



THE RED ROOF VILLAGE OF LEBANON

Douma Travel Guide 2026

UNWTO Best Tourism Village 2023

Annual visitors	20,000+
Heritage houses	200+
Old souk shops	50+
Churches and monasteries	17+
Elevation	1,150-1,200 m

Welcome to Douma

Douma is a mountain village in the Batroun District of North Lebanon. It was named a UNWTO Best Tourism Village in 2023 for its preserved stone architecture, red-tiled roofs, and living heritage.

The village square holds a 4th-century Roman sarcophagus. More than 17 churches and monasteries stand in and around the village, some on foundations with antiquities from the Byzantine era.

Location

80.1 km north of Beirut, about 82 minutes by car.

27.8 km east of Batroun, about 33 minutes.

37.5 km from Tripoli, about 54 minutes.

Elevation on the plan page: 1,150-1,200 m.

Inland route: from Beirut, take the M1 coastal highway north for roughly 80 km, exit at Amchit toward Lehfed and Mayfouk, then climb into Douma. Allow 2-2.5 hours.

Coastal route: continue north on the M1 to Batroun, then turn inland through the Batroun mountains. This way is slightly longer, with sea views and olive groves.

Attractions

These are the places listed on visitdouma.com/attractions.

Kheir Residence (The Green House)

A 200-year-old Douma landmark blending Ottoman grandeur with Lebanese heritage, featuring Romanian cedar beams, rare Corinthian columns, and a storied past hosting exiled leaders and diplomats.

Douma Square's Ancient Sarcophagus

Discover the ancient sarcophagus of Castor, priest of healing gods Hygeia and Asclepius unearthed in the 1800s with a timeless warning carved in stone, anchoring northern Lebanon's historic village heart.

Douma Municipality

The historic municipal building showcasing traditional Lebanese administrative architecture with its distinctive red tiled roof and stone facade, representing the village's civic heritage.

Covered Street

Step beneath the last surviving covered street of Douma's ancient souk a charming, vaulted passage whispering centuries of merchant tales in northern Lebanon's mountain village.

Bashir Family Residence

Step into the 1893 Bashir Residence, home of Douma's first elected mayor, adorned with hand-painted murals and honored by Russian diplomats, where history, art, and mountain charm converge.

Authentic Souk

Wander Douma's historic 19th-century souk, once a bustling hub of ironwork, silk, and olive oil, where 50+ artisan shops, vintage cafés, and cinematic charm echo Lebanon's mountain trade legacy.

Authentic Souk Gates

Walk through Douma's historic souk gates—once guarded by caravan sheikhs against mountain bandits—where centuries of trade, taxes, and tales echo beneath stone arches.

Heritage Museum

Discover Douma's Heritage Museum, housed in a 19th-century mansion—where immigration stories, artisan crafts, and expatriate legacies unfold across three captivating wings.

Assia Pottery Village

Explore the pottery village of Assia, where generations of artisans have crafted traditional Lebanese ceramics.

Traditional Stone Olive Oil Press

Step into a living piece of Douma's agricultural soul at an ancient stone olive oil press where generations of villagers have transformed hand-picked olives from surrounding groves into golden, award-winning extra virgin oil.

Traditional Grape Molasses Press

Discover the sweet heritage of Douma at a traditional grape molasses (dibs) press, where villagers still harvest mountain grapes and slow-cook them into thick, amber molasses using wood-fired copper pots and techniques passed down...

Ain Okfor

Quench your curiosity at Ain O'kfor Douma's historic spring cascading from Mar Nohra cliff, once vital to village life and beautifully restored in 2019 amid northern Lebanon's lush highlands.

Area of Three Water Sources

Discover Douma's trio of cascading springs, each with a sacred purpose: quenching animals' thirst, offering pure drinking water, and nourishing terraced crops—where nature's rhythm shaped village life.

Faghry & Beit Melki Region

Peaceful farmland with natural rock formations, old apple orchards, and Greek inscriptions preserving this historic site.

Balaa Waterfall & Sinkhole

Marvel at the breathtaking Balaa waterfall that plunges into a dramatic limestone sinkhole.

