

Rh

SYRIA 101



+963 984 909 070



info@Rami-Hamadeh.com

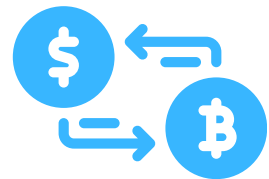
TABLE OF CONTENTS



ABOUT SYRIA



HOTELS



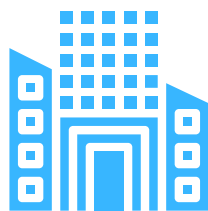
CURRENCY EXCHANGE



INTERNET & CONNECTIVITY



TRANSPORTATION



SHOPPING MALLS



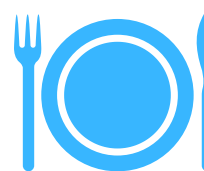
TRADITIONAL MARKETS



PLACES TO VISIT



CAFÉS



RESTAURANTS



INTERNATIONAL AND CASUAL RESTAURANTS



YOUR GATEWAY TO SYRIA

📍 ABOUT SYRIA

Syria is a land of timeless history and rich cultural heritage, with roots stretching back to some of the world's earliest civilizations. For centuries, it has served as a center of culture, trade, and scientific advancement in the Middle East. Its diverse landscapes, from fertile plains and green mountains to vast deserts, offer visitors a unique blend of natural beauty and breathtaking scenery. Syria is also renowned for its exceptional cuisine, featuring world-famous dishes such as hummus, falafel, and kebab, which reflect the country's rich traditions and cultural diversity. Despite the challenges it has faced in recent years, Syria continues to demonstrate remarkable resilience, while its people remain known for their hospitality and strong sense of community. Home to some of the world's most significant archaeological and historical treasures, the country preserves an extraordinary legacy through its ancient cities and landmarks. At the heart of this heritage stands Damascus, one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world, where historic streets, traditional markets, and iconic monuments such as the Umayyad Mosque create an unforgettable atmosphere that reflects the enduring spirit, culture, and resilience of Syria.





HOTELS IN DAMASCUS

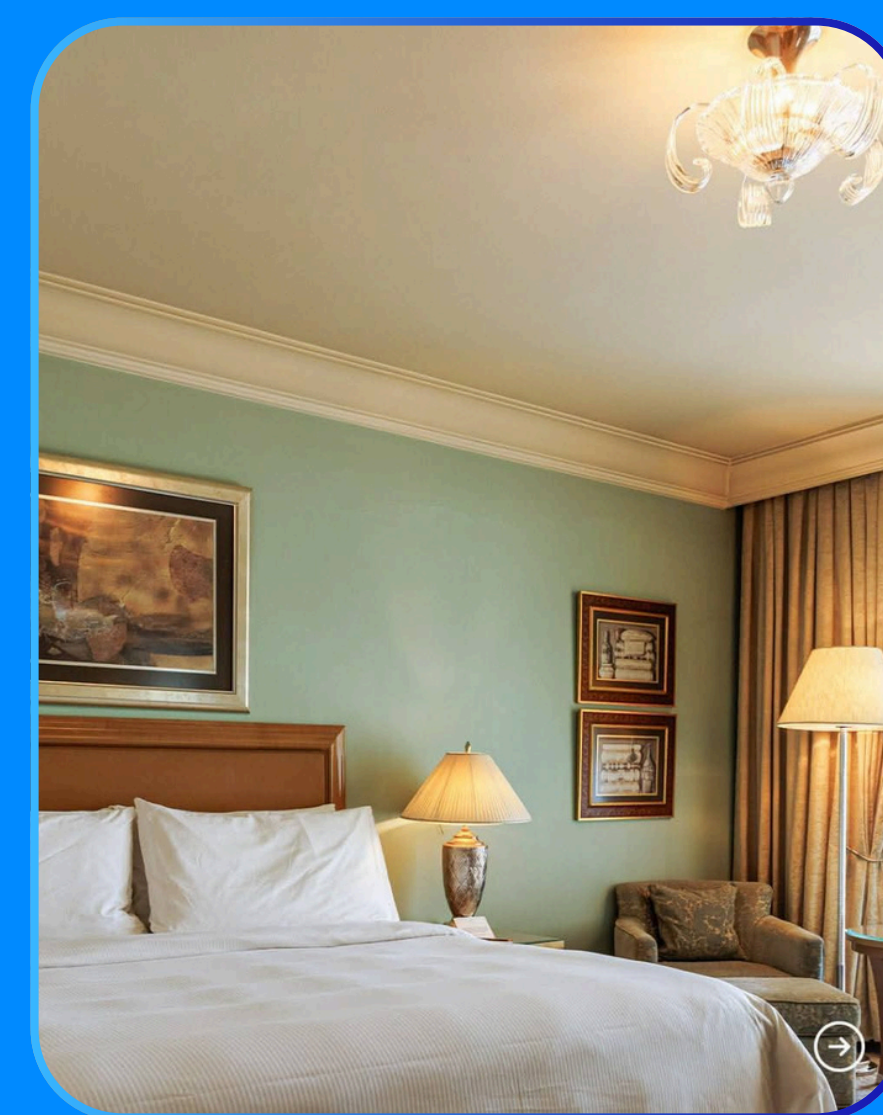
1 FOUR SEASONS HOTEL

Four Seasons Damascus is one of the capital's prominent hotels, known for its established reputation, central location, and quality services. It offers rooms and suites, restaurants and cafés, meeting facilities, a swimming pool, and a fitness center. Although it retains the Four Seasons name, it is no longer managed by Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#)



Rh



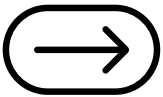


2

DAMA ROSE HOTEL

Dama Rose Hotel is a well-known upper-midscale hotel in Damascus, offering modern rooms and suites, restaurants and cafés, meeting facilities, a swimming pool, and a fitness center. It provides a range of services for both short and extended stays, with stable operational performance and service standards, and is competitively priced compared to hotels of similar standards.

