ABU DHABI TOURISM

January 2017
WHY VISIT ABU DHABI

- Stunning surroundings
- Amazing beaches (Corniche, Saadiyat, Yas)
- Friendly and laid-back environment
- Art
- Saadiyat Cultural District

- Heritage (Heritage Village, forts, oases)
- Festivals and events
- Well designed infrastructure
- Local traditions
TOP 10 ATTRACTIONS

Ferrari World
Abu Dhabi

Sheikh Zayed
Grand Mosque

Emirates Palace

Abu Dhabi
Falcon Hospital

Saadiyat Island

Yas Island

Yas Marina Circuit

Al Ain City

The Corniche Beach

Heritage Village
Abu Dhabi is home to several reputable galleries featuring interesting exhibitions of local art and traditional Arabian artefacts. Here are a few of the best art galleries:

- Salwa Zeidan Gallery
- Warehouse 421
- Etihad Modern Gallery
- Art Hub
- Manarat Al Saadiyat
WHEN AUTHENTICITY MEETS LUXURY HOTELS AND RESORTS

AUTHENTICITY
1. Qasr Al Sarab
2. Telal Al Ain
3. Zaya Nurai Island Resort
4. Bab Al Qasr
5. Tilal Liwa

LUXURY
1. Emirates Palace Hotel
2. Jumeirah Etihad Towers
3. Ritz Carlton
4. Shangri-La
5. Fairmont
ABU DHABI IS A CULTURAL HUB

HERITAGE VILLAGE
Resting on a white sandy beach overlooking the perfect azure sea, the fantastic Heritage Village gives visitors a glimpse into life before the discovery of oil in Abu Dhabi. See replicas of a barasti, or palm frond house, small souq, and traditional mosque. It’s possible to ride a camel here in the Bedouin encampment, while watching craftsmen beating brass trays, blowing glass, and weaving their traditional looms. Be sure to visit the fascinating museum where you can find black and white photos and exhibits of Bedouin costumes, jewelry, baskets, cooking utensils and bronze coffee pots.

WAREHOUSE 421
A cultural destination and exhibition space that takes its name from warehouses that have been transformed to become a platform for both artistic expression, understanding, and even further development of the UAE’s creative community. The main purpose of Warehouse421 is to celebrate art and culture, design and creativity, performance and music, from artists and designers based here in the UAE and from around the world, and to let people experience these disciplines in a unique and original space.

QASR AL MUWAIJI
The historic Qasr Al Muwaiji, birthplace of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, has been lovingly restored to its former glory and reopened to the public as a museum and permanent exhibition. Located in the centre of the Al Ain, Qasr al Muwaiji is an impressive structure that has watched over the oasis for over a 100 years.

WAHAT AL KARAMA
Wahat Al Karama is a permanent tribute to UAE’s brave soldiers and other Emiratis who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving the nation. It is a place where citizens, residents and visitors can pay homage to those who selflessly gave their life to a cause greater than themselves.
Motor racing is a firm favourite in the emirate, and the Formula 1 Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix usually held in November at the Yas Marina Circuit has the eyes of the sporting world on the emirate.

There are two powerboat events in Abu Dhabi, starting with the XCAT World Series usually held in November. This event features extreme catamarans with twin 600 hp outboard engines taking them to speeds of up to 220 km/h. Three weeks later, the same course between the Breakwater and the Corniche is used for the Abu Dhabi UIM F1 H2O World Championship.

A global golfing destination: With superb golf courses across the emirate, including three championship courses, there are amazing opportunities to play the sport. The annual HSBC Abu Dhabi Golf Championship in January also brings the best players in the world to the city.

The World Tennis Championship (currently sponsored by Mubadala) is a singles-only, professional tennis exhibition tournament, played on outdoor hard courts. It has been held annually since 2009 at the Abu Dhabi International Tennis Complex.
No one does wellness spas better than Abu Dhabi. Leave your troubles at the door when you enter any of these luxurious spas and instantly relax and unwind.

