NOOR UMRAH TRAVELS

Best Time to Perform Umrah – Complete Month by Month Guide (2026)

Best time to perform Umrah? Month-by-month 2026 guide with weather, crowds, prices & Ramadan dates. Get UK timing tips—plan now.

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The **best time to perform Umrah** isn't one single date on a calendar. And that's the beauty of Umrah. Unlike Hajj (which has fixed days), you can do Umrah almost any time of the year.

But timing still changes *everything*. Price can jump by hundreds. Heat can go from "nice" to "hard work". And crowd levels can turn a calm Tawaf into a long, slow shuffle.

So in this 2026 guide, we'll walk you through every month. We'll share weather for Makkah and Madinah, crowd levels, UK school holiday impact, and a simple "should I go?" verdict. We'll also include Ramadan and Hajj dates for 2026 and 2027.

Quick answer from what we see every year: **January and February** are best overall. They're cool, quiet, and often the cheapest. **Ramadan** is the most spiritual. And **September and November** are amazing value months from the UK.

If you’d like help matching dates to budget, View our Umrah packages. We’ll keep it simple and honest.

And if you’re comparing seasons and hidden costs, our team put it all in one place here: how much Umrah costs by season.



best time to perform Umrah month by month guide with Kaaba and a 12-month calendar overlay

Best Time for Umrah at a Glance

Here’s the fast summary. Then we’ll go month by month.

Priority	Best Months	Why
□□ Cheapest	January, February, November	Off-peak demand, lower flights and hotel rates
□□ Most Spiritual	Ramadan (varies yearly)	Umrah in Ramadan has the reward of Hajj (hadith)
□□ Best Weather	November, December, January, February	Comfortable temps for walking and worship

Priority	Best Months	Why
□□ Least Crowded	January, February, May, September	Quieter Haram, shorter Tawaf time
□□□□□□□ Best for Families (UK)	December, Easter, Half Term	Matches school holidays (but prices rise)
⚖ Best Overall	January or February	Cheap + mild + quiet

Now, here’s the thing. “Best” depends on your life. Work leave. Kids’ school. Health. Budget. So let’s break it down properly.

Umrah Month by Month – Complete Guide

Let’s keep this practical.

For each month, we’ll give you weather, crowds, prices, and a clear verdict. These are typical ranges we see year to year in Saudi Arabia.

January — □ Recommended

Makkah weather: 18–30°C (mild).

Madinah weather: 10–22°C (cool nights).

Crowd level: □□ Low.

Price level: □□ Cheapest.

UK school holidays: None (term time).

Verdict: This is the best month overall for many UK pilgrims. Flights are often cheaper. Hotels near the Haram are easier to get. And Tawaf can feel calm and focused.

Bring a light jacket for Madinah evenings. You’ll thank yourself.

February — □ Recommended

Makkah weather: 19–31°C.

Madinah weather: 12–24°C.

Crowd level: □□ Low.

Price level: □□ Cheapest (with a brief bump).

UK school holidays: Half term (about 1 week).

Verdict: Very close to January. It’s still one of the best times to go Umrah from the UK. If you can avoid the half-term week, do it. Prices can jump fast during those few days.

And yes, we see it every year.

March

Makkah weather: 22–34°C (warming).

Madinah weather: 15–28°C.

Crowd level: □□ Medium (can rise if Ramadan starts).

Price level: □□ Medium (or higher near Ramadan).

UK school holidays: Usually none (unless Easter is early).

Verdict: A solid month if it’s not Ramadan time. You’ll get good weather and decent value. But if Ramadan falls in March, expect big crowds and higher prices.

If you’re unsure about rituals, read our step-by-step first: how to perform Umrah.

April

Makkah weather: 25–37°C (getting hot).

Madinah weather: 18–32°C.

Crowd level: □□ Medium to □□ High (Ramadan/Easter overlap can happen).

Price level: □□ Medium to □□ High.

UK school holidays: Easter (about 2 weeks).

Verdict: April is often busy for UK families. Easter adds demand. If Ramadan overlaps too, it can be intense. Still, many people love this time for the spiritual feel.

If you’re planning April travel, it helps to pick the right hotel distance. A “close” hotel can save your legs in heat.

May

Makkah weather: 30–42°C (hot).

Madinah weather: 22–36°C.

