Dear Valued Guest,

Ramadan Kareem!

In observance of the Holy Month of Ramadan, we invite you, your families and friends to take on a journey and be part of our wonderful festivities in the hotel. Experience the true spirit of Ramadan at The Ritz-Carlton, Doha.

It may be a time of fasting, but the Holy month of Ramadan can also be a time of indulgence. Inspired by the ancient thriving pearl-fishing and trading port, the Al Wosail Ballroom of The Ritz-Carlton, Doha has transformed into Qatar’s first UNESCO world heritage site inspired theme of the Al Zubarah Fort. A beautiful fortress and a luxuriant landscape of red and gold color scheme and Bedouins inspired majlis which families and friends can dine in intimate yet welcoming nooks in corners. Ambient lighting sets the mood for memorable evenings; shisha, traditional Arabic coffee and tunes from the traditional Ramadan entertainers complement a vast array of delectable cuisine.

Kindly be informed that alcoholic beverages will not be served within public areas of the hotel and in our restaurants during the Holy month. Alcohol will be available only via the In-room dining service and served in the comforts of your room.

Please be advised that guests are requested to refrain from consuming food and drink, chewing gum and smoking in public during the fasting hours. Guests are also encouraged to wear conservative clothing in public.

Please do not hesitate in contacting me personally, if I can be of any assistance during your stay.

Yours sincerely,

Patrizia Hofer
Hotel Manager
The Ritz-Carlton, Doha
ضيفنا العزيز،
رمضان كريم!
ندعوكم بمناسبة شهر رمضان المبارك للإستمتاع رفقة العائلة والأصدقاء بالفعاليات المميزة المبرمجة بفندقنا.
أجواء رمضان المميزة بالريتز كارلتون -
شهر رمضان هو شهر الصوم و يمكن أن يكون كذلك وقت للإستمتاع. يقدم الريتز كارلتون العديد من التجارب التقليدية والمتنوعة في إطار رمضان خاص، شاملة عروض موسيقية حية تؤلث خيمناتنا الرمضانية الفخمة والحديثة ذات الديكور الأيق المستوى من ألوان البادية وروح تقليدية. سيعيش الضيوف تجربة تأخذهم إلى أجواء الماضي مستمتعين بالخيام المنصوبة بأسلوب أصيل بردهة الخيمة الرمضانية بثقافة الوسيلة الكبيرة.
تتوفر غرفة صلاة مخصصة.
يرجى العلم بأن المشروبات الكحولية لن تقدم بالمناطق العامة بالفندق و بمطاعمنا خلال الشهر المبارك. ستكون المشروبات الكحولية متوفرة فقط عن طريق خدمة الغرف و تقدم في نطاق غرفكم.
يرجى العلم بأنه الأكل والشرب ومضغ العلكة و التدخين غير مسموح به علنا خلال الصيام. يوصى بإرتداء البدلات المحجشة في الأماكن العامة.
في حال احتاجتم إلى مساعدة خلال فترة إقامتكم، يرجى عدم التردد في الإتصال بي مباشرة.
تفضلوا بقبول فائق الاحترام،
باتريتسيا هوفر
مديرة الفندق
الريتز كارلتون، الدوحة
RAMADAN KAREEM

The true spirit of Ramadan comes to life at The Ritz-Carlton, Doha with festivities that promise to delight family and friends. The rich Qatari Heritage-inspired theme with majestic tent at Al Wosail will take you back in time and feature a feast for the senses with live carving stations, regional cuisines, fresh salads and tempting desserts. Relax with live music and Tanoura dance entertainment enjoyed from your private majlis seating or the main dining area.

Individuals
QAR 220 per person for Iftar or Suhour
50% savings for kids aged 5 to 12, complimentary for kids aged 4 and under.

Price includes Ramadan juices buffet and soft beverages

For more information, please contact us at +974 4484 8000 or visit ritzcarlton.com/doha
Ramadan is less than a week away, and schedules in Qatar will change dramatically as people begin the fasting month. Whether this is your first Ramadan in the country, or your fifteenth, here are some things you may want to keep in mind in the coming days.

