

Lebanon

Jewel of the Mediterranean

Baalbeck



Lebanon, with its kindly climate, fascinating history, superb shopping, lively nightlife and sophisticated modern culture is a Mediterranean jewel just waiting to be discovered.

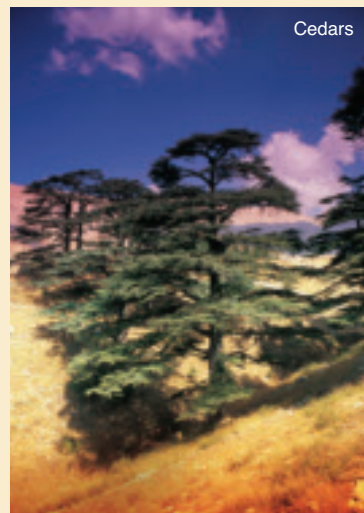
Geographically, Lebanon is as diverse as it is possible to imagine in a country so small. In a very compact space there is a coastal plain with ancient historical cities strung along its length, a soaring mountain range with popular ski resorts and an agricultural plain bound in by a second mountain range. Culturally too, there is diversity: the ancient Christian heritage and the Islamic architecture mix throughout the country with the classic remains of earlier civilisations.

The country offers an immense variety of travel experiences.

Baalbeck with the Temples of Jupiter and Bacchus is the most impressive historical site in Lebanon. Byblos is believed to be the world's oldest continually inhabited town. The site has been occupied at least for 700 years. The historic harbour and the old city centre are still unspoiled and very picturesque. Sidon, once an important Phoenician city, and the Great Mosque and Phoenician Temple in nearby Echmoun are monuments of the great past of the country.

The second largest city of Lebanon, Tripoli, is situated in the northern part of the coast, the home of the famous Cedars. Many traditional crafts are found in the souks of Tripoli. The city is also known as the sweets capital of Lebanon, therefore a visit to one of the several Arabic sweet shops is a must for every guest of the city. For a relaxing day on the beach, Jounieh about 20 kilometres north of Beirut is the right place to go.

Cedars





The famous cedar trees, the symbol of Lebanon can be seen in different parts of the country. The Jeita Grotto near Beirut offers a stunning series of caves. Boat rides with sound and light shows are offered to visitors. Another famous area is Grotto North of Beirut and the Afqa Grotto, believed to be the place where the god Adonis was killed by a wild boar.

Sightseeing

Pagan, Phoenician, Roman and Byzantine city ruins, Islamic mosques, crusader castles, 19th century oriental architecture and stunning coastline as well as the green mountain areas.

Accommodation

Elegant city hotels, coastal hotels and mountain ski resorts.

Shopping

What you can buy – Local Lebanese handicrafts including pottery, engraved brass and copper work, glass, rugs, embroidery and enamelware, antiques, gold and silver jewellery and international fashion items.

Where you can buy – Souks and shopping malls.

Entertainment

Lebanon offers a variety of entertainment with bars, discothèques, theatres, Italian and French-style pavement cafés, elegant restaurants and casinos. Eating out is very popular and the Lebanese cuisine offers a large variety of delicious specialities. Many restaurants have live entertainment with belly dancing and musicians.



Sports and leisure

Skiing in mountains around Beirut during the winter season (January to March).




Events

Baalbeck Festival (mid-July to mid-August); Al Bustan Festival of Music and Arts (February – March).

