



Doha

Photo: Sven Hansche/Shutterstock.com



By Fitria Ramli/Shutterstock.com

Already well-known as a business travel destination, Doha, the capital of the State of Qatar, has emerged in recent years as a rapidly developing tourism destination as well. A modern country built on the deep cultural roots of its Bedouin heritage, Qatar presents visitors with a kaleidoscope of fascinating contrasts and experiences, from tranquillity of desert to lively alleys of souq, from impressive coastal fortresses to dramatic high-rise towers, deserted sandy beaches and mangrove lagoons to elegant residential districts and green parks.



Ivan Kurmyshov/Shutterstock.com



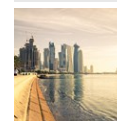
Sven Hansch/Shutterstock.com

QUIZ

*What Type of Traveller
Are You Based on
Your Travel IQ?*

TAKE THE QUIZ

Top 5



Doha Corniche

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Museum of Islamic Art

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Souq Waqif

For an authentic taste of lively traditional street life, commerce and local...



Desert Safaris

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Dhow Cruises

Cruises aboard a traditional wooden Arab dhow are another extremely popular ...



DOHA CITY



Sven Hansche/Shutterstock.com

Doha is an attractive and clean city, home to more than half of the nation's population, as well as the majority of Qatar's hotels, shopping malls, museums, sporting facilities and other tourist attractions.

The city presents a modern face to the world with many traditional and historic features. There is plenty of evidence of Qatar's rapid economic growth in the number of major projects under construction.

The center of the city backs the waterfront Corniche, which extends around the length of the semi-circular Doha Bay.

Central Business District



At the north western end of the Corniche is the main business district, which is noted for its spectacular high rise architecture. Among the prominent commercial buildings are the Qatar Financial Centre and new Doha Exhibition & Convention Centre, as well as the City Center-Doha and The Gate Mall. It is also home to several top hotels, including the Sheraton, Four Seasons, Kempinski, Hilton, Marriott Marquis, Movenpick and W Hotel. The central

stretch of the Corniche offers a vista of green parks backed by a number of impressive public buildings.

Photo: iPics/Shutterstock.com

Al Bidda/ Souq District



Lying at the southern end of the Corniche, we find the Al Bidda district, the historical heart of Doha. Visitors can enjoy a wide range of fascinating sights and experiences, including the Museum of Islamic Art, Emiri Diwan, Dhow Harbour, Souq Waqif, Gold Souq, the spiral-shaped Al Fanar Islamic Centre and Al Koot Fort.

This area boasts another concentration of hotels. Well known international and regional brands include Crowne Plaza, Mercure, Al Bustan, Century, Oryx Rotana, Concorde, Souq Waqif Boutique Hotels and Marriott.

Photo: Diego Delso/Wikimedia Commons (image cropped)

West Bay



Lying just to the north of the central business district is the main diplomatic quarter where most of the international embassies are located. There are also several waterfront hotels, including the InterContinental, St Regis and, further out, the Grand Hyatt and Ritz Carlton. This up-and-coming area is where we find two more Doha's visitor highlights, the new developments of Katara Cultural Village and The Pearl-Qatar.

Photo: Fitria Ramli/Shutterstock.com

Aspire Zone



Inland from the heart of Doha, the outer city and suburbs have plenty to interest the visitors. The Aspire Zone is a vast purpose-built sports

complex with a comprehensive range of stadiums, training venues, pools and other facilities, as well as parkland and a lake. Adjacent to the main Khalifa Stadium is The Torch, an iconic tower housing a hotel. Two of Doha's major malls are also located nearby, Villaggio and Hyatt Plaza.

Photo: niran jayasanka/Wikimedia Commons (image cropped)

Al Rayyan



In Al Rayyan district, we can find the Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club, venue for twice weekly race meeting from October to May, as well as Education

City, the Qatar Foundation's 14 square km campus featuring the Qatar Science & Technology Park, Qatar National Convention Center and the Doha branches of eight major overseas universities, six from the USA and one each from the UK and France.

Also worth a visit in Education City is Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art and the Al Shaqab equestrian center, dedicated to the breeding and preservation of purebred Arabian horses.

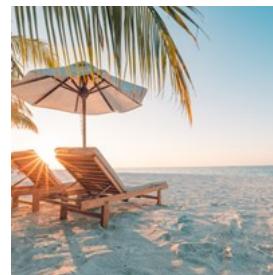
Photo: By Nate Hovee/Shutterstock.com

OUTSIDE THE CITY



Photo: Perfect Lazybones/Shutterstock.com

Beaches



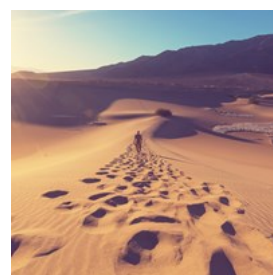
North of Doha on the east coast are several superb beaches, including Al Marrouna beach (also known as French Beach) and Fuwairit beach, both are about 90 minutes drive from the city.