Crowd level: □□ Low (often a post-Ramadan lull).

Price level: □□ Cheap.

UK school holidays: Half term (about 1 week).

Verdict: May is a hidden gem. Crowds often thin out. Prices can drop. But the heat is real, so plan your worship times.

Note on Shawwal: Shawwal is the Islamic month after Ramadan. Many pilgrims like it because the rush eases. It feels lighter.

June

Makkah weather: 33–44°C (very hot).

Madinah weather: 25–40°C.

Crowd level: □□ Medium (summer starts).

Price level: □□ Medium.

UK school holidays: Start late June in many areas.

Verdict: It’s doable. But it’s tough in the day. Most people do Tawaf after ‘Isha or near Fajr. That’s when it’s cooler.

If you’re travelling with parents, be careful with June heat. It can wipe people out.

July

Makkah weather: 34–45°C (extreme).

Madinah weather: 27–42°C.

Crowd level: □□ Medium-High (UK summer holidays).

Price level: □□ Medium-High.

UK school holidays: Full summer break.

Verdict: July is often chosen because families have no choice. That’s fine. Just plan smart. Rest mid-day. Use shaded routes. Drink water often.

Also, keep an eye on Hajj timing. Umrah isn’t allowed during the Hajj days. We’ll cover that below.



Makkah weather by month temperature guide with thermometer icons and seasonal colours

August

Makkah weather: 34–45°C.

Madinah weather: 27–42°C.

Crowd level: □□ Medium (holidays continue).

Price level: □□ Medium.

UK school holidays: Full summer break.

Verdict: Similar to July. It’s hot. Very hot. Late August can be slightly cheaper as families prep for school return.

Pack light clothes for outdoors. Also pack a thin layer for air-con indoors.

September — □□ Good Value

Makkah weather: 32–43°C (cooling slowly).

Madinah weather: 25–38°C.

Crowd level: □□ Low.

Price level: □□ Cheap.

UK school holidays: None (term has started).

Verdict: This is one of our favourite value months. Prices drop fast once UK schools go back. The Haram can feel peaceful again. Evenings are much easier too.

If you're watching your budget, pair September with a good-value stay option. Our 4 star umrah packages are often great in this month.

October

Makkah weather: 27–38°C (nice evenings).

Madinah weather: 20–33°C.

Crowd level: □□ Low to □□ Medium (half term bump).

Price level: □□ Cheap (except half term).

UK school holidays: Half term (about 1 week).

Verdict: October is a strong choice. Weather improves. Crowds stay low. Just avoid half term if you can. That one week can change the whole vibe.

If you're flying from the capital, see our UK planning notes here: Umrah packages from London.

November — □ Recommended

Makkah weather: 22–33°C (comfortable).

Madinah weather: 14–27°C (cool and lovely).

Crowd level: □□ Low.

Price level: □□ Cheapest.

UK school holidays: None.

Verdict: November is one of the best months, full stop. Weather is ideal. Crowds are calm. And prices tend to be low. It's great for first-timers, elders, and families too (if you can take a few days off school).

If you're comparing prices across the year, keep this open: full Umrah cost breakdown.

December — □□ Mixed

Makkah weather: 18–29°C (mild).

Madinah weather: 10–22°C (cold nights).

Crowd level: □□ Medium (UK Christmas break).

Price level: □□ Medium (rises late month).

UK school holidays: Christmas/New Year (about 2 weeks).

Verdict: Weather is beautiful. But late December can be busy and pricey due to school holidays. If you can go early December, do that. Madinah nights can feel properly cold, so pack layers.

Need a simple checklist? Here's our UK list: what to pack for each season.

Makkah & Madinah Weather by Month

Weather affects your energy more than people expect.

Makkah stays warm all year. Madinah can feel cold at night in winter. And summer heat (June to September) can be harsh outdoors.