- The Emirates Palace Spa
- Anantara Spa
- Atarmia Spa (Park Hyatt)
- Espa (Yas Viceroy)
AMAZING RESTAURANTS
WITH A VIEW

With a skyline as enthralling as Abu Dhabi’s, it makes sense that this city by the sea has its fair share of panoramic restaurants. Whether you’re after a seat by the water or you want sky-high dining along with the dizzying heights of luxury that the gastronomic scene here has to offer, there will be something in Abu Dhabi that gives you the perfect view along with exceptional cuisine.

1. Cipriani
2. Stratos
3. Asia de Cuba
4. Byblos Sur Mer
5. Li Jang
6. Observation Deck 300
7. Catch
With the waves of the Arabian Gulf lapping the length of the UAE, watersports of all kinds are one of the region’s most pleasurable pursuits for everyone from tranquil ocean dwellers to adrenalin-thirsty watersport junkies. Take to the sea for a peaceful afternoon of yacht lounging or opt for high-impact, thrill-seeking sea bound adventures. The open water awaits you.

1. Abu Dhabi Sailing & Yacht Club
2. Wadi Adventure
3. Noukhada Adventure Company
4. Al Forsan
5. Eden Yachting
Abu Dhabi has some of the finest luxury shopping in the Emirates. As the largest of the seven emirates, there is a high demand for a wide variety of shopping venues. From designers to boutiques, Abu Dhabi has it all.

1. Avenue at Etihad Towers
2. Yas Mall
3. The Galleria Mall
GETAWAY ISLANDS

Nurai Island
Just a 10-minute boat ride from Saadiyat Island lies Abu Dhabi’s latest island idyll, Zaya Nurai Island. This boutique resort offers everything and more than you could wish for from a private island escape.

Dalma Island
Its ‘older brother’ Sir Bani Yas Island may be famed for its wildlife reserve and Anantara Desert Resort & Spa, but if it’s history, heritage and traditional Arabian island life you’re after, then Dalma Island awaits.

Saadiyat Island
There may be a few more years to wait for this island’s ‘Big Five’ to open in the famed Saadiyat Cultural District, with the most anticipated being the Guggenheim and the Louvre, but do not let this put you off venturing to this location, already a notable cultural and artistic hub. A wander around the Saadiyat Experience Exhibition at Manarat Al Saadiyat will give you a real taster for what is happening here – past, present and future.

Yas Island
As a designated A-list playground, Yas Island is home to Abu Dhabi’s Formula One racing circuit, Yas Links Golf Club and Ferrari World, but it is also the place to go in the city if you are a running or cycling buff.

Belvari Island
Perhaps the most secret and serene of Abu Dhabi’s islands, Belevari is the ultimate in escapism.

Al Maryah Island
Maryah Island, formerly known as Sowwah Island, has been designated as the centre of Abu Dhabi’s new Central Business District (CBD).

Sir Bani Yas
Sir Bani Yas Island is the perfect weekend getaway for luxury travellers who enjoy rare encounters with spectacular animals. You’ll be sure to leave the retreat with a better knowledge of wildlife and conservation.
UNBEATABLE NIGHT LIFE

Much like its amazing restaurants, a lot of Abu Dhabi’s nightlife is centred around the scores of hotels and complexes where you can guarantee revelry late into the night in fantastic settings.

1. Etoiles Emirates Palace
2. Rush Lounge Yas Viceroy Hotel
3. People by Crystal St. Regis Hotel
4. Maya Island
5. Iris Yas Marina
LEADING MEDICAL CARE

1. Cleveland Clinic
2. DNA Center for Integrative Medicine & Wellness
3. Imperial College London Diabetes Center
HALAL DESTINATIONS

1. Khalidyah Palace
2. Ladies night at Yas Waterworld
3. Ladies day at Yas Marina Circuit
4. Jannah Hotels & Resorts

UAE ranks as top Halal travel destination - Khaleej Times
23rd January 2017
Take an exciting dune bash; visit a camel farm to ride one of the hardy desert animals; try sandboarding or watch a serene desert sunset

