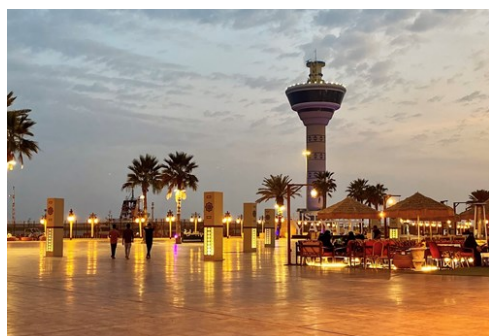




Yanbu

Photo: Farhan Artist/Shutterstock.com



Lubo Ivanko/shutterstock



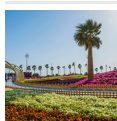
Anas Mohammed Baheed/shutterstock



Farhan Artist/Shutterstock.com

Yanbu has long been known as little more than an industrial centre with a busy port, but with some of the country's best diving spots and ever more luxury resorts in the area, it is quickly transforming into a coveted vacation destination. The desert beaches are beautiful, captivating, and solitary enough to make your visit a unique experience. There has never been a better time to visit, as the crowds have not yet caught on to this emerging city, and travellers can still have huge expanses of pristine beaches all to themselves.

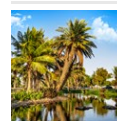
Featured



Yanbu Flower Festival

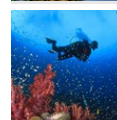
Yanbu Flower Festival is a vibrant celebration of nature, offering stunning ...

Top 5



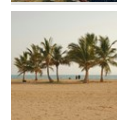
Yanbu Lakes

The name might be a bit deceiving, since the Lakes aren't really lakes, but ...



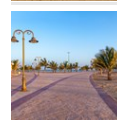
Diving

Yanbu is known for its beautiful beaches on the Red Sea and the great scuba ...



Yanbu Beaches

Touted as being some of the best in all of Saudi Arabia, Yanbu's beaches wel...



Yanbu Cornishe

This beautiful cornice stretches along the coast, providing a serene refuge...



Historic Quarter

Yanbu's small historic district, with its traditional scenes and views, is l...

THE CITY



Sergey_Bogomyako/shutterstock

The city of Yanbu is divided into two distinct areas, separated by a short and sparsely populated stretch of desert. To the south lies the industrial city and the royal commission area, home to many expats working in the petrochemical industry. Despite its industrial nature, the southern area boasts interesting urban developments, ample green spaces, and plenty of high-end establishments for fine dining and upscale shopping — not to be missed by visitors.

In contrast, the northern part of Yanbu, largely untouched by the large industry nearby, is where you'll find the downtown area, port, airport, and numerous beaches. This part of the city showcases the old city's charm and offers access to some of the best scuba diving spots, drawing savvy visitors in search of adventure.

DO & SEE



Sergiy Zavgorodny/Shutterstock.com

Being a largely industrial city, one would perhaps be surprised by the abundance of serene parks and relaxing beachside walkways. The people of Yanbu really take advantage of the outstanding city planning that has accompanied the city's rapid growth, well aware of just how special their beaches and green spaces are. Yanbu's beaches are the city's greatest draw, boasting some of the best dive spots in the country.

Yanbu Lakes



The name might be a bit deceiving, since the Lakes aren't really lakes, but a lush green expanse, perfect for kicking back and enjoying the evening breeze and the sunset. Locals really take advantage of this space, and it is uncommon not to find children playing and families picnicking at any hour.

Photo: Osama Ahmed Mansour/shutterstock

Address: Almenaa Street, Yanbu

Diving



Yanbu is known for its beautiful beaches on the Red Sea and the great scuba diving opportunities in the area. Diving Bubbles is one of the city's most reputable dive centres, offering scuba and snorkelling equipment rentals as well as diving courses for the uninitiated.

Photo: Rich Carey/Shutterstock.com

Address: Diving Bubbles, Al Salam, Yanbu

Phone: +966 56 081 0339

Internet: bubblesgroup.com

Yanbu Beaches



Touted as being some of the best in all of Saudi Arabia, Yanbu's beaches welcome people from all walks of life who gather to swim, relax on the golden sand and take advantage of the phenomenal diving spots along the reef. The nearby areas also have restaurants and cafes in abundance. They can be a lovely escape from the industrial city.

