ASIAN OIL GROUP

Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 · As of Apr 21, 2026 17:00 ET · Sentiment: Bullish

Global energy markets on April 21, 2026, were highly volatile, driven by escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and uncertainty surrounding US-Iran ceasefire talks. Crude oil prices saw significant swings, ultimately settling higher, while shipping rates for tankers surged due to disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz and extremely high bunker fuel costs. Equities generally declined as investors reacted to the heightened instability.

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

DIRTY TANKER ($/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	55,000	45,000
Suezmax, 130	WAF-UKC	40,000	35,000
Aframax, 80	Cross-Med	30,000	25,000

CLEAN TANKER ($/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	28,000	25,000
MR, 37	TC2	22,000	19,000

TIME CHARTER (KDWT)

Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	60,000	129.0	138.0

LNG ($/DAY)

Type	Spot	Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	100,000	Bullish	60,000

LPG ($/DAY)

VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)	45,000

BUNKERS ($/MT)

Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	1,200.0	900.0	2,000.0

COMMODITIES & MARKETS

EQUITIES

Index	Last	Chg
S&P 500 United States	7,064.01	-45.13
Dow Jones Industrial Average United States	49,149.38	-293.18
Nasdaq Composite United States	24,259.96	-144.43

ENERGY PRICES

CRUDE

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	$/bbl	98.48	+3.05
WTI NYMEX	$/bbl	92.13	+2.52

PRODUCTS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	320.98	+9.30

NATURAL GAS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	$/MMBtu	2.70	+0.01

NGL

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	$/mt	404.18	+5.25

PRICE SPREADS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	$/bbl	36.33	+0.95

CARBON MARKET DAILY

Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	85.00	85.10

CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/$	1.18	-0.01
$/JPY	155.00	+0.20

DEVELOPMENTS

Oil prices today: Crude falls as upcoming US-Iran talks offsets supply disruption fears

Oil prices declined early on Tuesday, reversing previous gains, as expectations of imminent US-Iran peace talks aimed to ease concerns over prolonged supply dis...

Times of India / Economic Times · Apr 21, 2026

Stocks slip and oil prices rise on uncertainty about U.S.-Iran ceasefire talks

U.S. stocks and oil prices flip-flopped on Tuesday as uncertainty rose about the extension of a two-week ceasefire in the war with Iran, which was set to expire...

Associated Press · Apr 21, 2026

Widening gap in container rates suggest shippers are uncertain; Strait of Hormuz closed

Widening spreads between high and low costs for shipping containers indicated increasing uncertainty due to the Middle East war. The Strait of Hormuz was report...

ICIS · Apr 20, 2026

DHL CEO Warns Gulf Energy Shock Could Push Global Economy Toward a Tipping Point

DHL Group CEO Tobias Meyer stated on April 21st that a sustained disruption in Gulf crude flows could push the global economy toward a tipping point, affecting...

Bloomberg TV · Apr 21, 2026

VLCC Secondhand Prices Surge Up to 35% Premium Amid Middle East Tensions

The resale price of a 5-year-old VLCC reached $138 million, exceeding the average new ship cost of $129 million, with buyers paying a premium of 21% to 35% for...

iMarine / Seatrade Maritime News · May 09, 2026

Rising Bunker Prices Triggered Slower Vessel Speeds

Between late 2025 and mid-April 2026, the average speed of container vessels declined by 2.3 percent, reaching its lowest level since March 2023, in response to...

AXSMarine · May 07, 2026

Latest energy shock reminds Europe of its risky gas reliance

Gas prices were spiking as conflict escalated in the Middle East, with the cost of gas-fired power across the EU increasing by more than 50% in just 10 days, hi...

Ember / Montel · Apr 06, 2026

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