- Al Ain Zoo Safari
- TEL Mera’ab
- 4X4 Desert Safari
- Sand sports
- Camel rides
MARVELS IN THE PIPELINE

- Warner Bros. Theme Park
- Midfield Terminal
- Louvre Abu Dhabi
- Largest Indoor Snow Play Park
- Seaworld
ITINERARIES  DAY 1  Morning

Time: 9:00 - 9:45  
Place: **Qasr Al Hosn**

**Description:**  
This permanent exhibition at the Qasr al Hosn Centre tells the story of Abu Dhabi and its people through the city’s oldest building. Fascinating oral testimonies and historic photographs bring this important monument to life. Contemporary Emirati voices reflect on Abu Dhabi’s history and transformation and Qasr al Hosn’s key role as a vibrant symbol of Emirati heritage, culture and tradition. The exhibition is free to enter and open daily from 9am to 8pm. There’s also a public programme of talks and workshops.

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Time: 10:00 - 11:45  
Place: **Observation Deck at 300**

**Description:**  
Head up to Observation Deck at 300, the capital city’s highest vantage point. Located in Tower 2 of the Etihad Towers, the observation area gives you views of the city from 300 m (984 ft) up. Rent one of the powerful telescopes to admire the modern cityscape and watch the bustle of crowds, cars, and development far below. Take in the views from the onsite restaurant, where the high tea in particular has become a favourite of visitors and residents alike.

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Time: 12:00 - 1:00  
Place: **Rosewater buffet lunch**

**Description:**  
Rosewater has seven global stations: Japanese and Italian, the Indian Tandoor oven, Western and Asian, the Levant and Wok, daily carving station, and the dessert station. Rosewater observes five cycle changes in its menu.

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Time: 1:30 - 3:00  
Place: **Ferrari World Abu Dhabi**

**Description:**  
Strap yourself in and feel the Gs at Ferrari World Abu Dhabi, an indoor theme park sprawling across 86,000 sq m (925,696 sq ft). Upon opening in 2010, it was the largest of its kind in the world. The park references the world of motor sports and its Italian heritage everywhere you look, with themed rides, driving experiences, and Italian dining. Dare yourself to get on the lightning-fast roller coaster, and fulfill your lifetime ambition to be behind the wheel of a Ferrari. A host of interactive shows, gentle rides, and go-karting challenges give the little ones more than enough to keep them going.
ITINERARIES DAY 1 Evening

Time: 3:00 - 5:00
Place: Yas Mall

Description:
International shopping destination with famous brands, designer and luxury brands, Entertainment, Events & Activities

Time: 5:30 - 6:30
Place: Mina Zayed Fish Market

Description:
Fish market tour – vegetable & plants/trees market.

Time: 6:45 - 7:15
Place: Warehouse421

Description:
Enjoy the art, design, dance and music performances that have been scheduled for this urban space.