Photo: Imam Abiyu/unsplash

Address: Youth Beach, Yanbu

Yanbu Cornishe



This beautiful corniche stretches along the coast, providing a serene refuge from the industrial city of Yanbu. Lined with rows of palm trees on either side, it gathers visitors and locals alike, who flock here to enjoy long walks and to indulge in the nearby restaurants and shops.

Photo: Rahul D'silva/shutterstock

Address: Corniche, Yanbu

Historic Quarter



Yanbu's small historic district, with its traditional scenes and views, is located northwest of the city centre, now separated from the sea by the port. The 19th century buildings in the area may be a bit run down, but the Lawrence residence and historic wall stand out as memorable highlights.

Photo: Osama Ahmed Mansour/shutterstock

Address: Historic Quarter, Yanbu

Internet:

www.visitsaudi.com/en/yanbu/attractions/yanbu-historic-area

Yanbu Flower Festival



Yanbu Flower Festival is a vibrant celebration of nature, offering stunning flower displays, garden landscapes, and attractions like a butterfly garden, mini strawberry farm, and bird aviary. Perfect for families, it combines artistic, cultural, and environmental experiences, all set amidst the natural beauty of Yanbu.

Photo: kv naushad/shutterstock

Address: Events Garden, Yanbu Industrial City

Opening hours: From February through April

Internet: yanbuflowerfestival.com.sa/en

DINING



Momen Khaiti/Shutterstock.com

Eating out is a favourite pastime in Saudi Arabia, and they certainly know how to indulge. Yanbu is home to a huge variety of cuisines, ranging from local specialties to Chinese and Indian dishes and even some Mexican options. Fresh local ingredients are often used to make tasty and very filling meals with wide varieties of flavours.

Al Marsah Seafood Restaurant



Al Marsah Seafood Restaurant, conveniently located next to Yanbu Heritage Park, is an upscale spot offering a wide selection of fresh

seafood, from grilled fish to fried shrimp. Diners can choose their catch and have it prepared to their liking, with dishes infused with authentic Arabic spices. The restaurant's coastal location and elegant decor make it a top choice for a refined seafood experience.

Photo: Esin Deniz/shutterstock

Address: Al Sur, Yanbu

Phone: +966 55 465 5463

More Info: Al Marsah has three locations in Yanbu.

Al Baik



Roasted chicken may not be the first thing that comes to mind when you think of Saudi cuisine, but it would be a mistake to skip Al Baik, as the throngs of local patrons could attest to. Make sure you're not in a hurry when you come, though, because there tends to be a crowd waiting to get their hands on some of these delicious and very affordable fried treats.

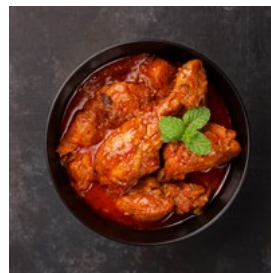
Photo: 2sif Farooqui/pixabay

Address: Al-Jabriah, Yanbu

Opening hours: Daily 9am-2am

Internet: www.albaik.com

Shaheen Restaurant



Shaheen gathers cuisines from across the Asian continent, offering dishes ranging from Indian and Pakistani to Chinese and Middle Eastern. It is largely frequented both by locals and by numbers of Indian and Pakistani expats who confirm the authenticity and quality of its food.

Photo: Santhosh Varghese/shutterstock

Address: Aj Jayyid Street, An Nawah, Yanbu

Phone: +966 14 325 7776

CAFES



Sophie James/Shutterstock.com

Escape the oppressive heat of the industrial Yanbu by visiting one of the many modern and sleek cafes spread out throughout the city. They are a great way to relax and people watch while enjoying some hot coffee or tea. Many places roast their own beans and offer great desserts, as well.

Ratio Speciality Coffee



Ratio Speciality Coffee is known for its high-quality brews and a variety of flavours in both hot and cold drinks. The cosy café offers a welcoming space,

popular for its coffee and San Sebastián cheesecake.