[location](#) / [Website](#) 🔍





3

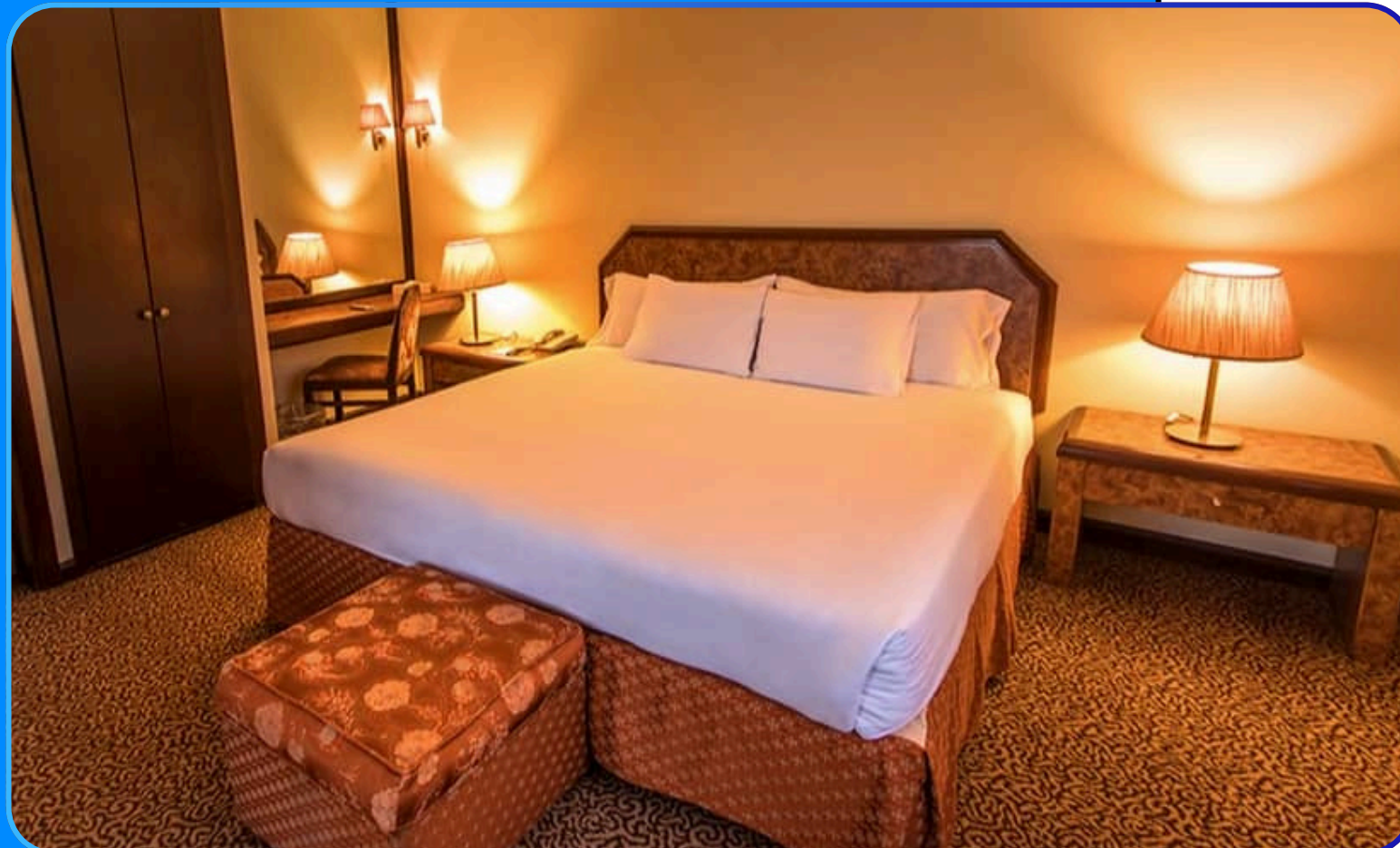
SEVEN GATES HOTEL

Seven Gates Hotel Damascus is a historic and well-established hotel, formerly operated as “Sheraton Damascus.” It offers rooms and suites with original and renovated designs, along with lounges, swimming pools, and meeting facilities. Its central location and established reputation make it a notable choice for visitors.

[LOCATION](#)

/

[WEBSITE](#)



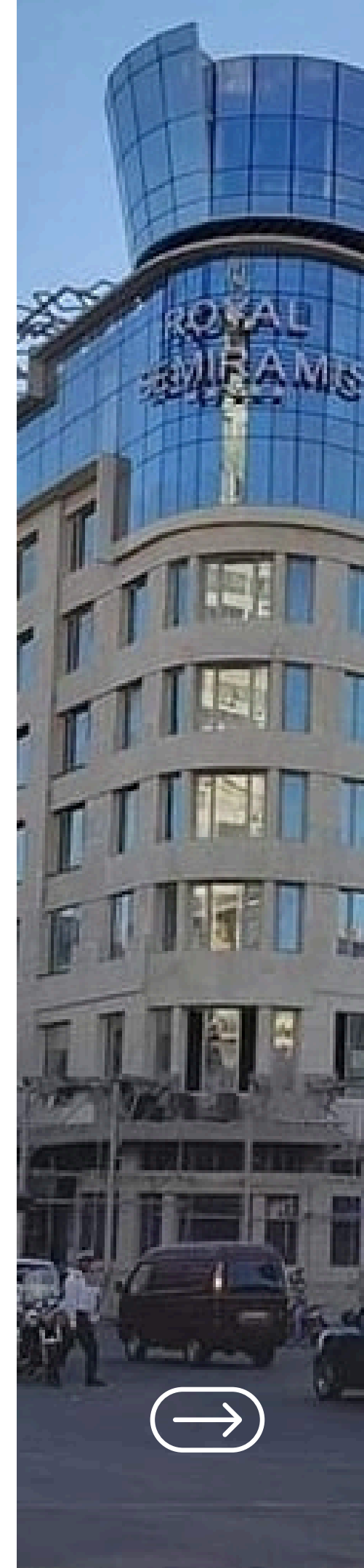
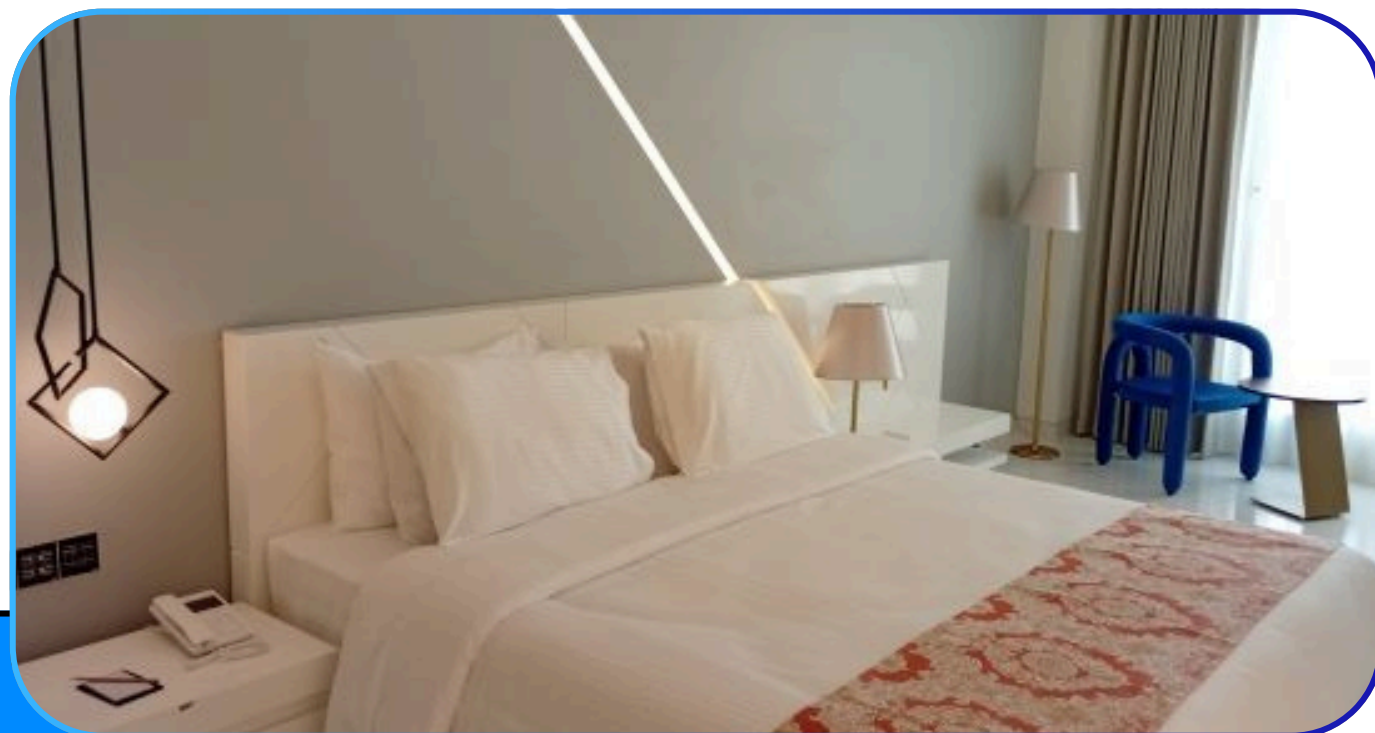
Rh



4 ROYAL SEMIRAMIS HOTEL

Royal Samiramis Hotel is a relatively modern hotel in Damascus, distinguished by its contemporary design, well-equipped rooms and suites, and high service standards. It falls within the higher price category, with the lack of dedicated private parking being one of its main limitations.

