

Tripadvisor
Travellers'
Choice Awards
Best of the Best



دبي



#1 Destination in the World



CITYGUIDE

2024 EDITION



WELCOME TO DUBAI

Where dynamic contrasts meet
endless possibilities.



دبي

With its unparalleled coastline, beautiful desert and magnificent cityscapes, memories are just waiting to be made in Dubai, Tripadvisor's most popular destination in the world, for the third year in a row.

Embark on the holiday of a lifetime as you delve into living history by the creek, journey up the world's tallest tower, relax on golden beaches, experience record-breaking theme parks and enjoy some of the most spectacular shopping and dining on the planet.

Let's explore.

THE TIMELINE

1958



HH Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum becomes the Ruler of Dubai

1985



Dubai's flagship airline, Emirates, is launched

1971



Dubai joins the other emirates to form the United Arab Emirates (UAE)

1833

The Al Maktoum tribe establishes the fishing settlement of Dubai

Pearling and maritime trade begin to flourish

1892

Oil is discovered in Dubai, attracting foreign trade and boosting the economy

1966

1940



Dubai World Trade Centre, the city's first skyscraper, opens

1979



A Brief History of Dubai

2003



Dubai is recognised by the World Bank and IMF as a financial hub

2022



Museum of the Future opens to reveal how the world could evolve

2010



Burj Khalifa becomes the tallest building in the world

2023



Expo City Dubai hosts COP28, the global summit to tackle climate change

HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum becomes the Ruler of Dubai

HH Sheikh Maktoum bin Rashid Al Maktoum becomes the Ruler of Dubai



1990



2006

Dubai hosts Expo 2020, the first World Expo in the region



2021



THE ESSENTIALS

To help you hit the ground running the moment you arrive in Dubai, here's all the information you need to know.



Currency

The UAE currency is the dirham (AED/Dhs)
US \$1 = AED3.67



Visas

Citizens of 70+ countries are eligible for visa on arrival, while GCC nationals enjoy visa-free entry to the UAE.

Transit visas (48 to 96 hours) are also available to all passport holders. See the latest visa information on visitdubai.com



Stay connected

Electricity: Power supply is 220/240 volts. Sockets are compatible with UK-standard three-pin plugs. For US equipment, use a 220V to 110V transformer.

Phones and Wi-Fi: The country code for the UAE is +971. Tourists get a free prepaid SIM card from telecom operator du at the airport, while free Wi-Fi is widely available across the city – even on the beach.



Health

If you are travelling with prescribed medication, bring your doctor's note with you. The Rashid, Latifa and Dubai Hospitals offer free emergency services.

Important numbers to know:

- Police – 999
- Ambulance – 998
- Fire Department – 997
- Coastguard – 996



Weather

Enjoy year-round sunshine in Dubai. **Average temperatures are around 23°C in winter and 41°C in summer.**

OUR TRADITIONS

Arabian culture

Dubai's famed hospitality stems from our inherent values of integrity and respect. Islam is the official religion here, and it plays a significant role in the city's culture. Pay a visit to Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Centre for Cultural Understanding (SMCCU) in the heart of old Dubai to learn more about our customs and traditions.

National dress



Women

Emirati women wear a long, loose black coat called an *abaya* over their clothes and cover their hair with a headscarf (*hijab*) for cultural purposes.

Some women also choose to wear a face veil known as a *niqab*, or a traditional face mask worn over the nose known as a *burqa'a*.



Men

Men wear a long tunic known as a *kandoor*, often with open-toed leather sandals.

The *ghutra* head-dress may also be worn, which was originally used to protect the face from the desert environment. The black rope that sits on top of the *ghutra* is called an *agal*.

Did you know?

There are more than 200 nationalities living and working in the UAE

Dubai demystified



ISN'T IT REALLY EXPENSIVE?

Dubai caters to all budgets with affordable hotels, restaurants and activities, and free parks and beaches



IS ALCOHOL AVAILABLE?

Non-Muslim adults aged 21 and over can drink alcohol in licensed hotels, establishments and restaurants across **Dubai**



CAN WOMEN DRIVE THERE?