Time: 7:15 - 8:30
Place: Al Dhafra Dinner Cruise

Description:
Hop on board one of the traditional wooden dhow ships for a leisurely cruise along the Corniche. You’ll be served an Arabic feast and, as you’d expect, seafood is very prominent on the menu.
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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 - 10:00</td>
<td>Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque</td>
<td>Visit Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque to see a key place of worship and centre for Islamic culture. Completed in 2007, the centre houses the largest mosque in the country - a sprawling structure of many spherical domes and four tall minarets - and an enormous library showcasing classic books and publications related to the Islamic world. Inside the main prayer hall, admire the numerous ornamental features of the atmospheric place of worship, including the largest carpet in the world and seven chandeliers incorporating millions of crystals. Take a guided tour of the library to learn more about Islamic faith, history, and art.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 - 12:30</td>
<td>Azure Marine Charters, Abu Dhabi Marina</td>
<td>Cruise in style just off Abu Dhabi’s coast with an exclusive yacht rental from Azure Marine Charters. The rental company provides luxurious vessels to individuals looking to indulge and experience the area like royalty. Cruise the waters, swim, and soak up some sunshine, allowing the crew to help and get involved as much or as little as you wish. The 24 m (78 ft) yacht holds up to 27 people.</td>
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<td>12:30 - 1:30</td>
<td>Mezlai at Emirates Palace</td>
<td>Lunch at Emirates Palace.</td>
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<td>1:30 - 2:30</td>
<td>Emirates Palace</td>
<td>Admire the Arabian architecture and design at Emirates Palace, and take advantage of the luxury resort’s recreation and relaxation facilities. Built in 2005, the palatial main building includes 394 guest rooms and suites, a large, patterned dome, and impressive marble flooring. The landscaped grounds stretch out across 85 hectares (210 acres), providing ample space for walking, jogging, and gentle exploration. Relax at the onsite spa or private beach, and enjoy a spot of fine dining at one of the hotel’s many restaurants.</td>
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Time: 2:30 - 4:00
Place: Break

Description:
Hotel Break

Time: 4:00 - 5:30
Place: Corniche

Description:
Take a gentle trip down The Corniche, an attractive stretch of manicured waterfront on the west side of the main island. Enjoy a swim at the public beach, or stroll along the 8km public footpath, taking in the sights of the carefully designed coastline. Alternatively, consider exploring the area by bike - you can rent some wheels on site, with options including two- and three-seaters. The many children's play areas offer good diversions for little ones, and a solid set of restaurants and cafes lining the street gives you plenty of options for relaxing afterwards.

Time: 5:30 - 6:15
Place: Heritage Village

Description:
Gain insight into the country's traditional culture and folklore at Heritage Village, a life-size reconstruction of a desert village. Walk through the replica town, admiring the architecture of a bygone era, as well as the village's simple arrangement and separate living areas. Learn about traditional agricultural methods, and visit the mosque for a glimpse into the primary role that faith has played in the history of the country. Watch a demonstration of traditional artisanal techniques, such as pottery and glassblowing, and try your hand at making your own little memento to take home with you.

Time: 6:30 - 8:30
Place: Marina Mall/Dinner/ Marina Eye

Description:
This mall features a 100 metre high viewing platform, an ice rink, a bowling alley, a Cineplex, musical fountains and hundreds of big name brands and stores. A true Abu Dhabi landmark, Marina Mall's many restaurants and coffee shops make it possible to spend a full day here.
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<td>9:00 - 12:00</td>
<td><strong>Morning Abu Dhabi Safari with Quad Bike</strong></td>
<td>Make the most of an Abu Dhabi morning with a rip-roaring 4-hour desert adventure and sports experience. Head into the desert by 4x4, and enjoy an exhilarating, 20-minute dune bash with a trained driver at the wheel. Zoom over rolling, orange dunes before continuing to a desert camp for a camel ride, and a thrilling sand board and quad bike session. Boost your energy with complimentary refreshments during the action.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 - 1:30</td>
<td><strong>Break &amp; check out hotel</strong></td>
<td>Check out current hotel afterwards.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 - 2:30</td>
<td><strong>Golden Dallah restaurant</strong></td>
<td>Traditional Emerati boutique restaurant</td>
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<td>3:30 - 4:30</td>
<td><strong>Abu Dhabi Falcon Hospital, Abu Dhabi</strong></td>
<td>Visit Abu Dhabi Falcon Hospital, one of the world’s foremost centres dedicated to the welfare and protection of these majestic birds. Take a guided tour of the veterinary centre to learn more about falcons, their cultural importance in the country, and the challenges facing the bird population in the modern era. Be introduced to the birds and discover the techniques of falconry used in the region, and also gain a sense of the important veterinary and research work conducted at the facility.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 - 6:00</td>
<td><strong>Arrive at Telal Al Ain Resort</strong></td>
<td>Check in at Al Ain hotel.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 - 8:30</td>
<td><strong>Full day at the resort</strong></td>
<td>Falcon show/Camel riding/salukis show/ traditional cooking show/ Classes on Emerati traditions etc.</td>
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Time: 9:00 - 10:00  
Place: Al Ain Oasis, Al Ain

