



### **Country Overview**

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) comprises seven emirates: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm Al Quwain, Ras Al Khaimah and Fujairah. The country is a member of the Arab Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), an economic grouping that also includes Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

Abu Dhabi is the largest of the emirates, accounting for more than 85% of the country's total landmass. Abu Dhabi city is the country's capital, the seat of federal government and home to most ministries, embassies, state broadcasting facilities and oil companies.

## Abu Dhabi Emirate

Abu Dhabi is earning international acclaim for its long-held traditions of unparalleled Bedouin hospitality. This is a destination of near year-round blue skies, stunning white sand beaches and a modern cosmopolitan, capital city lifestyle which remains steeped in the richness of Arabian culture. Abu Dhabi city, and the wider emirate, is, combined, a destination for travellers who seek an authentic experience and wish to immerse themselves in a resilient, and largely unchanged. culture.

The emirate's main global gateway - Abu Dhabi International Airport

 is currently being redeveloped to cater to increasing demand from more than 40 carriers who currently fly there. This includes Etihad, the rapidly expanding and multi-award-winning, Abu Dhabi-headquartered national airline of the UAE. Upon completion in 2010, the state-of-theart Abu Dhabi International Airport will cater to an estimated 20 million passengers a year.

The emirate's second city is Al Ain in the eastern province. Built around a series of oases, this 'heritage centre of the emirate' is known as the Garden City of the UAE reflecting its lush greenery. It is home to a fascinating array of historic and archaeological sites including museums and forts which nestle under the shade of the towering Jebel Hafeet heights - the largest peak in the emirate.

The emirate's Al Gharbia – Western Region – is fast emerging as a tourism destination in its own right and is home to Sir Bani Yas Island the former Royal nature reserve which is now an adventure retreat and to the renowtned Rub Al Khali (Empty Quarter) made famous by the 1940s and 1950s desert crossings of British explorer Wilfred Thesiger.

Abu Dhabi's activities and attractions are as diverse as its stunning multi-faceted landscape – dramatic desert terrain, cooling oases, 400 kilometres of pristine coastline and 200 natural islands. Here, you'll discover a range of exhilarating sports, from diving and sailing upon

crystal Arabian Gulf waters, to thrilling safaris through stunning desert scenery. Evocative heritage areas and centuries-old forts resonate with those seeking an immersion in an ancient culture. Pristine beaches, an almost incomparably stunning capital city Corniche and lush parks speak to a slower, and more contemplative, pace of life.

In the capital, the landmark Emirates Palace is an amazing place to visit - a marvel of marble and Arabian mystique. As one of the world's most exclusive hotels, it regularly hosts cultural shows, music events and international art exhibitions.

Abu Dhabi's attractive malls, quaint souks and neon-lit shopping districts bring a whole new slant to retail therapy. Opt for haute-couture brands, hand-carved furniture of oak, rosewood and mahogany, gold, sold at not less than 18 carats, dazzling, richly-embroidered textiles or all the perfumes of Arabia – but not before trying your bargaining skills! With most options within an easily-accessible city centre, nothing is too far away. There is a vast array of quality restaurants and atmospheric coffeehouses with cuisine for all tastes.

Abu Dhabi's climate is warm most of the year, with temperatures peaking during the summer months (June-August). Abu Dhabi island is on the west coast of the Arabian Peninsula's eastern tip. A day trip to Dubai is just a 50 minutes' drive away.

### Culture

and safe city. Dress

Visitors are asked to dress modestly and respect local customs – this means women should cover their shoulders and wear skirts or shorts that end below the knee. Lightweight clothing is suitable for most of the year, while in winter something warmer may be needed. Hats and sunglasses are advised, especially if you plan to explore on foot.

