

Hajj Step by Step

by Sheikh Omar Suleiman

Before You Go:

1. Renew intentions
2. Meet friends and family and ask for forgiveness
3. Pay all debts
4. Prepare Your Will

Preparation Tips:

1. Prescription medication: Amoxicillin or Zithromax
2. OTC Medication: Tylenol, Pepto-Bismol, Sudafed, Chloraseptic spray, Vitamin C pills
3. Vaseline to apply to the inner thighs (very important)
4. Light material thobes and plastic slippers (buy in Makkah/Medina) what kind is allowed?
5. Keep your Ihram towels in carryon not checked in luggage because it may get lost
6. Extra Ihram towels, safety pins, and Ihram Belt (can buy in Medina)
7. One credit card and ATM card for emergencies and small cash
8. Hajj guide (should be given to you at airport)
9. Unscented baby wipes and hand sanitizer (have one pack and buy the rest in Madinah)
10. Grocery bags, Ziploc bags, toilet paper (Can buy from there)
11. Gatorade packets to avoid dehydration
12. "Yoga mat" for Muzdallifah (Can buy from here or Bin Dawood there)
13. Shoe bag but not necessarily for shoes (ask your group if they're providing one)
14. Very thick socks for Tawaf outside of Ihram
15. Travel as light as possible and do not bring valuables with you!
16. Saudi Sim-card (Some groups provide them, process is more complicated now)
17. Don't be a tourist/photographer
18. Make 2 copies of your passport. Keep one at home and one with someone in the US.
19. PATIENCE AND A POSITIVE ATTITUDE! THINGS WILL NOT GO 100% SMOOTH IN HAJJ NO MATTER WHAT PACKAGE OR GROUP YOU ARE IN!
20. Do not do what everybody else is doing at Hajj because much of it is wrong

Key Definitions:

Rukn (pillar): Obligatory and if not done then the Hajj is invalid

Wajib (mandatory action): Obligatory but if not done then the Hajj will be valid and the person must offer a Fidya

Sunnah (desirable action): If a person does it then he is rewarded, if not then he will not be punished and his Hajj is valid with no need of Fidya.

Manasik (rituals): These are the rituals of the 5 days of Hajj

Thanb (sacrifice): (compensation): This is the mandatory animal sacrifice done for missing a wajib.

Fidya (Expiation): This is the expiation given for doing one of the prohibited things in Ihram. It can be any one of the following 3 things without any preference: 1. Offer an animal sacrifice 2. Fast 3 days whenever you return home 3. Feed 6 needy people (very easy to do in Hajj)

Ihram: State of being mandatory for Umrah and some parts of Hajj. This state has conditions and prohibitions.

Meeqat: Point from which you make the intention for Hajj or Umrah and enter into Ihram before entering Makkah.

Tamattu: The most preferred method of Hajj. Do Umrah and Hajj with a break from Ihram in between.

Qiran: Combined Hajj and Umrah with one Ihram.

Ifrad: Hajj without Umrah

Hady (Sacrifice): This is the animal sacrifice on the day of Eid if doing Tamattu or Qiran. It will be done by someone else and you will have a coupon to verify it.

Talbiyah (chant): LabaykAllahuma labayk, labayka la shareeka laka labayk. Innal hamda, wanni'mata, laka wal mulk, la shareeka lak (Here I am, O Allah, here I am. Here I am, You have no partner, here I am. Verily all praise and blessings are Yours, and all sovereignty, You have no partner.)

Ihram, Meeqat, and Talbiyah

The sunnah's of entering into Ihram at the meeqat

1. Bathe yourself (men and women)
2. Trim your moustache, armpit, pubic hair, and nails
3. Apply perfume
4. Wear the Ihram towels

Passing the Meeqat through Madinah, do the above things BEFORE you leave Madinah but without intention of entering Ihram. The intention can only be made at the Meeqat.