**Description:**
Explore one of the most essential aspects of urban infrastructure at Al Ain Oasis, a peaceful urban oasis. Known for its below-ground falaj irrigation system, with sloping underground channels transporting water from the main source to key areas, the site possesses agricultural, historical, and biological importance. Recognised internationally as a significant heritage site, the irrigation system dates back some 3,000 years, and many of the palm plantations here still function as farms. Covering an area of 1,200 hectares, the oasis and surrounding plantations are home to more than 147,000 date palms of 100 different varieties. Follow the shady pathways and take in the greenery and tranquility.

Time: 10:00 - 11:00  
Place: Al Ain National Museum

**Description:**
At Al Ain National Museum, the oldest museum in the UAE, you will find discoveries from the Bronze Age, ethnographic information, and artifacts from Hili Archeological Park. Located next to the Eastern Fort, this museum focuses its exhibitions on regional collections from Al Ain and other significant objects from around the country. Tour this popular museum, which was founded by former President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, to learn more about the history of United Arab Emirates and its people.

Time: 11:00 - 12:00  
Place: Al Jahili Fort

**Description:**
Built in 1891, Al Jahili Fort stands as a historic structure surrounded by landscaped gardens with collections from past adventure expeditions. The fort was erected to protect the city’s palm groves, and through the years has acted as the headquarters for Oman Trucial Scouts and as a governor’s residence. Walk around this landmark and view exhibitions on Zayed I and British explorer Sir Wilfred Thesiger, including finds from his 1940s expedition across Rub Al Khali desert.

Time: 12:00 - 1:00  
Place: Camel Souk, Al Ain

**Description:**
Busy, loud, and often a little pungent, Camel Souk offers a fascinating glimpse into a specific aspect of traditional Arabic culture. Traders come to the market to buy and sell camels, usually through some intense bargaining. Feel free to walk around and observe the animals in their pens, from young ones to studs designed for breeding. The camels make for great photos, but be aware that traders may well demand money afterwards, so consider asking permission first. Women should dress modestly, so as to respect local customs.
ITINERARIES DAY 4 Evening

Time: 1:00 - 3:00
Place: **Bawadi Mall, Al Ain**

**Description:**
The largest mall in Al Ain, Bawadi Mall has over 400 shops, representing both international and regional brands, and a range of high street and designer names, a food court and many casual dining outlets.

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Time: 3:30 - 4:30
Place: **Al Ain Zoo**

**Description:**
Enjoy a day of education and entertainment with the animals at Al Ain Zoo, a 400 hectare (990 acre) site hosting over 4,000 animals. Opened in 1969, the zoo enjoys a scenic location in the foothills of the Jebel Hafeet mountains, where the native landscape serves as the natural home for many of its residents. This leader in the field of animal conservation counts over 30 per cent of its species as endangered, including the Arabian oryx and the white lion. Take the onsite train to see the animals in habitats reminiscent of their native lands, and enjoy a guided tour to learn more about their behaviour and the wider conservation project.

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Time: 4:30 - 5:30
Place: **Mubazarah**

**Description:**
Relax in a well-maintained green space at Mubazzara Park. Offering a welcome area of verdant grass, the manicured lawns provide plenty of room for activities beneath the highly impressive surrounding mountains. Dip into the hot springs for a refreshing and replenishing experience in a desert environment, and take a stroll along the flowing streams to the expansive man-made lake. Fish for carp in the large body of water and enjoy a barbecue in one of the many designated areas.

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Time: 5:30 - 8:30
Place: **Al Ain Equestrian, shooting and Golf club**

**Description:**
Tour and Dinner.
THANK YOU