

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

in association with

APPAREL GROUP

SINCE 1996

EXCEED EXPECTATIONS EVERYDAY



POST-EVENT REPORT

WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com       [WhatsOnKSA](#) [#WOAwards](#)

Destination Partner

experience
abu dhabi

Beverage Partners


ALCOHOL FREE


ALCOHOL FREE 0.0%


ALCOHOL FREE
Spiced Gold
0.0% ALC


GUINNESS
0.0

Structural Partner


ALL
EVENTS
SERVICES

Media Partner


عين الريف
Eye Of Riyadh

Entertainment Partner


SUPERGOLD

Vote Processing Partner


JACOBSONS
better experiences

Presented By

 **موتيفيت**
MOTIVATE

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

THANK YOU



Motivate Media Group would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to our sponsors for what was a hugely successful evening that celebrated the very best of Saudi Arabia's leisure and entertainment industry.

We hope you enjoyed the event, and we look forward to working with you in the near future.

Thanks again,
Motivate Media Group Events Team

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

THE VENUE



Nestled in the heart of the new commercial and business district of Riyadh, JW Marriott Hotel Riyadh, embodies the epitome of luxury, style, and comfort. Located just 27 km away from King Khaled International Airport on the King Fahad highway that connects the airport to the city center, the 5 star hotel is tasteful with stylish modern Najdi architecture. It features state-of-the-art technology, delivering a relaxing experience like no other.

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

INVITATION

400+ guests including C-suite leaders, general managers, and stakeholders from the hospitality industry attended the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards.

Thirty three awards were presented to well-deserved winners.

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

in association with

**APPAREL
GROUP**
SINCE 1996
EXCEED EXPECTATIONS EVERYDAY

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN US
IN CELEBRATING THE LEADING LIGHTS OF THE
HOSPITALITY AND ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

DATE: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

VENUE: JW MARRIOTT HOTEL RIYADH

EVENT ENTRANCE & VALET: HOTEL BALLROOM

DOORS OPEN: 7:30 PM

DRESS CODE: LADIES – GLAM | GENTS – LOUNGE SUIT

RSVP: WHATSONEVENTS@MOTIVATE.AE

PROGRAMME: *

7:30 PM: ENTERTAINMENT

8:00 PM: WELCOME ADDRESS

8:30 PM: AWARDS CEREMONY PART 1

9:00 PM: DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT

10:00 PM: AWARDS CEREMONY PART 2

11:00 PM: ENTERTAINMENT

12:00 AM: VENUE CLOSES

*TIMINGS ARE ALL APPROXIMATE

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY

T&C: * Guests consent to the broadcast, photographing and video recording during the event by Motivate and expressly release Motivate against any claims arising out of the consent herein granted.

WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com

f x @ j s v t WhatsOnKSA #WOAwards

Destination
Partner

experience
abu dhabi

Structural
Partner

ALL
EVENTS
SERVICES

Media
Partner

Eye Of Riyadh

Beverage
Partners

Tempurpedic
0.0
Guinness
0.0
SUPERBOLD

Entertainment
Partner

Vote Processing
Partner

JACOBSONS
SINCE 1996

Presented By

موتيفات
MOTIVATE

WHAT'S ON

AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

THE PURPLE CARPET



WHAT'S ON

AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

THE PURPLE CARPET



WHAT'S ON SAUDI ARABIA AWARDS 2025

EVENT BRANDING



Sponsors logos were placed on all event collateral, including but not limited to: invites, photo wall, winner's wall, table-top branding, menu & program welcome boards, outdoor signage and ballroom banners, etc. **TO BE UPDATED**



WHAT'S ON SAUDI ARABIA AWARDS 2025

EVENT BRANDING



WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

HEADLINE SPONSOR- APPAREL GROUP



Neeraj Teckchandani, CEO of apparel group, presented the following awards:

- Favourite Business Lunch
- Favourite Dessert
- Favourite Hotel Brunch



FAVOURITE BUSINESS LUNCH
SUSHISAMBA Riyadh



FAVOURITE DESSERT
Pierre Hermé



FAVOURITE HOTEL BRUNCH
Al Orjouan, The Ritz-Carlton,
Riyadh

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

BEVERAGE PARTNER- DIAGEO



FAVOURITE LOUNGE
Stella Sky Lounge,
The St. Regis Riyadh



FAVOURITE MOCKTAIL
Tonic Bar, Four Seasons Hotel
Riyadh at Kingdom Center

Peter Lebese, Diageo Prestige Brand Ambassador, presented the following awards:

- Favourite Lounge
- Favourite Mocktail



WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

SPONSOR ALL EVENT SERVICES



Andrew Buist, AES Country Manager for KSA, presented the following awards:

- Favourite Concert, Show or Festival
- Favourite Fitness Facility or Studio



**FAVOURITE CONCERT,
SHOW OR FESTIVAL**
Soundstorm Music Festival



**FAVOURITE FITNESS
FACILITY OR STUDIO**
Reform

WHAT'S ON

AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

ENTERTAINMENT PARTNER- SUPERGOLD



Supergold, known for their dynamic live performances and signature sound, sponsored the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards to celebrate and support the region's thriving entertainment and nightlife scene.



WHAT'S ON SAUDI ARABIA AWARDS 2025

WINNERS

GRAND PRIX



WHAT'S ON RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR
Il Baretto



WHAT'S ON HOMEGROWN RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR
Kayzo



WHAT'S ON NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR
Julien at Café Boulud, Four Seasons Hotel Riyadh at Kingdom Centre

LEISURE AND ENTERTAINMENT



FAVOURITE CONCERT, SHOW OR FESTIVAL
SoundStorm Music Festival



FAVOURITE FITNESS FACILITY OR STUDIO
Reform



FAVOURITE LUXURY HOTEL IN RIYADH
Bab Samhan, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Diriyah



