

Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Monday, August 31, 2026 · As of Aug 31, 2026 17:00 ET · Sentiment: Bullish

Energy markets saw significant upward movement on Monday, August 31, 2026, driven by renewed geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, which sent crude oil prices above \$90 a barrel. This surge in energy costs contributed to a downturn in global equities, while natural gas markets presented a mixed picture with US prices falling and European LNG prices rising due to supply competition.

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

DIRTY TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	41,500	40,000
Suezmax, 130	WAF-UKC	32,000	31,500
Aframax, 80	Carib-USGC	28,000	27,800

CLEAN TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	21,000	26,500
LR1, 55	AG-FE	18,500	23,000
MR, 37	TC2 (UKC-USAC)	22,000	21,500

TIME CHARTER (KDWT)

Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	49,500	127.5	112.5
Suezmax, 130	38,000	85.0	75.0

LNG (\$/DAY)

Type	Spot Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	15,000 Bullish	31,000
174M3 MEGI (Atlantic)	18,000 Bullish	35,000

LPG (\$/DAY)

VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)	35,500
VLGC, 44 (USGC-Japan)	62,000

BUNKERS (\$/MT)

Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	829.0	679.0	1,241.0
Rotterdam	665.0	550.0	1,275.0

COMMODITIES & MARKETS

EQUITIES

Index	Last	Chg
S&P 500 United States	7,686.14	-25.62
Dow Jones Industrial Average United States	53,185.90	-374.09
Nasdaq Composite United States	26,370.89	-31.53

DEVELOPMENTS

Brent Oil Tops \$90 After First U.S. and Iran Fighting in a Month

Oil prices jumped on Monday, August 31, 2026, after the U.S. and Iran exchanged fire for the first time in a month, renewing conflict near the Strait of Hormuz...

Morningstar · Aug 31, 2026

China's August LNG Imports Set to Drop as High Prices Hit Demand

China's LNG imports are expected to fall by 18% in August 2026 from a year earlier, as high spot LNG prices, averaging around \$21/MMBtu, deterred price-sensitiv...

Bloomberg · Aug 31, 2026

S&P 500 Closes Lower as Dow Leads the Selling on August 31

U.S. stock markets closed lower on Monday, August 31, 2026, with the S&P 500 falling 0.3% to 7,686.14, as surging oil prices and heightened geopolitical instabi...

24/7 Wall St. · Aug 31, 2026

ENERGY PRICES

CRUDE

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	\$/bbl	90.49	+2.38
WTI NYMEX	\$/bbl	86.25	+2.84

PRODUCTS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	343.70	-5.29
ULSD Heating Oil NYMEX	c/gal	320.50	+4.10

NATURAL GAS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	\$/MMBtu	2.93	-0.14
Europe TTF ICE	\$/MMBtu	23.73	+0.91

NGL

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	\$/mt	388.43	+9.13
US Mont Belvieu Ethane NYMEX	\$/gal	0.35	+0.01

PRICE SPREADS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	53.86	-4.60
ULSD/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	48.20	+1.50

CARBON MARKET DAILY

Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	83.05	83.15
California Carbon Allowances (Spot)	USD/ton	38.10	38.20

CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/\$	1.16	+0.00
\$/JPY	147.80	-0.25
GBP/\$	1.27	0.00

US Natural Gas Prices Drop Further Amid Prospect of Increased Supply

US natural gas prices fell to \$2.85/MMBtu on Monday, August 31, 2026, extending their retreat from a five-week high as traders weighed the prospect of increased...

Trading Economics · Aug 31, 2026

Europe's Fight for LNG Puts TTF Back on the Upswing

European LNG deliveries reached their highest level since April last week, with October TTF prices gaining 4% to close at \$23.73/MMBtu on Monday, August 31, 202...

Natural Gas Intelligence · Aug 31, 2026

EU Carbon Allowances Expected to Reach €90/t by Year-End 2026

EU carbon allowances closed at €82.87/t on August 28, 2026, with analysts expecting a rise to €90/t by year-end due to the Market Stability Reserve (MSR) intake...

The Industry Spread · Aug 28, 2026