

A large, vibrant photograph of the Dubai Fountain at night. The fountain's water jets are illuminated with bright orange and yellow lights, creating a dramatic display against the dark sky. In the foreground, a traditional wooden abra boat with a canopy is on the water, carrying several people. The background shows the modern architecture of a building with lit-up windows and balconies.

WELCOME TO DUBAI

Dubai blends 21st century comforts with Arabian culture, old-world souks, modern malls, luxury hotels, green golf courses and rolling sand dunes.

As one of the world's biggest business hubs, Dubai's strategic geographic location primes it to be the re-exporting centre of the Middle East.

Low operational costs, excellent infrastructure, liberal government policies, transparent regulations, tax-free zones and access to skilled labour are attracting an increasing number of investors across many industries. Dubai is the fifth-highest performing metropolitan economy in the world and is home to more than 200,000 companies.

HOW TO GET AROUND:

Taxis

Government-licensed taxis are safe and well-priced. Riders pay a set, distance-based price and any on tolls passed. Airport pick-ups incur a surcharge. Luxury vehicles are also available.

Dubai Metro

Tickets on the Dubai Metro start from AED3 (less than US\$1). Trains stop at the city's main business and entertainment

hubs, including the Dubai World Trade Centre, Burj Khalifa, DIFC, Mall of the Emirates and more.

Booking Apps

Uber and local alternative Careem operate in Dubai. Drivers licenced by the Dubai Government offer services from economy to first-class, booked instantly or in advance via the relevant app.



DUBAI'S TOP ATTRACTIONS:



SIGHTSEEING

The Burj Khalifa

Take the minute-long elevator ride to the 125th floor observation deck of the world's tallest building for panoramic views of the city.

The deck features a new "Falcon Eye's View" exhibit, which 'flies' you to some of the city's most prominent landmarks.

Dubai Creek

Watch fleets of Abras cross the creek as they've done for centuries. For a small fee, ride between the Gold, Textile and Spice Souks.

The Dubai Mall Fountain

The world's largest choreographed fountain spouts water 140 metres into the sky, synced with lights and music from 6PM onwards.



DINING

La Petite Maison, DIFC

The menu at this fine dining mainstay is Provençal French with a Mediterranean bent, and dishes are designed to be shared – as reflected in the generous serving sizes.

Logma, Boxpark

Located in one of Dubai's funkiest strip malls, this casual café serves up authentic Khaleeji cuisine (that is, food from the Gulf region).

Pierchic, Al Qasr, Madinat Jumeirah, Al Sufouh Road

This romantic venue - set over the Arabian Gulf – showcases fine seafood to incomparable views of the Burj Al Arab.

Shabestan, Radisson Blu Hotel Deira Creek

Take a seat at one of the ornate sets of tables and chairs at Shabestan, and choose from traditional Iranian delicacies as they are made.

Traiteur, Park Hyatt Dubai

Prepare to be dazzled by this unique French brasserie set in the lush, opulent surroundings of the Park Hyatt Dubai.



SHOPPING

The Dubai Shopping Festival runs every January. In addition, May and December sees two official clearance sales with price cuts of up to 90%. Here are our favourite retail therapy spots.

The Dubai Mall

The world's largest mall houses 1,000-plus retailers including brand names Topshop and Galeries Lafayette. Fashion Avenue and the Shoe District are sections dedicated to high-end designers.

The Outlet Village

Opened in late 2016, you'll find fabulous deals on designer brands feature here, surrounded by Tuscan-inspired architecture.

The Gold Souk

Fittingly for Dubai, "the city of gold" is a must-see for precious metal traders and visitors hunting for a special memento. Haggling is all part of the experience.

ENTERTAINMENT AND ADVENTURE



Arabian Adventures

The popular Sundowner Dune Dinner Safari tour is a fun way to experience the desert in comfort. Try quad biking and dune bashing before enjoying a sunset BBQ.

Dubai Opera

Dubai's new 2,000-seat arts institution hosts the biggest names in opera, ballet, theatre and classical music and is the city's first truly world-class cultural entertainment facility.

Kite Surf Club

Make use of Dubai's year-round sunny weather and this facility's specially-designed equipment. Skilled instructors are with you at every wave.

The Els Golf Club

Legendary golfer Ernie Els lends his heart, soul, expertise, and name to The Els — the perfectly manicured golf club located at Dubai Sports City.



TOP BUSINESS HUBS

Business Bay

Home to the Dubai Canal, this popular waterfront promenade features the Dubai Waterfall and the Bay Square pedestrian district.

Dubai Design District

Better known as D3, Dubai Design District is an ambitious hub for the Emirate's fashion and creative industries.

Dubai International Financial Centre

DIFC is a bustling business hub with its own internal regulation system and common law framework.

Dubai World Trade Centre

A venue fit for the biggest and most important meetings and conferences, with spaces designed to cater to groups from 20 to 12,000.

Dubai South

A world-first 'aerotropolis', Dubai South will be a city built around an airport. The Al Maktoum International Airport will be the region's primary hub of transportation once complete.





WHAT TO PACK:

Dubai enjoys a warm climate year-round, so pack your wardrobe accordingly. Air-conditioning can be chilly indoors, so choose pieces that can be layered. Females are advised to dress modestly and carry a shawl or light cardigan.

ATMs and card payment systems are widely used throughout the city. Carry small AED notes for taxi fares.

Dubai uses a single-phase voltage of 230V, at a frequency of 50 Hz. A standard power adapter will work with most international plugs.

APPS TO DOWNLOAD:

Careem

This car-booking app allows you to book taxis, track your ride and pinpoint your destination.

Deliveroo

Have your takeaway meals delivered to you anywhere in Dubai.

Dubai Calender

This app lists the city's biggest events and offers pre-sale ticket access.

MyDXB

Check your flight details on this app for Dubai International Airport and plan your airport passage.

RTA

This handy app offers Metro timetables and up-to-the-minute delay alerts.

BUSINESS ETIQUETTE:

Dubai welcomes all visitors to its cosmopolitan hub of Arabian hospitality. The United Arab Emirates is a Muslim country and the Islamic culture must be respected at all times. Please wear modest clothing in public places and refrain from public displays of affection.

Business cultural norms are similar to those in Western countries, and the few minor differences are easy to adopt. When meeting with a Muslim woman, men should withhold a handshake until she offers her hand.

During Ramadan, visitors should refrain from eating or drinking in public spaces during daylight hours, playing loud music, or wearing revealing clothing. Business hours may also be reduced.