Fuwairat beach is backed with eroded limestone cliffs forming small coves. In the summer, hawksbill turtles come ashore to nest on these beaches.

On the west coast are Dukhan and Umm Bab beaches, backed by wild palm trees and with kilometers of golden sands. The little peninsula of Ras Abrouq on the west coast also has some spectacular beaches.

Photo: icemanphotos/Shutterstock.com

Sand Desert



Qatar's largest area of sand desert lies to the south-west of the capital, with its high dunes. Here you can try recreational safaris or simply enjoy

the spectacular landscape. The desert scenery constantly changes depending on the time of day and light conditions. The breath-taking colors of sunrise and sunset are especially dramatic and the clear night skies offer a rare treat for stargazers.

Photo: Galyna Andrushko/Shutterstock.com

DO & SEE



InnervisionArt/Shutterstock.com

Doha Corniche



This showpiece waterfront promenade, which stretches the length of the semi-circular Doha Bay, offers spectacular vistas from the dramatic high rise towers of the central business district to bold shapes of the Museum of Islamic Art, as well as traditional wooden dhows lining the Bay. The Corniche provides a vehicle-free recreational space in the heart of the city, ideal for a jog in the cool of the morning or leisurely evening stroll.

Photo: Fitria Ramli/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Corniche Street, Doha

Opening hours: Sun - Sat 12:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Museum of Islamic Art



The museum's magnificent collection covers 14 centuries of the finest art and artefacts across the Islamic World. Housed in a dramatic IM Pei-designed building, jutting into Doha Bay at the southern end of the Corniche, it ranks internationally among the world's leading cultural landmarks.

Photo: KM Salih/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ad Dawha, Doha

Opening hours: Sat - Thu 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM Fri 1:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Phone: +974 4422 4444

Internet: www.mia.org.qa

Souq Waqif



For an authentic taste of lively traditional street life, commerce and local architecture, nothing can beat a wander through the bustling lanes of Souq Waqif, located just one block inland from the Corniche in the central Al Bidda district. Besides the fabulous range of souvenir bargains, it is a great place to relax over a coffee or meal and soak up the atmosphere.

Photo: Wanna Thongpao/Shutterstock.com

Address: Souq Waqif, Doha

Opening hours: Sat - Thu 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Fri 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Phone: +974 6651 2164

Desert Safaris



An off-road desert safari by 4x4 is an experience not to be missed. Besides a heart-stopping ride over the precipitous dunes, safaris may include camel riding, sand boarding or driving a quad bike, followed by a moonlit Bedouin-style barbeque under the stars. Available from all major tour operators, most safaris take place in the high sand dunes lying to the south of Doha.

Photo: Victor Maschek/Shutterstock.com

Dhow Cruises



Cruises aboard a traditional wooden Arab dhow are another extremely popular visitor experience. Day and evening sightseeing excursions, including a meal that can be arranged through hotels and local tour operators or directly from the dhows moored along the Doha Corniche.

Photo: Paul Cowan/Shutterstock.com

Katara Cultural Village



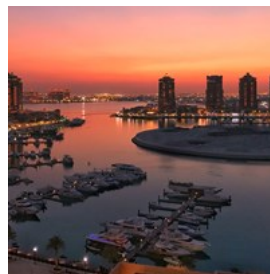
A purpose-built cultural and recreational district on the West Bay waterfront, Katara is ideal for a relaxing day of culture, entertainment and family fun. Its performance venues stage plays, concerts, film festivals and much more. Recreational options include a well-tended public beach with water sports, restaurants and cafes.

Photo: Minas Stratigos/flickr (image cropped)

Address: West Bay Lagoon area of Doha, Doha

Phone: +974 4408 0000

The Pearl-Qatar



The Pearl is a spectacular string of man-made islands off the coast of West Bay. The main island features impressive marina esplanades, residential towers and villas. Symbolizing the ultimate elegance, the Pearl offers fine dining, Mediterranean-style yacht-lined waterfront walks, stylish cafes and an array of boutiques featuring the world's leading luxury brands.

Photo: No8/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Pearl-Qatar, Qatar

Phone: +974 4409 5269

Internet: www.thepearlqatar.com

City Highlights Tours



An organized tour is ideal for visitors with limited time to spare or seeking an overview of Doha and its attractions. Local tour operators offer both standard city tours taking in all the main sights, as well as tailor-made tours catering to their clients' special interests. The 'hop-on, hop-off' double-decker tours are also available and operated by Doha Bus (dohabus.com).

Photo: Sven Hansche/Shutterstock.com

Phone: +974 4442 2444

Internet: www.dohabus.com

Email: admin@dohabus.com

Khor Al Adaid (Inland Sea)



Some 60 km south of Doha lies Khor Al Adaid, which is also known as the 'Inland Sea'.

Recognized by UNESCO, this impressive natural

wonder is one of the few places in the world where the sea encroaches deep into the heart of the desert. Best visited as part of an organized desert safari.