FAVOURITE LUXURY HOTEL IN SAUDI ARABIA
Rixos Obhur Jeddah Resort & Villas



FAVOURITE SPA
Fairmont Riyadh Spa

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

WINNERS

FOOD CONCEPTS



FAVOURITE AFTERNOON TEA
Chorisia Lounge,
The Ritz-Carlton, Riyadh



FAVOURITE BBQ
Ziba



FAVOURITE BREAKFAST
Lunch Room Social Dining



FAVOURITE BUSINESS LUNCH
SUSHISAMBA Riyadh



FAVOURITE DESSERT
Pierre Hermé



FAVOURITE HOTEL BRUNCH
Al Orjouan,
The Ritz-Carlton, Riyadh



FAVOURITE LOUNGE
Stella Sky Lounge,
The St. Regis Riyadh



FAVOURITE MOCKTAIL
Tonic Bar, Four Seasons Hotel
Riyadh at Kingdom Centre



FAVOURITE PIZZA
Crazy Pizza



FAVOURITE URBAN BITES
Dave's Hot Chicken

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

WINNERS

RESTAURANTS IN RIYADH



FAVOURITE ALFRESCO RESTAURANT
Agio



FAVOURITE ALL-DAY DINING RESTAURANT
The Lighthouse Restaurant & Lounge



FAVOURITE ASIAN RESTAURANT
Yauatcha Riyadh



FAVOURITE CAFÉ
Urth Caffé



FAVOURITE EUROPEAN RESTAURANT
JW Glass Garden,
JW Marriott Hotel Riyadh



FAVOURITE FAST-CASUAL RESTAURANT
Wingstop



FAVOURITE FRENCH RESTAURANT
La Petite Maison Riyadh



FAVOURITE ITALIAN RESTAURANT
MAMO Michelangelo



FAVOURITE JAPANESE RESTAURANT
Myazu



FAVOURITE MIDDLE EASTERN RESTAURANT
MLLe



FAVOURITE SAUDI ARABIAN RESTAURANT
MAIZ



FAVOURITE STEAKHOUSE
Beefbar Riyadh

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

WINNERS

RESTAURANTS OUTSIDE OF RIYADH



FAVOURITE RESTAURANT IN THE EASTERN PROVINCE
Takara



FAVOURITE RESTAURANT IN JEDDAH
Meat The Fish



FAVOURITE RESTAURANT IN SAUDI ARABIA
Maraya Social, AIUla

LEISURE AND ENTERTAINMENT



FAVOURITE CONCERT, SHOW OR FESTIVAL

A Thousand and One Music Festival



XP Music Futures

Formé Wellness



FAVOURITE FITNESS FACILITY OR STUDIO

Formé Wellness

The Yoga House Riyadh



FAVOURITE LUXURY HOTEL IN RIYADH

The Ritz-Carlton, Riyadh

Mansard Riyadh, A Radisson Collection Hotel



Banyan Tree AIUla



FAVOURITE LUXURY HOTEL IN SAUDI ARABIA

Banyan Tree AIUla

The Jeddah EDITION



FAVOURITE SPA

Spa by JW, JW Marriott Hotel Riyadh



Banyan Tree Spa AIUla

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

THE HIGHLY COMMENDED

FOOD CONCEPTS



FAVOURITE BREAKFAST

Café Boulud, Four Seasons Hotel Riyadh
at Kingdom Centre



Saddle House Riyadh



FAVOURITE BUSINESS LUNCH

Takara



COYA



FAVOURITE LOUNGE

The Den, The Jeddah EDITION



Soleil Rooftop, Rosewood Jeddah

The St. Regis Riyadh

FAVOURITE AFTERNOON TEA

The St. Regis Riyadh



FAVOURITE BBQ

Nando's

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

THE HIGHLY COMMENDED

FOOD CONCEPTS



Sold Out



Barbar

FAVOURITE URBAN BITES



Takara



Beefbar Riyadh

FAVOURITE MOCKTAIL



Café Boulud, Four Seasons Hotel Riyadh
at Kingdom Centre



The 365, Fairmont Riyadh

FAVOURITE HOTEL BRUNCH



FAVOURITE DESSERT
Saddle House Riyadh



FAVOURITE PIZZA
PASTAMAMMA

RESTAURANTS IN RIYADH



FAVOURITE ALFRESCO RESTAURANT

Feels



Robata



Brunch & Cake

FAVOURITE ALL-DAY DINING RESTAURANT

L'ETO Caffe

Brunch & Cake



FAVOURITE ASIAN RESTAURANT

Hong, The Ritz-Carlton, Riyadh



Phet Phet



Feels

FAVOURITE CAFÉ

Saddle House Riyadh

Feels

Yawmiyat By Dalal



FAVOURITE MIDDLE EASTERN RESTAURANT

Yawmiyat By Dalal

FAVOURITE FRENCH RESTAURANT

Café Boulud,
Four Seasons Hotel Riyadh
at Kingdom Centre

FAVOURITE SAUDI ARABIAN RESTAURANT

Zalata

RESTAURANTS IN RIYADH



FAVOURITE EUROPEAN RESTAURANT

Jackie, The St. Regis Riyadh



Parea, Hilton Riyadh Olaya

Dave's Hot Chicken

Feels

FAVOURITE FAST-CASUAL RESTAURANT

Dave's Hot Chicken

Feels



FAVOURITE ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Crazy Pizza



Azzurro, The Ritz-Carlton, Riyadh



FAVOURITE JAPANESE RESTAURANT

Chotto Matte



Zuma Riyadh



FAVOURITE STEAKHOUSE

JW Steakhouse, JW Marriott Hotel Riyadh



Habra

RESTAURANTS OUTSIDE OF RIYADH



FAVOURITE RESTAURANT IN THE EASTERN PROVINCE

L'ETO Caffe



San Carlo Cicchetti

Orient, Rixos Obhur
Jeddah Resort & Villas



FAVOURITE RESTAURANT IN JEDDAH

Orient, Rixos Obhur Jeddah Resort & Villas

Ricci San

Al Sarab, Six Senses Southern Dunes,
The Red Sea

FAVOURITE RESTAURANT IN SAUDI ARABIA

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

PRE-EVENT MARKETING

PRINT ADS

EVENT ADS WERE PLACED IN WHAT'S ON DUBAI, WHAT'S ON ABU DHABI, CAMPAIGN, GOLF DIGEST AND GULF BUSINESS.

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

REGISTER YOUR OUTLET FOR SAUDI ARABIA'S FAVOURITE RESTAURANT, LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT AWARDS

REGISTER HERE



FIND OUT MORE



FOR EVENT SPONSORSHIP, TABLE BOOKINGS AND GENERAL ENQUIRIES
tern.singh@motive.ae | maria.sasby@motive.ae

WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com

CULTURE

ART | THEATRE | FILM | MUSIC



Here we go again

Mamma Mia lands at the Etihad Arena

PAGE 18

Sponsor

Media Partner

Vote Processing Partner

Structural Partner

Presented By

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

REGISTER YOUR OUTLET FOR SAUDI ARABIA'S FAVOURITE RESTAURANT, LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT AWARDS

REGISTER HERE



FIND OUT MORE



FOR EVENT SPONSORSHIP, TABLE BOOKINGS AND GENERAL ENQUIRIES
tern.singh@motive.ae | maria.sasby@motive.ae

WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com

Sponsor

Media Partner


Vote Processing Partner

Structural Partner

Presented By

FAMILY FRIENDLY ROAD TRIPS

THE BEST UAE FAMILY ROAD TRIPS



Load up the playlist, grab the snacks, and hit the road – these country-wide family road trips are packed with fun stops, foodie rewards, and memory-making adventures

WOTD: SARAH HEWITT

MULTICULTURE | 10/1/2025 | 21

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

VOTING OPEN

CLOSES JULY 31

REGISTER HERE



VOTE HERE



FIND OUT MORE



FOR EVENT SPONSORSHIP, TABLE BOOKINGS AND GENERAL ENQUIRIES
tern.singh@motive.ae | maria.sasby@motive.ae

WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com

CONSUME

EAT | DRINK | SHOP



China Tang

Iconic London-born Cantonese restaurant debuts in Dubai

PAGE 31

Sponsor

Media Partner

Vote Processing Partner

Structural Partner

Presented By

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

PRE-EVENT MARKETING

PRINT ADS

EVENT ADS WERE PLACED IN WHAT'S ON DUBAI, WHAT'S ON ABU DHABI, CAMPAIGN, GOLF DIGEST AND GULF BUSINESS WITH READERSHIP OF OVER 200,000

EAT // CROSS-CITY CRAVINGS
Words: Nari Sastrykhan

Flavours on the move

No more long trips just to satisfy the cravings

Sometimes, a trip to the neighbouring city is worth it for a favorite restaurant or dish. However, a lot of fun favorite restaurants are spreading their wings and expanding, making it way easier to satisfy the cravings without upping the car mileage. Here's a tasty roundup of popular restaurants that've popped up right in your backyard.

NOW OPEN IN	CAFE	JAPANESE	BURGERS	SUSHI	ITALIAN
DUBAI	Chirvik Cafe With three locations in Abu Dhabi, Chirvik now has a branch in Dubai. The cafe is open 24 hours a day serving up a mix of Mediterranean with options from breakfast, a business lunch, dinner or just shika. @chirvikuae	SLIP Ramen & Sushi by JFPA With the original still booming in the Mall, Dubai's Shikha Zayed Road. The cafe is open 24 hours a day serving up a mix of Mediterranean with options from breakfast, a business lunch, dinner or just shika. @slipuae	Love burger! The award-winning Fat has opened in Na'ali. All former and receive up monster burgers with local and chicken options, hotdogs and delicious sides. Post it with a homemade salad that's for complete the meal. @fatuae	99 Sushi Bar It's been four years since its venture to Dubai, but world-renowned 99 Sushi Bar still serves a mission. Its original restaurant in Na'ali, and they picked the capital for their second venture in 2022. Three years later they opened in Dubai offering their famous city signature tempura dipped in spicy sauce, and offer tuna bitches. @99sushibaruae	Antonio's Starting several happy Abu Dhabi residents in multiple locations, they've now branched Dubai with their first outpost at Mall of the Emirates. Expect the same Italian classics and Italian pizza. @antoniosuae
	Kawa After waiting over Dubai's drive-thru, Kawa is now open in Abu Dhabi at Al-Qasr. Signature dishes include breakfast, lunch, dinner and shika. @kawauae	JFPA Making its way from Abu Dhabi to Dubai, JFPA Abu Dhabi opens over five floors, featuring two terraces with breathtaking views of the marina and Arabian Gulf. Known for its mouth-watering small plates, fresh seafood and more, and the most by @jfpadubai	BunBun Dubai's lip-smacking burger chain, BunBun has established itself as one of the best Japanese restaurants in the UAE, opening its first venue in Dubai and now in Marina Mall Abu Dhabi. Chef Ahmad Jassar has created many recipes with rich Moroccan flavor to create a mix of meat, rice, and more. @bunbunuae	Goldfish Sushi Goldfish has established itself as one of the best Japanese restaurants in the UAE, opening its first venue in Dubai and now in Marina Mall Abu Dhabi. Chef Ahmad Jassar has created many recipes with rich Moroccan flavor to create a mix of meat, rice, and more. @goldfishuae	Mattarino's The popular Italian restaurant from Dubai has opened a second venue on Saadiyat Island with a brand concept to their's something for everyone to enjoy. From lip-smacking appetizers to adults and kids, Mattarino's is going to be one of those spots you would need to visit year after the party is. @mattarinodubai
ABU DHABI					