Month	Makkah High (°C)	Makkah Low (°C)	Madinah High (°C)	Madinah Low (°C)	Rain?	Comfort
January	30	18	22	10	Rare	□ Excellent
February	31	19	24	12	Rare	□ Excellent
March	34	22	28	15	Rare	Good
April	37	25	32	18	Rare	Warm
May	42	30	36	22	None	Hot
June	44	33	40	25	None	Very hot
July	45	34	42	27	None	Extreme
August	45	34	42	27	None	Extreme
September	43	32	38	25	Rare	Hot

Month	Makkah High (°C)	Makkah Low (°C)	Madinah High (°C)	Madinah Low (°C)	Rain?	Comfort
October	38	27	33	20	Rare	Good
November	33	22	27	14	Rare	□ Excellent
December	29	18	22	10	Rare	□ Excellent

A few real-world tips we've learned from organising trips for UK pilgrims since 2016:

- **Air-con is strong** in hotels and inside the Haram. Bring a thin layer.
- **Madinah wind at night** can surprise you in December and January.
- **Flash rain** is rare, but it can happen in autumn. Keep sandals that won't slip.

If you're unsure what to pack for heat vs cool nights, keep this open: what to pack for each season.

When Is the Haram Least Crowded? Crowd Level Guide

Low crowds change your whole Umrah.

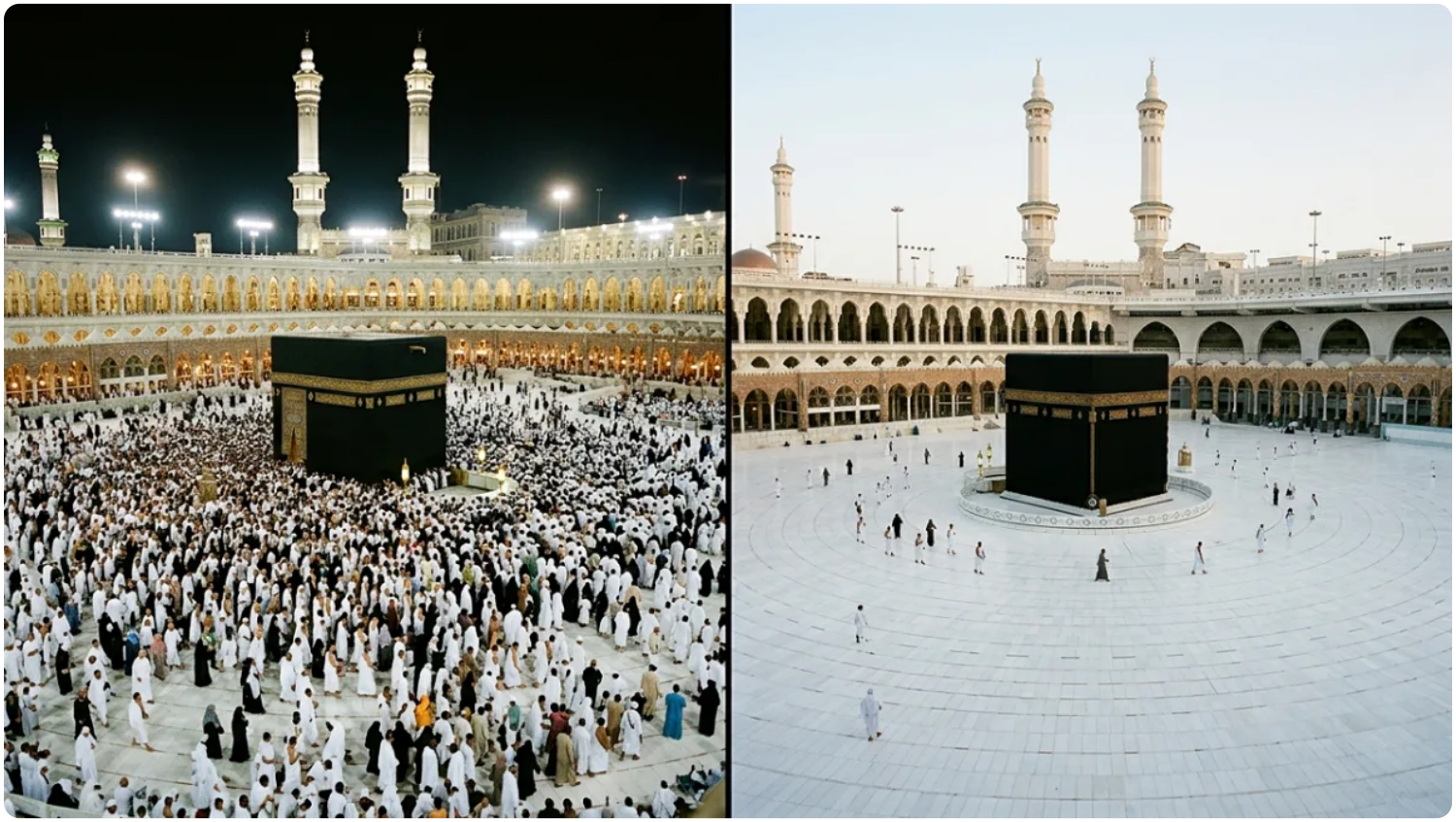
It's not just comfort. It's focus. It's less pushing. And it's easier for families and elders.

