

DISCOVER DUBAI WITH FOUR SEASONS





THE RACE

FOR

EXCELLENCE

HAS NO

FINISH LINE.

Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum



# A warm Four Seasons welcome...



Dear friends,

We are delighted to share with you our insider's guide to one of the most exciting cities in the world - Dubai. It is a place where every day you can explore a new attraction, from thrilling theme parks, iconic modern buildings, waterparks, dining destinations, culture, art and harder-to-find hidden gems.

We at Four Seasons want to make sure that you have the best possible experience of the city, tailored to you by our expert concierge team. Flick through the following pages to see Dubai through our Four Seasons lens, and you will experience the memorable highlights.

Let the adventure begin!

Leonardo General Manager



SECTION 1:

# First Time in Dubai

New to Dubai? Let us take you on a journey of discovery that delves into the city's fascinating past and exciting present...

# Dubai may be a futuristic metropolis of skyscrapers, man-made islands and mindblowing records but not all of its culture is lost. The city's old quarter is rife with creativity and charm, that's definitely worth exploring ROGER GEADAH, CHEF CONCIERGE

# A Beautiful Past

#### CALLIGRAPHY HOUSE

The traditional art of Arabic calligraphy is a beautiful experience to watch. Visit Siwar Art Gallery – a tiny calligraphy house nestled in the heart of Bastakiya – and a local calligrapher will take you through the process before crafting you enchanting pieces of art incorporating the words that mean most to you translated into Arabic.

#### AL FAHIDI DISTRICT

The journey of Dubai's heritage begins at the Al Fahidi District, which is one of the oldest heritage sites in the city, and the last wind tower quarter left on the Arabic side of the Gulf. Refined houses with coarse walls to protect the privacy of the wealthy families within are the emblems of the Al Fahidi Historical District. As you wander round the beautifully decorated shady courtyards of the district taking in cafes, art galleries and quirky boutiques, you'll be transported back in time to a bygone era.

#### AN ABRA RIDE ACROSS THE CREEK

An abra ride across the Dubai Creek is a must for anyone new to the city. Buy a one-way ticket or hire your very own abra for an hour. The Creek is the original centre of the city's commerce and still buzzes with boats zipping up and down plying their trade and cargo. Using the abra is a great way to take in some of the older parts of the city.

#### DUBAI MUSEUM

A visit to Dubai Museum offers the perfect opportunity to get acquainted with the history of Dubai, giving insight into its development and modernism – a unique and distinguished civilization that has welcomed so many cultures and people, as well as an example of the strong bond the region retains with Arabism and Islam. The juxtaposition of old and new Dubai are only separated by a few years but demonstrate the ongoing success of the city.

#### A BEAUTIFUL PAST

#### JUMEIRAH MOSQUE

Take a visit to the stunning Jumeirah Mosque, the only mosque in Dubai that welcomes non-Muslim guests six days a week. As one of the most beautiful landmarks in Dubai, the Jumeirah Mosque is large enough to hold up to 1,200 worshippers and was built entirely from white stone in the medieval Fatimid tradition, with towering twin minarets framing a large central dome. When it's lit up at dusk, its intricate artistry and true beauty are highlighted. Please note that women are asked to wear a scarf when visiting.