[LOCATION](#) / [WEBSITE](#) 🔍



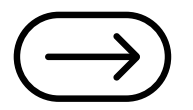


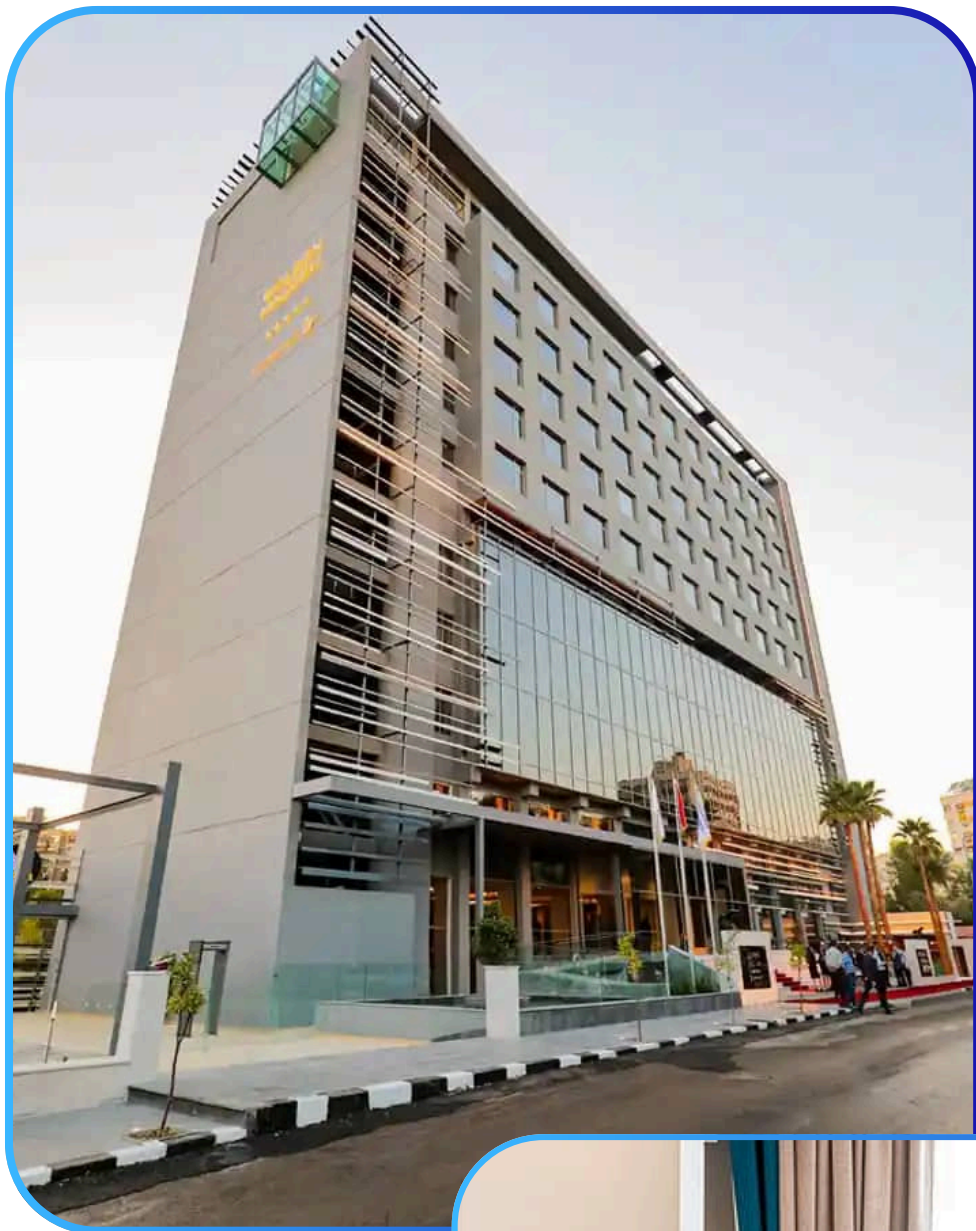
5 AL SHAM PALACE HOTEL

Cham Palace Damascus is one of the long-established hotels in Damascus, distinguished by its classic architectural style and extensive facilities, including swimming pools, fitness centers, and restaurants offering local and international cuisine. Its main limitation is the outdated design and furnishings of its rooms compared to modern hotels.



[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍





6

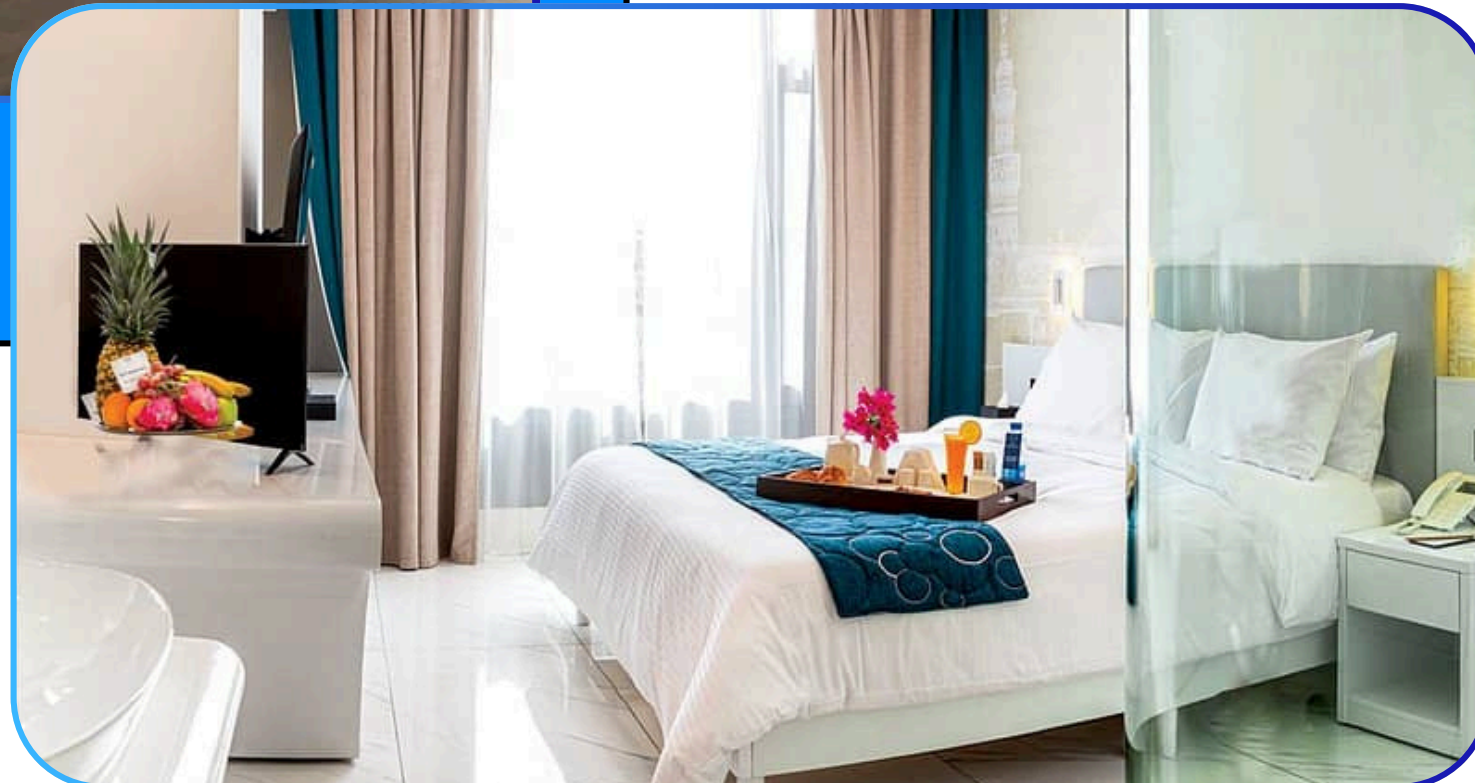
GOLDEN MAZZEH HOTEL

Golden Mazzeh Hotel is a modern five-star hotel in Damascus, known for its quality service, competitive rates, and contemporary facilities. It offers modern, well-equipped rooms, with some rooms being smaller compared to those of competing hotels, as well as private underground parking.

[LOCATION](#)

/

[WEBSITE](#)



Rip



7

BEIT ZAFRAN HOTEL DE CHARME

Beit Zafran offers an accommodation experience inspired by Syrian heritage and the traditional Damascene house, featuring historic architecture, charming courtyards, and a peaceful atmosphere. Due to its focus on heritage and smaller size, it offers fewer modern facilities compared to larger hotels.

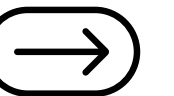
[LOCATION](#)

/

[WEBSITE](#)