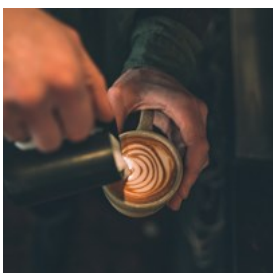
Photo: Ahanov Michael/shutterstock

Address: King Abdulaziz Road, Al Sa'ideh, Yanbu

Phone: +966 50 151 5311

Internet: www.instagram.com/ratio.sa

Equalizer Speciality Coffee



Equalizer Speciality Coffee offers a calm and comfortable setting with a reputation for serving some of the best cookies in town. Known for its excellent coffee, the café features classy indoor

and outdoor seating. While prices are slightly higher than competitors, the quality makes it a popular choice in Yanbu.

Photo: Thom Holmes/unsplash

Address: King Fahd Road, Mishrifah, Yanbu

Phone: +966 54 476 6167

Internet: equalizer.tryorder.net/menu

Barn's



Barn's is Saudi Arabia's first fully home-grown quality coffee brand. Not only do they sell a wide array of high-quality coffee beverages, as well

as delicious and fresh baked goods, but they also produce their own coffee beans. You can pick up different varieties to take home with you.

Photo: congerdesign/pixabay

Address: Al Sinaiyah, Al Bahr, Al Sanat, Yanbu

Phone: +966 9200 06843

Internet: barns.com.sa/en

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



JOAT/Shutterstock.com

The cultural environment in Saudi Arabia is highly conservative. Religious law forbids the sale or consumption of alcohol throughout Saudi Arabia, so there are no bars or nightclubs. Instead, evening social activities are centred on shopping or dining out in one of the city's many restaurants or cafes whilst indulging in a

delicious mocktail (a mix of fresh fruit juices) or a strong cup of Arabic coffee.

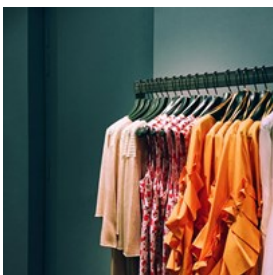
SHOPPING



Tatyana Vyc/Shutterstock.com

Much of Saudi Arabia's social life revolves around shopping as a family, an activity where everyone can participate. It is very common for families to visit one of the many large shopping centres and spend the whole day browsing, enjoying some refreshments and escaping the intense heat in the air-conditioned malls. But be sure to head to some of the smaller markets for more traditional and authentic shopping experiences, as well.

Yanbu Mall



As one of the largest and best equipped shopping centres in the city, Yanbu Mall is a family favourite among locals to come and enjoy the day, with its great shopping options, plentiful eating alternatives and multiple entertainment facilities for all ages.

Photo: unsplash/unsplash

Address: Ali Bin Abi Talib Road, Yanbu

Internet: www.instagram.com/yanbumall_co

Dana Mall



Perhaps the city's premier shopping spot, Dana Mall gathers major brand names with small boutiques, along with great opportunities to get some interesting accessories. There are plenty of restaurants and cafes, as well as a gym and some other entertainment options.

Photo: David Prado Perucha/shutterstock

Address: Al Azizia, Yanbu Al Sinaiyah, Yanbu

Phone: +966 14 393 5643

Internet: kinan.com.sa/dana-mall-3

Yanbu Fish Market



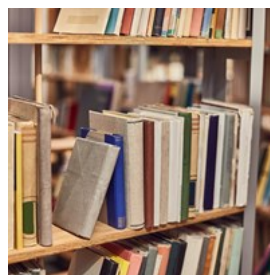
For a more traditional Yanbu experience, head to the Fish Market, an area near the beach where the day's freshest catches are auctioned off in loud and attention-grabbing fashion. Locals can purchase small samples at retail stalls to enjoy the full experience.

Photo: nuel_cruz/shutterstock

Address: Al Buhayrah, Yanbu

Phone: +966 55 331 8181

Jarir Bookstore



This large chain of bookstores has locations all around the Arab world, in Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. It is the best resource in town for books, electronics, accessories and office supplies. They also have the city's widest selection of English language books.