Passing the Meeqat in the plane, the pilot will announce that you are passing over the meeqat (approximately 30 minutes before landing)

1. At that point YOU MUST make intention for ihram, say labaykAllahuma bi Umra (if missed then sacrifice required)
2. If doing on behalf of someone else then say "labayka a'an (name of person)
3. Pray 2 rakaats
4. What about women on their menses: they do everything including ihram but do not pray or do tawaf.

Now that you are in a state of Ihram, you are subject to a number of prohibitions. Unintentional things are forgiven. You must not intentionally:

1. Wear sewn clothes that fit limbs (men only) (requires Fidya)
 - Underwear not sinful for those with urinary incontinence but still gives Fidya
 - Blankets are permissible and may be necessary in Mina/Muzdaliffa
 - Umbrellas, watches, rings, identification tag, stitched belt, sandals that don't cover ankle are all ok
 - If you suffer from cold in mina or Muzdaliffa
2. Cut or pluck hair (men and women) (requires Fidya)
 - Does not include unintentional shedding through combing
3. Clip nails (men and women) (requires Fidya)
 - Does not include broken nails by accident
4. Cover your face with niqab (women) (requires Fidya)
 - Women can wear something that isn't niqab and isn't affixed to the face
5. Cover your head (requires Fidya)
6. Wear perfume (requires Fidya)
 - Showers still okay
 - Perfumed soap is amongst the doubtful things so better to avoid

7. Kiss or touch spouse provocatively (major istighfar and some scholars say sacrifice also)
8. Engage in sexual intercourse (Hajj is invalidated)
9. Entering into a marriage contract (Istighfar)
10. Hunting (a comparable animal should be given as a penalty)
11. Insects can be killed.

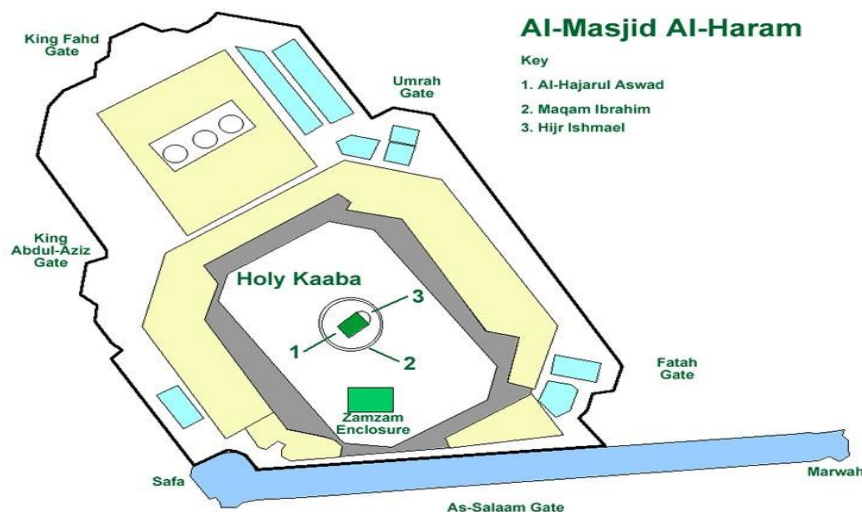
There are five animals that are all Fawasiq and should be killed while not in Ihram and while in Ihram: the crow, the kite (a kind of bird), the scorpion, the mouse, and the ferocious dog. [1] In another narration, the Messenger of Allaah mentioned six, the sixth one being the snake. Insect repellants not permissible

12. Cutting down trees in the Sacred Precinct (requires Fidyah)

Talbiyah

Continue reciting the talbiyah as much as possible individually until you reach the haram without waiting for a guide to do so. Men should do so in a loud voice and women in a low voice. Should not be done with a leader in unison.