Rh



Rh

8

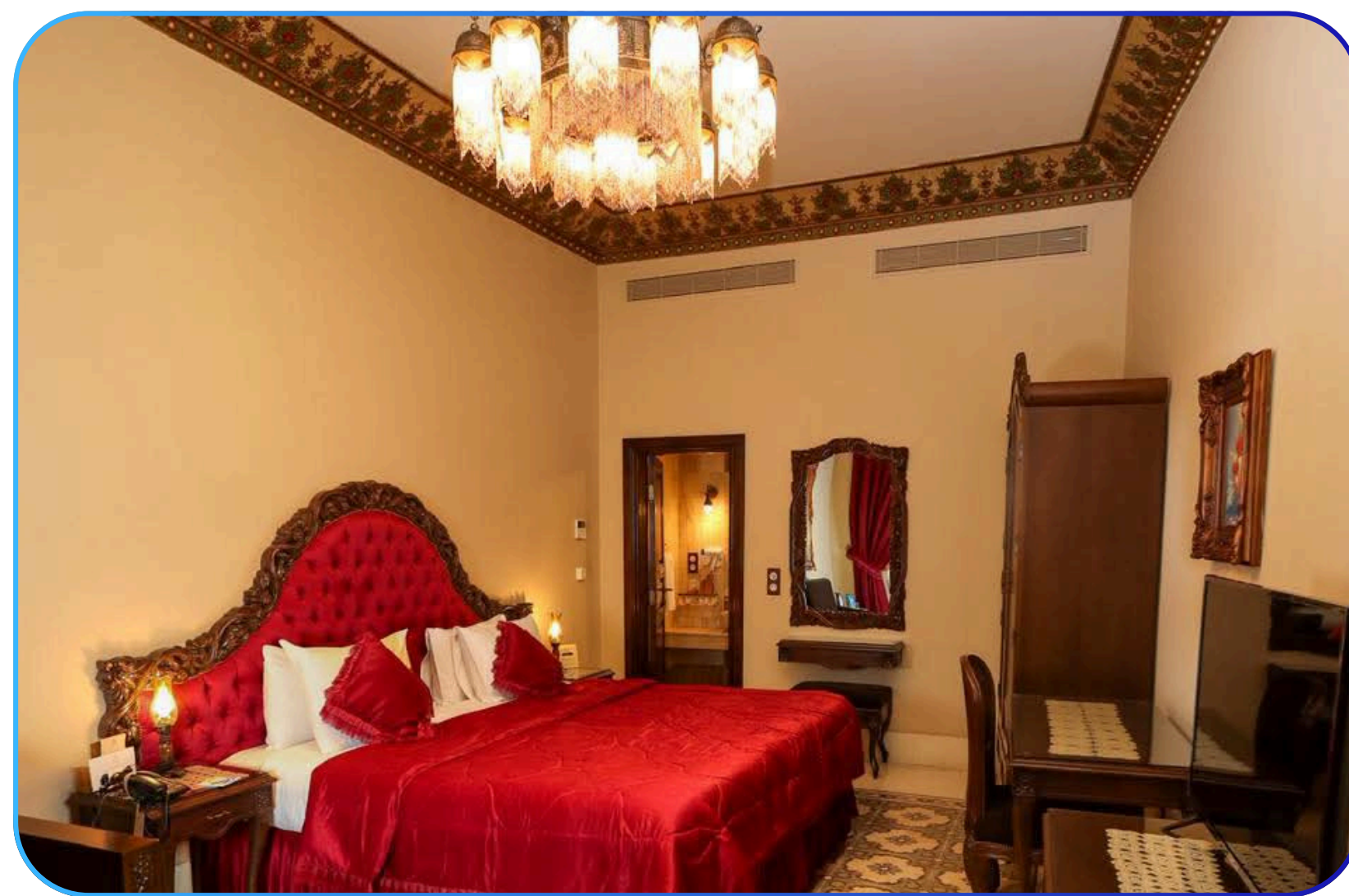
BEIT AL WALI HOTEL

Beit Al Wali Hotel is a heritage-style hotel in Damascus, distinguished by traditional Damascene architecture, a peaceful atmosphere, and a restaurant serving traditional Syrian cuisine. Located away from the main areas, it requires transportation to reach major tourist attractions, while its limited number of rooms may affect availability during peak seasons.

[LOCATION](#)

/

[WEBSITE](#)



CURRENCY EXCHANGE

The Syrian Pound (SYP) is the official currency in Damascus and is used for most everyday purchases and payments. U.S. dollars can be exchanged at licensed exchange companies and authorized exchange offices, where the official exchange rate applies. Visitors should be aware that exchange rates may differ outside official channels, so it is advisable to check the current rate before exchanging money and to count cash carefully. Cash is widely used in Damascus, making it important to carry sufficient local currency for daily expenses.

[A website for secondary market exchange rates](#) 🔍





INTERNET & CONNECTIVITY IN SYRIA

Internet access is an essential service for both visitors and residents.

While Syria's telecommunications sector has seen gradual improvements in recent years, service quality may vary depending on the region, available infrastructure, and network coverage.

ADSL INTERNET

ADSL remains one of the most widely used internet solutions in Syria, available through the state provider and licensed private providers. While many private providers offer 24/7 technical support, connection quality may vary in some areas due to aging telecommunications infrastructure, occasionally causing disruptions or slower speeds.

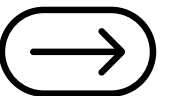
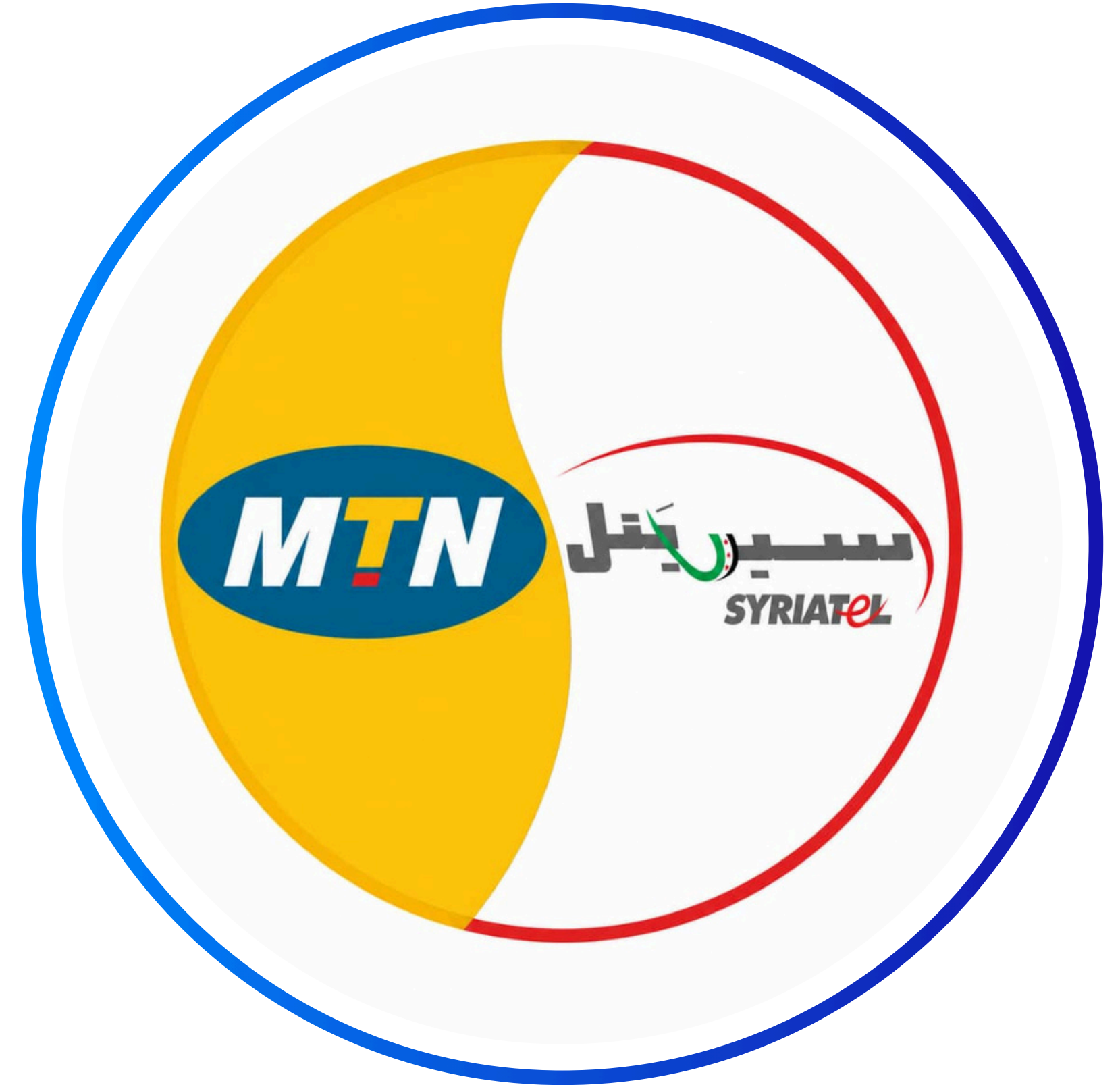
A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, possibly reading 'R1k'.



MOBILE INTERNET (SYRIATEL & MTN)

Mobile internet services in Syria are provided by Syriatel and MTN Syria.

Visitors can obtain a SIM card by presenting a passport or valid ID, with up to five SIM cards allowed per operator. Coverage is available across most populated areas, while 5G remains limited to selected trial locations. Connection quality may vary depending on network coverage and congestion.



FIBER OPTIC INTERNET

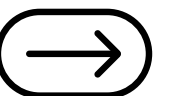
Fiber optic internet is one of the most stable fixed-line internet options in Syria, offering higher speeds than ADSL. It is available in many residential and commercial areas, with the possibility of requesting a dedicated connection to a property at the subscriber's expense, subject to technical feasibility and local regulations. Rare or minor interruptions may occasionally occur.

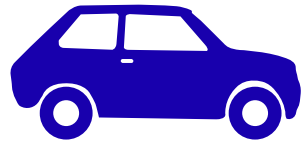
WIRELESS INTERNET

Wireless internet is a practical option in areas with limited fixed-line infrastructure, particularly rural areas. Service quality may vary depending on location, provider, and technical conditions.

STARLINK

Starlink is not officially available in Syria, except in certain cases with specific permissions or arrangements. However, it can provide high-speed internet in areas with limited connectivity and has been used by some international organizations operating in the country.