42 AUGUST 2025 | WHATSONAE

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED

TABLES ON SALE

VIEW HERE  BOOK HERE  FIND OUT MORE 

FOR EVENT SPONSORSHIP, TABLE BOOKINGS AND GENERAL ENQUIRIES
saran.algh@motive.ae | marlo.sasby@motive.ae

WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com | f | i | t | g | v | w | a | s | a | b | y | m | o | t | i | v | a | e

Sponsor: experience abu dhabi | Media Partner: MOTIVATE | Vote Processing Partner: JACOBSONS | Structural Partner: ALL EVENTS | Presented By: MOTIVATE

in association with

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

APPAREL GROUP

EXCEED EXPECTATIONS EVERYDAY

LAST CHANCE TO BOOK YOUR TABLE

BOOK HERE  VIEW SHORTLIST  FIND OUT MORE 

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025 | JW MARRIOTT HOTEL RYADH


FOR EVENT SPONSORSHIP, TABLE BOOKINGS AND GENERAL ENQUIRIES
saran.algh@motive.ae | marlo.sasby@motive.ae

WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com | f | i | t | g | v | w | a | s | a | b | y | m | o | t | i | v | a | e

Sponsor: experience abu dhabi | Media Partner: MOTIVATE | Vote Processing Partner: JACOBSONS | Structural Partner: ALL EVENTS | Presented By: MOTIVATE

TRAVEL

DESTINATIONS | STAYCATIONS



PAGE 64

Copenhagen

Wander far, stay cosy - that's the hygge way

MADRID LIKE A LOCAL 608 | THE RITZ-CARLTON AL WADI DESERT 674

Sponsor: experience abu dhabi | Media Partner: MOTIVATE | Vote Processing Partner: JACOBSONS | Structural Partner: ALL EVENTS | Presented By: MOTIVATE

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

PRE-EVENT MARKETING

EMAIL SIGNATURES

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA **KEY DATES & CATEGORIES ANNOUNCED**

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA **FIND OUT MORE**

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA In association with **APPAREL GROUP** **REGISTRATIONS OPEN**

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA In association with **APPAREL GROUP** **REGISTER HERE**

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA In association with **APPAREL GROUP** **VOTING OPEN**

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA In association with **APPAREL GROUP** **VOTE HERE**

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA In association with **APPAREL GROUP** **SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED**

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA In association with **APPAREL GROUP** **VIEW HERE**

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA In association with **APPAREL GROUP** **TABLES ON SALE**

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA In association with **APPAREL GROUP** **BOOK HERE**

Destination Partner: **experience abu dhabi** | Structural Partner: **ALL EVENTS SERVICES** | Media Partner: **Eye Of Riyadh** | Beverage Partners: **Tangerine 0.0**, **Genlins**, **Capital Mergan**, **Guinness 0.0**

Entertainment Partner: **SUPERGOLD** | Vote Processing Partner: **JACOBSONS** | Presented By: **MOTIVATE**

WHAT'S ON SAUDI ARABIA AWARDS 2025

PRE-EVENT MARKETING

NEWSLETTER BANNERS

What's on Saudi Arabia

10 brilliant things to do in Riyadh this weekend: June 26 to 28

WHAT'S ON SAUDI ARABIA AWARDS 2025 REGISTRATIONS OPEN

Sweat it out at GymNation - now open in Riyadh

Ministry of Sports announces new hotels in King Abdullah Sports City

Saudi Arabia announces new credit card rules

Just In: The Michelin Guide is coming to Saudi Arabia

From Black Eyed Peas to R3HAB: Star headliners for Jeddah & Riyadh shows

UK passengers will no longer go through security checks at Saudi airports

© 2025 Motivate Media Group

What's on Saudi Arabia

Voting is now open for the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025

WHAT'S ON SAUDI ARABIA AWARDS 2025 VOTING OPEN

11 amazing things to do in Riyadh this weekend: June 19 to 21

Riyadh is getting its own Monopoly board

Inside EVA: Jeddah's new ultimate VR esports experience

Summer in AIUla: Make a splash at these epic Poolside by Azimuth parties

© 2025 Motivate Media Group

What's on Saudi Arabia

Hello from What's On Saudi Arabia.

We're in the thick of summer, and while the heat is intense, so is the excitement - because voting for the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025 is still open. This is your chance to show some love to your favourite restaurants, experiences, and venues that make living in the Kingdom so memorable. Whether it's the cafe you always take your guests to, the stationery spot you rave about, or the restaurant that never misses - they deserve your vote. Cast your today and help us spotlight the very best.

And if you're currently looking for ways to beat the heat, we've got you covered there too. In this week's newsletter, we've rounded up practical tips to survive a Riyadh summer - from smart hydration habits to cooling indoor escapes.

Plus, we're looking to the future with one of the most exciting developments on the horizon: Qiddiya's mega golf course, part of a jaw-dropping sports hub that will change the way the region plays.

Scroll on, stay cool, and don't forget to vote.

Liam Joyce
Editor: What's On

10 top things to do in Riyadh this weekend: July 24 to 26

WHAT'S ON SAUDI ARABIA AWARDS 2025 LAST CHANCE TO VOTE

These are your guidelines to make it through summer in Riyadh

Qiddiya unveils plans for a mega golf course in Riyadh

Self-driving vehicles in Saudi Arabia: the first phase has been launched

Saudi Arabia's newest budget airline will be based in Dammam

11 wonderful Korean restaurants

The Riyadh Film Music Festival is coming back next week

© 2025 Motivate Media Group

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

PRE-EVENT MARKETING

NEWSLETTER BANNERS

What's On Saudi Arabia



النسخة الأولى من مهرجان الرياض للكوميديا تنطلق قريباً

التصويت مُتّاح

اكتشفوا فرص التسوق المذهلة في يوم برايم
أمازون 2025



النسخة الثانية من مهرجان الرياض لموسيقى الألام تنطلق الأسبوع المقبل



الهلال يعيق عن بطولة كأس السوبر السعودي للموسم القادم



اكتشفوا أسرار المطبخ التايواني في مطعم فت الرياض



© 2025 Motivate Media Group


What's On Saudi Arabia

Welcome to this week's edition packed with the latest news, what to do and where to go.

Last week, we unveiled the **shortlist** for the **What's On Saudi Awards 2025**. After months of enthusiastic reader participation and thousands of votes, the cream of the crop has been crowned. Now it's time to see who will be crowned the winners. The shortlist is now open for your vote. The winners will be revealed at our celebratory event on September 18 at the JW Marriott in Riyadh, and the winners are expected to be announced.


And while the awards show event is on its way, the Kingdom's sports scene is also getting ready to kick off. The Saudi Pro League will be starting soon at the start of the Saudi Pro League 2025. So, we have also featured the new schedule for the start of the league. The Saudi Pro League, meanwhile, has unveiled its new schedule for the International Cricket Council (ICC) Women's T20 World Cup. It's exciting to see the women's cricket team competing in the world's biggest cricket event. And it's also exciting to see the Saudi Pro League starting its season. We'll be covering all the latest news, updates, and more. We'll be bringing you the latest news, updates, and more. We'll be bringing you the latest news, updates, and more.

Saudi Pro League announces 2025-2026 football fixtures




SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED


The first-ever International Gordon Ramsay Academy will be in Riyadh




soon's Back to School sale: Shop for all the essentials for up to 75 per cent off




Step into a world of dreamy acrobats and jaw-dropping stunts at Pluma




Get ready for a Japanese Festival in Riyadh soon



Dusit brings its upscale dailiD2 resort to Al Ahsa



This is when Diriyah Contemporary Art1 Elements 2024 starts



© 2025 Motivate Media Group

What's On Saudi Arabia



إلبيكم دليل فعاليات نهاية الأسبوع في الرياض

إعلان قائمة المتأهلين

اكتشفوا أفضل ترفيهيات وعروض العود للمدارس



سوبرك بلومز: أول سوبرك متعلق في الشرق الأوسط يخطو رحلته في العاصمة



حفلات مهرجان الطائر تنطلق هذا الأسبوع



أكاديمية فوربونز رانزي الشهيرة ترحل إلى الرياض



© 2025 Motivate Media Group

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

PRE-EVENT MARKETING

EDMs

EDMs WERE SENT OUT TO THE WHAT'S ON DUBAI, WHAT'S ON ABU DHABI, WHAT'S ON SAUDI ARABIA, CAMPAIGN, GOLF DIGEST, BUSINESS TRAVELLER MIDDLE EAST AND GULF BUSINESS DATABASES OF OVER 168,000

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA
CATEGORIES ANNOUNCED & REGISTRATIONS OPEN

Dear Priya,

It's back - bigger, better, and more competitive than ever before. That's right, the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025, and this year, we're going country-wide as we look to crown the very best across the Kingdom, dining, leisure and entertainment scenes.