# Dining

Archaeological discoveries suggest that fishing communities were living on the region's coast thousands of years ago. Once a leading exporter of pearls, Abu Dhabi gradually turned into a trading centre and, by the end of the 19th century, had gained a reputation for its coastal souks. The discovery of oil in 1958 had a dramatic effect on the economy. Now, Abu Dhabi brings together old world charm and cosmopolitan chic in a clean

Abu Dhabi boasts hundreds of restaurants with cuisine from across the world, including Arabian, Thai, Vietnamese, French, Spanish, German and Brazilian. Café culture is especially popular with Arabs from Egypt, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan, who frequent roadside cafés to sip coffee and nibble on Iranian sweets. Many restaurants are within hotels.

Useful Numbers Operator	100
Directory Enquiries	181
	7 / 999
Ambulance99Abu Dhabi Intl Airport02 57	8/999
Flight Enquiries 02 575	
Abu Dhabi Tourism & Culture Autho	
02 444	
Trans AD (Abu Dhabi Taxi) 600 5 Dept of Immigration 02 402	
Etihad Airways Call Centre 800	
UAE Country Code	971
Mobile Telephones 050/055/056 Abu Dhabi 02 Aiman	06
Abu Dhabi 02 Ajman Al Ain 03 Dubai	06 04
Fujairah 09 Ras Al Khaima	
Sharjah 06 Umm Al Quwain	
Hotels, Hotel Aptarments & Reso Al Ain Palace	orts 3-F2
Al Diar Palm Apts	3-E4
Al Forsan Resort	1-F5
Al Maha Arjaan by Rotana	3-F3
Al Manzel Apts Al Maqta	3-G3 1-D5
Al Raha Beach	1-G4
Al Rawda Arjaan by Rotana	3-E5
Aloft	1-D5
Armed Forces Officers Club Beach Rotana	1-D5 3-G4
Centro Al Manhal	3-E5
Centro Capital Centre	1-D5
Centro Yas Island	1-G4
City Seasons Al Hamra Cristal	3-F3 3-E3
Cristal Salam	3-G4
Crowne Plaza	3-F3
Crowne Plaza Yas Island	1-G4
Eastern Mangroves Hotel & Spa Eclipse Suites	1-C4 3-E2
Emirates Palace	3-A2
Fairmont	1-E5
Grand Millennium Al Wahda	3-E5
Hala Arjaan By Rotana Hilton Abu Dhabi	3-G3 3-B2
Hilton Baynunah Tower Apts	3-D2
Hilton Corniche Apts	3-F2
Holiday Inn	1-D5
Hyatt Capital Gate Ibis Abu Dhabi Gate	1-D5 1-E5
InterContinental	3-A3
Jumeirah at Etihad Towers	3-A2
Khalidiya Palace Reyhaan L'Arabia Apts	3-A3 1-F6
Le Meridien	3-G3
Le Royal Meridien	3-F2
Liwa Suites	3-G4
Mafraq Millennium	1-H7 3-F2
Novotel & Adagio Al Bustan	1-C4
Novotel Abu Dhabi Gate	1-E5
One to One	3-F6
Oryx Park Hyatt Saadiyat Island	3-C3 1-D1
Park Inn Abu Dhabi	1-G4
Park Rotana	1-D5
Premier Inn Capital Centre	1-D5
Radisson Blu Ritz-Carlton Grand Canal	1-G4 1-E5
Rosewood	3-G3
Sands	3-F3
Shangri-La Sharatan Khalidiya	1-E5
Sheraton Khalidiya Sheraton Resort & Towers	3-D3 3-F2
Sofitel	2-F2
St Regis Saadiyat Island	1-C2
Staybridge Suites The Westin Golf Resort & Spa	1-G4 1-F5
Traders	1-F5 1-E5
Yas Island Rotana	1-G4
Yas Viceroy	1-H4
Parks Al Nahyan Park	3-D2
	5.02