TRANSPORTATION IN DAMASCUS

The city of Damascus offers a variety of transportation options that allow visitors to move easily within the city. These include traditional taxis, smart ride-hailing applications, and modern transport services, providing multiple options to suit different needs.

TAXIS

Taxis are one of the most common and practical ways to get around Damascus and are widely available throughout the day. As formal meters are not commonly used, visitors are advised to agree on the fare with the driver before starting the trip. Fares may vary by distance, travel time, and peak hours, and payment is usually made in cash.

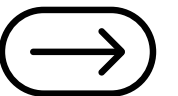


TRANSPORTATION APPLICATIONS

Transportation applications in Damascus allow users to book vehicles easily via mobile phones, while providing trip details in advance, making them a practical and more transparent alternative to traditional transportation methods.

YALLAGO APPLICATION

YallaGo is a leading ride-hailing application in Damascus, allowing users to book rides by selecting pickup and drop-off locations while viewing driver and trip details. Fares vary by distance and may increase during peak hours, at night, or depending on the area. The app offers Economy, Comfort, women-only, VIP, and van services, with options for advance booking.



ELECTRO TAXI

Electro Taxi is a modern electric taxi service in Damascus, offering app-based booking, upfront fare details, and real-time trip tracking. It provides a quiet, safe, and environmentally friendly travel experience, with cash and electronic payment options where available. The service mainly operates within Damascus and densely populated urban areas.



CAR RENTAL

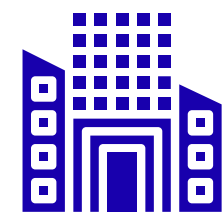
Rh

Car rental services are available in Damascus and are suitable for visitors who prefer greater freedom and privacy when traveling within the city or outside Damascus. Many vehicles are equipped with GPS navigation to help choose routes, reach destinations, and avoid traffic congestion.

Rental rates vary depending on the vehicle type, rental duration, seasonal demand, and booking period. Prices and rental terms are generally agreed upon in advance.

- Renters are generally required to provide a valid passport or ID and a valid driver's license, along with a refundable security deposit starting from approximately USD 300, depending on the vehicle type. This deposit is a common practice in the car rental industry and is refunded when the vehicle is returned in the agreed condition.**





MALLS IN DAMASCUS



1

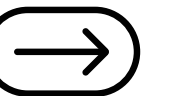
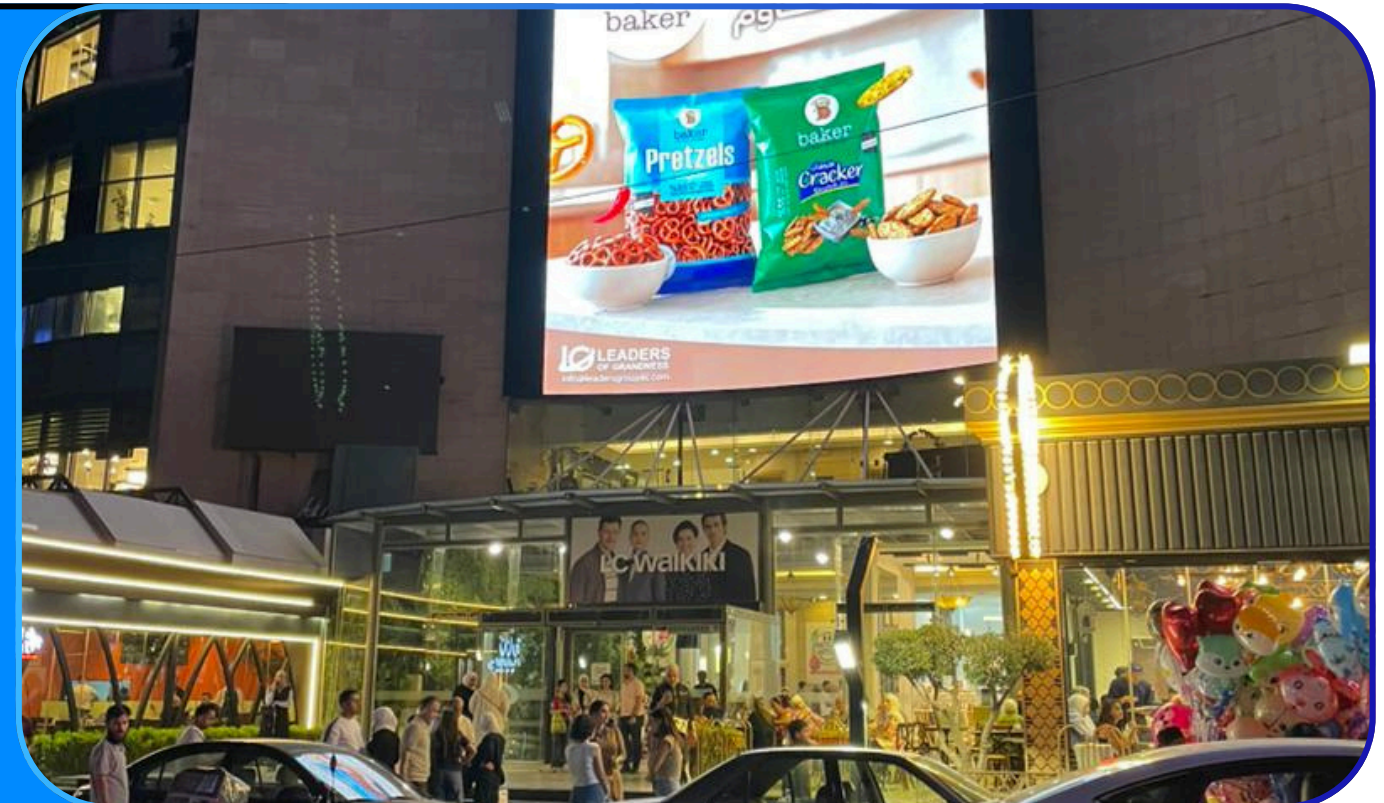
CHAM CITY CENTER MALL

Cham Center is one of the popular malls in Damascus, offering local brands, family-friendly entertainment areas, and a food court with a variety of dining options. The mall also provides parking facilities for convenient access.

2

DAMASQUINO MALL

Damasquino Mall is a modern shopping center with a family-friendly atmosphere, entertainment areas, restaurants, cafés, and several international brands. It also offers parking facilities and is conveniently located next to Sham City Center.



Rh



3

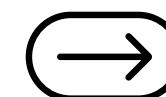
AVENUE MALL

Avenue Mall is a well-known shopping destination in Damascus, offering a supermarket, restaurants, cafés, and a children's play area. Prices range from medium to high compared to other options in the city, while its moderate size limits the variety of stores and some areas may become crowded during peak hours.

3

UPTOWN MALL

Uptown is a modern destination in Damascus, known for its open-air spaces and contemporary atmosphere. It features restaurants, cafés, outdoor seating, shops, services, and an amusement park, making it a suitable destination for leisure and social gatherings.





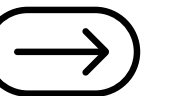
MARKETS IN DAMASCUS



1 / SOUK AL-HAMIDIYAH

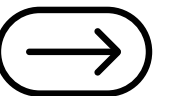
Souk Al-Hamidiyah is one of Damascus's oldest and most famous markets, located in the heart of the Old City near the Umayyad Mosque. It is known for its traditional character and distinctive covered architecture. The market offers souvenirs, handmade crafts, clothing, and traditional products, and connects to historic markets such as Souk Midhat Pasha and Souk Al-Bzourieh. Visitors are advised to visit during the day or early evening to avoid heavy crowds, keep personal belongings secure due to the busy atmosphere, and compare prices and negotiate where appropriate, as some shops do not have fixed prices.

Rh



2 / AL-SHAALAN MARKET

Al-Shalaan Market is one of Damascus's prominent modern shopping areas, known for its lively atmosphere and central location. It offers a variety of clothing, shoes, accessories, and cosmetics stores, along with numerous restaurants and cafés. Due to traffic congestion, especially during peak hours, parking can be difficult, so visiting earlier in the day or using nearby parking facilities, such as Al-Hamra Parking Garage, is recommended. Prices vary between stores, so it is advisable to compare prices before purchasing, while most shops primarily accept cash.





PLACES TO VISIT



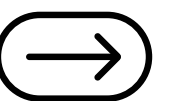
THE STRAIGHT STREET (VIA RECTA)

The Straight Street is one of the oldest historic streets in Old Damascus, extending from Bab Al-Jabiya to Bab Sharqi. It served as the main axis of the city during the Roman era. The street also holds religious significance, as it is mentioned in the New Testament in relation to the story of Saint Paul. Today, it features a blend of historical landmarks, traditional markets, and old buildings, making it an essential part of the Old Damascus experience.