Registration is now open, inviting you to showcase your talent to a select group of your peers, a restaurant, hotel, event, or experience. This is an incredible opportunity to showcase your venue or event's unique features, innovation offerings, and outstanding services.

Don't miss out on the chance to be part of history. Register now and take the first step towards the recognition you deserve.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

WHAT'S HAPPENING AND WHEN

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

OPPORTUNITY TO ELEVATE YOUR BRAND

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

THROWBACK TO LAST YEAR'S AWARDS CEREMONY

2024 IN REVIEW: DOWNLOAD THE POST-EVENT REPORT

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

Let's celebrate your success together!

What's On KSA Team

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

Sponsor
experience abu dhabi

Vote Processing Partner
JACOBSONS

Structural Partner
ALL EVENTS SERVICES

Media Partner
GoGo Gulf

CONNECT WITH US
 f x o d s

PRESENTED BY
موتيفات MOTIVATE

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA
VOTING OPEN

Dear Priya,

The What's On Saudi Arabia Awards is back and voting is now open. This is your opportunity to champion your favourites and celebrate the top talent in Saudi Arabia's burgeoning leisure and hospitality scene.

From the capital's best-in-class restaurants to star attractions and hotels across the Kingdom, the categories cover an array of culinary and entertainment experiences in Riyadh as well as wider KSA.

Whether you've got a must-visit café, a treasured eatery you return to time and again, or a star stay that you think everyone needs to visit, now is the chance to champion your favourites and have your voice heard.

So, what are you waiting for?

[VOTE NOW](#)

Are you a venue, restaurant or leisure & entertainment brand that still hasn't registered? This is your last chance!

[REGISTER NOW](#)

ELEVATE YOUR BRAND WITH SPONSORSHIP

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

2024 IN REVIEW: DOWNLOAD THE POST-EVENT REPORT

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

Let's celebrate your success together!

What's On KSA Team

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

Sponsor
experience abu dhabi

Vote Processing Partner
JACOBSONS

Structural Partner
ALL EVENTS SERVICES

Media Partner
GoGo Gulf

CONNECT WITH US
 f x o d s

PRESENTED BY
موتيفات MOTIVATE

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA
LAST CHANCE TO VOTE

Dear Priya,

Thousands have votes have already been cast in the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025, and this is your last call to make sure you cast yours. Taking place this September, the awards will see winners crowned across 44 exciting restaurant, leisure and entertainment categories.

We know you know KSA. We know you love KSA. So don't miss out on the opportunity to support your favourites. Voting closes on 31st July 2025.

[VOTE NOW](#)

ELEVATE YOUR BRAND WITH SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

THROWBACK TO LAST YEAR'S AWARDS

2024 IN REVIEW: DOWNLOAD THE POST-EVENT REPORT

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

Let's celebrate your success together!

What's On KSA Team

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

Sponsor
experience abu dhabi

Vote Processing Partner
JACOBSONS

Structural Partner
ALL EVENTS SERVICES

Media Partner
GoGo Gulf

CONNECT WITH US
 f x o d s

PRESENTED BY
موتيفات MOTIVATE


We value your privacy. You have received this email because you have subscribed to Newsletter at What's On Saudi Arabia.com or other partner mailing lists. Need more information? You can contact us at: Office 455-456, Regus Office, 4th Floor, Hamad Tower, King Fahad Road, Al Olaya, Riyadh, KSA. You can always unsubscribe from our mailing list, by clicking on [unsubscribe](#).

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

PRE-EVENT MARKETING

EDMs

If you have trouble viewing this email, [click the red button below](#).



Dear Ist,

The What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025 is here, and we strongly encourage you to register for this prestigious event! As the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards return to Riyadh this September, now is the time to make sure you're a part of this unforgettable occasion.

Some of the categories that will be awarded include:

- Favourite Japanese Restaurant
- Favourite Steakhouse
- Favourite Breakfast
- Favourite Luxury Hotel
- Favourite Attraction

New for 2025:


- Favourite Mexican Restaurant
- Favourite Restaurant in the Red Sea
- Favourite Afternoon Tea
- Favourite Shawarma
- Favourite BBQ
- Favourite Luxury Hotel in Jeddah, Al Ula, The Red Sea
- Favourite Attraction

And much more...


So what are you waiting for? Register now and be part of something great!

[REGISTER NOW](#) [VIEW THE CATEGORIES](#)

ELEVATE YOUR BRAND WITH SPONSORSHIP



2024 IN REVIEW: DOWNLOAD THE POST-EVENT REPORT



Let's celebrate your success together!

What's On KSA Team

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

Sponsor
experience **abu dhabi**

Vote Processing Partner
JACOBSONS

Structural Partner
ALL EVENTS SERVICES

Media Partner
KSA TV

CONNECT WITH US
f X @ d t

PRESENTED BY
موتيفيت MOTIVATE

WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com
WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com

#WOAwards

إذا كان لديك مشكلة في مشاهدة هذا البريد الإلكتروني، [انقر على الزر الأحمر أدناه](#).



Dear Ist,

قد جاءت حوائج "الشيء اون السعودية" التي تم تجديدها لتعود الآن هذه هي فرصتك لدمج علامتك التجارية مع أفضل الاطلاق والتسويق في المنطقة العربية السعودية.

من أفضل المطاعم في العاصمة الامم العالم السياحية الفريد والرائع في جميع أنحاء المنطقة. تغطي مئات الجوائز متنوعة تتنوع من الجاهز الطهي والترفيه في الرياض وذلك في مناطق أخرى من المنطقة.

سواء كان لديك مطعم تسمين بربريك أو مطعم سفوف لخبزون إلهة باستشر أو أروع من ذلك نحن نبحث عنك على الفور لزيادة عدد هذه هي فرصتك لدمج علامتك التجارية مع أفضل الاطلاق والتسويق.

سأنا نتشوقون!

[سجلوا الآن](#)

هل التزموا بمتابعة في مجالات التسوق، مطعم أو عيادة تجارية في مجال الترفيه والتسوق ولم تستطعوا بعدا هذه هي فرصتك الأخيرة

[سجلوا الآن](#)

جدول الأحداث والتواريخ



ارتبطوا بعلامتكم التجارية من خلال الرعاية



لتساق بعلامتكم
فريق واثق من السعودية

البراعة والشراكة

البراعة
experience **abu dhabi**

الشريك الإعلامي
KSA TV

الشريك الإعلامي
ALL EVENTS SERVICES

الشريك الإعلامي
JACOBSONS


تواصل معنا
f X @ d t

تقديم
موتيفيت MOTIVATE

WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com
WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com

#WOAwards

If you have trouble viewing this email, [click the red button below](#).



Dear Ist,

The moment we have all been waiting for is finally here!


The votes have been counted, and below we can reveal the shortlist for the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025. These entries are all finalists because you - the people that visit them week in, week out - believe they're the best in the business. So, a huge congratulations to all those shortlisted.

[VIEW THE FULL SHORTLIST](#)

The winners for all categories will be announced at a glittering award ceremony, to be held at JW Marriott Hotel Riyadh on September 16. Table bookings are now available via Platiniist and with limited space, you're advised to book now to avoid missing out.


[BOOK NOW](#)

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES TO ELEVATE YOUR BRAND



For more details, table bookings and partnership opportunities, please email Taras Singh taras.singh@motivite.com or Marie Saalby marie.saalby@motivite.com

2024 IN REVIEW: DOWNLOAD THE POST-EVENT REPORT



Good luck to all the finalists, and well see you soon!

What's On KSA Team

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

In Association with
APPAREL GROUP

Sponsor
experience **abu dhabi**

Vote Processing Partner
JACOBSONS

Structural Partner
ALL EVENTS SERVICES

Media Partner
KSA TV

Entertainment Partner
SUPERGOLDI

CONNECT WITH US
f X @ d t

PRESENTED BY
موتيفيت MOTIVATE

WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com
WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com

#WOAwards

We value your privacy. You have received this email because you have subscribed to Newsletter at What's On Saudi Arabia.com or other partner mailing lists. Need more information? You can contact us at: Office 435-436, Raga Offices, 6th Floor, Hamad Tower, King Fahad Road, Al Olaya, Riyadh, KSA. You can always unsubscribe from our mailing list by clicking on [unsubscribe](#).