Our culture holds women in very high regard. Both men and women can drive in **Dubai** to their hearts' content



IS IT OKAY TO HOLD HANDS?

Yes, but visitors are advised to refrain from dramatic displays of affection while in public

What can I wear?

Dubai is a cosmopolitan city that is a melting pot of diverse cultures and religious faiths. All attires are generally acceptable, although there are a few general guidelines to follow:



Swimwear is fine while at the beach and pool, but not appropriate in areas such as business districts and shopping malls.



When you're out and about, especially in summer, make sure you are protected from the sun.



It is advisable to dress conservatively when visiting historical areas and cultural sites.

DUBAI SIGHTSEEING & ATTRACTION PASSES

Unlock huge savings with pre-paid access to top attractions, tours and activities. Choose from the available attraction passes below.

Dubai Pass

Experience all that's possible in Dubai for less, with the Dubai Pass. With 48 must-visit attractions and activities to choose from citywide, you can create your own tailor-made Dubai experience, choosing from a wide variety of things to see and do. Each pass offers unbeatable value and convenience – there's no need for cash or a pocketful of tickets. Simply present your pass and you're in.

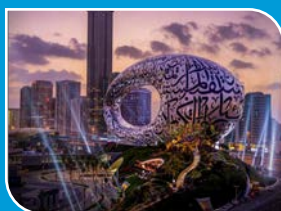
How it works

1. Pick & Choose: Select the pass of your choice and the attractions you'd like to visit
2. Show & Go: Present your card or iPass at entry or when booking
3. Enjoy & Share: Tag **#DubaiPass** and share your experiences with family and friends



DUBAI FLEXI ATTRACTIONS PASS

SAVE UP TO 40%



DUBAI SELECT ATTRACTIONS PASS

SAVE UP TO 50%



DUBAI UNLIMITED ATTRACTIONS PASS

SAVE UP TO 60%

SCAN FOR MORE DETAILS



DUBAI
PASS



GO DUBAI
PASS

Go Dubai Pass

Enjoy even more flexible savings with the Go Dubai Pass. With access to more than 45 of the emirate's most loved destinations and activities, you have more control to curate a perfect holiday experience that's gentle on the wallet. Say goodbye to multiple cash transactions and keeping track of different tickets – you just show your digital pass and enjoy the experience.

How it works

1. Pick & Choose: Once you've purchased your pass, it's ready to use
2. Download & Go: Add your pass to the Go City app and start exploring
3. Enjoy & Share: Tag **#GoDubai** when you share your experiences on social media



ALL-INCLUSIVE PASS



EXPLORER PASS





LUXURY TRAVELLER

Dubai is a luxury destination like no other, so here's a to-do list that's sure to impress.

SEE



Backstage at a Dubai icon

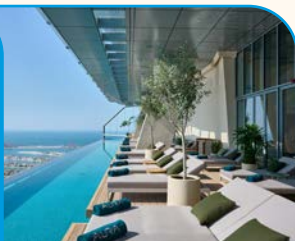
Sign up for exclusive access to the ultra-luxurious interiors of Burj Al Arab, thanks to a new butler-guided tour. Discover the untold stories of this Dubai landmark.

 insideburjalarab.com

Dip in the sky

As the world's first and highest 360-degree infinity pool, AURA Skypool is an elegant destination that evokes an 'oasis in the sky' feel. Book ahead for the coveted sunset session.

 auraskypool.com



Explore Meydan Racecourse

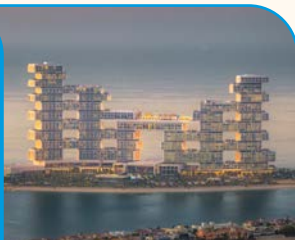
Every Friday evening, the club holds a race, and the biggest event – the Dubai World Cup – is held each March. There are competitions for racegoers too – including best dressed.

 dubairacingclub.com

A new level of luxury

Atlantis The Royal is home to more celebrity chef restaurants than anywhere else in the world – while its rooftop destination Cloud 22 features a 90-foot infinity pool with wonderful views of Palm Jumeirah.