Bchaaleh Olive Trees

Twelve ancient olive trees thrive in the village of Bchaaleh at over 1,200 meters altitude.

Tannourine Cedars Nature Reserve

A short drive from Douma leads to the majestic Tannourine Cedars Nature Reserve, home to some of Lebanon's oldest cedar trees.

Bsatin el Ossi Waterfalls

Discover the breathtaking Bsatin Al Ossi Waterfalls, where crystal-clear cascades meet untouched natural beauty.

The Winding Road and Olive Tree Forest

The historic road built 1905-1910 connecting Douma to the coast, winding through terraces of ancient olive trees whose oil receives international awards.

Rock Climbing Adventures

The limestone cliffs around Douma and neighboring areas offer excellent rock climbing opportunities for all skill levels.

Laqlouq Skiing

Stay in the charm of Douma and reach the slopes of Laqlouq Ski Resort in just a short, scenic drive perfect for combining village serenity with mountain adventure.

Hiking Trails

Ascend Douma's sunlit trails where mountain breezes carry wild thyme scent and reveal sweeping emerald vistas of Lebanon's timeless northern peaks.

Photography Tour

Capture stunning photos of red roofed houses cascading down the mountainside.

Cinema Douma

Experience local and international films at Cinema Douma, a cultural hub showcasing the best of Lebanese and world cinema in an intimate mountain setting.

Wine & Cider Tasting

Savor local wines from Chateau Douma's high-altitude vineyards and crisp cider at 1,150 meters above sea level.

Olive Oil Tasting

Sample award-winning extra virgin olive oil at the Olive & Oil House.

Authentic Lebanese Cuisine

Experience traditional dishes like Amhiyet, Keshek, and Majadarat Fassouliya at local guesthouses.

Famous Local Sweets

The story of E.

Douma National Festival

Annual cultural celebration bringing together artists, musicians, and performers from around the world.

Dr. Rashid Maatouq Hospital

Step into history at Dr.

Douma Club

Experience Douma Club Society, where community pride comes alive through sport, culture, and family connection.

Worship Places

Discover Douma's rich spiritual heritage with 17+ churches and monasteries including Lady of Annunciation, St.

Heritage

These are the heritage records on visitdouma.com/heritage.

Metropolitan Antony Bashir Museum

Third Municipality in Lebanon (1881)

Douma Club

200+ Heritage Houses

Ancient Sarcophagus

Faghry & Beit Melki Region

Heritage Museum (Mathaf Douma)

Traditional Stone Architecture

Historic Souk

Fatat Al-Watan Society and the Home for the Elderly

The Russian School for Boys

Post Office & Public Library: Hearts of Connection and Knowledge

The Douma Tribunal

The Covered Street, Last Remaining Covered Passage

Lady of Annunciation Church

Saint Simon Church

Our Lady of Deliverance Church

Prophet Elias (Elijah) Church

St. Gerges Church

Sant Onuphrius *Mar Nohra * Rock Chapel

Saint John the Baptist Monastery

Saint Artemius Church.

Saint Phocas Church

Saint Nicholas Church

Saint Charbel of-Edessa Church

Historic Trade Route

Douma El Hadid - The Iron Village

Residence of Salim Hanna and the Armory: A Legacy of Master Craftsmanship

Digne-les-Bains Square: A Bridge Between Cultures

Clean Energy Project - 600 Solar Panels

Ishac Family House

Where to stay

Current stays on visitdouma.com/stay.

Grand Hotel Douma

Hotel | 40 rooms | +961 6 520202

Experience premium hospitality at Grand Hotel Douma, offering modern amenities with stunning mountain views.

El Casa De Skaff

Guesthouse | 3 Rooms | +961 71 737 296

Where Luxury meets Simplicity—El Casa De Skaff invites you to experience refined comfort amidst Douma's majestic northern Lebanese mountains and timeless village charm.

Douma Club Youth Hostel

Motel | 11 Rooms | +961 6 520 664

Budget-friendly stays in nature.