Photo: aseanfilms/Shutterstock.com

Address: Khawr al Udayd, Doha

Opening hours: Sun - Sat 12:00 AM - 12:00 AM

Al Zubarah

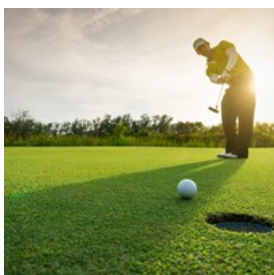


The UNESCO World Heritage site on the coast 100 km north-west of Doha, Al Zubarah comprises an immaculately restored

fort and surrounding archaeological site covering the remains of what was one of the Gulf's most important pearl diving and trading ports in the 18th century.

Photo: Leonid Andronov/Shutterstock.com

Sports



Qatar's climate, abundant marine life and crystal clear waters make it a perfect destination for water sport enthusiasts.

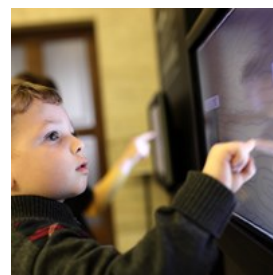
Fishing trips can be

arranged and sailing, water skiing, canoeing, jet skiing and windsurfing are all available through beach clubs, resorts and hotels. Dive sites are easily accessible and include wreck, deep water and reef dives.

Sports facilities are excellent on land too. Golf is popular with many visitors, who have the chance to play a round in the footsteps of the top international players at Doha Golf Club, venue for the annual Commercial Bank Qatar Masters tournament, a ranking event on the European PGA Tour.

Photo: sattahipbeach/Shutterstock.com

The National Museum of Qatar



Designed by French architect Jean Nouvel, this museum's striking architecture is inspired by the desert rose, a peculiar crystal

formation. It offers an immersive journey through the history of Qatar and its people, spread across eleven venues that will trigger all your senses by employing movies, music and even aromas.

Photo: Chubykin Arkady/Shutterstock.com

Address: Museum Park Street, Doha

Opening hours: Sun-Weds 9am-7pm Thu 9am-9pm Fri 1.30-9pm Sat 9am-9pm

Phone: +974 4452 5555

Internet: www.nmoq.org.qa

Email: infonymoq@qm.org.qa

DINING



Zurijeta/Shutterstock.com

Qatar offers a remarkable variety of culinary options. Many restaurants offer an authentic taste of Arabia and the Middle East cuisine from throughout the region including North Africa, Lebanon, Egypt and Iran. But all the major cuisines of the world are also well represented, from French and Italian to Chinese, Japanese and Indian. Likewise, options range from formal fine dining to relaxed fast food outlets and coffee shops.

Many top restaurants can be found in Qatar's hotels including The Pearl-Qatar, Souq Waqif and Katara Cultural Village. The following selection represents just a small sample of Doha's outstanding restaurant options.

La Piazza



In the atrium of Souq Waqif Boutique Hotel you can get a fresh taste of Italy. While the cuisine focuses on homemade pasta specials, you will also find all your favourite antipasti and pizza classics. Enjoy the lovely décor and don't forget to finish your visit with some delicious gelati.

Photo: Hans Geel/Shutterstock.com

Address: Souq Waqif Boutique Hotel, Doha

Opening hours: Sun - Sat 7:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Phone: +974 4433 6666

Internet: www.souqwaqifresort.com/dining/la-piazza.html

Email: souqwaqif@minor.com

Al Sultan Brahim



Al Sultan Brahim serves you the delights of sea. The restaurant is well-known for fresh fish and seafood plates like crab salad, grilled and fried fish and you can always find some new favourites among their wide selection of Lebanese dishes like mezze.

Photo: Nadir Keklik/Shutterstock.com

Address: The St. Regis Doha, West Bay, Doha

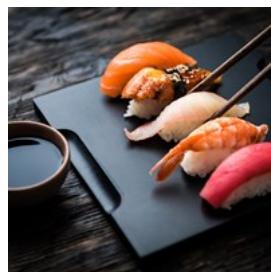
Opening hours: Sun - Mon 12:00 PM - 12:00 AM

Phone: +974 4446 0000

Internet: www.alsultanbrahimdoha.com

Email: doha.butler@stregis.com

Spice Market



Spice Market features South East Asian cuisine by chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten. Take out some sushi packages, stay in for bentos and don't forget to check their website for special tasting events. Let the attentive staff guide you through an evening of Asian specials and get carried away by the flavours of the East Asia.

Photo: GreenArt/Shutterstock.com

Address: W Doha Hotel, Doha

Opening hours: Sun - Sat 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM 5:00 PM - 11:30 PM

Phone: +974 4453 5135

Internet: www.spicemarketdoha.com

Caminito



Caminito is a great place to taste Argentinian cuisine including beef empanadas and budín de pan with relaxing tango music and hospitality.

Whether you are on a business meeting or having dinner with your loved one, this restaurant guarantees a classy night out.