Exploring by road

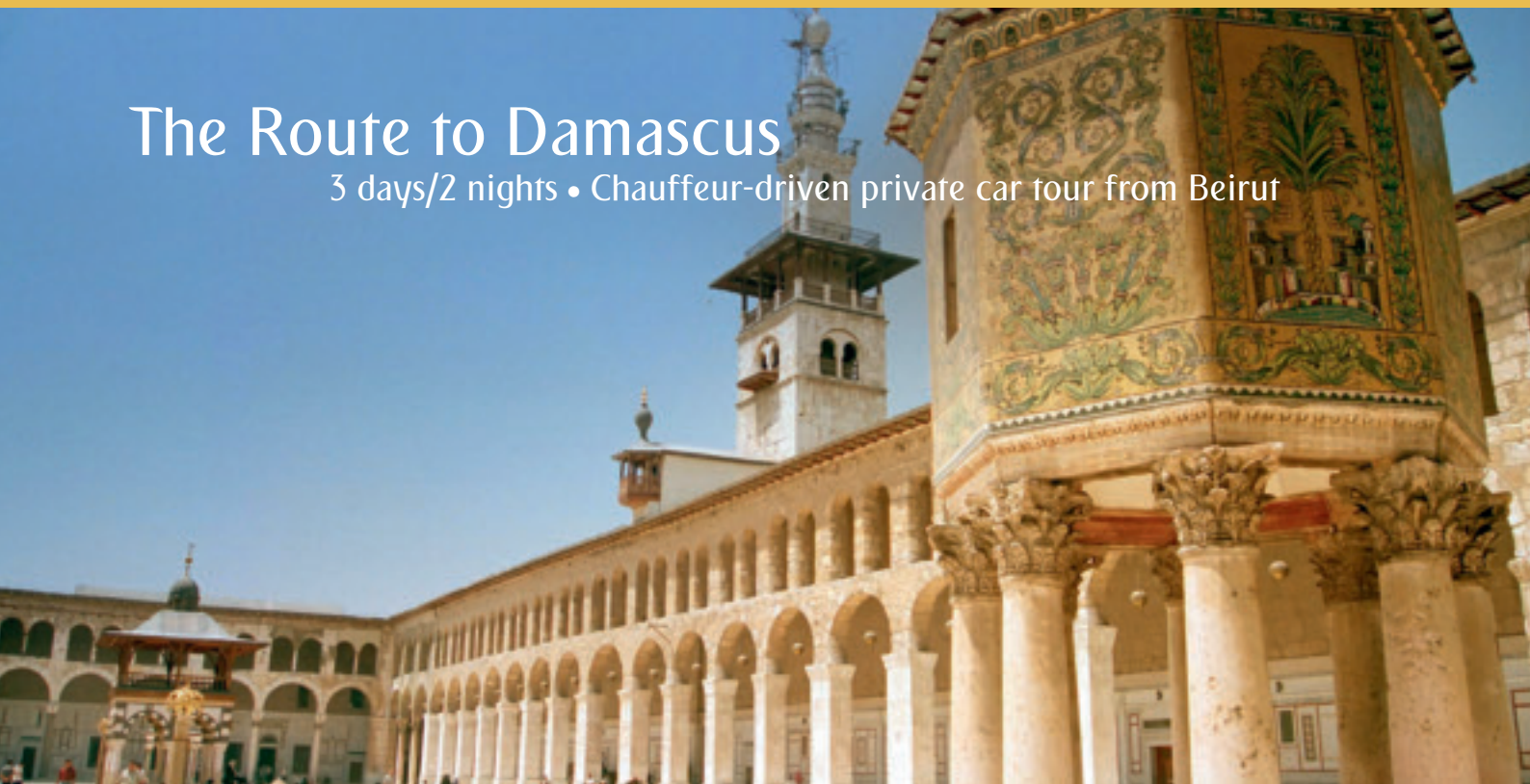
Guided tours with driver recommended.



Average climate in Lebanon													
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
	MAX °C	17	17	19	22	26	28	31	32	30	27	23	18
	MIN °C	11	11	12	14	18	21	23	23	23	21	16	13
	HRS	5	6	6	8	10	12	12	11	9	8	7	5
	MM	191	158	94	56	18	3	0	0	5	51	131	185
Daily maximum and minimum averages are guides only and may vary.													

The Route to Damascus

3 days/2 nights • Chauffeur-driven private car tour from Beirut



Beirut • Damascus • Beirut

- Baalbeck – Lebanon's greatest Roman treasure
- Damascus – The oldest continuously inhabited city in the world
- Beirut – Paris of the Middle East

Syria lies on the eastern seaboard of the Mediterranean Sea. Here civilisation flourished 45 centuries ago. Since the dawn of civilisation, Syria has been a meeting place and a crossroad, where different people and cultures of the world empires met.