Pine Straw Douma

Bungalow | 4 bungalows | +961 3 006 332

Cozy mountain bungalows tucked within serene pine forests, offering a peaceful escape infused with rustic charm.

New Douma Motel

Hotel Resort | 22 | +961 3 309 126

Your peaceful retreat in northern Lebanon.

Diwan el Beik

Guesthouse | 6 rooms | +961 70 412 898

Stay in a meticulously restored heritage home that combines historical charm with modern comfort.

Beit Douma

Guesthouse | 8 rooms | +961 6 520 702

Experience authentic Lebanese hospitality in this beautifully restored traditional house.

Ghera Town Bungalows

Bungalow | Multiple bungalows | +961 70 468 314

Escape to our charming mountain bungalows, nestled amid lush oak forests and designed for those who crave serenity with a touch of rustic elegance.

My Stone Cellar

Guesthouse | 6 rooms | +961 71 283 485

Immerse yourself in the rich heritage of Douma, tucked away in the town's heart within a meticulously restored traditional Lebanese home.

Heritage Guesthouse

Guesthouse | 6 rooms | +961 6 950 234

Charming traditional Lebanese house converted into a cozy guesthouse, perfect for experiencing authentic village life.

Douma Palace

Hotel | +961 70 520 020

Lies on top of the beautiful brick village, and welcomes you all year round.

El Paradiso Douma

Cabin | 1 Cabin | +961 3 087 569

Nestled amid Douma's serene northern Lebanese mountains, this tranquil retreat offers couples and families a private haven to unwind, reconnect, and embrace mountain serenity.

Douma Camping

Camping Area | 250 Pesrons | +961 70 520 060

Escape to Douma-Camping, nestled amid Lebanon's northern oak and pine forests, your serene retreat for stargazing, hiking, and authentic campfire nights in Douma's breathtaking nature

Where to dine

Restaurants, cafes, and snacks on visitdouma.com/dining.

Shalhoub Restaurant

Restaurant | Fish Menu | +961 3 372 537

Discover fresh seafood delicacies and fish specialties prepared with Mediterranean flavors.

Restaurant Esclapio

Restaurant | Lebanese Traditional Food Menu | +961 76 330 072

Embark on a sensory journey through the heart of Lebanon with our authentic cuisine, featuring a comprehensive menu of traditional dishes, mezze platters, and regional specialties prepared using time, honored recipes that preserve every...

TALAYA Restaurant

Restaurant | Lebanese | +961 3 345 896

Step into a world where heritage meets hospitality.

Bella Douma Resto Cafe

Cafe & Bistro | Cafe & Bistro | +961 3 340 815

Enjoy fresh pastries, Lebanese desserts, coffee, and light meals in a stylish setting.

Ahwet El Beik

Restaurant | different dishes | +961 70 520 220

Nestled in Douma's vibrant souks, Ahwet El Beik serves authentic Lebanese cuisine and diverse dishes crafted from time, honored recipes.

Matbakh Jamal

Restaurant | Lebanese Traditional Food | +961 71 224 446

Discover authentic Lebanese flavors at Matbakh Jamal.

EL Zehlawi Restaurant

Restaurant | Lebanese Traditional Food

Perched above Douma, savor authentic Lebanese cuisine crafted from time-honored recipes.

Furn Yacoub & Lina

Furn mana'eesh | Zaatar and cheese mana'eesh

Furn Yacoub & Lina serves Douma's finest Lebanese breakfast.

Furn Elie

Furn mana'eesh | Zaatar and cheese mana'eesh

Furn Elie crafts Douma's beloved morning ritual: piping-hot mana'eesh baked fresh daily with za'atar, akkawi cheese, and spiced minced meat.

Steven's food homemade

Restaurant | Lebanese Traditional Food | +961 76 393 499

Steven's Food Homemade offers authentic Lebanese dishes crafted daily with fresh local ingredients.

Fresh from the Tanour

Furn Tanour

Authentic Tradition, Fresh from the Tanour Witness the art of timeless baking!

Shops

Shops currently listed on visitdouma.com/shops. The About page also describes the old souk as 50+ shops.