Photo: Kryvenok Anastasiia/Shutterstock.com

Address: Zubarah Boutique Hotel, Doha

Phone: +974 4447 0000

Internet: www.zubarahhotels.com/dining

Three Sixty



Located 47 stories above ground level, Three Sixty serves you both vegetarian options and fine steaks including Saffron fettuccine,

Tomahawk and Wagyu filet. Enjoy the breath-taking panoramic view and make sure to drop by on an evening with live piano music.

Photo: ytyoung/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Torch Hotel, Doha

Opening hours: Sun - Sat 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Phone: +974 4446 5600

Internet: www.thetorchdoha.com.qa/en/restaurants-doha/three-sixty.html

Isaan Thai Restaurant



Indulge yourself into Isaan for an exciting new dinner experience with Thai food including Pad Thai and Tong yam soup. The chefs will prepare

your food in an open kitchen and create dishes to

your own taste. Step in on a Monday for the special curry night and relax in the casual ambiance.

Photo: naito29/Shutterstock.com

Address: Grand Hyatt Hotel, Doha

Opening hours: Sun - Sat 6:30 PM - 11:30 PM

Phone: +974 4448 1250

Saffron Lounge



Take in all the flavours of India at the Saffron Lounge. The exotic dishes including Bengali lobster masala and goan fish curry, which are

creatively prepared for you and include traits of Indian fare from different parts of India. The high quality of cuisine here has been rewarded yearly since 2011.

Photo: I Wei Huang/Shutterstock.com

Address: No.26 Building, Katara Cultural Village, Doha

Opening hours: Thu 12:00 PM - 11:00 PM Fri 1:00 PM - 11:00 PM Sat - Wed 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Phone: +974 4408 0808

Internet: www.saffronlounge.net

Gordon Ramsay



Get inspired by the Mediterranean cuisine of Gordon Ramsay. The courteous staff will serve you beautifully prepared dishes featuring the

tastes of Sardinia, France and Spain in an elegant romantic atmosphere.

Photo: Marian Weyo/Shutterstock.com

Address: The St. Regis Doha, West Bay, Doha

Opening hours: Mon - Sat 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Phone: +974 4446 0105

Internet: www.gordonramsaydoha.com

Al Bandar



Located in a busy area of Souq Waqif, this traditional restaurant focuses on serving Middle Eastern cuisine. Besides authentic dishes, you can enjoy your food in traditional fashion while sitting on the floor. If you haven't tried salta, fahsa, ogda or mashwi, then Al Bandar is the ideal place to try something new.

Photo: Renegadesaba/Wikimedia Commons (image cropped)
Address: Abdullah Bin Jassim Street, Doha
Phone: +974 4431 1818

Opal by Gordon Ramsay



The menu may seem quite simple, but even familiar favourites like pizzas and burgers, beautifully prepared with fresh ingredients, ensure an outstanding experience at every meal. With its menu for children, Opal has established itself as the top location among family friendly restaurants.

Photo: stockcreations/Shutterstock.com
Address: Al Gassar Resort, Doha
Phone: +974 4446 0105
Internet: www.opalbygordonramsaydoha.com

The Anvil Rooms



The Anvil Rooms restaurant is a meat lover's paradise. The rustic decor provides the perfect setting for a New York-style Steakhouse. Enjoy your quality beef high up the Tornado Tower and the stunning view over the Bay.

Photo: TMON/Shutterstock.com

Address: Tornado Tower, West Bay, Doha
Opening hours: Sun - Sat 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Fri 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Sat - Thu 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Phone: +974 4499 0685
Internet: www.theanvilrooms.qa

The Village



This eatery combines three restaurants under the same roof. While the Deli serves light meals and delicious bakery in a casual setting, the Medi offers an ideal spot for lunch and dinner. Don't forget to try its Lebanese seafood specials presented with a creative twist. They are simply mouth-watering.

Photo: Slawomir Fajer/Shutterstock.com
Address: Salwa Road, Doha
Opening hours: Sun - Sat 7:00 AM - 12:00 AM
Phone: +974 4444 6601
Internet: www.thevillage.com

Al Adhamiyah



If you're strolling around Souq Waqif, make sure to stop by Al Adhamiyah. You can't miss its impressive façade and the inviting display of Iraqi delicacies that draw you inside. Here you'll get generous servings with reasonable prices so make sure to taste one of the opulent desserts on offer.

Photo: Zaid Hadi/flickr (image cropped)
Address: Souq Waqif, Doha
Opening hours: Sun - Sat 12:30 PM - 12:30 AM
Phone: +974 4432 4326

Burj Al Hamam



Having served guests for over 50 years, this Lebanese restaurant leaves nothing to be desired. Located in the luxurious Pearl

neighbourhood, Burj Al Hamam is an insider tip for an elegant dinner in a classy oriental environment. Try some savoury Shish Taouk and choose from a variety of pastries as well as Halawat el Jibn or Knafeh, just right for every sweet tooth.