Period	Crowd Level	Why
Ramadan (varies)	□□□□□ Extremely busy	Mass global demand for Ramadan Umrah
Hajj period (8–13 Dhul Hijjah)	□□□□□ Closed for Umrah	Only Hajj pilgrims allowed
UK school summer holidays (Jul–Aug)	□□□ Medium-High	UK + Europe family travel
UK Easter holidays	□□ Medium	Two-week travel spike

Period	Crowd Level	Why
UK half terms (Feb, May, Oct)	□□ Medium	Short, sharp bumps
Shawwal (month after Ramadan)	□□□□ Low-Medium	Post-Ramadan drop
January–February	□□□□ Very low	Quiet season
September	□□□□ Very low	Schools back
November	□□□□ Very low	Great weather, low demand

What does “low crowds” mean in real life?

- Tawaf often takes **30–45 minutes**, not hours.
- Prayer spots are easier to find. That matters.
- Madinah visits feel calmer too, especially around Rawdah (bookings still apply).
- Hotel rates are usually lower.



Haram crowded Ramadan vs quiet January comparison showing Tawaf area

If you’re planning for a first Umrah and want calm, pair a quiet month with a simple plan. Our Complete Umrah Guide helps a lot.

When Is Umrah Cheapest? Price Guide by Month

Prices move with demand. Simple as that.

Flights from London, Manchester, and Birmingham tend to spike around UK holidays and Ramadan. Hotel rates near Masjid al-Haram do the same.

Month	Price Level	4-Star Package (approx.)	Why
January	□□□□ Cheapest	£750–£900 pp	Low demand
February	□□ Cheap	£800–£1,000 pp	Half term bump
March	□□ Medium	£900–£1,200 pp	Ramadan may fall here
April	□□□□ Medium-High	£1,000–£1,300 pp	Easter + possible Ramadan
May	□□ Cheap	£800–£950 pp	Post-Ramadan drop
June	□□ Medium	£900–£1,100 pp	Summer starts
July	□□ Medium-High	£950–£1,200 pp	Peak summer holidays
August	□□ Medium	£900–£1,100 pp	Late summer
September	□□□□ Cheapest	£750–£900 pp	Schools back
October	□□ Cheap	£800–£1,000 pp	Half term bump
November	□□□□ Cheapest	£750–£900 pp	Low demand
December	□□ Medium	£900–£1,100 pp	Christmas holidays

Money-saving tips we give clients every day:

- **Cheapest months:** January, September, November.
- **Most pricey:** Ramadan (whenever it falls) and peak summer weeks.
- **Book early:** Off-peak months still sell out for good hotels.
- **Family tip:** May half term and October half term are often the best-value school breaks.

If you want the full breakdown of what's included (and what catches people out), read: full Umrah cost breakdown.



Cheapest months for Umrah from UK shown on a planner with January September November highlighted

Umrah in Ramadan – Is It Worth It?

Ramadan Umrah hits the heart.

It's also the hardest month physically. Both things can be true.

The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said: "Umrah in Ramadan is equivalent to Hajj." (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim). That's why so many people aim for it.

The atmosphere in Masjid al-Haram at iftar, Taraweeh, and the last ten nights is hard to put into words. You feel the Ummah. You feel your own need. It's powerful.

Year	Ramadan Start (approx.)	Ramadan End (approx.)	Eid al-Fitr (approx.)
2026	~17 February 2026	~18 March 2026	~19 March 2026
2027	~7 February 2027	~8 March 2027	~9 March 2027

Note: Exact dates depend on moon sighting. They can shift by a day or two.

Pros of Umrah in Ramadan:

- Reward like Hajj (hadith).
- Unmatched spiritual feel in the Haram.
- Iftar in Makkah is special.
- Last ten nights and Laylatul Qadr.