Crochet by Maguy

Textiles & Fashion | Souk, Douma | +961 70 384 324

Authentic Lebanese craftsmanship: Explore our collection of handmade crochet, hats, and accessories from the heart of Douma.

Bouza Al-Zahlawi

Sweets & Desserts | Main Street Douma Souk | +961 3 576909

Since 1957, Al-Zahlawi has been the legendary home of authentic Arabic Bouza in Douma, where tradition, heritage, and unforgettable flavor come together in every scoop.

Khair Shalhoub Store

Food & Spices | Douma Souk

Step into Khair Shalhoub Store, one of Souk Douma's oldest treasures.

Jacqueline's 100% Natural Lebanese Mouneh.

Olive Oil & Mouneh | Main Street Douma Souk

From the heart of her home to Souk Douma, Jacqueline crafts authentic Lebanese treasures with love and tradition.

Mourice Shalhoub Store

Other | Main Street Douma Souk

Souk Douma's heritage store serving the community for generations.

Apiculture Al Arja

Health & Natural Products | Douma Souk | +961 03 162 625

From generation to generation since 1967, Apiculture Al Arja brings you the purest treasures of the hive, premium honey, propolis, royal jelly, natural soaps, and creams, crafted with passion by Tarek in the heart of Old Douma Souk.

Hamatoura Shops - Douma

Art & Handmade Gifts | Douma Souk | +961 71 511 164

Expanding his father's 65-year legacy in Douma's historic souk, George Khair Shalhoub opened the 'Hamatoura Shops' with a profound spiritual mission.

Chateau Douma

Winery | Old Souk, Douma | +96176 518 878

Discover wine redefined at Chateau Douma.

R Ard.

Home & Decor | Douma Souk

Discover the earthy elegance of R Ard, your destination for exquisite handcrafted treasures.

Shalhoub Farm

Olive Oil & Mouneh | DOUMA | +961 76 596 395

Organic.

Cider-Manifesto

Winery | Douma Souk | +961 70 946 623

Cider Manifesto!

Beit al-Mouna la-Doumaniyeh

Olive Oil & Mouneh | Douma Souk

specializes in authentic Lebanese olive oil, traditional mrebbat, pickles, zaatar, honey, molasses, dried herbs, spices, grains, nuts, and homemade mouneh delicacies in the heart of Douma's Old Souk

Handcrafts

Makers currently listed on visitdouma.com/handcrafts.

Bohé

Textile & Weaving | Monaliza Shalhoub | Douma Souk | +961 81 073 669

Welcome to Bohé – Where Creativity Comes to Life At Bohé, we create beautiful handmade pieces for every occasion, including macramé, candles, concrete creations.

Hiraf by Heritage

Textile & Weaving | Douma Souk | +961 76 871 733

Discover Hiraf by Heritage Douma, where centuries-old traditions come alive through our exquisite collection of handcrafted pottery, vibrant textiles, intricate stone carvings, colorful glasswork, sacred icons, and authentic Lebanese...

Michline, artisan

Textile & Weaving | Douma Souk

Discover the art of hand-stitching with Michline, a passionate artisan who transforms fabric and thread into timeless, handmade treasures.

Beading

Jewelry Design | Mirna | Douma Souk | +961 3 510 057

Discover the art of handmade elegance.

Maha Al-Ami Art

Painting & Drawing | Douma Souk

Experience the magic of creation!

Maguy's Textile

Textile & Weaving | Crochet by Maguy | Douma, Souk | +961 70 384 324

Discover Maguy's Textile, the most ancient shop in the heart of Douma Souk.

Arze w Zaytounه قنوت يزو قزرا

Wood Carving & Sculpture | Douma | +961 03 307058

Exquisite artisanal woodwork defines our collection.

T. ARTT

Painting & Drawing | Tony Maalouf | Douma, Souk Center | +961 3 373 661

Discover T Art by Tony Maalouf, where poetry meets paint in the heart of Douma's ancient souk.

Hiking

Trails on visitdouma.com/hiking. Ask the Tourism Office before a long route.

