ASIAN OIL GROUP

Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Sunday, August 16, 2026 · As of Aug 14, 2026 17:00 ET · Sentiment: Bullish

Global energy markets closed Friday with crude oil benchmarks posting gains, driven by supply concerns and firm demand. Refined products also saw price increases, while natural gas remained relatively stable. Equity markets experienced a slight pullback after reaching record highs, and bunker prices remained elevated across key hubs.

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

DIRTY TANKER ($/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	40,300	39,700
Suezmax, 130	WAF-UKC	28,500	27,800
Aframax, 80	Caribs-USG	22,100	21,500

CLEAN TANKER ($/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	20,500	26,400
LR1, 55	AG-FE	18,200	21,300
MR, 37	TC2 (UKC-USAC)	16,800	19,500

TIME CHARTER (KDWT)

Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	49,000	127.0	112.0
Suezmax, 150	35,000	85.0	72.0

LNG ($/DAY)

Type	Spot	Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	13,000	Flat	30,231
174M3 TFDE (Atlantic)	15,500	Firm	35,800

LPG ($/DAY)

VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)	34,643
VLGC, 44 (USG-Japan)	41,200

BUNKERS ($/MT)

Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	831.0	640.0	1,230.0
Rotterdam	660.0	548.0	1,271.0

ENERGY PRICES

CRUDE

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	$/bbl	87.92	+0.97
WTI NYMEX	$/bbl	82.55	+1.60

PRODUCTS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	318.41	+5.61
Heating Oil NYMEX	c/gal	295.50	+4.20

NATURAL GAS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	$/MMBtu	2.73	+0.01

NGL

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	$/mt	378.14	+1.25

PRICE SPREADS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	$/bbl	45.81	-0.50
Heating Oil/Brent Crack Spread	$/bbl	38.10	+0.25

CARBON MARKET DAILY

Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	81.66	81.68

COMMODITIES & MARKETS

EQUITIES

Index	Last	Chg
S&P 500 United States	7,785.76	-13.23
Dow Jones Industrial Average United States	53,732.41	-107.58

CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/$	1.16	+0.00
USD/JPY	148.20	-0.15

DEVELOPMENTS

OPEC+ Ministers Signal Cautious Approach to Output Hikes Amid Demand Uncertainty

Reports from Vienna suggest OPEC+ members are leaning towards maintaining current production levels, citing global economic headwinds despite recent crude price...

Reuters · Aug 14, 2026

Major North American LNG Export Project Reaches Final Investment Decision

A consortium of energy companies announced the Final Investment Decision (FID) for a multi-billion dollar LNG export facility on the US Gulf Coast. This move is...

S&P Global Platts · Aug 15, 2026

VLCC Tanker Rates Firm on Robust Middle East Demand and Limited Vessel Availability

Spot rates for Very Large Crude Carriers (VLCCs) on key Middle East-Far East routes have strengthened, driven by consistent crude export volumes from the Arabia...

TradeWinds · Aug 14, 2026

EU Carbon Prices Climb as Industrial Activity Picks Up Across the Bloc

European Union Allowance (EUA) prices saw an uptick this week, reflecting increased industrial output and higher demand for carbon credits as companies prepare...

Bloomberg · Aug 14, 2026

Asian Refining Margins Remain Elevated on Strong Gasoline and Jet Fuel Demand

Refining margins in Asia continue to be robust, supported by healthy regional demand for transportation fuels, particularly gasoline and jet fuel. This trend is...

Argus Media · Aug 15, 2026

Red Sea Shipping Concerns Persist, Keeping Insurance Premiums High

Geopolitical tensions in the Red Sea region continue to impact shipping, with vessel operators facing elevated insurance premiums and extended transit times. Th...

Lloyd's List · Aug 15, 2026