Photo: AS Food studio/Shutterstock.com

Address: No.1 La Croisette, The Pearl Qatar, Doha

Opening hours: Sun - Sat 9:00 AM - 12:00 AM

Phone: +974 4495 3876

Carluccio's



How does an upbeat décor, cosy dining rooms and attentive staff sound to you? This and much more is what you'll get at Carlucci's cafe. The

Italian restaurant will welcome you with homemade bread and a mouth-watering menu. Enjoy a piece of Italy right in the middle of Doha.

Photo: svariophoto/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Pearl Qatar, Qatar

Opening hours: Sun - Wed 8:00 AM - 11:30 PM Thu - Sat 8:00 AM - 12:30 AM

Phone: +974 6690 1777

Mamig



Mamig is a luxurious two-in-one high-end restaurant in the heart of the Katara Cultural Village. Besides being a favourite venue for

private and public events, this classy restaurant is the ideal place to dine before you enjoy some international art and global culture in the vibrant neighbourhood.

Photo: samuelfernandezrivera/pixabay

Address: Katara Cultural Village, Doha

Opening hours: Thu - Fri 1:00 PM - 1:00 AM Sat - Wed 1:00 PM - 12:00 AM

Phone: +974 4408 0800

Internet: www.mamigdoha.com

CAFES



Rawpixel.com/Shutterstock.com

Café culture is alive and well in Doha. One of the most popular leisure pastimes among Qataris and expatriate residents alike is to spend a relaxing hour or two over coffee and maybe a pastry with friends, discussing the issues of the day and putting the world to rights. Why don't you join them? Here is a small selection of some of the city's fine range of cafes.

Khan Farouk Tarab Café



This café has established a reputation with decor reflecting the glorious era of Egyptian civilization, as well as superb cuisine. You can take a trip back

in time and enjoy some authentic bites of Cairo while listening to the restaurant's own Tarab Band.

Photo: Tanya Stolyarevskaya/Shutterstock.com

Address: Katara Cultural Village, Doha

Opening hours: Sun - Sat 9:00 AM - 11:30 PM

Phone: +974 4408 0840

Internet: www.khanfaroukatarabcafe.com

La Patisserie



Take a seat at La Patisserie and explore Doha's international cuisine. This café is all about French bites and specials like croissants, gateaux and refreshing coffee that give you a kick-start into a new day or provide an oasis of rest between exhausting shopping and sightseeing tours. The hotel also features an outstanding Italian restaurant.

Photo: MaraZe/Shutterstock.com

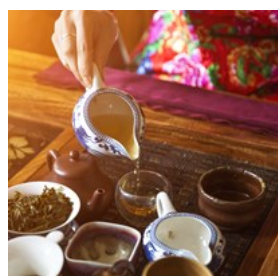
Address: Al Bidda Boutique Hotel, Doha

Opening hours: Sun - Sat 9:00 AM - 12:00 AM

Phone: +974 4433 6981

Internet: www.swbh.com

Torch Tea Garden



Don't expect only any usual coffee place when you enter the Torch Tea Garden. Overlooking Aspire Zone from the 21st floor, the traditional spirit of tea is revived within its four walls. You are not only treated with Japanese and Chinese tea ceremonies but also a well-selected choice of salad, sandwiches and sweets which is offered for your delight.

Photo: hxdyl/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Torch, Doha

Opening hours: Tue - Sun 3:00 PM - 10:30 PM

Phone: +974 4446 5600

Internet: www.thetorchdoha.com.qa/en/restaurants-doha/torch-tea-garden.html

Email: restaurant.reservations@thetorchdoha.com

Tim Hortons



Located in the busy Ezdan Mall, Tim Hortons is the ideal place to take a deep breath after a shopping marathon. Refresh yourself with a quick cappuccino or linger over some tasty pastries. This won't be the last time you've stopped by at Tim Hortons.

Photo: Nitr/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ezdan Mall, Doha

Phone: +974 4493 6265

Alison Nelson's Chocolate Bar



If you're craving the mild-bitter taste of dark chocolate or looking for creamy sweets that melt on your tongue, then this New York-style coffee shop is your fit. It will impress you with a great choice of unique chocolate creations and is loved by children and adults alike. Let the sugar raise your spirits and the coffee refresh your mind.

Photo: Irina Suglobova/shutterstock

Address: The Pearl-Qatar, Doha

Opening hours: Thu - Fri 8:00 AM - 1:00 AM Sat - Wed 8:00 AM - 12:00 AM

Phone: +974 4409 5236

Red Velvet Cupcakery



This bakery distinguishes itself by providing freshly baked products on a daily basis. Entering the coffee shop, you will be welcomed with the warm and lovely scent of homemade sweets. Soon

you'll find it hard to leave or just stay a bit longer to create your very own cupcake.

Photo: Elena Veselova/Shutterstock.com

Address: Katara Cultural Village, Doha

Opening hours: Sun - Sat 9:00 AM - 12:00 AM Fri 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM 1:00 PM - 12:00 AM

Phone: +974 4408 0700

Chapati & Karak



Almost every street has a juice stall selling fresh juices and sandwiches. But you shall not miss Chapati & Karak, which is the local favourite in

Katara. Here you can try middle Eastern snacks, both savoury and sweet are typically washed down with a cup of chai karak, a hot sweet and milky tea.