Performing the Umrah



Tawaaf Al Qudoom (the first Tawaaf)

1. Wudu is required for tawaaf according to the strongest opinion
2. Expose your right shoulder (only for tawaaf al qudoom)
3. Enter into the Haram through any gate and look for the green light to start
4. Enter with your right foot
5. Recite: "Bismillaah wa'l-salaatu wa'l-salaam 'ala Rasool-Allaah. Allaahumma ighfir li dhunoobi waftah li abwaab rahmatika. A'oodhu Billaah il-'Azeem wa bi wajhih il-kareem

wa bi sultaanih il-'qadeem min al-Shaytaan il-rajeem (In the name of Allaah, and blessings and peace be upon the Messenger of Allaah. O Allaah, forgive me my sins and open to me the gates of Your mercy. I seek refuge with Allaah the Almighty and in His noble Countenance and His eternal power from the accursed Satan)."

6. Tawaaf replaces the 2 rakats of entering masjid (for other times entering, you can just pray 2 rakats)
7. Align yourself with the black stone, face it and make takbeer and signal towards it with your right hand if you cannot kiss it or touch it.
8. Proceed to make tawaaf with the kaaba on the left side counterclockwise.
9. The first 3 circuits of the first tawaaf should be done faster paced but impractical to try to run.
10. Keep shoulder exposed throughout all 7 circuits
11. The 7 circuits of tawaaf should not be interrupted. If you need to leave and come back, then start over unless you have a hardship (ie. urinary incontinence)
12. If you doubt how many circuits you've completed, then take the certain number
13. If prayer interrupts, you don't need to start over
14. If you can touch the yamani corner which is the corner before the black stone, then do so with your right hand. Do not kiss it if you're close to it or signal towards it if you're far away.
15. Between the yamani corner and black stone, say rabbana atina fil dunya hasana, wa fil akhirati hasana, wa qina 3athabal nar (Oh Allah grant us good in this life, and good in the hereafter, and protect us from hellfire.)
16. Other than this dua, there are no other prescribed duas for tawaaf. Make dua as an individual in whatever language you want and do not join in group dua or follow some of the books which have innovated duas.
17. After you complete your seventh circuit of tawaaf, go to maqam Ibrahim. Place it between yourself and the kaaba and you can go as far as you want away as long as you are somewhat aligned with it. Cover your shoulder then recite: "wat takhithoo min maqaamee ibraheema musalla" (and take the station of Ibrahim as a place of prayer.) Then pray 2 rakats reciting silently with suratul kafiroon in the first rakaat and suratul ikhlaas in the second. If too crowded, you can pray these 2 rakaats anywhere in the haram.
18. Then proceed to drink zam zam and take a break if you want before Sa'i

Sa'i

1. Go to the second or third floor, it's much easier.
2. When you approach al-Safa', you should recite "Innal Safaa wal Marwata min shaairillah.. (Verily, As-Safa and Al-Marwah (two mountains in Makkah) are of the Symbols of Allaah) [al-Baqarah 2:158])

3. Then say: “abda’u bima bada’a Allaah bihi (We start with that with which Allaah started).”
4. Then climb al-Safa until you can see the Ka’bah, then face it and raise your hands as in dua not salat and praise Allaah, and make du’aa’ as you wish. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) used to say: “Laa ilaaha ill-Allaah wahdahu laa shareeka lah, lahu’l-mulk, wa lahu’l-hamd, wa huwa ‘ala kulli shay’in qadeer. Laa ilaaha ill-Allaah wahdah, anjaza wa’dah, wa nasara ‘abdah, wa hazamaa al-ahzaaba wahdah (There is no god but Allaah alone, with no partner or associate; His is the Dominion, all praise is due to Him, and He is able to do all things. There is no god but Allaah alone; he fulfilled His promise, granted victory to His slave, and defeated the confederates alone).” Narrated by Muslim, 1218.
5. Repeat from laa ilaha ilAllah onwards every time you reach marwa and safa afterwards. Repeat that three times, and make your own du’aa’ in between but not after the third time.
6. Proceed to walk towards al marwa and rush between the 2 green markers without disturbing anyone.
7. Finish 7 circuits (one way) ending at al marwa where the exit is. DON’T DO 14