Damascus, capital of Syria, is a distinguished city, which charms the visitor with its old quarters and its modern aspect. This city presents a well blended combination of ancient and the modern. Besides its famous Omayad Mosque and the old Arab souks, its museums and ancient houses, there are commercial centres, modern hotels and libraries which contain the most important old manuscripts. From both the human and the cultural side there are treasures which give pleasure to the visitors of Syria.

Day 1: Beirut – Baalbeck – Damascus

You depart from your Beirut hotel and head for Damascus, Syria. En route visit the temple complex of Baalbeck, one of the most extraordinary and enigmatic holy places of ancient times and the largest stone block construction found in the entire world. After this visit we continue to Damascus. Overnight in Damascus.

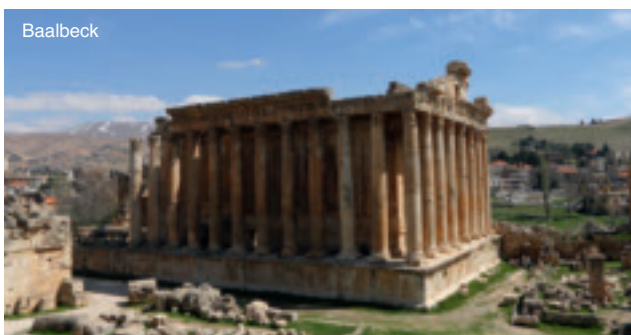
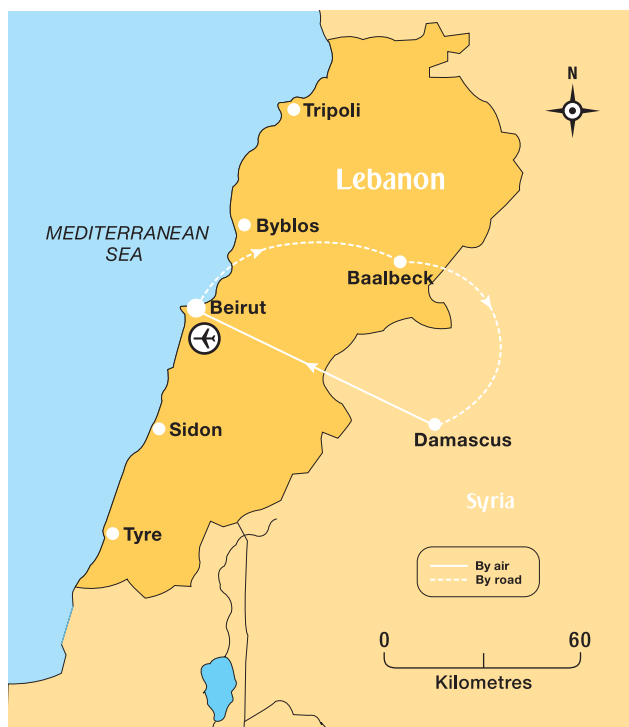
Day 2: Damascus

This morning start the day with a city tour which introduces you to the major sights of Damascus including the Damascus Museum founded in

1919 and now the central Museum of Syria, Umayyad Mosque, considered as one of the most important architectural achievements during the early stages of the Islamic state, Azem Palace, built in the 18th century, Saladin memorial, Ananias Chapel and Dam Bazar, the covered straight-line street that was reconstructed in the late 19th century. Overnight in Damascus.

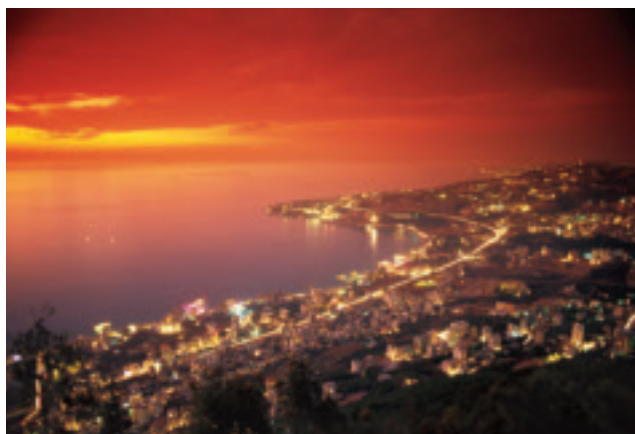
Day 3: Damascus – Beirut

After breakfast leave Damascus and return to your Beirut hotel enjoying the grand drive.