Photo: Juliya_Ka/Shutterstock.com

Address: Katara Cultural Village, Doha

Opening hours: Sun - Sat 11:00 AM - 12:00 AM

Phone: +974 4408 1408

SHOPPING



Nong Mars/Shutterstock.com

Doha is a shopper's paradise offering visitors an array of experiences and options, from the comfort and elegance of spacious modern shopping malls to more typically Middle Eastern experience and ambience to be found in the souqs.

Why not try both? The malls are ideal for picking out fashion items and international brands at competitive prices. The souqs are perfect for finding regional souvenirs and gift items while enjoying a taste of Qatari street life.

Souq Waqif



Souq Waqif is the place to go for Qatari and Middle Eastern souvenirs, with its array of handicrafts, spices, incense and perfumes. There are also

a number of working jewellers to be seen here. Historic, but recently renovated in authentic architectural style, this vibrant bazaar also houses multiple restaurants.

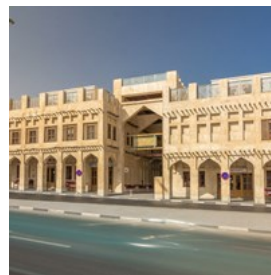
Photo: Paul Cowan/Shutterstock.com

Address: Souq Waqif, Doha

Opening hours: Sat - Thu 7:30 AM - 12:30 PM 3:30 PM - 10:00 PM Fri 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Phone: +974 6651 2164

Falcon Souq



Do not miss this special souq dedicated to the ancient practice of hunting with falcons, especially if you visit Doha during the falconry

season (October to March). Observing owners showing off the birds and browsing through falconry paraphernalia is a memorable, one-of-a-kind experience.

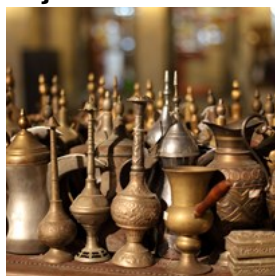
Photo: Kirill Neiezhmakov/Shutterstock.com

Address: Falcon Souq, Doha

Opening hours: Sat - Thu 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Phone: +974 6651 2164

Najima Second-Hand Market



This is the best place in Doha to find some very unusual and quirky things, from quite precious antiques to truly memorable souvenirs. On Fridays the market becomes a quite rowdy affair, as all kinds of sales exchanges are carried out from the backs of trucks.

Photo: Philip Lange/Shutterstock.com
Address: Off of Najma Street, Doha

Al Asmakh Mall



Al Asmakh Mall mainly houses the retail outlets of the Landmark Group, including Home Center and Centrepoint. The 36.5 thousand square metre shopping centre also houses a children's entertainment area (Fun City) and underground parking. Visitors can even enjoy the street-side café-style seating during the cooler months of the year.

Photo: VGstockstudio/Shutterstock.com
Address: Jawaan Street, Al Sadd, Doha
Opening hours: Sat - Wed 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM Thu 10:00 AM - 11:00 PM Fri 1:00 PM - 11:00 PM
Phone: +974 4444 2401

Villaggio Mall



One of Doha's newest malls, Villaggio on Al Waab Street, has its star attraction, a 500-metre long Venetian canal, completed with mini-gondolas in which customers can glide from shop to shop! The stores on either side of the canal are designed in Italian style with

pastel-coloured architecture. Villaggio houses a branch of Virgin Megastore selling a vast selection of books and music, and a vast array of fashion boutiques catering mainly for the younger set.

Photo: Hafiz Issadeen/flickr (image cropped)
Address: Al Waab Street, Doha
Opening hours: Sun - Wed 9:00 AM - 10:00 PM Thu 9:00 AM - 11:00 PM Fri 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM 12:30 PM - 11:00 PM Sat 9:00 AM - 11:00 PM
Phone: +974 4413 5222
Internet: www.villaggioqatar.com
Email: info@villaggioqatar.com

City Center Doha



The largest mall in all of Qatar, which is also one of the shopping and entertainment hubs in Doha. Home to international, regional and local brand stores as well as a cinema complex, ice-skating rink and bowling alley, City Center will easily keep you occupied all day long.

Photo: Rawpixel.com/Shutterstock.com
Address: Conference Centre Street, Doha
Opening hours: Sun - Wed 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM Thu 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Fri 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM 1:00 PM - 12:00 PM Sat 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Phone: +974 4493 3355
Internet: www.citycenterdoha.com

Ezdan Mall



A recent addition to Qatar's mall scene, Ezdan Mall, which is located in the bustling Gharafa area, brings many new global favourite stores to the country such as Aeropostale and WH Smith Books among a total of 52 branded outlets, as well as many supervised entertainment options

for kids.