 atlantis.com



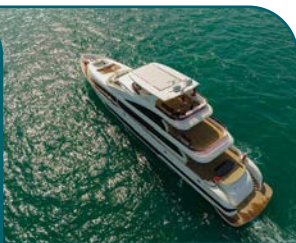
Gyrocopter flight, Skydive Dubai



Sail in style

Cruise the high seas on a private yacht while in Dubai. There are many charter companies to choose from, including Xclusive Yachts and Al Wasl Yachts where you can customise your dream trip.

 xclusiveyachts.com | alwaslyachts.ae



High-flying views

Take in a bird's eye view of the city with a helicopter ride. You'll see Dubai's most famous landmarks and sparkling waters with endless blue skies stretching across the horizon.


 helidubai.com | helicoptertourdubai.com

EXPERIENCE



Shimmer and shine

Indulge in an extravagant spa session at Dubai's luxury wellness havens, like Talise Spa, Ciel Spa or Awaken at Atlantis The Royal. Premium treatments use real gold, healing crystals and salt rooms.

 jumeirah.com | sbe.com | atlantis.com

Supercar ride


Rent your dream ride while in Dubai, including the latest from Ferrari, Lamborghini and Maserati. Choose from specialised rental companies like VIP Rent A Car and Masterkey Rent A Car, among others.

 vipcarrental.ae | mkrentacar.com




VIP desert safari

Explore the desert dunes before enjoying a gourmet dinner and live entertainment on the sands. Make it extra special by staying overnight and watching the sunrise on a hot air balloon ride.

 platinum-heritage.com

Golf with the best

Tee off on a world-famous championship golf course at Emirates Golf Club. Follow in the footsteps of greats such as Tiger Woods, Ernie Els and Rory McIlroy at the par 72 Majlis course.

 dubaigolf.com





Record-breaking lounge

Take a seat at the world's highest lounge at Burj Khalifa. Soaring 585m above the ground, views from the exclusive outdoor terrace are just as sublime as the gourmet refreshments on offer.

 burjkhalifa.ae

Drink in gold


In Dubai, you can quite literally eat and drink gold – from decadent burgers to a range of beverages. Dine in style at Burj Al Arab, where you can order the Ultimate Gold Cappuccino, topped with 24-carat gold, at Sahn Eddar Lounge.

 jumeirah.com



Take a multi-sensory journey

Get ready for a one-of-a-kind culinary experience at Krasota Dubai – mixing art, moving imagery, 3D projections and haute cuisine within an exclusive 20-seater venue. The future has never looked so delicious.

 krasota.art



Delve into Japanese flavours

Michelin-starred Hōseki offers up delectable Japanese flavours that will delight the taste buds. The restaurant is helmed by chef Masahiro Sugiyama, who comes from a long line of sushi masters. Ingredients are flown in daily and just nine guests are served at a time.