Exiting Ihram

1. Now you can exit Ihram and go back to normal until the 8th of dhul hijjah.
2. Have your hair TRIMMED but not shaved as you will need to leave enough to be cut after exiting the ihram of Hajj. Note: It’s better to have your own clippers and do this in the hotel.
3. Women should cut off the tip of the finger’s length of hair, basically ¼” or ½” from the end of the hair.
4. Everything has become halal for you that was halal before Ihram until the 8th of dhul hijjah.
5. BIG MISTAKE: Going to Taneem and making multiple Umrahs. Never done by the prophet (saw) or the companions. Use your extra time in Makkah to get prepared for the big day of Arafat and make nafl Tawaafs as much as you can. Do not miss a single salat in jamaat as it is 100,000 times greater in Makkah than anywhere else!
6. Make it a point to rest up before Hajj. Most people get exhausted with nawafil before Hajj.

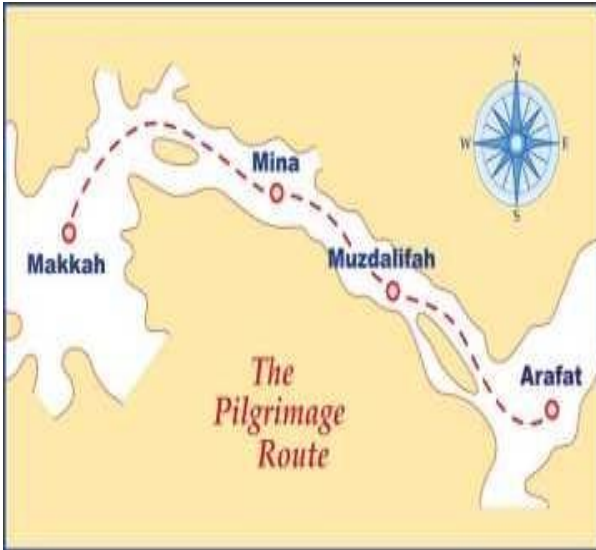
8th day of dhul hijjah

1. Repeat all of the sunnahs you did for Ihram in Umrah and declare your intention for Hajj
2. Say: LabaykAllahuma bi Hajjin
3. Ideally you reach Mina in the day, but with the traffic it might not be till late and that is fine
4. When you reach Mina you will pray all prayers shortened but not joined
5. Try to get a good night sleep for the big day tomorrow! Think of the Duas you want to make in Arafat as this is a once in a lifetime opportunity!
6. IMPORTANT NOTE: Bathrooms will be terrible for the rest of Hajj so try to avoid foods that make you go. Take something to hold your stomach if you want. Do not accidentally take a laxative!
7. IMPORTANT NOTE 2: Memorize Your Tent Number in Mina! No one will be helpful these days.

9th day of dhul hijjah

1. Depart from Mina for Arafat getting there hopefully before dhuhur
2. Pray dhuhur and asr combined and shortened
3. I do not recommend try to go to masjid namira because you will waste a lot of time getting in and out of the crowd
4. Do not waste a single moment of these hours making dua
5. Do not be fooled by a guide and be led to a special place, stay close to your tent so that you don't get lost
6. Listen carefully to the khutbah and Arafat and do not talk during it. It is not like Jumah khutbah but it is sunnah and you want to make sure you take advantage of these moments.
7. The prophet (saw) said: "The best thing I and the prophets have said on the eve of Arafat is: la ilaha ilAllah wahdahu la shareeka lah, lahul mulku wa lahul hamd, wa huwa ala kulle shayin qadeer
8. There is no basis in the sunnah for congregational or group dua in Arafat so make it personal.
9. Leave for muzdallifah after the sun sets. If you can walk then do so.`
10. Make Takbeer, Tahleel, and Thikr
11. Pray both maghrib and isha in muzdallifa joined and combined.
12. The priority is rest if you can.
13. Collect the stones for the jamarat (collect atleast 80 small hummus sized pebbles). This can be done in Mina also.

14. No matter what package you're with (under 17k), everyone in Muzdalifah sleeps on the ground outside. This is where a small "yoga mat" comes in handy.



