

Great Mosque of Kufa

Written by A humble human

One of the oldest mosques in Islam, where Imam Ali (as) led prayers and was fatally struck during the dawn prayer in Ramadan 40 AH.

Always follow instructions from shrine staff. The latest version of this pack is online at <https://ziyaratguide.com/shrines/great-mosque-of-kufa>

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مسجد الكوفة المعظم

Masjid al-Kūfa al-Mu‘azzam

Spelling checked against Amānat Masjid al-Kūfa al-Mu‘azzam (Secretariat of the Great Mosque of Kufa and its shrines), official website, masjed-alkufa.com, accessed 14 October 2026.

Map: no verified pin yet. Search a map app for the Arabic name above. [Open map search](#)

Practical information

Getting there

- Kufa is close to Najaf, and many visitors combine the two. We have not yet sourced reliable journey times.

Nearby

- The shrines of Muslim ibn Aqil and Hani ibn Urwa adjoin the mosque. The house of Imam Ali (as) stands about 100 metres away.

Etiquette

- Dress modestly, move quietly, and give space to people praying at the stations.

Security and facilities

- Security checks operate around the shrines. Follow the instructions of shrine staff and security personnel and any posted signs, use the designated entrances and allow extra time during busy periods.
- Facilities such as toilets, shoe storage, drinking water and step-free routes differ from site to site and between entrances. We have not verified them for each location, so please ask shrine staff on arrival.

- Accessible routes and facilities can vary by entrance and by crowd arrangements on the day. Ask shrine staff for assistance on arrival.

Before entering

Recommended devotional acts

These acts are described in devotional sources as recommended (mustahabb). They are not obligatory.

RELIGIOUS BELIEF

Performing ghusl (ritual bathing) for ziyarat before visiting.

RELIGIOUS BELIEF

Approaching with humility, and reciting the words asking permission to enter (idhn al-dukhul) before going in.

RELIGIOUS BELIEF

Offering prayers at the stations (maqamat) of the mosque, as described in devotional sources.

Religious obligations

Ziyarat does not suspend everyday obligations such as daily prayers and modesty. The specific rulings depend on the scholar (marja') you follow, so check their published guidance for questions such as prayer for travellers.

Venue rules

Security checks operate around the shrines. Rules on entrances, bags, phones and clothing are set by the mosque administration and can change. Follow the instructions of shrine staff and security personnel, use the designated entrances and allow extra time during busy periods.

General etiquette

Dress modestly and move quietly. Give way to people who are praying, elderly visitors and families. Be careful with photography, especially of other visitors.

Sources

- al-Shaykh al-Mufīd, Kitāb al-Irshād: The Book of Guidance into the Lives of the Twelve Imams, trans. I. K. A. Howard (London: Balagha Books & Muhammadi Trust, 1981).
- Moojan Momen, An Introduction to Shi'i Islam (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1985).
- Amānat Masjid al-Kūfa al-Mu'aẓẓam (Secretariat of the Great Mosque of Kufa and its shrines), official website, masjid-alkufa.com, accessed 14 October 2026.
- Shaykh 'Abbās al-Qummī (d. 1359 AH), Mafātiḥ al-Jinān.