



Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Wednesday, August 19, 2026 · As of Aug 19, 2026 17:00 ET · Sentiment: Bullish

Global energy markets on August 19, 2026, were dominated by escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, driving Brent crude prices above \$92/bbl amid a standoff in the Strait of Hormuz. US equities saw a modest rise following the Treasury's announcement of increased bond buybacks, while natural gas prices edged lower.

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS			
DIRTY TANKER (\$/DAY)			
Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	40,300	39,700
CLEAN TANKER (\$/DAY)			
Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	20,500	26,400
TIME CHARTER (KDWT)			
Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	49,000	127.0	112.0
LNG (\$/DAY)			
Type	Spot	Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	13,000	Flat	30,231
LPG (\$/DAY)			
VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)			34,643
BUNKERS (\$/MT)			
Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	829.0	679.0	1,439.3

COMMODITIES & MARKETS		
EQUITIES		
Index	Last	Chg
S&P 500 United States	7,707.98	+16.22

ENERGY PRICES			
CRUDE			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	\$/bbl	92.36	+1.34
PRODUCTS			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	325.51	-4.66
NATURAL GAS			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	\$/MMBtu	2.78	-0.01
NGL			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	\$/mt	366.32	+8.83
PRICE SPREADS			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	44.35	-3.30
CARBON MARKET DAILY			
Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	81.71	81.71
CURRENCIES			
Pair	Last	Chg	
EUR/\$	1.17	+0.01	

DEVELOPMENTS	
Brent Crude Oil Tops \$92 as Hormuz Standoff Drags On Brent crude oil traded at \$92.36 a barrel on August 19, 2026, extending a climb due to slowed ship traffic through the Strait of Hormuz and ongoing US-Iran conf... Vantage Markets / Duncan (Facebook) · Aug 19, 2026	US Distillate Stocks Remain Low, Signaling Tight Diesel Supply US distillate stocks fell 2.797 million barrels in the week ending August 14, 2026, standing roughly 12% below the five-year average and signaling tight diesel... Crux Investor · Aug 19, 2026
EIA Lowers Henry Hub Gas Price Forecasts The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) lowered its average Henry Hub spot price projections for 2026 to \$3.44/MMBtu in its August Short-Term Energy Ou... Rigzone · Aug 19, 2026	Oil Futures Rise as Hormuz Shipping Remains Constrained Oil futures settled higher as the U.S. and Iran vied for control over the Strait of Hormuz and President Trump said he's in no hurry to resolve the conflict. Morningstar (Dow Jones) · Aug 18, 2026
US Treasury Doubles Bond Buybacks, Boosting Stocks The U.S. Treasury Department announced it would more than double the amount of planned bond buybacks, leading to a tumble in long-dated U.S. bond yields and the... Reuters / TheStreet / Barchart.com · Aug 19, 2026	S&P 500 Rises Despite Tech Weakness The S&P 500 rose 0.2% on August 19, 2026, for its first gain in four days, despite weakness in tech stocks, supported by strong profit reports and the Treasury'... TheStreet / Barchart.com · Aug 19, 2026
Hornbeck Offshore Backs Maritime Nuclear Push With Deployable Energy Hornbeck Offshore Services partnered with Deployable Energy to explore using compact nuclear reactors on vessels and offshore installations, aiming for a 20% re... gCaptain · Aug 18, 2026	