AZM PALACE

Azm Palace is one of the finest examples of traditional Damascene architecture, built in the 18th century during the Ottoman era by order of As'ad Pasha Al-Azm. It features a spacious courtyard, water fountains, and distinctive Damascene decorations. Today, it houses the Museum of Arts and Popular Traditions, showcasing Syrian heritage and traditional Damascene life.





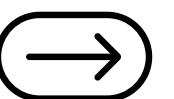
KHAN AS'AD PASHA

Khan As'ad Pasha is one of the most prominent historical landmarks in Old Damascus and one of the finest examples of Ottoman commercial architecture. Built in the 18th century by order of Damascus Governor As'ad Pasha Al-Azm, it served as a major stop for trade caravans along historic trade routes. The khan is distinguished by its spacious courtyard, stone domes, and unique architectural design. Today, it hosts art exhibitions and cultural events, making it a distinctive destination for discovering Damascene heritage.



UMAYYAD MOSQUE

The Umayyad Mosque is one of the most important Islamic and historical landmarks in the world and one of the oldest mosques where prayers are still held today. Built in the 8th century by order of the Umayyad Caliph Al-Walid I, it is renowned for its unique architecture, spacious courtyards, golden mosaics, and historic minarets. The mosque also houses the Shrine of Prophet John the Baptist (Prophet Yahya), making it one of Damascus's most significant religious and cultural landmarks, attracting visitors from around the world.





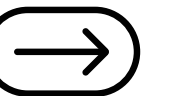
CAFES IN DAMASCUS

1

AL-QASHLA CAFÉ

Located in a historic building with an inner courtyard and outdoor seating, the venue features a lively traditional Damascene atmosphere, making it suitable for social gatherings and spending time with friends. It offers a variety of drinks, but can become crowded in the evenings and on weekends, with slower service during peak hours.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE LOCATION](#)



Rip



2

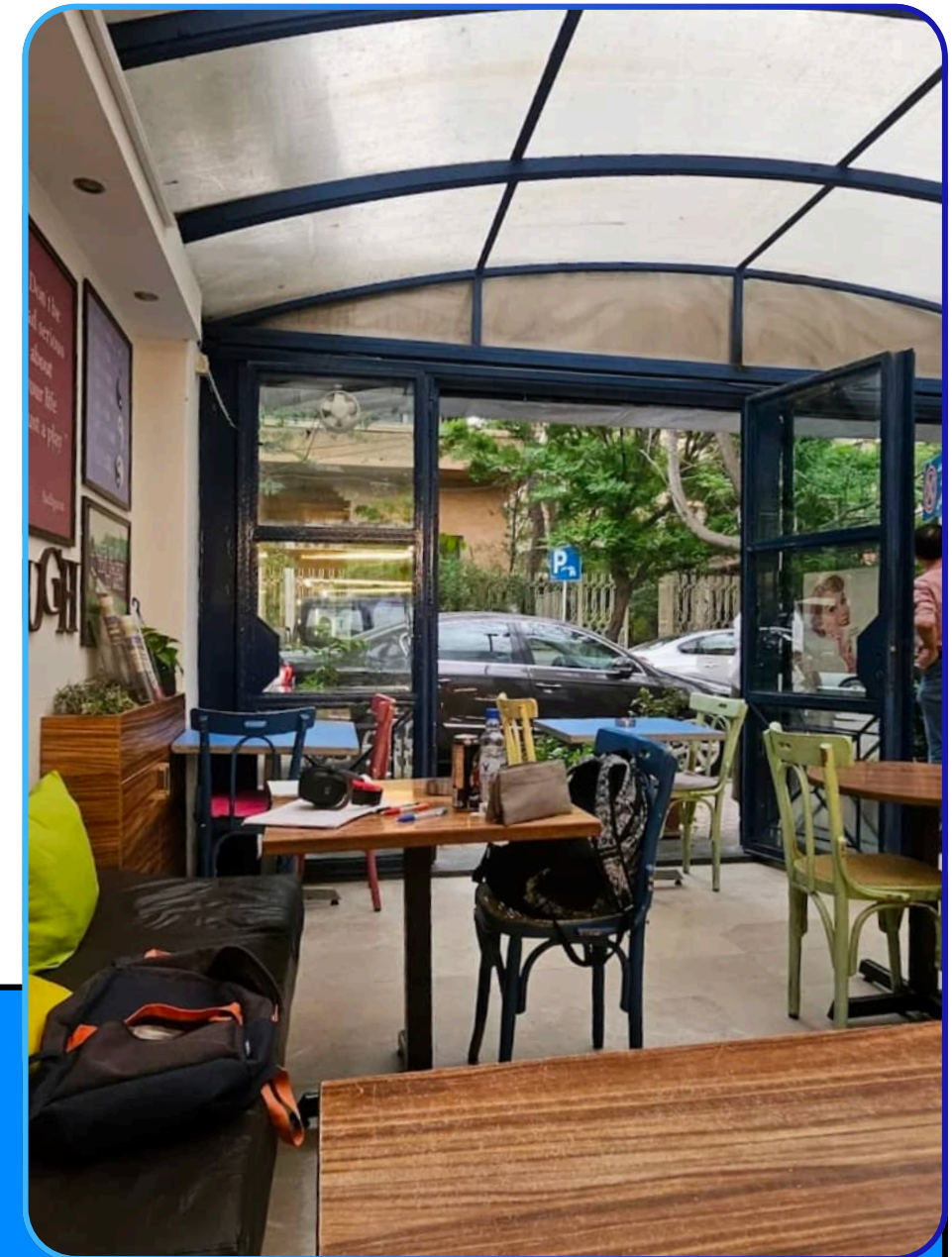
NORA CAFÉ & RESTAURANT

Noura Café is family-friendly, offering indoor and outdoor seating, light Italian-inspired dishes, and a variety of beverages. Reservations are recommended on weekends due to crowds, while parking may be limited.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍

3

KARMA CAFÉ



Karma Café is a calm, modern café suitable for work and quiet gatherings, offering drinks and light food. It can get crowded in the evenings and on weekends, so reservations may be required, while parking is limited.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍



4



PALLADIUM CAFÉ

A modern and calm café, suitable for work and meetings, offering drinks and light food with excellent service. It is quieter during the day and busier in the evening.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍

5



JULIA DOMNA CAFÉ

A modern café with comfortable indoor and outdoor seating, suitable for meetings and quiet time. It offers drinks and light food, with nearby parking and a generally calm atmosphere.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍



Rh

6



EL CAFÉ DE CASA

A modern café with a warm, calm atmosphere and comfortable indoor seating, suitable for quiet time, light work, or long stays. It offers coffee, cold beverages, desserts, and light food in a relaxed setting.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#)

7



BLAQUE BOUTIQUE CAFÉ

A modern boutique-style café with distinctive décor and a calm, private atmosphere. It offers a variety of drinks and light food with modern culinary influences.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#)



Rh

CALI CAFÉ

8



A modern café with spacious indoor and outdoor seating, offering international dishes with an Italian touch, along with drinks and desserts. It is known for its lively atmosphere and high demand, especially in the evenings and on weekends, so advance reservations are recommended.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍

MON CAFÉ

9



It features a calm atmosphere and comfortable seating, with good service and a variety of beverages, making it suitable for gatherings and spending quiet time away from crowds.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍



10 ABU ELZULOF

A café that primarily relies on its outdoor seating and calm atmosphere, offering a relaxed social setting. It provides good privacy between tables, making it suitable for meetings and quiet gatherings, and is generally not crowded.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍

11 STEED CAFÉ

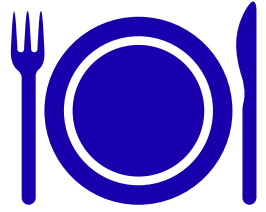
A modern café that primarily relies on its calm atmosphere and simple experience, with fast service and good organization. It offers coffee, cold drinks, desserts, and light snacks, making it suitable for daily visits and quiet gatherings, away from noise.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍



Rh





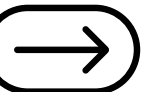
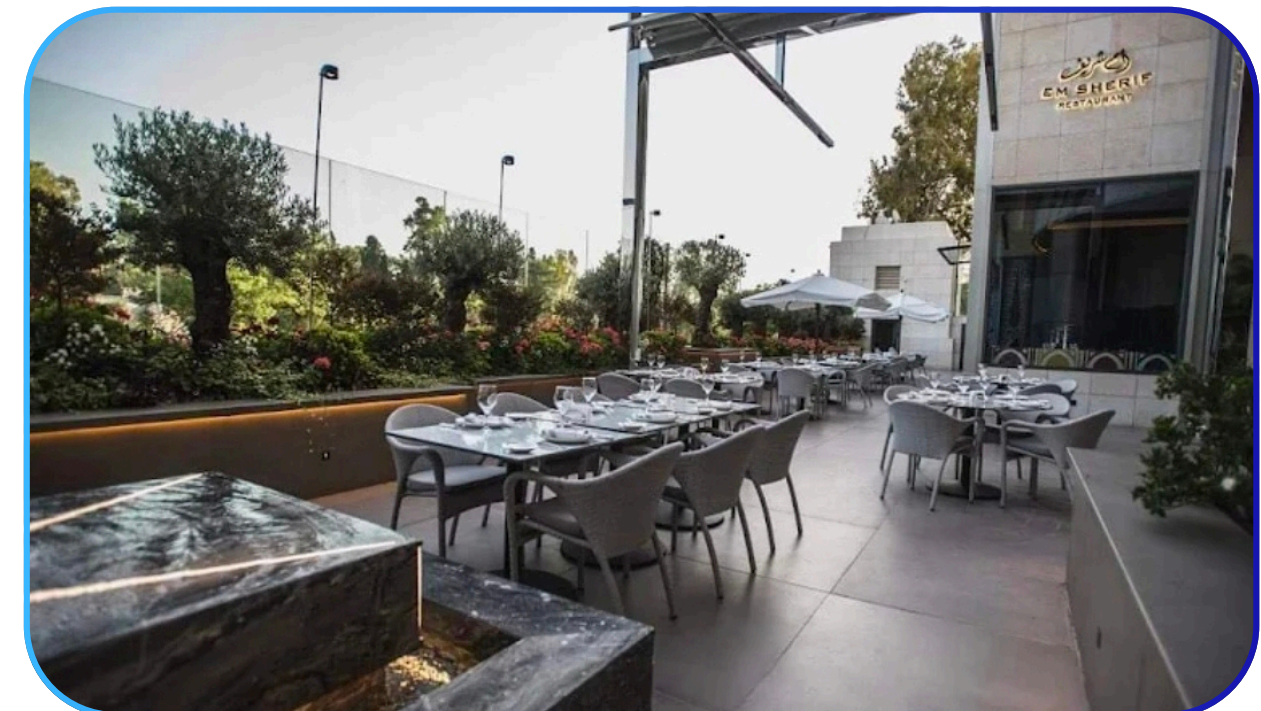
RESTAURANTS IN DAMASCUS

1

UM SHARIF RESTAURANT

An upscale Middle Eastern dining experience, featuring an elegant and calm atmosphere, excellent service, and warm hospitality. It offers a fixed menu of appetizers and traditional dishes, making it suitable for special occasions and formal gatherings. Advance reservations are recommended, and prices are relatively high.

[CLICK ON THE LOCATION](#)





VINO RESTAURANT

A refined Italian dining experience with panoramic views and high-end service, offering Italian dishes, drinks, and desserts. Prices are relatively high, and advance reservations are recommended. Some occasions may have requirements such as a minimum spend or dress code. After 9 PM, the atmosphere becomes livelier with DJ music and live performances. Service charges and taxes are added to the bill, so checking the menu online in advance is recommended.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍



3



SAH AL NOUM RESTAURANT

A modern restaurant and café offering Syrian, Eastern, and Western dishes, along with coffee, beverages, and shisha. It features indoor and outdoor seating, with a livelier atmosphere that can become noisy in the evening. Prices are relatively high, valet parking is available, and advance reservations are recommended.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#)



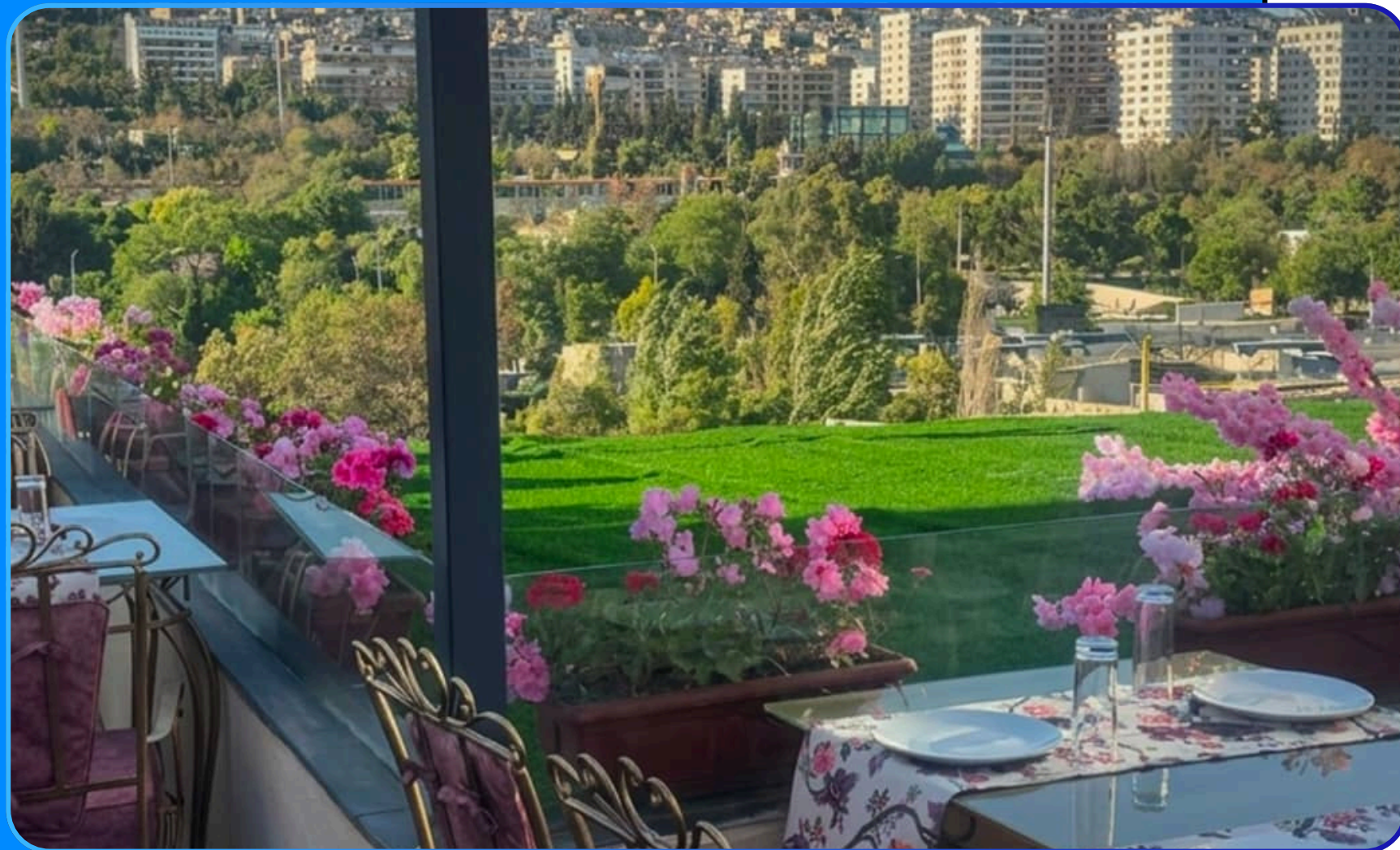


SIT AL SHAM RESTAURANT

Set Al-Sham Restaurant specializes in traditional Syrian cuisine, especially breakfast, along with grilled and Eastern dishes. It offers a family-friendly atmosphere and fast service. Prices are moderate to relatively high, with heavy crowds on Friday mornings, so early arrival is recommended. Valet parking is available.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍





5

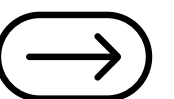
KIWAN PALACE RESTAURANT

Qasr Kiwan Restaurant blends Damascene heritage with modern style, offering Syrian, Eastern, grilled, and Turkish dishes, along with a breakfast and lunch buffet. It features views of Mount Qasioun, refined service, and valet parking. Prices are relatively high, and advance reservations are recommended for tables with a view.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍



RH



6

BEIT SITTI RESTAURANT

The restaurant is located in a traditional Damascene house, offering Syrian and Middle Eastern cuisine in a calm heritage setting. It is known for good food quality and friendly service, with moderate prices. Parking in nearby areas of Bab Tuma is recommended, followed by a short walk due to the narrow surrounding alleys.