Photo: Ivanko80/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ezdan Mall, Doha

Opening hours: Sun - Wed 7:30 AM - 10:00 PM Thu - Sat 7:30 AM - 11:00 PM

Phone: +974 4433 4141

The Pearl-Qatar



This luxurious artificial island is home to many upscale designer brand stores, as well as several independent designer boutiques such as The Vanity Room. The Pearl also boasts an impressive selection of dining options from all over the world with Indian, Mexican, Italian, French and American restaurants.

Photo: Sven Hansche/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Pearl-Qatar, Doha

Phone: +974 4409 5155

Internet: www.thepearlqatar.com

Email: info@thepearlqatar.com

Omani Souq

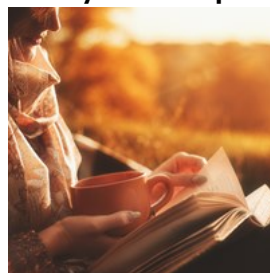


The Omani Souq located near Salwa Road, sells mostly day-to-day products like fruits and vegetables, but also local honey, hand-made camel equipment, pottery, incense, truffles in season and flowers. Be sure to try the local karak (traditional tea), it is simply superb.

Photo: just_a_cheeseburger/flickr (image cropped)

Address: Omani Souq, Salwa Road, Doha

Family Bookshop



With several locations in the city including at the Sheraton Doha Hotel and Resort and at the City Center shopping mall, Family Bookshop carries a significant supply of English-language books, ranging from literature to very useful travel guides.

Photo: LOGVINYUK YULIYA/Shutterstock.com

Address: Shop 19, Building 9, Barwa Village, Main Wakra Road, Doha

Opening hours: Sat - Thu 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Phone: +974 4413 5331

The Gate Mall



The Gate Mall is widely known for the upscale shopping experience it offers. More than 30 international high-end brands are represented here, including Temperley London, Elie Tahari, Matthew Williamson and Paul Smith.

Photo: Power best/Shutterstock.com

Address: Maysaloun Street, West Bay, Doha

Opening hours: Sat - Thu 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM Fri 1:30 PM - 10:00 PM

Phone: +974 4407 7201

Internet: www.thegate-qatar.com

Email: info@thegate-qatar.com

Landmark Mall



Among the top shopping destinations in Doha, this mall is very family-friendly with its multiple entertainment options for young and old. Cineplex, Circus Land and a whole range of

brand-name stores await you here, as well as unusual furniture, fine china and ornaments at The One.

Photo: Dragan Grkic/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Shamal Road, Doha

Opening hours: Sun 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM Mon - Sat 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Phone: +974 4487 5222

Internet: www.landmarkdoha.com

Email: info@landmarkdoha.com

Royal Plaza



Besides the numerous shopping options, Royal Plaza also offers an interesting 1920s-themed cinema. Located in the heart of the lively Al Sadd

district, the mall's Violet Room has a mini banquet space for up to 100 people. The Royal Plaza also gives special care to visitors with disabilities, who can call for arranging an access to special facilities.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: Royal Plaza, Al Sadd Street, Doha

Opening hours: Sat - Thu 9:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Phone: +974 4413 0000

Internet: www.royalplazadoha.com

Email: pr@royalplazadoha.com

TOURIST INFORMATION



Kalamurzing/Shutterstock.com

Passport / Visa



carry.

Visitors from all around the world can enter Qatar either visa free, or by filling out simple online applications, depending on the passport they

Nationals of more than 80 countries are eligible for visa-free entry into the State of Qatar, with varying allowable lengths of stay. With a valid passport of a minimum validity of six months and a confirmed return ticket, people from the eligible countries can obtain a visa waiver upon arrival to Qatar without any prior visa arrangements.

Photo: TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com

Best Time to Visit



The best months to visit Qatar are November to early April as the milder weather conditions allow for sightseeing and outdoor activities. The summer months from June to September are very

hot with minimum rainfall, so these can be difficult, especially so if you're sensitive to high temperatures.

Photo: VectorA/Shutterstock.com

Airport



Located in the capital city of Qatar, Hamad International Airport is the international airport of Doha which hosts many airlines from

around the world and provides a wide range of services like banking and currency exchange service, parents room and medical assistance.

Doha's bus network connects Hamad International Airport to various destinations across the city and all buses depart from Bus Pavilion that is located to the right of the arrivals hall.

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: Hamad International Airport, Doha

Opening hours: Sun - Sat 12:00 AM - 12:00 AM

Internet: <https://dohahamadairport.com>

Public Transport



Hiring car Many local and international car hire companies operate in Qatar. Hirer will be required for a credit card, passport copy and a valid

driving licence from their home country or international permit.

Bus

Although buses are not widely used by tourists, the service of many buses are modern, clean and

air-conditioned. Fares within the city are around QAR3 to QAR9 depending on the distance, and fares outside town are reasonably priced.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Taxi



Most visitors take taxis to go around Doha. Karwa taxis are widely available and reasonably priced and their meters start at QAR 4 and run at QAR1.2

per km. To order a taxi in advance, please call +974 4458 8888.