Tour available as:

- Private chauffeur-drive – Includes air-conditioned vehicle, driver, English-speaking guide and pre-booked accommodation.



Beirut

Paris of the Middle East

The city of Beirut is one of the most attractive in the eastern Mediterranean. Despite all setbacks, this resilient city manages to retain its status as a tourist, cultural and intellectual centre of the Middle East.

The new Downtown Beirut, the Hamra district, is a network of cafés, restaurants, hotels, banks and fashion outlets. Here the famous Café de Paris can still be visited. The Grand Mosque, several churches as well as Roman ruins can be seen in this area.

For the family: The Luna Park Funfair on the Corniche and The Habtoorland outside of the city centre.

Best buys: Designer fashions, Lebanese crafts and antiques, as well as gold and silver jewellery are amongst some of the best buys.

Out and about: Nightclubs, theatres, casinos as well as elegant restaurants and pavement cafés.

Sporting attractions: Winter skiing.



Enchanting Beirut and Byblos

Full-day chauffeur-driven private car excursion from Beirut

Discover the many fascinating aspects of Beirut on an excursion that enables you to enjoy some of the most panoramic landscapes of the region.

The tour begins with a drive to **downtown Beirut**, where recent excavations have uncovered important archaeological sites. A short drive to the headland of Beirut offers a panoramic view of the bay and **Pigeon's Rock**, the most famous natural feature of the city. You then visit the **National Museum**.

In **Jeita** you will discover some of the best caverns in the Middle East. Transfer by cable car to the caverns sculpted by water and discover a vast honeycomb of galleries and ravines with spectacular rock formations.



Byblos Harbour

Harissa is one of the country's most renowned landmarks and home of the **statue of the Virgin Mary**, known as Our Lady of Lebanon. Around her are the churches and cathedrals of various denominations.

The world's oldest continually inhabited town of **Byblos** goes back 7,000 years. Explore the old part of the town, starting from fisherman's harbour and leading to the church of **St John the Baptist**, before returning back to Beirut.



Pigeon's Rock

Le Gray Beirut



Location: City centre.

Le Gray Beirut is a stunning new luxury hotel located in the central district of Beirut and offers spectacular panoramic views of the Mediterranean. This ultra modern hotel created by the famous architect Kevin Dash offers cool interiors and spacious rooms designed by Mary Fox Linton and Gordon Campbell Gray. Beirut International Airport is seven kilometres away.

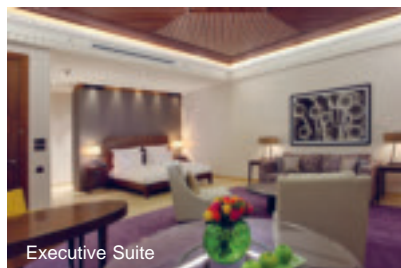
Facilities: 87 room and suites. Two restaurants, bar, 24-hour room service, beauty salon, babysitting, interconnecting and non-smoking rooms. Suitable for the physically challenged.

Executive Suites: Air-conditioning, hairdryer, bathrobe, TV, data ports, minibar, tea and coffee.

Sports and leisure: Outdoor pool, fitness centre, spa, sauna and massage.

Check-in: 1400 hours

Check-out: 1200 hours.



Executive Suite



Four Seasons Hotel Beirut

Location: Close to the city centre.

Boldly modern, the Four Seasons Hotel Beirut soars majestically skyward and brings the best in hospitality to Beirut. It is located close to the downtown area and within close proximity of the city's historic sites from Martyr's Square to the Roman Baths. With its deft, friendly and personalised service, this landmark hotel immerses you in Beirut's sophistication in a unique way. Beirut International Airport is eight kilometres away.