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

PRE-EVENT MARKETING

DIRECT MAILS

DIRECT MAIL INVITATIONS AND REMINDERS WERE SENT TO OVER 400 SPONSORS AND WINNERS

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

in association with
APPAREL GROUP
SINCE 1990
EXCEED EXPECTATIONS EVERYDAY

SEE YOU TONIGHT

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE LEADING LIGHTS OF THE HOSPITALITY AND ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:
VENUE: JW MARRIOTT HOTEL RIYADH
DOORS OPEN: 7:30 PM
DRESS CODE: LADIES – GLAM | GENTS – LOUNGE SUIT
 GUESTS ARE REQUESTED TO USE THE BALL ROOM VALET ENTRANCE ONLY. KINDLY AVOID THE HOTEL'S MAIN ENTRANCE.

PROGRAMME: *
 7:30 PM: ENTERTAINMENT
 8:00 PM: WELCOME ADDRESS
 8:30 PM: AWARDS CEREMONY PART 1
 9:00 PM: DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT
 10:00 PM: AWARDS CEREMONY PART 2
 11:00 PM: ENTERTAINMENT
 12:00 AM: VENUE CLOSES
 *TIMINGS ARE ALL APPROXIMATE

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY
 T&C: * Guests consent to the broadcast, photographing and video recording during the event by Motivate and expressly release Motivate against any claims arising out of the consent herein granted.

[DOWNLOAD PROGRAMME](#) [DOWNLOAD FLOOR PLAN](#)

WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com f x @ d o i WhatsOnKSA #WOAwards

Destination Partner: experience abu dhabi
 Structural Partner: ALL EVENTS SERVICES
 Media Partner: MCMC
 Beverage Partners: Taramary 0.0, Guinness, GUINNESS 0.0
 Entertainment Partner: SUPEROLIO, JACOBSONS
 Vote Processing Partner: M
 Presented By: MOTIVATE

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

in association with
APPAREL GROUP
SINCE 1990
EXCEED EXPECTATIONS EVERYDAY

SEE YOU TOMORROW

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE LEADING LIGHTS OF THE HOSPITALITY AND ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:
VENUE: JW MARRIOTT HOTEL RIYADH
DOORS OPEN: 7:30 PM
DRESS CODE: LADIES – GLAM | GENTS – LOUNGE SUIT
 GUESTS ARE REQUESTED TO USE THE BALL ROOM VALET ENTRANCE ONLY. KINDLY AVOID THE HOTEL'S MAIN ENTRANCE.

PROGRAMME: *
 7:30 PM: ENTERTAINMENT
 8:00 PM: WELCOME ADDRESS
 8:30 PM: AWARDS CEREMONY PART 1
 9:00 PM: DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT
 10:00 PM: AWARDS CEREMONY PART 2
 11:00 PM: ENTERTAINMENT
 12:00 AM: VENUE CLOSES
 *TIMINGS ARE ALL APPROXIMATE

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY
 T&C: * Guests consent to the broadcast, photographing and video recording during the event by Motivate and expressly release Motivate against any claims arising out of the consent herein granted.

[DOWNLOAD PROGRAMME](#) [DOWNLOAD FLOOR PLAN](#)

WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com f x @ d o i WhatsOnKSA #WOAwards

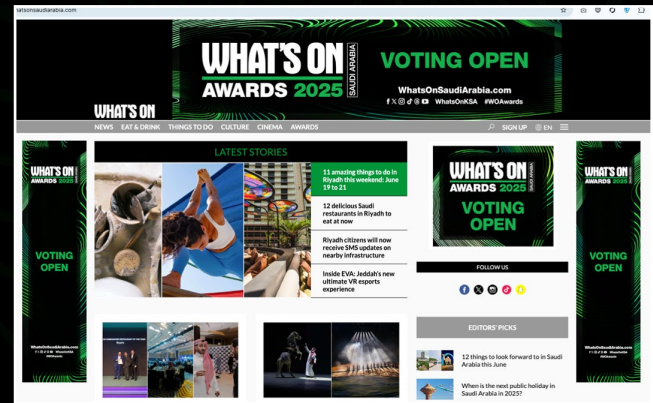
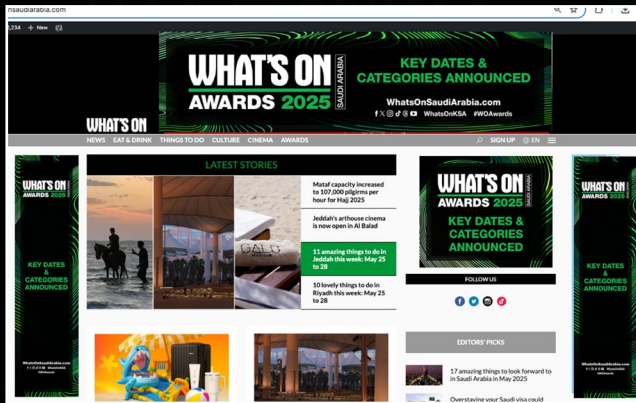
Destination Partner: experience abu dhabi
 Structural Partner: ALL EVENTS SERVICES
 Media Partner: MCMC
 Beverage Partners: Taramary 0.0, Guinness, GUINNESS 0.0
 Entertainment Partner: SUPEROLIO, JACOBSONS
 Vote Processing Partner: M
 Presented By: MOTIVATE

Destination Partner: experience abu dhabi
 Structural Partner: ALL EVENTS SERVICES
 Media Partner: MCMC
 Beverage Partners: Taramary 0.0, Guinness, GUINNESS 0.0
 Entertainment Partner: SUPEROLIO, JACOBSONS
 Vote Processing Partner: M
 Presented By: MOTIVATE

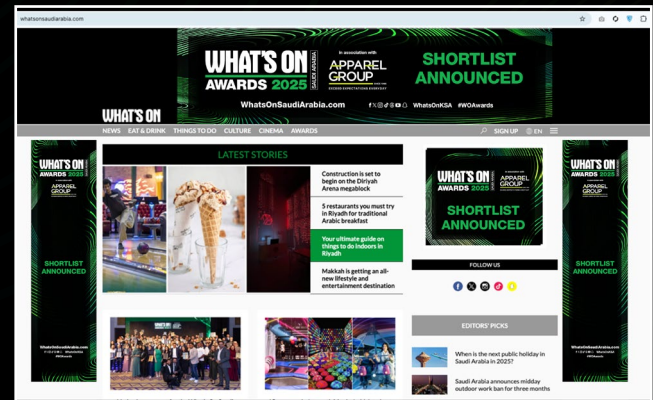
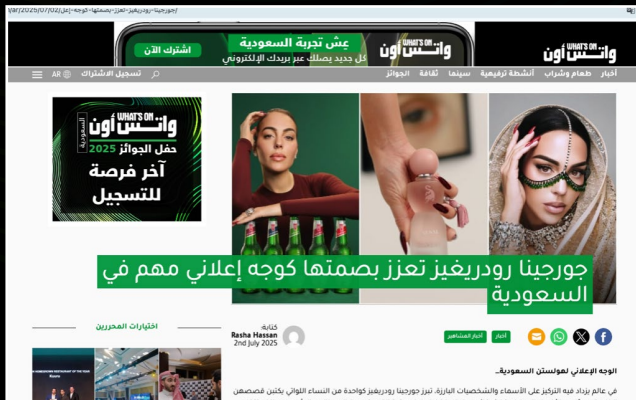
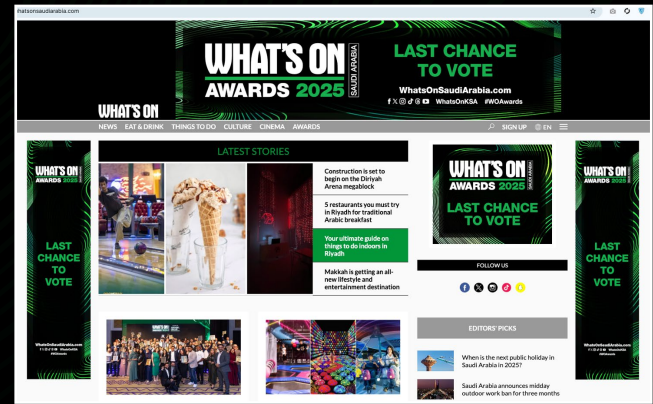
WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

PRE-EVENT MARKETING

DIGITAL BANNERS



DIGITAL BANNERS WERE PLACED ON WHAT'S ON DUBAI, WHAT'S ON ABU DHABI, WHAT'S ON SAUDI ARABIA, CAMPAIGN, GOLF DIGEST, GULF BUSINESS, BUSINESS TRAVELLER, ATHAR 700,000 IMPRESSIONS WERE SERVED



WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

PRE-EVENT MARKETING

ONLINE ARTICLES

WHAT'S ON FREE for 14k Shop & Ship

NEWS EAT & DRINK THINGS TO DO CULTURE CINEMA AWARDS

The What's On Saudi Arabia Awards return for 2025

Written by: What's On 13th May 2025

Get on it...

