

Gulf Client Onboarding Pack

Time zones, payment, working-week and holiday notes for freelancers onboarding clients in the Gulf region.

Time zones

Gulf countries are generally 1-2 hours behind Pakistan. Always confirm meeting times in both time zones in writing.

Working week

Most Gulf countries now use a Saturday-Sunday weekend, but Friday mornings are for prayer — avoid key meetings then.

Payments

Agree method, currency (commonly USD, AED or SAR) and who pays transfer fees before starting work.

Holidays

Major holidays include Eid Al-Fitr, Eid Al-Adha and National Day, on dates that vary by country. Ask for the client's holiday calendar at onboarding.

Onboarding checklist

- Client name, company and time zone confirmed
- Payment method, currency and fee payer agreed
- Working hours and weekend agreed
- Holiday calendar requested
- Main communication channel agreed
- First deliverable and deadline confirmed