 bulgarihotels.com





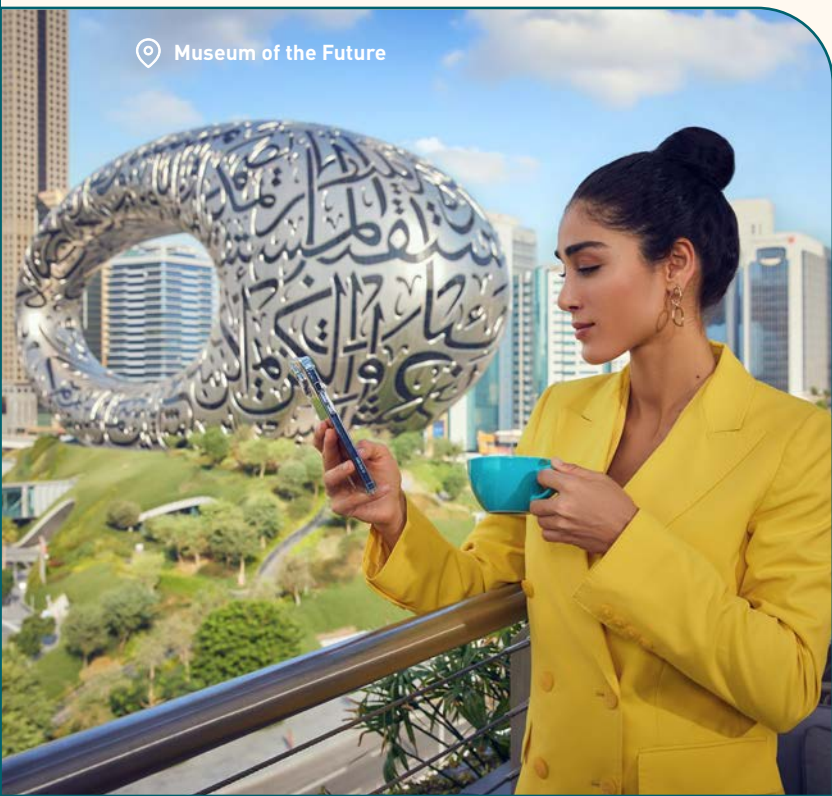
Dine across the centuries

Drawing on 700 years of British cooking, Dinner by Heston Blumenthal restaurant at Atlantis The Royal will take you on a tour of ancient dishes using cutting-edge techniques.


 atlantis.com



Museum of the Future






 Mandarin Oriental Jumeira, Dubai



Atlantis The Royal

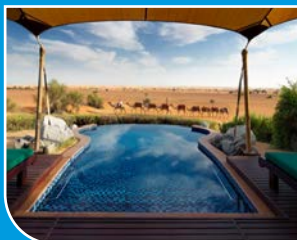
It doesn't get more luxurious than here. Book a penthouse apartment at this ultra-luxury hotel and experience the high life. If the stunning terrace views aren't enough to draw you in, get ready for bespoke decor complete with Hermès amenities.

 atlantis.com

Bulgari Resort Dubai


The incredible Bulgari Hotel & Resorts brings a fusion of Mediterranean style and Middle Eastern opulence. Offering ocean views across the Arabian Gulf on its own island, the hotel is an oasis of luxury.

 bulgarihotels.com




Al Maha Desert Resort & Spa

Enjoy a luxury desert getaway at Al Maha. Surrounded by palm groves and canopies, each unique suite and room has views over the beautiful desert landscape, with the option to have your own private pool.

 marriott.com

Anantara World Islands Dubai

Situated four kilometres away from the mainland on the iconic World Islands, this resort is like no other in Dubai. Take in views of the city skyline and Arabian Gulf with unmatched privacy.

 anantara.com



EVENTS



Dubai World Cup

30 Mar 2024 



Dress to the nines to attend the final showdown of Dubai's action-packed horse racing season. A highlight in the sporting and social calendar, Dubai World Cup's total prize purse is worth US\$30.5 million.

 dubairacingclub.com

Dubai International Boat Show

28 Feb - 3 Mar 2024 



An annual showcase at Dubai Harbour, Dubai International Boat Show features the most luxurious yachts, marine crafts and more featuring the latest designs and technology.

 boatshowdubai.com

World Art Dubai

2-5 May 2024 



Add a coveted piece to your collection at World Art Dubai, which brings 4,000 works from over 300 international galleries and artists under one roof.

 worldartdubai.com

New Year's Eve at Atlantis, The Palm

31 Dec 2024 



Expect a glamorous affair as international superstars perform live at the hotel on 31 December. Previous years have seen the likes of Kylie Minogue, Robbie Williams and KISS light up the stage to mark New Year's Eve.

 atlantis.com/dubai

Download the official Dubai Calendar app or visit the website to see a full list of upcoming shows and events.

dubaicalendar.com



 Available on the App Store

 ANDROID APP ON Google Play

For more information about Dubai, please contact:
Government of Dubai, Department of Economy and Tourism

✉ P.O.Box 594, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

📞 +971 4 282 1111 📞 Toll Free 600 555 559

@ info@visitdubai.com

visitdubai.com

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