

Beirut *urban guide*

Dining

Yabani

Yabani is the word Japanese in Arabic, is one of the most delicious Japanese cuisine restaurants in Beirut. Enjoy oriental music and the Japanese decoration with walls white in color and black leather seats. Red lamps around complete the Far East spirit inside the restaurant.

A specialties there with such aroma is the salmon sushi with Philadelphia cheese.

Damascus road- Beirut.
01 21 1113

B 018

This is almost the only Beirut after hours club up till 7 am. It is a must go club in Beirut. It has a gothic interior design with coffins made as tables. Red curtains are around while chairs are leather and black in color and the bar has long wood chairs. Enjoy the bar's Martini while listening to music that varies between Jazz to House to Techno music. Its roof is one of the most gorgeous place have a lovely view on night stars or Beirut's sunrise. It is an A-class Lebanese outing. It works from 7:00 pm till 7:00 am

Lot 317 La Quarantaine
03 80 0018

Hotel

Saint Georges Hotel

At the tip of the hotel district lies the partially restored ruin of what was once considered one of the most glamorous hotels in the world.

Back in the days when Beirut was the "Pearl of the Mediterranean," the city where the party (apparently) never stopped, the St. Georges Hotel was Ground Zero of Lebanon's Golden Age.

Traitorous British intelligence official Kim Philby came her to escape after being found out as a KGB spy. Liz (Taylor) and Richard (Burton) had a permanent suite. Farid al-Atrash and Omar Sharif frequently visited. Less exalted but equally well-known visitors also passed through its doors.

Ain el Mreissch, Minet el Hosn

One of the most important cities in the region is Beirut not only because of its 4000 year old past, but because of what it currently is, and what is going to happen. Now with the post war construction, Beirut is heading into 2008 with a fresh outlook for its economic and tourism industry.

Whenever we speak to anyone about the region, they have either had an experience they brag about in Beirut or someone has told them about their experience and that reputation is what makes Beirut such an attractive destination for the region. Making this guide has been exceptionally exciting and we wanted to make sure that we get all the places right and not only the places that are currently happening, but more about the new and upcoming places within this city.

Escape

Jounieh

Jounieh city is 15 km North Beirut. It is 10 km from Byblos and 20 km from Beirut Airport. It is located on the bay of Jounieh on the Mediterranean sea. It is considered the largest city between Byblos and Beirut. Jounieh is known for its wild nightlife, crowded streets and history.

"Old Jounieh" area is known for its restaurants, cafés, pubs, nightclubs and hotels that suite all budgets. You can spend several vibrant nights without feeling with repetition. One pub may be presenting an oriental belly dancer show, another with a band to play, another with a focus on the delicious Lebanese cuisine and other cuisines. On a top of a cliff, 2 km away, there is the famous "Casino du Liban" for gaming and having fun.



Place

Rouche & Corniche

When speaking about The Raouché area, think of relaxation; beauty of nature; history; walking and delicious food. Raouché area is on the west of Beirut and has many restaurants of both Lebanese and International cuisines. There are also many coffee shops that serve beverages and quick snacks. Eat either a little snack or a hot dinner while watching the beauty of nature of Raouché rocks.

Rouche area, West Beirut

Sightseeing

Notre Dame Du Liban

Located at an altitude of 600 meters in the outskirts of Beirut, Harissa hill is the focal point of Catholic communities in Lebanon. The Notre Dame Du Liban, though built in 1969 best reflects how advanced Lebanon is in architectonics. The main site is a huge 15-ton bronze (and painted white) statue of Virgin Mary, known as Our Lady of Lebanon or Notre Dame du Liban/Harissa or Our Virgin of Lebanon, with her arms outstretched. The statue was made at the end of the 19th century and inaugurated in 1908. With a huge modernistic Maronite cathedral built of concrete and glass stands right beside the statue.

Notre Dame Du Liban, Harissa, Beirut.

Shopping

Verdun

Located to the east from Ashrafiyah and is a residential and commercial place in Beirut. It includes fashion stores, cinemas, cafes and restaurant. It's buildings are also prestigious and luxurious. There is another location for Souk el Tayeb in Verdun Street too. It includes many hotels like Sheraton le Verdun for example.

Closeby is a park called Sanayeh Park which is ideal for sitting right after some shopping; especially if you have kids in company. Another attraction is shopping in the mall that is close called Dunes Plaza and watching a movie in the mall's cinema after the shopping mission.

Verdun Area, Ashrafiyah

Guerilla Store

The location of the Guerrilla Store in Beirut is unfashionable at all. Rei Kawakubo designs the decoration of her own stores by herself.

It is a shop of a trend that exists in more than 7 countries as Poland, Netherlands, Greece, china and Sweden. You can also find the trend in London Dover Street Market.

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