Cons of Umrah in Ramadan:

- Very crowded. Expect long waits.
- Prices can be 30–50% higher.
- Tawaf can take 2–3 hours at peak times.
- Fasting plus walking can be tiring.
- Sleep is limited. That's the reality.

Our honest view: If it's your first Umrah, we often suggest an off-peak month first. You'll learn the flow. You'll feel calmer. Then, if Allah invites you again, do Ramadan with confidence.

If you're aiming for Ramadan in a future year, compare options here: Best Ramadan Umrah Packages UK 2026: Full Month vs Last 10 Nights.

When Can You NOT Do Umrah? Hajj Blackout Dates

This part matters a lot.

Umrah is not permitted during the actual days of Hajj. That's from the **8th to 13th of Dhul Hijjah**. Only Hajj pilgrims are allowed in that window.

Year	Hajj Period (approx.)	Dhul Hijjah Start (approx.)
2026	~26 May – 1 June 2026	~22 May 2026
2027	~16 May – 21 May 2027	~12 May 2027

Note: These dates depend on moon sighting. Always confirm closer to travel.

Practical advice from our ops team:

- Don’t book Umrah right on the edge of Hajj days. Travel can get messy.
- Prices often stay high for about two weeks before and after Hajj.
- Aim for at least a month before or after, if you can.

If you’re unsure how Hajj and Umrah differ, this clears it up: difference between Hajj and Umrah.

Best Islamic Months for Umrah — Spiritual Benefits

Some months feel different.

Not because Umrah is “only accepted” then. It’s accepted all year. But sacred months and Ramadan can add a special feel to your worship.

Islamic Month	Spiritual Significance for Umrah	Recommendation
Muharram	Sacred month, good deeds multiplied	Good
Safar	No specific virtue, no prohibition	Neutral
Rabi ul-Awwal	Month linked to the Prophet’s life	Good
Rabi ul-Thani	No specific virtue	Neutral
Jumada al-Awwal	No specific virtue	Neutral
Jumada al-Thani	No specific virtue	Neutral
Rajab	Sacred month	Good
Shabaan	Month of preparation before Ramadan	Good
Ramadan	Umrah in Ramadan equals Hajj in reward (hadith)	Best spiritual reward
Shawwal	After Ramadan, crowds often drop	Recommended
Dhul Qa'dah	Sacred month	Good
Dhul Hijjah	Sacred month (Hajj days excluded)	⚠ Avoid 8–13th

One reminder we say a lot: don’t delay Umrah waiting for the “perfect” month. If Allah has opened the door for you now, go. Many people plan for years and then life changes.

And if you want help building a simple plan, start here: Planning Umrah? Read This Complete Umrah Guide Before Booking Your Trip.

Best Time for Umrah by Pilgrim Type

Different people need different months.

So here’s a quick match-up we use when advising UK clients.