#### THE SOUKS

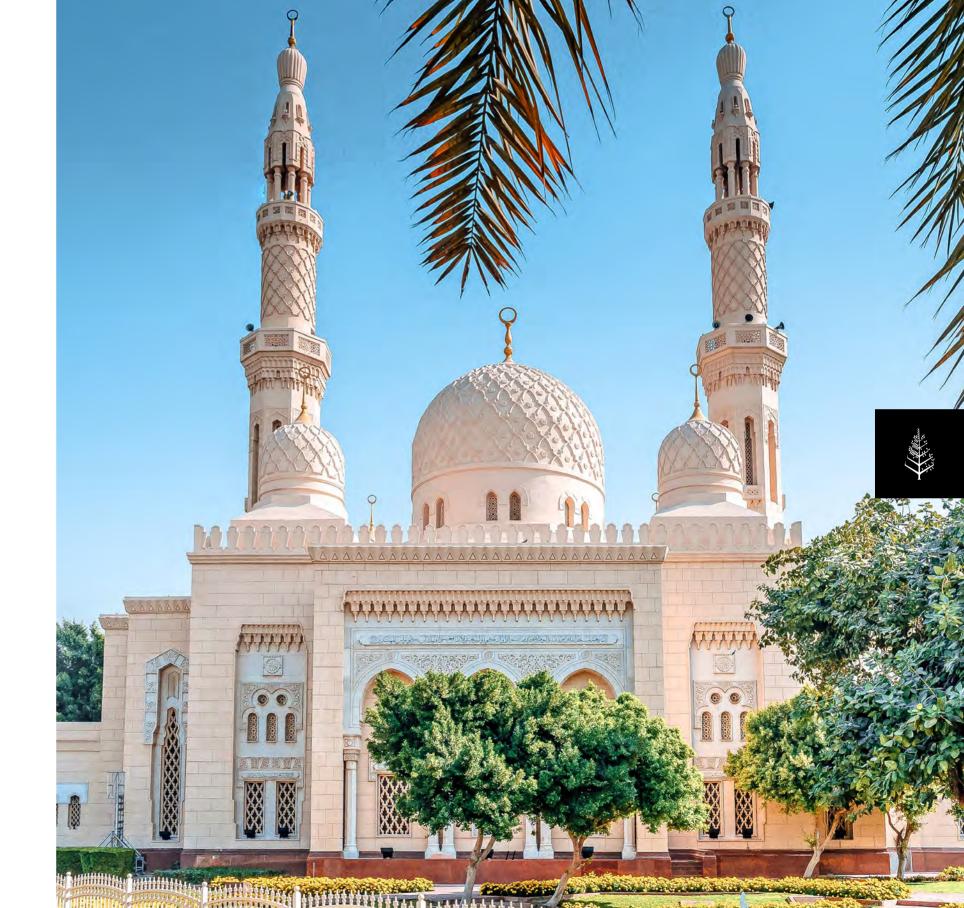
Travel back in time to the heart of old Dubai, where the bustling souks will treat your senses to rich sounds, sights and scents. Follow your nose to the Perfume Souk and indulge your desire for soughtafter jewels and precious metals at the Gold Souk. Across the Dubai Creek, wander through the Textile Souk in Bur Dubai and dig through swaths of brightly colored silks and embroidered fabrics.

#### HERITAGE VILLAGE

Heritage Village in the historic neighborhood of Al Shindagha was built in 1997. Created to showcase the traditional lifestyle of Emirati culture in Dubai, it gives an introduction to the customs, professions and local craftsmanship of the city. The architecture is diverse and interesting too, with a mixture of tents, stone builds and palm fronds.

## SHEIKH MOHAMMED CENTRE OF CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

Gain a greater appreciation of Dubai's culture and customs at the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding (SMCCU). The SMCCU opened in 1998 to help visitors gain a better understanding of the culture and customs of the UAE. The institution invites guests to take part in their full schedule of activities, including a range of Arabic classes, heritage tours, and guided mosque visits. Located in a beautifully restored wind tower house in the historic Al Fahidi Historical Neighborhood in Bur Dubai, the centre offers a range of activities, from traditional cuisine to conversations with local Emiratis. With its motto 'Open Doors, Open Minds', all questions – no matter how sensitive – are welcome and answered. Sign up for a traditional Emirati breakfast, lunch, or dinner and you'll start with a guided walking tour of the Al Fahidi Historical Neighborhood. Then take a seat on Bedouinstyle carpets and pillows and enjoy a selection of traditional dishes while your local host answers questions about life in the emirate.



# Dubai is a constantly changing city, filled with an endless supply of new buildings, attractions and continuous expansion. Some of the cities latest developments will have you spell bound! BOB SURI, RESORT MANAGER

# An Exciting Future

#### DOWNTOWN DUBAL

AT THE TOP - BURJ KHALIFA, DUBAI MALL, SOUK AL BAHAR AND THE FOUNTAINS

A visit to the world's tallest building is a must during your time in Dubai. As you journey upwards, tune in to a multimedia presentation in which you will learn about the history and development of Dubai's Burj Khalifa. After your visit, right next door is Dubai Mall - which is retail heaven, boasting 1,200 shops as well as an Aquarium, children's theme parks and the Dubai Ice rink. For a modern take on a traditional Arabian market, Souk Al Bahar is full of beautiful ornaments, jewelry, spices and gifts to take home for family and friends. It is easily accessible from Dubai Mall. Complete your downtown experience with the most magical moments at The Fountains in front of the Burj Khalifa and next to Dubai Mall. Featuring the world's largest choreographed fountain system, the show jets up to 22,000 gallons of water as high as 150 metres in the air at any one time. Each colorful, illuminated jet sways in time to music, producing what has become the most popular show in Dubai. The beam of light shining upward from the fountain can be seen from more than 30km away.

#### THE PALM

Palm Jumeirah is one of the emirate's most iconic landmarks, a man-made island in the shape of a palm tree, brimming with stunning beachfront villas, best-in-class dining establishments, marinas, water parks and shopping facilities. Come to the Lost Chambers of the Atlantis and explore the best of the underwater world on your own, experience the unbelievable rush of excitement and test your guts on the adrenaline pumping rides at the Aquaventure waterpark, or swim and play with the friendly Dolphins at the Dolphin Bay. If you are an adrenaline-seeker, enjoy the view of the Palmshaped archipelago while free-falling over it at 120 mph via a skydiving excursion.