Photo: ArrivalGuides

Pharmacy



There are no major health risks and no special inoculations required by visitors. There are many well-stocked pharmacies with English speaking

staff throughout Doha city, while some open for the whole day.

Wellcare Pharmacy - Park n Shop

Address: Park N Shop, Doha

Tel: +974 4416 0546

Wellcare Pharmacy - Safari

Address: Safari Mall, Doha

Tel: +974 4468 0638

Al Rawdah Pharmacy

Address: Basement of Centerpoint Ml Al, Doha

Tel: +974 4452 5410

Photo: Gemma Garner

Post



Qatar post provides fast mail delivery to more than 220 countries around the world and the post offices are scattered around Doha. Al Azizya

Tel: +974 4458 2193

Opening time: Sun - Thur: 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Sat: 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Al Ghuwairiya

Tel: +974 4473 1757

Opening time: Sun - Sat 12:00 AM - 12:00 AM

Al kharthiyat

Tel: +974 44784 026

Opening time: Sun - Thur: 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Sat: 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Photo: Andy Fuchs

Telephone



The country code for Qatar is +974. Telecom providers Ooredoo and Vodafone offer pre-paid and post-paid mobile services. Wi-fi broadband

hotspots are available across the country and are easily accessible at hotels and public places.

Photo: Jardson Almeida

Electricity



220/240 volts AC 50Hz. Socket type is square three-pin 13 amp (as used in the UK).

Photo: Stirling Tschan

Population

2.69 million (2018)

Currency

Qatari Riyal (QAR)

Opening hours

Bank open from 7:30 AM - 1:00 PM on Sunday to Thursday while some banks open until 10:00 PM. Supermarket open from 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM every day while some supermarkets open until 10:00 PM.

Newspapers

Doha News
Gulf Times
Qatar Tribune

Emergency numbers

Police, Fire, Ambulance: 999

Abdul Aziz Bin Ahmed Street	B3 B4	Al Kisaei Street	D4	Ibn Abi Bakr	C3 C4
Abdullah Bin Jassim Street	B2 C2	Al Mahar Street	C3	Ibn al Arqam Street	A4
Abdullah Bin Thani Street	B3	Al Matar Street	C4	Ibn al Haitham Street	A4
Abu Al Alaa Street	A4 B4	Al Maymoun Street	B3	Ibn al Zubair Street	C4 D4
Abu Mousa Street	A3	Al Meena Street	D3	Ibn Khafaja Street	D4
Aghadir Street	B3	Al Miyah Street	A3	Ibn Khaldoun Street	D4
Ahmed Bin Mohammed Bin Thani Street	B4 C3 C4	Al Musalla Street	B3	Ibn Malik	C3
Al Aaliya Street	D2	Al Muthaf Street	D3	Ibn Rajaa	D4
Al Adhwaa Street	A3	Al Nada Street	C4	Jabr Bin Mohammed Street	C2
Al Ahmed Street	C2	Al Najada Street	B3	Jassim Bin Mohammed Street	B2 B3
Al Ashat	C3	Al Nisr Street	A4 B4	Kaab Bin Zuhair Street	D4
Al Asmakh Street	B3	Al Rayuyan Street	A2	Khaled Bin al Walid Street	C3
Al Bareed	C2	Al Shirra Street	A3	Khaybar Street	D4
Al Bidda Street	A2	Al Souq Street	B2	Mousa Bin Nusair Street	B4
Al Burqan Street	B2 B3	Al Sulaimi Street	A4	Museum Park Street	D2
Al Corniche Street	A2 B2 C2 D2	Al Taei Street	C4	Ras Abu Abboud Street	D3
Al Diwan Street	A3	Al Tarbiya Street	C2	Saad Bin Ubada Street	C4 D4
Al Doha al Jadeeda Street	B4	Al Teeb Street	C2 C3	Salah ed Dine Street	B4 C4
Al Dostour Street	D3	Al Waab Street	D4	Smaisma Street	D4
Al Eid Street	B3	Al Wifaq Street	C4 D4	Souq Waqif Street	B2 B3
Al Farabi Street	A4	Al Zubair Street	A4	Tario Bin Ziyad	A4 B4 C4
Al Ghadeer Street	A3	Ali Bin Abdullah Street	B3 C3	Tario Bin Ziyad Street	D3 D4
Al Hufouf Street	A3	Anas Bin Malik Street	B4	Ukaz Street	A3 B3
Al Ittihad Street	A3	B Ring Road	A4 B4 C4 D4	Umm al Shebram Street	A4
Al Jabr Street	C2 C3	Babill Street	D4	Wadi Musheireb Street	A3 B3
Al Jasra Street	B2	Bahr al Arab Street	D3	Ziyad Bin Eyadh Street	C4
Al Kahraba Street	A3	Fass Street	A2	Zurara Bin Amr Street	B4 C4
Al Khattabi Street	B4	Grand Hamad Street	C3		