Not too long ago, on September 17, 2024, we were joined by over 350 sensational heavyweights of the hospitality, leisure, and entertainment scene from all over the Kingdom at JW Marriott Riyadh for the second-ever **What's On Saudi Arabia Awards**.

On the night, we (with your help, of course) crowned the champions of Saudi Arabia's finest places to dine and stay, along with brilliant concerts from the last 12 months and so much more. We dished out awards to a total of 30 winners and 42 outlets that placed as highly commended in their respective categories, commemorating the *crème de la crème* of the Kingdom.

And it brings us great pleasure to announce that we are back, bigger and better than ever, for round three of the most prestigious awards ceremony in the Kingdom Welcome to the **What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025**.

17 amazing things to look forward to in May 2025

EDITOR'S PICKS

FAVOURITE LUXURY HOTEL IN SAUDI ARABIA The Jeddah EDITION

Overstaying your Saudi visa could be fine and more.

WHAT'S ON GET THE BEST OF SAUDI ARABIA STRAIGHT TO YOUR INBOX SIGN ME UP

NEWS EAT & DRINK THINGS TO DO CULTURE CINEMA AWARDS

Voting is now open for the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025

Written by: What's On 18th June 2025

Ready to make a difference?

What's On is the trusted source for discovering the very best things to do in Saudi Arabia. But we're always keen to know the places that you, our brilliant readers, love to go, which is why we're now inviting you to cast your votes for the **What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025**.

Therefore, we're excited to announce that **voting is now open**.

Taking place at an exciting ceremony on JW Marriott Hotel Riyadh on Tuesday September 16, we'll be crowning the best restaurants, hotels, attractions and much more across Riyadh and the wider Kingdom. But we can't do it without your help. We need your valuable opinion to help us award the *crème de la crème* of the country.

So, what are you waiting for? **Make sure to head here to vote now.**

12 things to look forward to

EDITOR'S PICKS

The categories

WHAT'S ON RivoliShop.com

NEWS EAT & DRINK THINGS TO DO CULTURE CINEMA AWARDS

Voting extended: You now have until to vote in the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2024

Written by: What's On 29th July 2024

Go, go, go...

What's On is the trusted source for discovering the very best things to do in Saudi Arabia. But we're always keen to know the places that you, our brilliant readers, love to go. Which is why for the last two months, we've invited you to vote in your thousands in the **What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2024**.

And to give you some more time to cast your votes, we'll be extending voting until Thursday August 8. That gives you an extra week to make sure you champion your favourites.

Taking place at an exciting ceremony on JW Marriott Hotel Riyadh on September 17, we'll be crowning the best restaurants, hotels, attractions and much more across Riyadh and the wider Kingdom. But, we can't do it without your help. We need your valuable opinion to help us award the *crème de la crème* of the country.

WHAT'S ON NEWS EAT & DRINK THINGS TO DO CULTURE CINEMA AWARDS

What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025: Shortlist revealed

Written by: What's On 12th August 2025

We're ready for round three, are you?

After many, many months and thousands upon thousands of votes cast by you, our incredible readers, the time has finally come for us to reveal our coveted shortlist for the **What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025**. The list below reveals the *crème de la crème* of the Saudi dining scene, battling it out in the big leagues for the crown in each category of the **What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025**.

The winners and highly commended recipients for all categories will be announced at a shiny ceremony that will be held at the JW Marriott Hotel Riyadh on Tuesday September 16.

Since we couldn't let you have all the fun, though, we also have three categories voted for solely by an expert panel comprising the iconic **What's On** editorial team (don't mind us tooting our own horns). These include the **Newcomer of the Year**, **Restaurant of the Year**, and **Homegrown Restaurant of the Year** categories, or as we like to call them, the **Grand Prix** (fancy, we know) awards.

Table bookings are now available, and with limited space, you're advised to book now to avoid missing out. To book your table, please reach out to Mario Saabiy at mario.saabiy@motivate.ae and Taran Singh at taran.singh@motivate.ae. Bookings can also be made via platinumlist.net.

Check out the events page for all the details

Without further ado, allow us to introduce the shortlist for the **What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025**...

Leisure and Entertainment

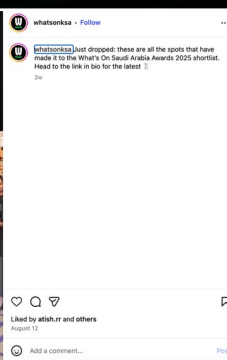
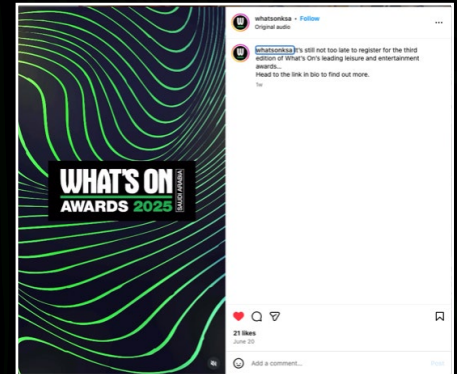
Favourite Concert, Show or Festival

A Thousand and One Music Festival
Balad Beirut
Kevin Hart: Acting My Age

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

PRE-EVENT MARKETING

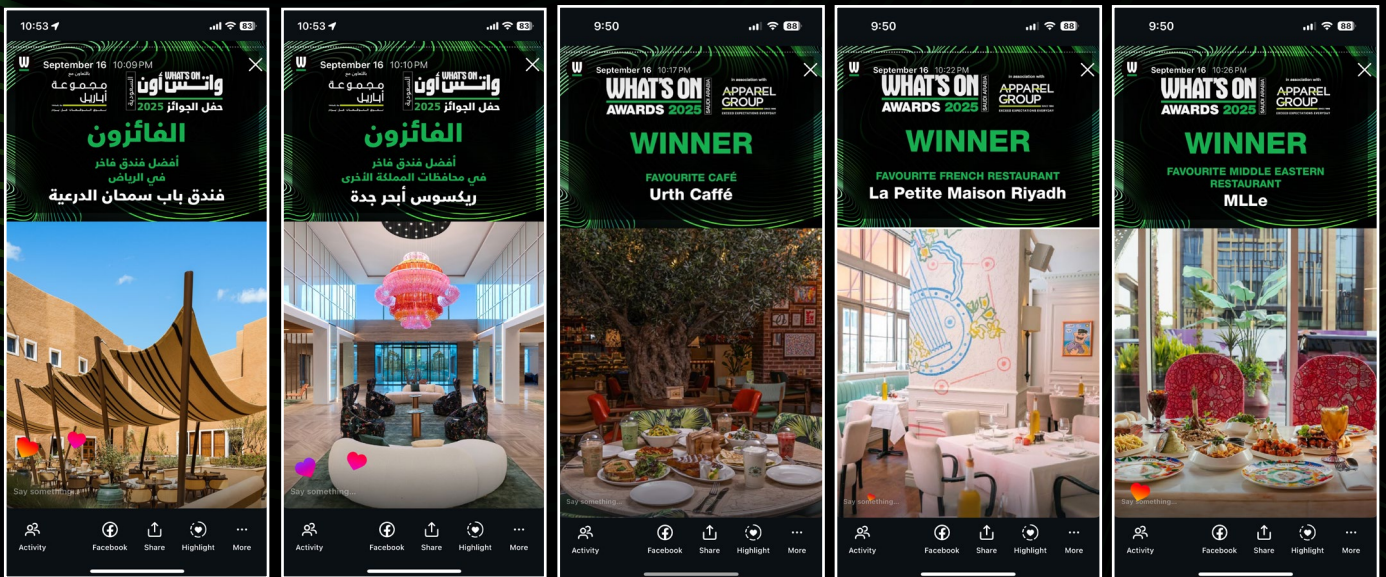
SOCIAL MEDIA



WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

LIVE EVENT SOCIAL MEDIA FEED

AT THE EVENT



WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

POST-EVENT MARKETING

EMAIL SIGNATURE WINNER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA In association with APPAREL GROUP WINNERS ANNOUNCED

الإعلان عن الفائزين
واتس أون
مجموعة اناريل
حفلة الجوائز 2025

Destination Partner: experience abu dhabi
Structural Partner: ALL EVENTS SERVICES
Media Partner: Eye Of Riyadh
Beverage Partners: Tempus 0.0, Gherkins, Capital Mergat, GUINNESS 0.0