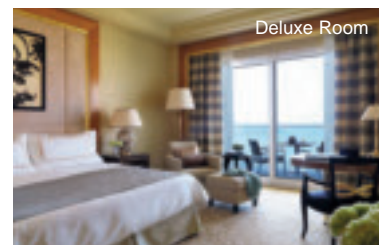
Facilities: 230 room and suites. Three restaurants, bar, 24-hour room service, business centre, beauty salon, babysitting, interconnecting and non-smoking rooms.

Deluxe Rooms: Air-conditioning, hairdryer, bathrobe, TV, data ports, minibar and safe.

Sports and leisure: Outdoor pool, fitness centre, spa, sauna, jacuzzi and massage.

Check-in: 1400 hours

Check-out: 1200 hours.



Deluxe Room

InterContinental Phoenicia Beirut



Location: Ain El Mreisseh.

Overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, this hotel is centrally located along the famous Corniche, a few minutes from the city's business and banking district, and the ever lively and entertaining downtown area – Solidere. The Casino du Liban and Beirut's famous racetrack are situated near by. Beirut International Airport is eight kilometres away.

Facilities: 462 rooms and suites. Three restaurants, two bars, 24-hour room service, shops, beauty salon, business centre, babysitting, interconnecting and non-smoking rooms. Suitable for the physically challenged.

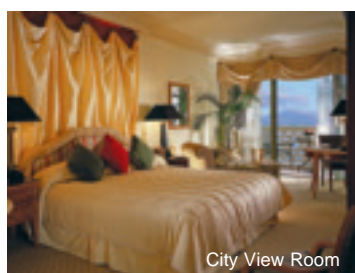
City View Rooms: Air-conditioning,

hairdryer, bathrobe, TV, data ports, minibar and safe.

Sports and leisure: Indoor and outdoor pools, sun deck, fully-equipped fitness centre, spa, aqua gym, sauna, jacuzzi and steam bath.

Check-in: 1500 hours

Check-out: 1200 hours.



City View Room



Mövenpick Hotel & Resort Beirut



Location: Raouche.

Situated on a private beach, the resort is a short walk from Beirut's central district and elegant Verdun shopping area. The Mövenpick also offers 72 chalets and a shopping centre. Beirut International Airport is seven kilometres away.



Facilities: 293 rooms and suites. Four restaurants, two bars, 24-hour room service, shops, hairdresser, beauty salon, business centre, children's activities, babysitting, interconnecting and non-smoking rooms. Suitable for the physically challenged.



Courtyard Rooms: Air-conditioning, hairdryer, bathrobe, TV, data ports, minibar and safe.

Sea View Rooms: Additionally these rooms offer a balcony and sea view.

Sports and leisure: Indoor and outdoor pool, children's pool, fully-equipped fitness centre, spa, sauna, jacuzzi, steam bath, massage, two tennis courts, two squash courts and table tennis.

Check-in: 1400 hours

Check-out: 1200 hours.



Habtoor Grand Hotel, Convention Center & Spa - Beirut



Location: Horch Tabet, Sin El Fil.

The hotel is located in the heart of the city and within walking distance of the exhibition centre at the Beirut Hall. It is conveniently situated for visits to historical sites such as Baalbeck, Byblos and Jeita Grotto, as well as gives easy access to the mountain area. Beirut International Airport is 12 kilometres away.

Facilities: 202 rooms and suites. Six restaurants, three bars, 24-hour room service, shopping arcade, beauty salon, business centre, interconnecting and non-smoking rooms. Suitable for the physically challenged.

Deluxe Rooms: Air-conditioning, hairdryer, bathrobe, TV, fax machine, data ports, minibar and safe.

Sports and leisure: Outdoor pool, fully-equipped fitness centre, spa, sauna, steam bath, snow room and tennis court.

Check-in: 1500 hours

Check-out: 1200 hours.



Deluxe Room

Le Royal Beirut



Location: Dbayeh.

This modern hotel offers stunning and spectacular views of the Mediterranean Sea. Located just five kilometres from the trendy shopping areas of Kaslik and Jounieh, the hotel complex also boasts one of the largest and most sophisticated water parks in the Middle East. Beirut International Airport is 18 kilometres away.



