

# Jeddah *urban guide*

## Dining

### Entrecote

Jeddah has a wide range of restaurants. Entrecote, found in downtown Jeddah, has something special to offer. It has the best French cuisine in the city. Entrecote isn't cheap by local standards and aims for a refined crowd. Being amidst popular restaurants only makes it easier to find.

### Sushi Yoshi

Sushi isn't the easiest food item to come by in the city. Located in Atallah Commercial Centre, Sushi Yoshi is set apart by its tasty and creative dishes and the décor which serves as a constant reminder of its Japanese roots. The salmon, hot Thai and carrot sushi are highly recommended.

## Hotel

### The Le Meridien

In the heart of the city and in the midst of the residential and shopping area is where you will find this pick. The black marble lobby helps guide guests to the 284 guest rooms and the amenities of their choosing. Only 15 minutes away from King Abdulaziz International Airport, this hotel offers lovely surrounding with incredible use of lights and color to help further guests feeling of comfort. For more information check out the website [www.starwoodhotels.com/lemeridien](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/lemeridien) or call: 9662-6633333

Jeddah is known for its diverse hangouts, tolerance for those of other cultures and its many luxuries offered to residents. This majestic city is also home to the corniche which comprises a 60 kilometer stretch of land offering awe-inspiring sea views and attractive beaches.

## Escape

### Durrat Al-Arus

Located 40 kilometres north of Jeddah, in the town of Dahaban, Durrat Al-Arus has families residing in American style condos apartments and villas. Durrat Al-Arus has come a long way since its inception in 1996. Schools, commercial centers, coffee shops, hotels, a golf club, theme park, recreation parks and even a yacht marina can be found close by in this tourist village. Visitors can enjoy a romantic stroll along the beach, go for a swim, or take part in exciting water-sports.



## Place

### Darat Safeya Binzagr

This is a place to appreciate the country's history while immersed in the works of one of the country's pioneers in the development of fine arts. Safeya Binzagr, had a deep love for art and an immense respect for her country's history. As the country she so loved became more and more modernized she longed for the simple alleys where neighbours shared an intimacy rarely seen in today's cold world. Through her art she helps remind everyone of the simple beauty of days long gone. Darat Safeya Binzagr is open daily from 10 am to 2 pm except on weekends and holidays. Call for more information: 6510708.

## Sightseeing

### The Makkah Gate

Originally built to keep out intruders, the huge wall is now located in downtown Jeddah and serves as the main entrance to welcome visitors into the holy city. The Makkah Gate has an interesting history. The gate is actually one of the original six. Only three have survived times. These are The Mecca Gate, The Medina gate and The Yemen Gate. Commonly known as Bab Ashlam and the Sham Gate, it is one of the oldest gates in the country. But, the religious significance is possibly the most important thing about this site. The most sacred of pilgrimages for Muslims is no doubt that of the journey to Makkah. A once in a lifetime must for all Muslims, to some it is the most imperative trip one can take.

## Shopping

### Souq Al-Alawi

There aren't many hotspots or places to have an exciting night out so shopping is a natural attraction. As a matter of fact the shopping in Jeddah is well known amongst the Middle-Eastern community and many come from different countries to get bargain prices on quality items. Being Jeddah's biggest traditional market or "Souq" as it is known in Arabic, Al Souk Alawi is frequented by locals and foreigners alike.

### Tahlia Street

Tahliah Street is well known for its upscale shopping. Fashion enthusiasts should head straight for this up and coming shopping district known for its brand name shops and designer labels. Also known as Prince Mohammed bin Abdulaziz street and located in the midst of downtown Jeddah this popular street has long been known for its unbeatable finds and immense selection making it an unparalleled shopping destination. Influential shops such as Prada, Gucci and Giorgio Armani can be found all throughout bringing a little taste of Italy and Paris to the city. It has been compared to the Champs-Elysees for its cultural relevance and far reaching effect on international buyers.



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