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA In association with APPAREL GROUP VIEW HERE

تصفح هنا
واتس أون
مجموعة اناريل
حفلة الجوائز 2025

Entertainment Partner: SUPERGOLD
Vote Processing Partner: JACOBSONS
Presented By: MOTIVATE

PRINT AD WINNER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA In association with APPAREL GROUP WINNERS ANNOUNCED

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

VIEW THE WINNERS

WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com
WhatsOnSaudiArabia.com/ar

#WOAwards

Destination Partner: experience abu dhabi
Structural Partner: ALL EVENTS SERVICES
Media Partner: Eye Of Riyadh
Beverage Partners: Tempus 0.0, Gherkins, Capital Mergat, GUINNESS 0.0
Entertainment Partner: SUPERGOLD
Vote Processing Partner: JACOBSONS
Presented By: MOTIVATE

TRAVEL // SAUDI ARABIA

Riyadh, RIGHT AWAY

From Diriyah's dreamy stays to plate-licking dinners and blissfully zero humidity, I fell hard for Saudi Arabia

WORDS: LAMMOUCE

I landed in Riyadh expecting heat and hassle. I didn't expect the immigration officer to greet me with rapid-fire Arabic, assume I was local, and wave me through with the easy warmth of a long-haul cousin. It happened again with cab drivers, hotel staff, even the barista who handed me a cup of karkak like we'd known each other since school. Apparently I've got a very convincing 'Saudi on a city break' face, and honestly, I took it as the highest compliment and a sign to fast-track my Arabic lessons.

What really surprised me was how quickly the city felt like mine. Riyadh is big and bold and buzzing, but it's also gracious and, praise be, free of humidity. My hair forgave me. My kumbar did too.

Base camp was Rihl Sultana Hotel in Diriyah, a hotel that feels etched into the earth. Thick warm textures, handsome lines, and that classic Naph palette that makes every corner a cinema moment. Sleep outside and you're in lanes that whisper old stories—red-brick alleyways, date palms, the soft thrum of evening when lanterns flicker on and families begin their stroll. It's the sort of place that slows your breathing a notch. I slept like a saint and woke to midnight ribboning through the windows, the city stretching awake beyond.

Monds became the day's punctuation marks. La Petite Maison for lunch was the familiar bag I didn't know I needed, bright, lemony, and a little bit show-off (as it should be). We shared plates until the table disappeared: silky burrata, delicious smalls, and that iconic roast baby chicken that tastes like sunshine learned to cook. Dinner at Najdi was the Saudi chapter, modern,

confident, generous. Dishes arrived family-style: fragrant rice, beautifully cooked chicken, sharp little salads, sauces with bite and breads I devoured. It felt unmistakably Riyadh, rooted in tradition, happy to impress, and very, very good.

Now, the roads. Riyadh drives like it's training for a motorsport category that hasn't been invented yet. Lanes are more 'suggestive' than 'bald,' indicators are clearer, and speeds are, well, enthusiastic. I developed a sudden interest in defensive bounding. And yet, even in the chaos, there's courtesy: drivers slide over to let you merge, wave you through with a nod, and deposit you overwise with a parting "welcome" that you feel in your bones.

That's the enduring note of the city: welcome. Saudis are startlingly friendly, curious, generous, and quick to help. Ask a question and you'll get directions, recommendations, family history, and probably a phone number in case you need anything else. I lost count of the times someone walked me to a door rather than just pointing. It turns a big city into a neighbourhood.

By the time I checked out, Riyadh had picked my pockets and filled them with new favourites. Skinnies walks in Diriyah, long lunches that stretch into plans, and the thrill of a city reinventing itself in real time. I left with a full camera roll, a half-learned greeting, and a soft promise to come back soon. Some places seduce you slowly. Riyadh got me the moment the plane door opened and the air rind: wow, there's no humidity here.


WHATSONLAE | OCTOBER 2025 89

EVENT ADS WERE PLACED IN WHAT'S ON DUBAI, WHAT'S ON ABU DHABI, CAMPAIGN, GOLF DIGEST AND GULF BUSINESS WITH READERSHIP OF OVER 200,000

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

EDMs WINNER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

If you have trouble viewing this email, [click the online version](#)



WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA in association with **APPAREL GROUP**

WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Dear Priya,

Saudi Arabia's dining, leisure and culture scene is in full bloom. From Riyadh's ever-evolving dining districts to Jeddah's waterfront icons. From AlUla's desert stages to the buzz of the Eastern Province, the Kingdom keeps raising the bar, bigger, braver, and more original with every season. We track that momentum closely, with both eyes on a country in motion.


On September 16, we gathered to recognise and reward the brightest lights of the leisure industry at a glittering ceremony, celebrating the places, people and experiences that defined the last year. Across the Kingdom, you cast your votes for your favourite restaurants, hotels, cafés and so much more, spotlighting the venues that made your weeks and weekends better.

And we didn't stop there. Alongside the reader-voted categories, we unveiled three Editors' Choice awards, honouring standout achievements that shaped the scene in meaningful ways.

So, without further ado, it's our great pleasure to introduce the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards class of 2025...

[VIEW ALL THE WINNERS](#)

CHECK OUT THE CEREMONY'S HIGHLIGHTS



These deserving winners have all demonstrated that they are the best of the best in their respective categories.

Congratulations once again to all deserving winners and see you in 2026!

What's On KSA Team

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

In Association with **APPAREL GROUP**

Destination Partner **abu dhabi**

Beverage Partners: **Tangerine 0.0**, **Garden's**, **Cyprus Mergani**, **GUINNESS 0.0**

Vote Processing Partner: **JACOBSONS**

Structural Partner: **ALL EVENTS SERVICES**

Media Partner: **تلفزيون الرياض**

Entertainment Partner: **SUPERGOLD**

CONNECT WITH US **PRESENTED BY** **موتيفيوت**

What'sOnSaudiArabia.com #WOWAwards

We value your privacy. You have received this email because you have subscribed to Newsletter at What'sOnSaudiArabia.com or other partner mailing lists. Need more information? You can contact us at: Office: 455-456, Regio-Office, 4th Floor, Hamad Tower, King Fahad Road, Al Olaya, Riyadh, KSA. You can always unsubscribe from our mailing list, by clicking on [unsubscribe](#)

EDMs WERE SENT OUT TO THE WHAT'S ON DUBAI, WHAT'S ON ABU DHABI, WHAT'S ON SAUDI ARABIA DATABASES OF 20,000 SUBSCRIBERS

POST-EVENT MARKETING

NEWSLETTER BANNER WINNER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

اتس أون



إليكم قائمة الفائزين في جوائز واتس أون السعودية 2025

الاعلان عن الفائزين

دليلكم الشامل لعروض وفعاليات اليوم الوطني السعودي 2025 [اقرأ المزيد](#)

ساوندستورم 2025 يكشف عن أسماء عالمية جديدة تتشارك لأول مرة [اقرأ المزيد](#)

الهيئة الملكية لمدينة الرياض تطلق منصة التوازن العقاري لشراء الأراض [اقرأ المزيد](#)

بحر الأحمر الدولية تعلن افتتاح أول منتجعات جزيرة شوري السياحية [اقرأ المزيد](#)

© 2025 Motivate Media Group **موتيفيوت**

تتطلب خدمتيك امبا بالة بالنسبة لنا قد تمكنت هذا البريد الإلكتروني من مشاركة التخليق من تطوير المنتجات الإلكترونية من موقع [What'sOnSaudiArabia.com](#) نظر التسويق الإلكتروني المدعوم بالبريد الإلكتروني أو استخدامك أو استخدامك على سياسة الخصوصية هذه في حال أية أسئلة أو استفسارات، يمكنك التواصل معنا وزنا مكالمة في رقم 455-456، هاتف الرياض، المملكة العربية السعودية، بنية

WHAT'S ON SAUDI ARABIA

Salam everyone,

This week it's all about the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025 and what a night it was.

We've just wrapped our annual awards, where nearly 400 industry friends joined us at JW Marriott Riyadh to celebrate the best of the Kingdom's dining, culture and entertainment. Most categories were decided by your votes, and we also presented three Editors' Choice citations to recognise outstanding contributions across the scene. Thank you for voting, cheering, and showing up, the class of 2025 is a reminder of just how fast Saudi is evolving. Dive into the full winners list here and start planning your next reservation.