Facilities: 231 rooms and suites. Four restaurants, bar, 24-hour room service, business centre, hairdresser, beauty salon, safety deposit boxes, babysitting, interconnecting and non-smoking



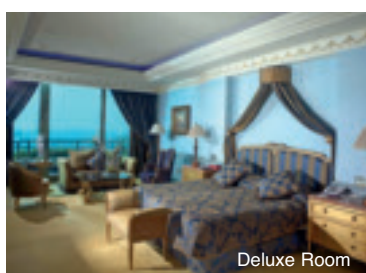
rooms. Suitable for the physically challenged.

Deluxe Rooms: Air-conditioning, hairdryer, bathrobe, TV, data ports, minibar and safe.

Sports and leisure: Outdoor and indoor pool, fitness centre, spa, sauna, jacuzzi, massage and tennis court.

Check-in: 1500 hours

Check-out: 1200 hours.



Deluxe Room



The Metropolitan Palace Hotel – Beirut



Location: Horch Tabet, Sin El Fil.

This hotel is located within walking distance to the exhibition centres at Beirut Hall and with easy access to the Parisian themed shopping mall, The Boulevard. The hotel's luxurious ambience, traditional Arabian hospitality and unique range of accommodation make it popular for both leisure and business travellers from around the world. Beirut International Airport is 12 kilometres away.

Facilities: 183 rooms and suites. Four restaurants, three bars, 24-hour room service, shops, beauty salon, business centre, interconnecting and non-smoking rooms. Suitable for the physically challenged.

Deluxe Rooms: Air-conditioning, hairdryer, bathrobes, TV, fax machine, data ports, minibar and safe.

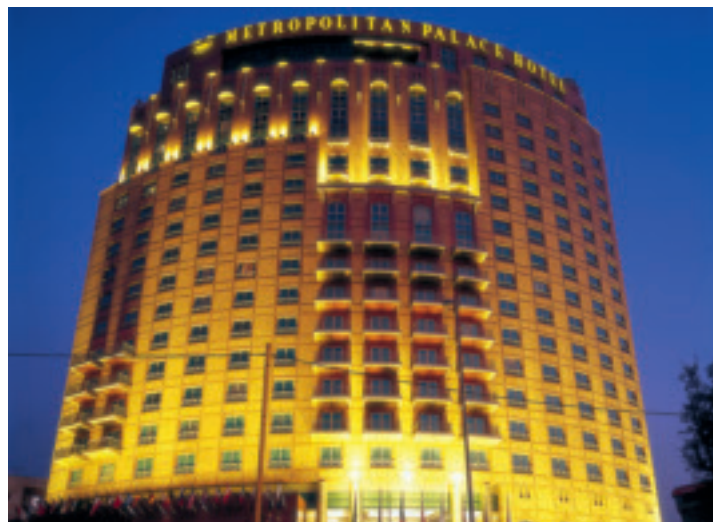
Sports and leisure: Outdoor pool, fully-equipped fitness centre, sauna, jacuzzi, steam bath and tennis court.

Check-in: 1500 hours

Check-out: 1200 hours.



Deluxe Room



Gefinor Rotana



Location: Raouche.

Ideally located in the heart of Beirut, the Gefinor Rotana is within walking distance from downtown, the Hamra district and the major shopping centres. The hotel's distinctive charm and hospitality ensures that all guests experience unparalleled warmth and service. Beirut International Airport is eight kilometres away.

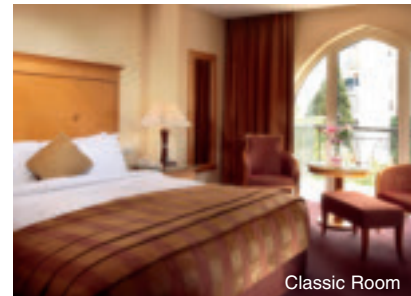
Facilities: 164 rooms and suites. Three restaurants, bar, 24-hour room service, business centre, shops, babysitting, interconnecting and non-smoking rooms.

