, slap down dominoes, and play card games. Everyone loves football. In the evenings, families and friends sit around campfires singing songs. Sometimes, grandparents tell interesting stories of the time when they were children. Saudi Arabia was famous for storytelling in the days before TV and the Internet.

2. Now answer the questions.

1. How long does it take the Saudis to get to a campsite by car?

2. Where do the Saudis keep their food?

3. What do the Saudis use to make a fire?

4. Which meat do the Saudis put in *Kapsa*?

5. Where in the camp do the families meet in the evening?

6. What are grandparents' stories about?