Photo: Peter Gudella/shutterstock

Address: Ali Bin Abi Talib Road, Al Hawra, Yanbu

Phone: +966 9200 00089

Internet: www.jarir.com/sa-en

TOURIST INFORMATION



Joe El Naggar/Shutterstock.com

Saudi Arabia eVisa



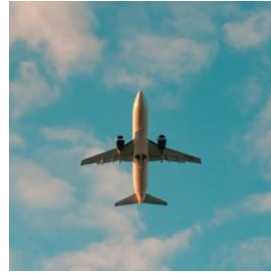
Saudi Arabia introduced a new eVisa system in October 2019, dramatically simplifying visa applications for citizens of multiple world countries, including the USA, Canada, China, Japan, Australia, and much of Europe. The new multiple-entry visa will be processed within record time (as quickly as 30 minutes), issued for one year, and will allow visitors to stay in the country for up to 90 days during its validity period. This marks a watershed moment in the country's history, as Saudi Arabia has historically been off limits to non-Muslim tourists, with visas notoriously difficult to secure.

Citizens of countries not covered by the eVisa program will still need to turn to their nearest consulate to obtain a visa.

Photo: mana5280/unsplash

Internet: visa.visitsaudi.com

Prince Abdul Mohsin Bin Abdulaziz International Airport (YNB)



Yanbu's Prince Abdul Mohsin Bin Abdulaziz Airport (YNB), located about 10 kilometres north of the city, offers international connections

to some major destinations in the Arab world, as well as to Turkey. The most convenient way to get to the city from the airport is by taxi, which should take about 20-30 minutes depending on traffic.

Photo: Philip Myrtorp/Unsplash

Address: Yanbu Domestic Airport, Yanbu

Phone: +966 800 116 8888

Cultural Norms



When strolling and exploring the city, please ensure you wear appropriate attire.

Women must be covered from neck to toes, and in certain areas, scarves are used to cover the face and head. Shorts and tank tops should not be worn outside of private accommodation by women. For men, loose clothing is recommended, and shorts are prohibited.

When visiting, please make sure to respect and abide by the laws and culture of the country.

Photo: Ali Burhan/unsplash

Post



Saudi Post offices are usually open from Sunday to Thursday 8am–4pm, aligning with the standard workweek in Saudi Arabia. Some

branches may also be open on Saturdays.

Services typically include mailing and parcel delivery, financial transactions, and the sale of postal supplies.

Photo: Ali Bakhtiari/unsplash

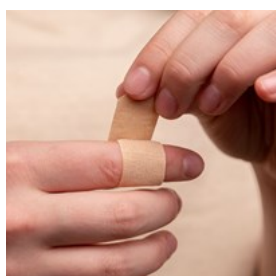
Address: Omar Bin Abdulaziz Road, Al Amarah, Yanbu

Opening hours: Sun–Thu 8am–9pm, Fri closed, Sat 5pm–9pm

Phone: +966 9200 05700

Internet: splonline.com.sa/en

Pharmacy



Common medications are readily available over the counter in most pharmacies, which are often located in malls, hospitals, and stand-alone

shops. Prescription is needed for more potent medications. Nahdi pharmacy is a well-known chain in Yanbu.

Photo: Diana Polekhina/unsplash

Address: Al-Nahdi Pharmacy, Umar Ibn Al-Khattab District, Al Hawra, Yanbu

Internet: www.nahdionline.com/en

Telephone



Country code: +966 Area code: (0)14

Photo: Miryam León/unsplash

Electricity



You'll find a variety of electrical sockets in Saudi Arabia. The most common are Type A (two flat parallel pins, commonly used in North and Central

America) and Type G (three rectangular prongs in a triangular pattern, used in the UK). Type C, Known as the Europlug, can also be found. Saudi Arabia is one of the few countries in the world that use the dual-distribution voltage 127/220 volts at homes. Standard voltage 127 volts is used for household appliances and the 220 volts for high-load electrical appliances.

Photo: Mike Winkler/unsplash

Population

331,916 (2022 census)

Currency

1 Saudi riyal (SAR) = 100 halalas

Opening hours

The working week is generally from Sunday to Thursday, with some businesses open Saturday mornings.

Government offices: 7:30am–2:30pm.

Banks: 9:30am–4:30pm.

Private businesses: 8am–noon and 4am–8pm.

Internet

www.visitsaudi.com/en/yanbu

Newspapers

Saudi Gazette: saudigazette.com.sa

Al Jazeera

Emergency numbers

Police: 999

Fire: 998

Ambulance: 997