And because Saudi never sits still, we're also looking seaward. Over at Shura Island, three headline resorts, namely **3LS The Red Sea**, **The Red Sea EDITION**, and **InterContinental The Red Sea Resort**, are getting up to speed, alongside **Shura Links**, Saudi's first 18-hole island golf course. Designed under the Coral Bloom masterplan, the archipelago is shaping up as a serious escape: marina, dining village, wellness hub, and soon 11 world-class hotels ringed by white-sand crescents. If you've been waiting for a Red Sea stay worth the road (or flight), this is your cue.

Finally, mark the calendar for **Soundstorm 2025**. The lineup just levelled up with **The Kid Laroi**, **Metro Boomin**, and **DJ Snake** joining a bill that already includes heavy hitters and fresh-timers to the Kingdom. Three nights, multiple stages, and the **Barban desert** ready to glow, consider this your friendly nudge to sort the crew and start plotting outfits. We'll keep updating as more names drop.

As always, thanks for reading, and for making our awards such a joy to host. See you out there.

Nehorim alia khair

Liam Joyce
Editor, What's On Saudi Arabia

What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025: Here are the winners

WINNERS ANNOUNCED

You will soon be able to check into three stunning resorts on Shura Island [Read More](#)

Saudi National Day 2025 air shows have just been announced [Read More](#)

This Saudi airport has been named the best airport in the Middle East [Read More](#)

The Kid Laroi, Metro Boomin, and DJ Snake join the Soundstorm 2025 lineup [Read More](#)

Riyadh is bringing the heat with the first-ever Fanatics Flag Football Classic [Read More](#)

The first-of-its-kind Riyadh Cake Picnic is happening this November [Read More](#)

© 2025 Motivate Media Group **موتيفيوت**

We value your privacy. You have received this email because you have subscribed to Newsletter at What'sOnSaudiArabia.com or other partner mailing lists. Need more information? You can contact us at: Office: 455-456, Regio-Office, 4th Floor, Hamad Tower, King Fahad Road, Al Olaya, Riyadh, KSA. You can always unsubscribe from our mailing list, by clicking on [unsubscribe](#)

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

POST-EVENT MARKETING

ONLINE ARTICLE WINNER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

WHAT'S ON
NEWS EAT & DRINK THINGS TO DO CULTURE CINEMA AWARDS

What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025: Here are the winners

Written by: What's On
17th September 2025

Meet your class of 2025

At a glorious celebration last night (Tuesday September 16), we welcomed nearly 400 of the best and brightest in the hospitality and entertainment industry once again at the gorgeous JW Marriott Riyadh to crown the winners of the third What's On Saudi Arabia Awards. It's a pretty big deal (even if we say so ourselves), being widely recognised as one of the region's most important leisure and entertainment awards.

Taking place in association with Apparel Group, we celebrated Saudi Arabia's finest places to eat, the greatest concerts from the last 12 months, fabulous hotels that deserve your riyals, and so much more. For a change, we served our guests with awards to 33 winners and 52 outlets that were placed as highly commended, honouring the Kingdom's most elite places to eat and have fun.

15 things to look for Oct 2025

Grammy-winning pianist AJUla thi

Here's what to expect at Sea Resort when it

140 likes

WHAT'S ON
NEWS EAT & DRINK THINGS TO DO CULTURE CINEMA AWARDS

In pics: What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025 - Highly Commended

Written by: What's On
27th September 2025

A round of applause for this amazing achievement

On Tuesday September 16, 2025, at the stunning JW Marriott Hotel Riyadh, we were joined by around 400 of Saudi Arabia's brightest talents to announce the winners of the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025. Taking place in association with Apparel Group, we celebrated Saudi Arabia's finest places to eat, the greatest concerts from the last 12 months, fabulous hotels that deserve your riyals, and so much more. The awards were presented to 33 winners and 52 outlets that were placed as highly commended, honouring the Kingdom's most elite places to eat and have fun.

Check out the photos of the highly commended winners below.

15 things to look for Oct 2025

Grammy-winning pianist AJUla thi

Here's what to expect at Sea Resort when it

WHAT'S ON
NEWS EAT & DRINK THINGS TO DO CULTURE CINEMA AWARDS

In pics: What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025 - The Event

Written by: What's On
30th September 2025

Lights, camera, celebration

On Tuesday September 16, 2025, at the stunning JW Marriott Hotel Riyadh, we were joined by around 400 of Saudi Arabia's brightest talents to announce the winners of the What's On Saudi Arabia Awards 2025. Taking place in association with Apparel Group, we celebrated Saudi Arabia's finest places to eat, the greatest concerts from the last 12 months, fabulous hotels that deserve your riyals, and so much more. The awards were presented to 33 winners and 52 outlets that were placed as highly commended, honouring the Kingdom's most elite places to eat and have fun.

Check out the photos of the highly commended winners below.

15 things to look for Oct 2025

Grammy-winning pianist AJUla thi

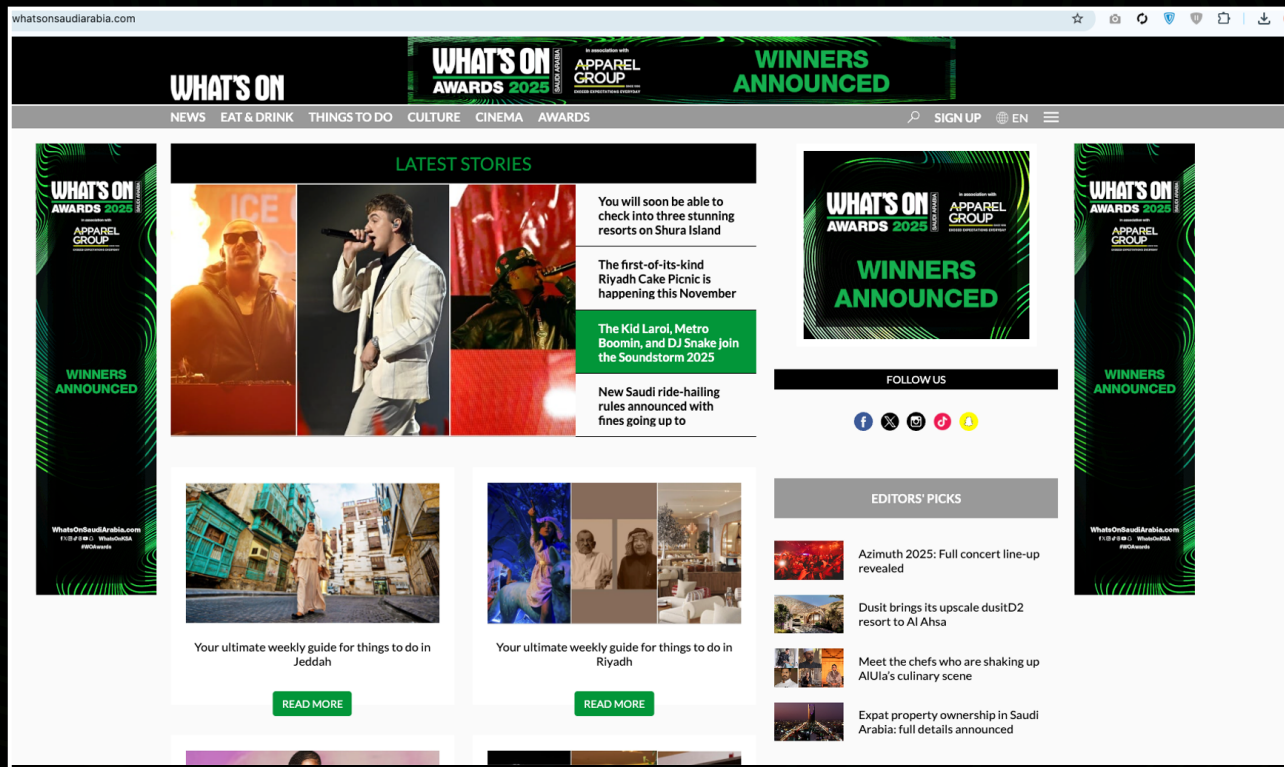
Here's what to expect at Sea Resort when it

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

POST-EVENT MARKETING

BANNER WINNER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

DIGITAL BANNERS WERE PLACED ON WHAT'S ON DUBAI, WHAT'S ON ABU DHABI, WHAT'S ON SAUDI ARABIA 100,000 IMPRESSIONS WERE SERVED



WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2025 SAUDI ARABIA

POST-EVENT MARKETING

SOCIAL MEDIA WINNER'S ANNOUNCEMENT



WHAT'S ON

AWARDS 2025

SAUDI ARABIA

SPONSOR'S LOGO PANEL

Destination Partner

experience
abu dhabi

Structural Partner



Media Partner



Beverage Partners



Entertainment Partner



Vote Processing Partner



Presented By



موتيفيت
MOTIVATE

USED ACROSS EVENT COLLATERAL