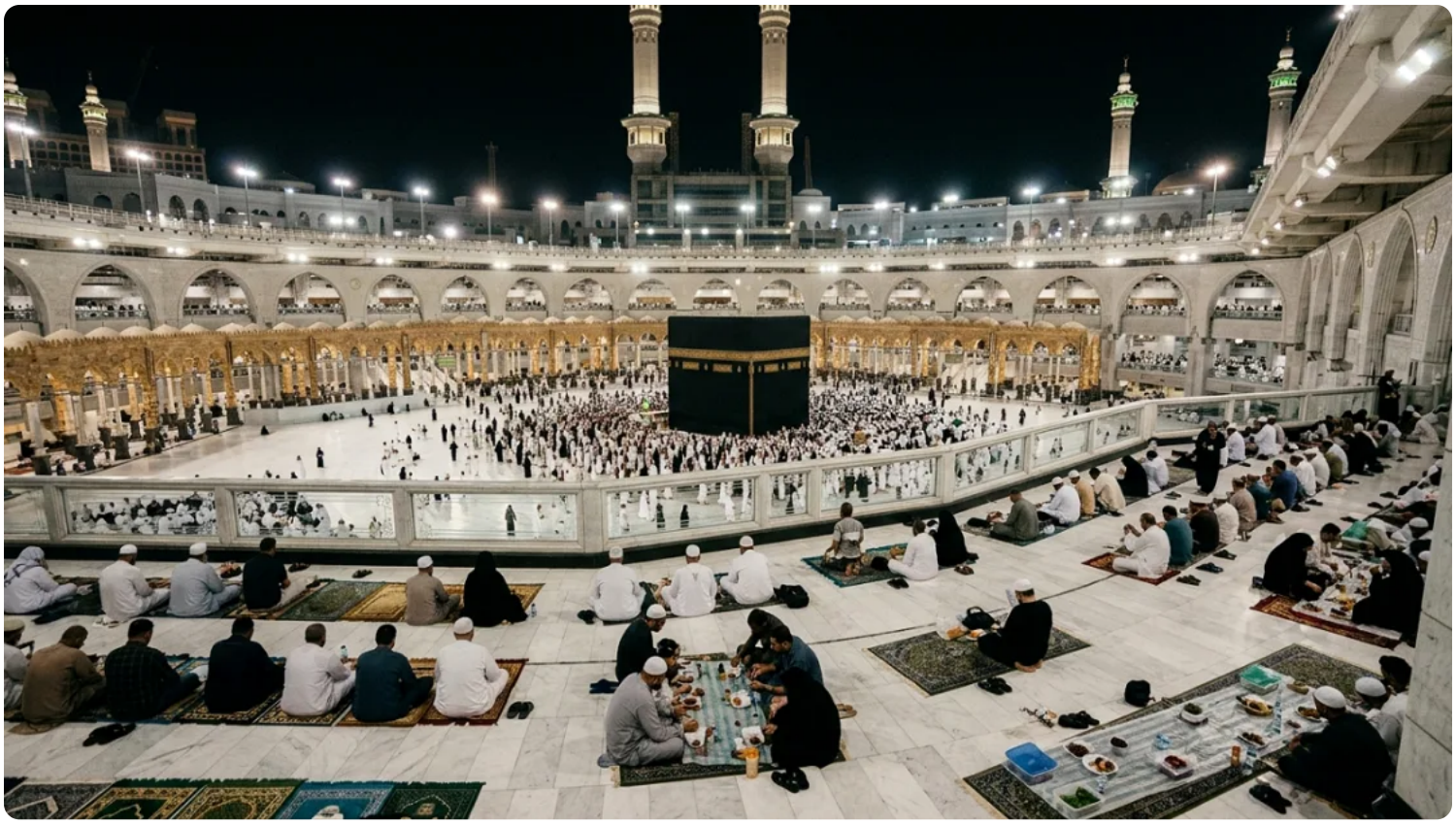
Pilgrim Type	Best Months	Why
First-timers	Jan, Feb, Nov	Quieter, easier to learn
Elderly / mobility needs	Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb	Mild weather, less pressure
Families with school kids	Easter, half terms, December	School leave (expect higher prices)
Budget travellers	Jan, Sep, Nov	Lowest flight + hotel demand
Spiritual focus	Ramadan	Reward and atmosphere
Repeat travellers	Ramadan or Shawwal	More ready for crowds
Couples (no kids)	Jan, Feb, Nov	Quiet, good value
Retirees	Any off-peak month	Flexibility = savings

Tip for UK families: If you’re tied to school holidays, May half term is often the sweet spot. It’s usually cheaper than Easter and summer. It can also be calmer than you’d expect.

If you’re travelling from the North, this city guide can help with timing too: packages from Manchester.

Frequently Asked Questions — Best Time for Umrah

We get asked these all the time. So we kept the answers clear.



Umrah in Ramadan Haram atmosphere at night with lights and worshippers

What is the best month to perform Umrah?

For most UK pilgrims, January and February are the best overall months. You'll often get the best prices, mild weather, and the quietest Haram. For spiritual reward, Ramadan is the top choice. November is also excellent for weather and value.

Can you do Umrah any time of year?

Yes. Umrah is open all year round, except during the days of Hajj (8th–13th Dhul Hijjah). Outside that window, you can perform Umrah in any Islamic month. That includes the rest of Dhul Hijjah too.

When is the cheapest time to do Umrah from UK?

January, September, and November are usually the cheapest. In those months, a 4-star package is often around £750–£900 per person. Prices rise in Ramadan and UK school holidays. If you want to compare properly, use our cost guide.

Is Umrah in Ramadan worth the extra cost?