[click here for location](#)



7

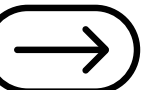
HARETNA RESTAURANT

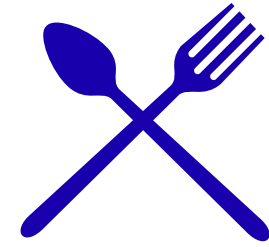
Haratna Restaurant offers Eastern and Western cuisine, including appetizers, grilled dishes, juices, and alcoholic beverages, in a spacious setting combining Damascene character with modern touches. Prices are moderate, with valet parking available. Advance reservations are recommended on weekends and match days.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#)



Rh





INTERNATIONAL AND CASUAL RESTAURANTS



1

NARANJ RESTAURANT

Naranj Restaurant is a renowned restaurant in Old Damascus, serving traditional Middle Eastern dishes in an elegant heritage setting. It is known for excellent food quality and service. Prices are relatively high, and advance reservations are recommended due to frequent crowds.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#)



Rh





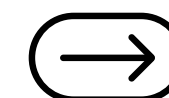
2



MONALISA RESTAURANT

Monalisa Restaurant is a well-known restaurant in Old Damascus, offering Syrian cuisine alongside a variety of contemporary dishes, as well as drinks and shisha. It provides valet parking and can host private events. It may become crowded during peak times, so advance reservations are recommended.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍



Rip

3 DAMASCUS BOULEVARD

Damascus Boulevard is a modern open-air destination featuring restaurants, cafés, retail stores, and entertainment venues. It offers a variety of Eastern, Western, and international dining options, with indoor and outdoor seating suitable for social gatherings.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍



RESTAURANTS INSIDE DAMASCUS BOULEVARD:

1 - CHOCOLATE BAR

Chocolate Bar is an international dessert brand with 44 branches, specializing in Belgian chocolate, waffles, crêpes, and pancakes. It offers indoor and outdoor seating, with relatively high prices and frequent crowds during evenings and weekends. Some desserts may be rich and heavy due to the amount of chocolate and sauces, so choosing suitable portions is recommended.



2 - VELADOR



Velador is a modern restaurant and café offering Western cuisine, beverages, and desserts in an elegant and warm atmosphere. Prices are relatively high, and shisha and smoking may not suit those seeking a smoke-free environment. The venue can become crowded in the evenings and on weekends.

3- DEL SOL

Rip



Del SOL Restaurant & Café offers a variety of Western dishes, beverages, and desserts in a warm and comfortable atmosphere. It is suitable for gatherings with friends and family occasions, and remains open until late at night.



Rip



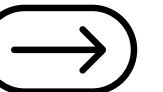
4- ASKIM RESTAURANT & CAFE

Askim Restaurant & Cafe offers a contemporary Turkish dining experience with elegant indoor and outdoor seating. It is known for food quality and refined presentation, with options suitable for families and groups. Prices are relatively high, and advance reservations are recommended during peak hours.



5 - ANGELINA CAFÉ & BISTRO

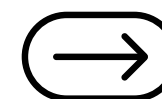
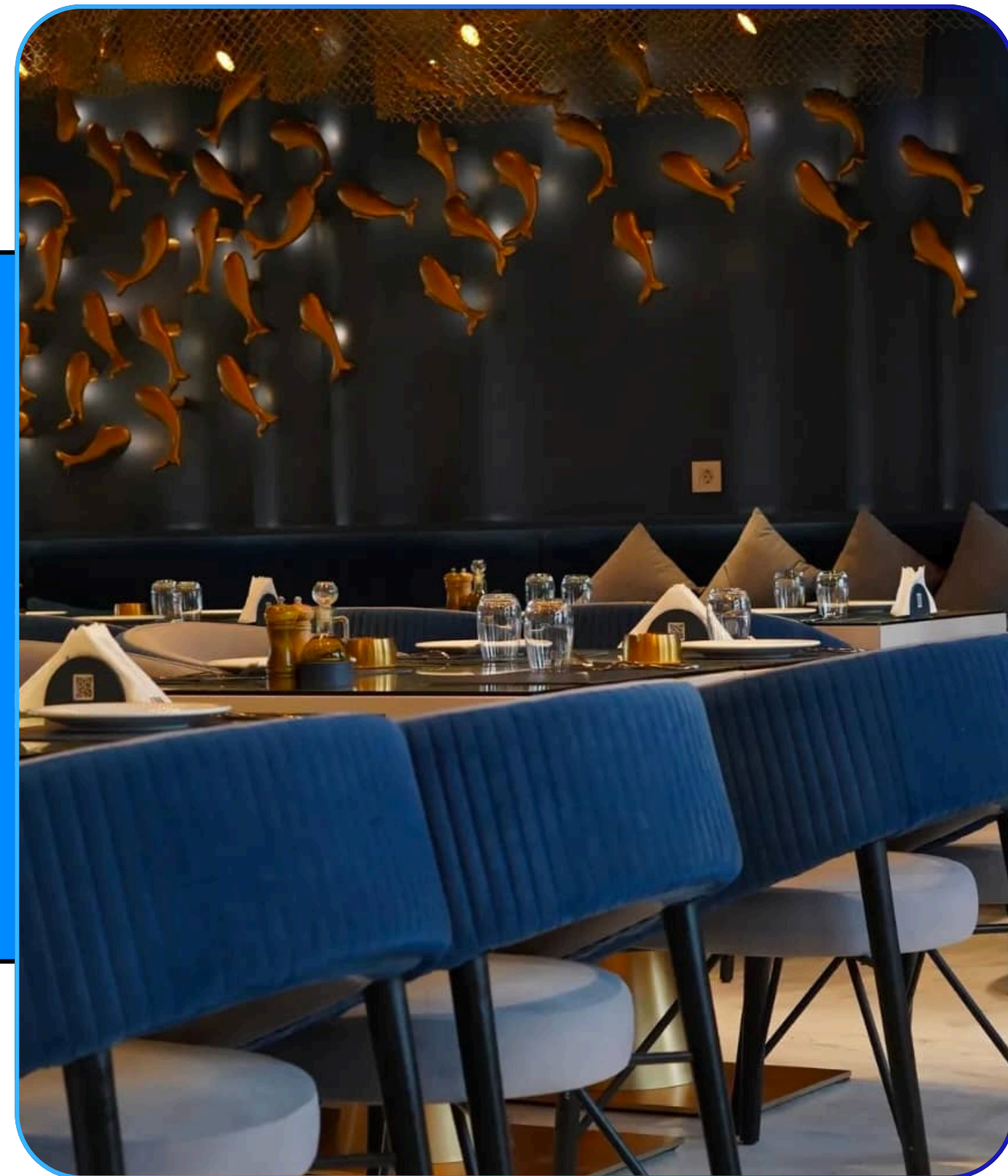
Angelina Café & Bistro offers coffee, beverages, and food options with indoor and outdoor seating. It features shisha and sports screenings. Prices are relatively high, and crowds are common during evenings, weekends, and match times, so reservations are recommended.





6 - MARIS SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

Maris Seafood offers a distinctive seafood dining experience in a comfortable atmosphere with elegant modern décor. Guests can choose from available seafood options, with a focus on ingredient quality and presentation. Prices are relatively high, and some portion sizes may not match the price, while meat and poultry options are limited. Advance reservations are recommended, especially on weekends.



4

VINTAGE SOCIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT

A modern restaurant with a youthful atmosphere and elegant décor, offering a variety of Western cuisine along with beverages and desserts. It features comfortable seating and a lively ambiance suitable for casual gatherings, with crowd levels varying depending on the time.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍



5

OKI SUSHI & CHINESE CUISINE

Asian Restaurant offers an Asian dining experience in Damascus, combining sushi and Chinese cuisine in a modern and comfortable atmosphere. It provides dine-in, takeaway, and delivery options. Prices are relatively affordable, and reservations are recommended during peak times.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍





CULT RESTAURANT

The café is located inside Tishreen Park, offering a calm natural setting with modern design and comfortable seating. It serves specialty coffee, cold drinks, desserts, and light meals, with a flexible space suitable for casual gatherings or work. It also provides indoor seating and takeaway options.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#) 🔍



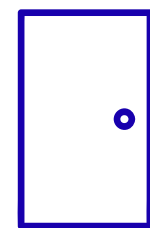
7

LUIGI RESTAURANT

The restaurant is located inside the Seven Gates Hotel in Damascus, offering a refined Italian dining experience within an elegant and classic hotel setting. It is known for quality food and service, with comfortable seating and high privacy, making it suitable for special occasions and business meetings. Prices are relatively high, and advance reservations are recommended.

[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATION](#)





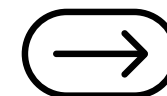
YOUR GATEWAY TO SYRIA

Rh

If you're looking to enter Syria, we're here to help you make it happen.

We help you navigate the local market, connect with the right people, and understand the landscape — providing the support you need to turn your plans into real opportunities on the ground.

**YOU BRING THE VISION
WE'RE WITH YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY**





THANK
you!

R1r