10th day of dhul hijjah

1. Pray Fajr at the beginning of its time
2. It is permissible for the women, elderly, and sick to leave before Fajr (after midnight) to avoid the crowd. If the group decides to do this, then we should follow.
3. We will then depart to Mina to stone Jamratul Aqaba with 7 stones.
4. Say Allahu Akbar with each stone
5. Try to walk around the crowds and not stand directly in front of the Jamra.
6. Stoning can be done any time after sunrise, preferably before noon
7. Animal will be sacrificed by the authorities as your coupon states.
8. You can leave Ihram after any 2 things: Tawaf, Stoning, Slaughter, Shaving/Cutting
9. Exit ihram, shower, and wear perfume.
10. We will then head to Makkah sometime that day or soon after to do Tawaaf Al Ifadah which is a Rukn of Hajj. The man and the woman must observe this. It is the same way as the first Tawaaf but without uncovering the shoulder or running in the first 3 circuits. If you did tamattu which we will do, then you should also do Sa'i. **This does not have to be done on the 10th and I personally recommend the night of the 11th.**
11. The prophet (saw) allowed for any sequence of these events on the 10th of dhul hijjah (bukhari)
12. Important Note: What about women on their menses? They stone, cut their hair, and are released from Ihram and wait for Ifada.

11th – 13th of Dhul Hijjah

1. This entire time will be in Mina. Half of the night must be spent in Mina.
2. Every day you will stone the 3 jamarat each with 7 stones
3. The time of stoning is after dhuhur (diff. of opinion on ending)
4. It is not sunnah to go to Makkah during this time and most people get bored so use time wisely.
5. The sick can have others throw on their behalf

Tawaaf Al Wadaa (farewell)

1. This can be done anytime afterwards and the intention can be combined with Tawaaf Al Ifaadha if not returning to Makkah according to some narrations.
2. It should be the last thing you do in Makkah (ie. no shopping, chit chat afterwards.)
What about food?
3. There is no Sa'iy this time
4. What about voluntary Tawafs?

Women's Issues

1. Ayesha (ra) had her menses on her way at a place called Sarif, so the Prophet (peace be upon him) entered upon her while she was crying, and he asked her: "What's wrong with you? Perhaps you are in menses." She replied: "Yes oh Messenger of Allah." Thereupon, the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: "This is something that Allah had predestined for the daughters of Adam."
2. 15 days maximum length of a period and 13 days minimum length of purity
3. Taking Pills to Delay Menstruation (Abdullah Ibn Omar (ra) on arak water)
4. What if period comes any way at its time? Spotting?
5. Time to leave and period still there?
6. If the woman assumes Ihram in tamattu and time of hajj comes, she switches to Qiran.

Madinah

1. Make the intention to pray in the Masjid of the Prophet (salAllahu alayhi wa salam)
2. **"Between my house and my minbar is a Rawdah garden of Jannah."** [Agreed upon]
3. Appoint 1 day for the marketplace (personal advice as many people waste ALL of medina in souq).
4. Try to catch the janazas by praying on one of the left gates of the mosque and rushing to the baqee graveyard after salaah.

5. Simply pass by the Prophets (saw) grave and say “asalaamu alaika ya rasulAllah.” And then say salaam to Abu Bakr and Omar and move on. Do not make dua to Him (saw) but rather to Allah.
6. Authentic Hadeeth by Said Bin Mansoor: The Prophet (saw) said “Do not make my grave an Eid, and make Salat upon me wherever you are and it will reach me.” Therefore we don’t have to keep visiting the grave of the prophet (saw) for the sake of doing so or carry a list of people who told us to convey salaam.
7. To do Wudu in madinah and go to Masjid Quba and offer 2 rakaats is sunnah and equals the reward of Umrah
8. Visiting site of Uhud is also sunnah.

May Allah accept all your intentions and prayers. We look forward to have you join us!

Looking forward to serve you on this Holy Journey.

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