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Shopping in Riyadh by Lek Boonlert

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To the first time visitor, it might almost appear as though the streets in Riyadh are just one shopping mall after another. For the serious shopaholic international traveller, however, this is paradise. For all practical purposes, Riyadh is the most popular destination for shopping in Saudi Arabia, as well as one of the most popular ones in the Middle East. Most of the hotels in Riyadh will have information regarding the following shopping venues, which all feature a wide array of ethnic items as well as high end brand name merchandise.

Saco Mall - Extremely popular with international travellers due to its numerous home furnishings shops, this is a huge shopping mall that sells everything from bed sheets to rugs. Despite the higher quality of all the items sold here, most items are quite reasonably priced.

Al Faisalia - Housing one of the widest assortments of top notch fashion labels, this is one of Riyadhâ€™s most popular shopping malls. You can find such well-known brand names as DKYN, Harvey Nichols, Ralph Lauren, and Versace.

Kingdom Tower - Considered one of the havens for shopping amongst the locals, you can expect crowds no matter what time of the day you go shopping here. It is definitely a swanky facility, but the high end name brands are offered at anywhere from 50% to 80% off in most cases.

The local souks - These local shopping bazaars and traditional markets are great places to explore during quiet afternoons, whether you purchase anything or not. For the best souks in the city, visit the Batha region.

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