Classic Rooms: Air-conditioning, hairdryer, bathrobe, TV, data ports, minibar, tea and coffee and safe.

Sports and leisure: Outdoor pool, fitness centre, sauna, steambath and massage.

Check-in: 1400 hours

Check-out: 1200 hours.



Classic Room

Four Points By Sheraton Le Verdun



Location: Verdun.

Located in the heart of Beirut's most exclusive business and shopping district, the Four Points By Sheraton Le Verdun is a trendy and modern hotel offering quality service in a casual and comfortable environment. Its personalised service and distinctive attitude caters well to business and leisure travellers alike. Beirut International Airport is eight kilometres away.

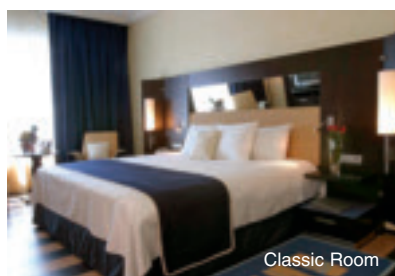
Facilities: 132 rooms and suites. Restaurant, bar, 24-hour room service, business centre, interconnecting and non-smoking rooms.

Classic Rooms: Air-conditioning, hairdryer, TV, data ports, minibar, tea and coffee and safe.

Sports and leisure: Outdoor pool and fitness room.

Check-in: 1400 hours

Check-out: 1200 hours.



Classic Room





Faraya – Mzaar

Outdoor centre of Lebanon

Only 60 kilometres from Beirut, the snowy peaks of Mount Lebanon await the skiers and snowboarders during the winter season from December to March.

The Mzaar and Faraya areas are the most important ski destinations in the Middle East, with 80 kilometres of slopes, 18 lifts and a capacity of 20,000 skiers per hour. The difficulty of the slopes varies with easy pistes for the beginners to more challenging areas for the enthusiasts.

While skiing, snowboarding and snowmobiling are the main attractions during the winter, the area offers many outdoor activities all year-round. Hiking in the area is very popular during the summer and many interesting archaeological sites can be found in the mountains.



Average climate in Faraya												
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
MAX °C	10	10	15	18	20	22	27	27	20	18	15	15
MIN °C	-3	-3	0	12	14	16	20	20	15	12	10	0
Daily maximum and minimum averages are guides only and may vary.												

InterContinental Mountain Resort & Spa, Mzaar ✓✓✓✓✓



Location: Oyoune El Simane, Mzaar.
Acclaimed as the premier ski destination in the Middle East, the InterContinental is the best-equipped and most popular winter sports resort in Lebanon. The hotel has direct access to the ski slopes and the safari centre, which offers skidoo tours and other outdoor activities. Beirut International Airport is 65 kilometres away.
Facilities: 131 rooms and suites. Two restaurants, bar, 24-hour room service, nightclub, shops, beauty salon, business centre, babysitting, interconnecting and non-smoking rooms.
Standard Rooms: Balcony, air-conditioning and central heating, hairdryer, bathrobe, TV, minibar and safe.

Sports and leisure: Indoor and outdoor pools, fitness room, spa, sauna, jacuzzi, steam bath, solarium, table tennis, squash court, four-lane bowling alley, mountain and four-wheel bikes on hire.
Check-in: 1400 hours
Check-out: 1200 hours.



Standard Room

Terre Brune Hotel ✓✓✓✓✓



Location: Faqra.
This hotel is located in the heart of Faqra close to Mzaar's famous ski slopes. The elegant interior of the hotel is decorated in contemporary style with stone and wood and reflects a strong Alpine character. After an enjoyable day of skiing, relax by the large fireplace in a warm and cosy atmosphere. Beirut International Airport is 65 kilometres away.
Facilities: 45 rooms and suites. Three restaurants, two bars, nightclub, shops, babysitting and ski storage.



Standard Room

Standard Rooms: Balcony, hairdryer, bathrobe, TV and minibar.
Sports and leisure: Sauna, steam bath and massage.
Check-in: 1500 hours
Check-out: 1200 hours.