Beit Melki Agricultural Trail

Challenging | 2-3 hours | 3 km

Explore the pristine Faghry & Beit Melki region with natural rocks, apple orchards, and ancient Greek inscriptions.

Village Heritage Walk

Easy | 1-2 hours | 2 km

A leisurely stroll through Douma's historic streets, passing by 200+ heritage houses with iconic red-tiled roofs, traditional stone architecture, and the historic souk.

Monastery Circuit

Moderate | 3-4 hours | 5 km

Visit multiple spiritual landmarks including Mar Nohra Rock Chapel, Deir Mar Youhanna, and stunning mountain views.

Mountain Ridge Trail

Challenging | 4-6 hours | 8 km

Ascend to panoramic viewpoints overlooking the Red Roof Village and surrounding valleys.

Cedar Forest Expedition

Challenging | 5-6 hours | 10 km

Journey to the nearby Tannourine Cedars Nature Reserve.

Balaa Waterfall Trek

Challenging | 6-7 hours | 12 km

Adventure to the spectacular Balaa waterfall and sinkhole, one of Lebanon's most dramatic natural formations.

Lebanon Mountain Trail (LMT) - Section 10

Challenging | 7-8 hours | a section of the 440 km Lebanon Mountain Trail

The site describes the loop linking section 10, from Tannourine el-Fawqa and Aaqoura toward Douma. The 440 km figure is the full national trail, not this day's walk.

Village-to-Village Trails

Moderate | 3-4 hours | 6 km

Explore authentic mountain life on traditional trails connecting Douma with neighboring villages including Bchaaleh and Kfar Hilda.

Darb al-Jabal and Sikkat al-Sham Road

Challenging

A historic route from Douma toward Balaa, known as Sikkat al-Sham, and part of the Lebanon Mountain Trail.

The Winding Road & Ancient Olive Grove

Easy | 1-2 hours | 3 km

Built by Douma's residents between 1905–1910 and completed with the help of the Russian Consul General, this historic route now serves as a scenic hiking trail.

Events

Listed on visitdouma.com/events.

Christmas In Douma

December 6, 2025 to January 4, 2026, as written in the event description. Douma Municipality.

Live music, cinema, Christmas cooking workshops, Byzantine icon painting, and visits to the Heritage Museum.

Culinary experiences

Soap Making Workshop

Discover the ancient art of Lebanese soap making using natural ingredients and traditional methods.

Cooking Classes

Learn to prepare authentic Lebanese dishes from local experts.

Nearby

These places are already part of the itineraries on visitdouma.com/itineraries.

Bcharre and the Qadisha Valley

Heritage Journey

About 40 km from Douma. Gibran Museum, then the Qadisha Valley. Allow 4-5 hours including the drive.
visitdouma.com/itineraries/heritage-journey

Tannourine Cedars

Hiking Weekend

A day-two option at the Tannourine Cedar Forest Nature Reserve. visitdouma.com/itineraries/hiking-weekend

Bchaaleh

Hiking Weekend

Noah's Olives Trail runs from Douma to Bchaaleh. visitdouma.com/itineraries/hiking-weekend

Assia

Romantic Escape

An afternoon pottery workshop, a short drive from Douma. visitdouma.com/itineraries/romantic-escape

Practical information

Best season on the plan page: April-June and September-November. Douma welcomes visitors year-round.

Currency: US dollars and Lebanese pounds are both used.

Parking is available near the main square. Most attractions are within walking distance. Douma is reachable by car, taxi, or bus from Beirut and Batroun. Ask your guesthouse or the Tourism Office for current taxi rates.

Pack sturdy shoes for the stone streets, a light layer for mountain evenings, a water bottle, sunscreen, a hat, and a camera.

Contacts

Douma Municipality Tourism Office: +961 76 306 430. Ground floor of the Municipality Building.

Douma Municipality: +961 6 520 520

Email: info@visitdouma.com

Police: 112

Ambulance: 140

Fire department: 175

Health services: visitdouma.com/local/health

For current listings, visit visitdouma.com.