**The moon matters**
Because the Islamic calendar is a lunar one, Ramadan won’t officially begin until the new moon is spotted. Every year, Qatar’s Islamic affairs ministry sets a date for people to look for the crescent. This will likely be on Friday, May 26.

If the moon is seen after sunset, then fasting will begin on Saturday, May 27. Otherwise, the first day of fasting will be May 28. Residents will also be asked to look to the sky to mark the end of Ramadan, which will be either 29 or 30 days long.

When it’s over, a days-long festival called Eid Al-Fitr begins. It is estimated to be around June 25 this year.

**Shorter work and schoolday**
By law, Qatar residents (whether they are fasting or not) are required to have abbreviated working days during Ramadan. For the public sector such as government ministries, that means five hours a day, from 9am to 2pm.

Private sector employees usually get a 36-hour workweek, which means their workday goes from eight hours to six. However, this isn’t always the case.

Those who don’t get shorter hours during Ramadan are usually entitled to compensation or extra vacation days, but check with your employer to see how you’ll be affected. Children’s days will also be reduced to five hours, whether they are in independent, private or international schools, with a handful of exceptions.

**No eating or drinking in public**
In Qatar and some other Gulf countries, it’s illegal for adults to drink or eat (or chew gum or smoke) in public during the fasting day. Those who do can be fined. This can pose a problem for people who aren’t fasting, including non-Muslims and Muslims who are sick, pregnant, breastfeeding or menstruating.

Some workplaces have special areas for employees to eat lunch, but others prefer to wait until their shortened workday is over to eat at home.

Most restaurants are closed during the day in Ramadan (as are many shops), but some will offer takeaway services. Stay tuned for our Ramadan opening hours guide, which will have a list of those places.

**Alcoholic beverage**
Muslims aren’t allowed to drink alcohol, and Qatar honors this by going dry for the duration of Ramadan. This means hotel restaurants won’t be selling drinks and the Qatar Distribution Co. (the only place where booze is sold for home consumption) will be closed until Eid.

The last shopping day at QDC is Thursday, May 25. It will reopen the second day of Eid. Expect long lines outside the warehouse in the coming week as people stock up on their spirits.

Hours are 9am to 9pm Saturday to Thursday and 3 to 9pm on Fridays.

**Traffic patterns change**
Since this Ramadan is during the school year, lots of people won’t be leaving Qatar for vacation until Eid or beyond.

Traffic will still be busy in the mornings, though it might build later than usual because government offices don’t get started until 9am.

There’s also going to be a lot of congestion at night as people go out to meet friends and family, shop and run errands. For those who wish to avoid gridlock, try to stay off the roads after 8pm.

Another fraught time period is the half hour before iftar, which is going to be around 6:20pm when Ramadan starts. Lots of hungry people are rushing to get home or to someone’s house to break their fast, and they don’t always drive very safely.

**Interesting traditions**
Though things can get pretty mellow in Ramadan, there are some unique things to check out during the month.

For example, people like to gather around a cannon at the State Mosque around sunset that goes off when it’s time to break the fast.

Ramadan cannon at State Mosque

Another interesting tradition is the Ramadan car parade, in which young people cruise down the Corniche in their classic or luxury vehicles about an hour before iftar. There’s also the Garangao festival for children in the middle of the month.

Additionally, most restaurants usually stay open late, hotels have lavish iftar and suhoor buffets and venues like Katara Cultural Village and the Aspire Zone usually hold Ramadan-centric activities.

**People try to be better**
Muslims believe Ramadan is a special month to practice generosity and build up spirituality and closeness with God.

More people will be spending time in the mosques during the evening, especially as we get closer to Eid. This is also one of the two times of the year that the Emir officially pardons prisoners (the other is National Day).

And lots of local charities also host large iftar dinners for blue-collar workers in Qatar during this month.