	Capital Park	3-F2
100	Corniche Beach Park	3-B3
181	Formal Park	2-F2
/ 999	Heritage Park	3-G2
8/999	Khalifa Park	1-D5
5 7818	Khalidiya Public Park	3-C3
57500	Lake Park	3-E2
ority	Al Mushrif Central Park	1-D7
0444	Old Airport Park	1-D5
35353	Urban Park	3-D2
2 4500	Shopping Malls & Souks	
2277	Abu Dhabi Mall	3-G3
971	Al Raha Mall	1-G4
	Al Wahda Mall	3-E5
06	Bawabat Al Sharq Mall	1-H8
04	Carpet Souk	3-H2
h 07	Dalma Mall	1-F7
n 06	Free Zone Market (Iranian Market)	3-H1
orts	Khalidiyah Mall	3-D3
3-F2	Madinat Zayed Shopping &	
3-E4	Gold Centre	3-E4
1-F5	Marina Mall	3-B1
3-F3	Mushrif Mall	1-C5
3-G3	Qaryat Al Beri Souk	1-E5
1-D5	World Trade Centre Central Market	3-E2
1-G4	Places Of Interest	
3-E5	ADNEC	1-D5
1-D5	Al Bateen Beach	3-B8
1-D5	Al Forsan Intl Sports Complex	1-F5
3-G4	Al Maqta Fort	1-E5
3-E5	Car Museum	1-E9
1-D5	Dhow Building Yard	3-A4
1-G4	Corniche Beach	3-D2
3-F3	Cultural Foundation	3-E3
3-E3	Emirates Palace	2-A2
3-G4	Ferrari World Abu Dhabi	1-H3
3-F3	Fish Market & Vegetable Souk	3-H1
1-G4	Heritage Village	3-C2
1-C4	Manarat Al Saadiyat	1-C2
3-E2	Qasr Al Hosn	3-D3
3-A2	Saadiyat Beach	1-D1
1-E5	Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque	1-E5
3-E5	Yas Beach	1-G4
3-G3	Yas Gateway Park	1-H3
3-B2	Yas Marina Circuit	1-H4
3-D2	Yas Waterworld	1-G3
3-F2	Hospitals	
1-D5	Al Mafraq Hospital 02 582 3100	1-H7
1-D5	Al Noor Hospital 02 626 5265	1-D5
1-E5	Al Salamah Hospital 02 671 1220	3-G3
3-A3	Corniche Hospital 02 672 4900	3-G2
3-A2	Lifeline Hospital 02 633 5522	3-F3
3-A3	National Hospital 02 671 1000	3-F3
1-F6	NMC Hospital 02 633 2255	3-E3
3-G3	Shk Khalifa Medical City 02 610 2000	3-E4
3-F2	Zayed Military Hospital 02 444 4530	1-C5
3-G4	Main Streets	
1-H7	Abu Dhabi-Al Ain Rd	1-G7
3-F2	Abu Dhabi-Dubai Rd	1-F5
1-C4	Airport Rd	1-G5
1-E5	Al Corniche West St (1)	3-B2
3-F6	Al Corniche East St (1)	3-E2
3-C3	Al Falah St (9)	3-D4
1-D1	Al Karamah St (24)	3-D5
1-G4	Al Khaleej Al Arabi St (30)	3-C7
1-D5	Al Maqta Bridge	1-E5
1-D5	Al Meena St (10)	3-G2
1-G4	Al Saada St (19)	3-D8
1-E5	Bainunah St (34)	3-B4
3-G3	Delma St (13)	3-D6
3-F3	Fourth St	3-E7
1-E5	Hamdan Bin Mohamed St (5)	3-E3
3-D3	Hazzaa Bin Zayed The First St(11)	3-D5
3-F2	Khalifa Bin Shakhbout St (28)	3-C4
2-F2	Khalifa Bin Zayed Hwy	1-E2
1-C2	Khalifa St (3)	3-E2
1-G4	Mohamed Bin Khalifa St (15)	3-C7
1-F5	Mussaffah Bridge	1-E5
1-E5	Rashid Bin Saeed Al Maktoum St	3-E5
1-G4	Shk Zayed Bridge	1-E5
1-H4	Shk Zayed St (8)	3-F3
	Truck Rd	1-F6
3-D2	Zayed The First St (7)	3-D3