Spiritually, yes. The reward is huge, and the atmosphere is special. But it’s also crowded, more expensive, and tiring. If it’s your first Umrah, an off-peak month can be a calmer first step.

How hot is Makkah in summer?

In June to August, Makkah can reach 43–45°C. Midday walking outdoors can be risky. Most pilgrims do Tawaf near Fajr or after ‘Isha when it’s cooler. And hotels and the Haram are air-conditioned.

When is the Haram least crowded?

January, February, and September are often the quietest. Tawaf can take 30–45 minutes in those months. In Ramadan, it can take 2–3 hours at peak times. The calmer months also feel more peaceful.

What are the Ramadan 2026 and 2027 dates?

Ramadan 2026 is estimated to start around 17 February 2026 and end around 18 March 2026. Ramadan 2027 is estimated to start around 7 February 2027 and end around 8 March 2027. Exact dates depend on moon sighting, so expect a small shift.

When is the best time to perform Umrah with children?

If you need school holidays, May half term is often best value. It’s usually cheaper than Easter and summer. December can also work, but late December gets busy. If you can take children out of school, November is ideal.

Is December a good time for Umrah?

Yes, especially for weather. Makkah is mild and pleasant, and Madinah is cool. But late December is pricier due to UK school holidays. Early December is often a better balance.

Can you do Umrah during Hajj season?

You can do Umrah in the wider Hajj season, but not during the Hajj days themselves (8th–13th Dhul Hijjah). Around that time, flights and hotels can still be affected. So it’s best to leave a buffer before and after.

Conclusion: Choose Your Month, Then Trust Allah

The best time to perform Umrah comes down to your priority.

For the cheapest trip, look at January, September, or November. For the greatest spiritual reward, Ramadan is unmatched. For the best weather, November through February is hard to beat. And for UK families, May half term is often the best-value school break.

But don’t wait forever. If you’re ready, go. The invitation itself is a gift.

If you want us to match your dates to the right options, you can Browse our Umrah packages or simply Tell us your preferred dates. We’ll guide you from there.

And when you’re preparing, keep these close too: how to perform Umrah and our UK packing list.

If you’re based in the Midlands, you may also like: packages from Birmingham.

Helpful next steps for UK pilgrims

If you want to turn this advice into a clear plan, the pages below will help you go one step further. They cover the wider rules, package choices, checklists, and practical travel points that usually come up after you finish a guide like this one.

- Hajj Packages UK 2026 This pillar page gives you the full background, key rules, and step-by-step context around this topic. It is the best place to go if you want the bigger picture before you make any travel decisions. It is especially helpful if you are looking for hajj packages uk.
- Non-Shifting Hajj Packages This page is useful when you want real options, package details, hotel information, and practical UK departure planning. It helps you compare what is available instead of staying at the research stage. It is especially helpful if you are looking for non shifting hajj packages uk.
- Best Time to Perform Umrah 2026: Cheapest, Coolest & Least Crowded Months This supporting guide answers a closely related question and adds more detail, examples, or travel tips. It works well as your next read if you want a narrower answer after this main article. It is especially helpful if you are looking for Discover the best time to perform Umrah in 2026. Find cheapest, coolest, and least crowded months for a peaceful and affordable spiritual journey.
- Umrah Visa Price UK 2026: Complete Cost Breakdown for British Passport Holders Before You Apply This supporting guide answers a closely related question and adds more detail, examples, or travel

tips. It works well as your next read if you want a narrower answer after this main article. It is especially helpful if you are looking for Discover the Umrah visa price UK for 2026. Learn visa fees, total travel costs, and how British passport holders can apply for an Umrah visa easily.

- 10 Days 3 Star Umrah Package This page is useful when you want real options, package details, hotel information, and practical UK departure planning. It helps you compare what is available instead of staying at the research stage.
- When Is Hajj 2026? Dates, Key Days & Travel Tips This supporting guide answers a closely related question and adds more detail, examples, or travel tips. It works well as your next read if you want a narrower answer after this main article. It is especially helpful if you are looking for When is Hajj 2026? See expected dates, key Dhul Hijjah days, visa notes, and booking tips to plan your Hajj early and confidently.

Reading a few of these pages together will give you a fuller view than relying on one article alone. That matters even more when you are comparing routes, costs, rituals, and timing from the UK.