You can do your part by being more considerate of others, ensuring your househelp gets enough time off during the month and donating your time or money to help the less fortunate.
Opening Hours

**Government and Public Sector**

Ministries and government departments, public bodies and institutions
Sunday to Thursday from 9am - 2pm

**MOI:** General Directorate of Nationality, Borders and Expatriate Affairs
8am - 5.30pm

**Traffic Department**
8am - 5.30pm

**Number plate installation**
9am - 1pm & 9pm - 1am

**Technical inspection**
8am - 1pm & 8:30pm - 1am

**Criminal Evidence and Information Department (fingerprint section) All branches**
8am - 5:30pm

**Security Department**
24 hours.

**Post Offices: Main branch**
Sunday to Thursday from 9am - 2pm
9pm - 12midnight
Saturday from 9am - 12midday
9pm - 12midnight; closed Friday

**Government and public sector**
9am - 2pm

**Hospitals**

**Doha Clinic Hospital**
Saturday to Thursday, 8am - 2pm
9pm - 1am

**Al Emadi Hospital**
Sunday to Wednesday, 9am - 5pm then 9pm - 12:30am
Thursday from 9am - 1pm

**Al Ahli Hospital**
Sunday to Wednesday from 8am - 2pm
7:30pm - 12:30am.

**Malls**

**Villaggio mall**
Saturday to Thursday: 10am - 3pm
7:30pm-midnight
Fridays from 7:30pm - 1am

**Landmark Mall**
Monday to Thursday & Saturday: 10am - 3pm
7.30pm - 1am
Friday and Sunday hours will be 7.30pm - 1am only

**City Center Mall**
Sunday to Thursday from 10am - 1am
Fridays from 3:30pm - 1am

**The Gate**
Saturday to Thursday from 10am - 3pm
8pm - 1am
Fridays 8am - 1am

**Lagoona Mall**
10am - 3pm & 8pm - 2am
Friday 8pm - 12Midnight

**The Mall**
10am - 3pm & 7:30pm - midnight
Fridays, 7:30pm - Midnight

**Gulf Mall**
Saturday to Thursday from 10am - 3pm
7:30pm - 1am
Fridays: 7:30pm - 1am

**Hyatt Plaza**
Saturday to Thursday - 9am - 3pm
8pm - midnight
Fridays, 8pm - 12Midnight
Fridays, 2pm - 1am

**Shops in the Pearl-Qatar**
10am - 2pm
8pm - 12Midnight

**Souq Waqif**
10am - 1pm
7pm - 12Midnight

**Museums**

**Museum of Islamic Art**
Sunday and Monday from 8pm - midnight
Wednesday and Thursday from 8pm - midnight
closed on Tuesdays and Fridays

**Mathaf**
Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Thursday and Saturday from 10am - 5pm
Closed Monday and Friday

**Opening Hours**

**Banks**

**Doha Bank**
Sunday to Thursday from 9am - 2pm
from 8:30pm - 10:30pm

**HSBC**
Sunday to Thursday, from 9am - 2pm
City Center Branch from 8pm - 10pm

**Qatar Islamic Bank (QIB)**
Sunday to Thursday from 9am - 2pm
Saturday from 9am - 12noon

**Ahli Bank**
Sunday to Thursday from 9am - 2pm
City Center: Saturday to Thursday from 10am - 3pm
9pm - 11:30pm
Fridays from 9pm to midnight

**IBQ**
Sunday to Thursday, 9am - 2pm
Sunday to Wednesday from 8:30 pm - 10:30 pm

**Al Khaliji**
Sunday to Thursday from 9am - noon

**Commercial Bank**
Saturday to Thursday from 9am - 2pm
8:30pm -11:30pm
Fridays from 8:30pm - 11:30pm

**Masraf Al Rayyan**
Saturday to Thursday, 10am - 1pm
8:30pm -11:30pm; Friday, 8:30pm - 11:30pm

**Fire Station**
Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 8pm - midnight
closed Tuesday
Wednesday to Friday from 8pm - midnight