#### **DUBAI MARINA**

Dubai Marina is a striking neighborhood with some of the tallest residential buildings in the world. Be ready to crane your neck and take in the awe-inspiring high-rise skyline. It is also renowned for The Beach at JBR, which is a leisure strip with al-fresco dining and a sandy stretch of beach to lounge on. At the weekend, a market lines the waterside promenade and has wonderful stalls selling beachwear, jewelry, coconuts, ice-cream and more. In the main, man-made marina, observe the shining upscale yachts, jet-skiing and even the sky diving.

#### AN EXCITING FUTURE

#### SOUK MADINAT AND BURJ AL ARAB

For a modern take on a traditional souk, this popular Arabic market is sure to deliver. Take in the perfumed scents, the glowing lanterns, the fragrant spices and the artisanal souvenirs - you're sure to find the perfect items to take home with you. The souk is particularly beautiful at night, and a diverse selection of restaurants and cafes will provide the cuisine you're looking for. There's even a waterway that will transport you by abra along the canals, where you have the superlative views over the Burj al Arab, one of the most iconic symbols of modern Dubai.

#### DUBAI CANAL AND CITY WALK

Dubai Water Canal and City Walk are the city's newest attractions. The long waterway winds its way to the Arabian Gulf from the Creek in Old Dubai through to Business Bay. After a ride on the Canal in a state-of-the-art speedboat, take a stroll around City Walk, which has been built in a style that is reminiscent of European streets and is full of designer stores and restaurants. And if you look up from the area, you'll be able to enjoy striking views of the Burj Khalifa.

#### EXPO 2020

Dubai's Expo will be a festival of human ingenuity. The engines of growth are no longer steam-powered. Instead, collaboration and partnership have taken its place, becoming the driving force behind new developments. Expo 2020 Dubai will showcase and explore what is possible when new ideas and people connect.

#### DUBAI DESIGN DISTRICT

Dubai Design District (better known as d3) has been described as a "home for the region's growing community of creative thinkers". It houses design studios, high-end apartments and a shopping promenade. Stroll through the public walkways to uncover the charm of the area, where creative objects are littered across the concrete paved path. Not to be missed is a visit to block 6, which is a large atrium with unique hanging light art and wooden seating featuring a very special design.

#### AIN DUBAI

Add one more item to the list of world records to be broken by the city of Dubai. Located on Bluewaters Island, the Ain Dubai observation wheel will be built to a height of 210 metres, the highest of its kind in the world. Once complete, Ain Dubai will be the largest and highest in the world, easily providing views of landmarks such as Burj Al Arab, Palm Jumeirah and Burj Khalifa.





# SECTION 2:

# A Destination for all Seasons

A trip to Dubai points towards sun, sand, beach and shopping. The best time to go to the scorching hot city is during its cooler months, i.e. in between November and April, when the hot sun is at rest and cool with blowing winds during the evenings and night time. Even if you visit the city sometime during the rest of the year you will find the air-conditioned hotels, malls and other complexes well equipped to keep off the heat. We have compiled a selection of exciting events and venues to keep you busy in Dubai throughout the seasons.

# A Winter Wonderland

#### WALKING TOURS OF OLD DUBAI

Apart from the awe-inspiring mega structures, Dubai is also known for its well-preserved historical sites. We recommend you join a guided walking tour to learn more about the local culture of Dubai. The tours may vary but most of them include walking through the Al Fahidi Cultural Neighbourhood, Dubai Creek and the Gold and Spice Souks, exploring the Dubai Museum to learn about times gone by, and crossing the Dubai Creek in a traditional abra.

#### DUBAI PARKS AND RESORTS

An exciting labyrinth of theme parks, superb dining, luxury and relaxation, Dubai Parks and Resorts is the ultimate destination for fun and entertainment in Dubai. From thrilling roller coasters and action-packed water rides to themed outdoor plazas and enthralling live music and dance performances, Dubai Parks and Resorts offers a world of recreation and pleasure fit for all ages.

#### DESERT SAFARIS

You can't visit Dubai and NOT go to the desert. Leave Dubai's skyscrapers for the empty desert, where you can enjoy a host of activities, including a dune bash, camel ride, sand boarding, henna art, and more. Finish with a tasty barbecue dinner under the stars, along with fire dancing, magic, belly dancing, and dervishstyle 'tanoura' shows.

#### YACHTING

For another luxurious alternative, you can sail aboard a yacht charter and enjoy the magnificent views of Dubai's futuristic skyscrapers like Burj Al Arab and relax in the lounge or on the sundeck of the elegant boat. Whether it is for corporate events, birthdays, wedding ceremonies or get-togethers, a fleet of yachts with different sizes are available to fulfill any of your wishes.

#### **BALLOON TOURS**

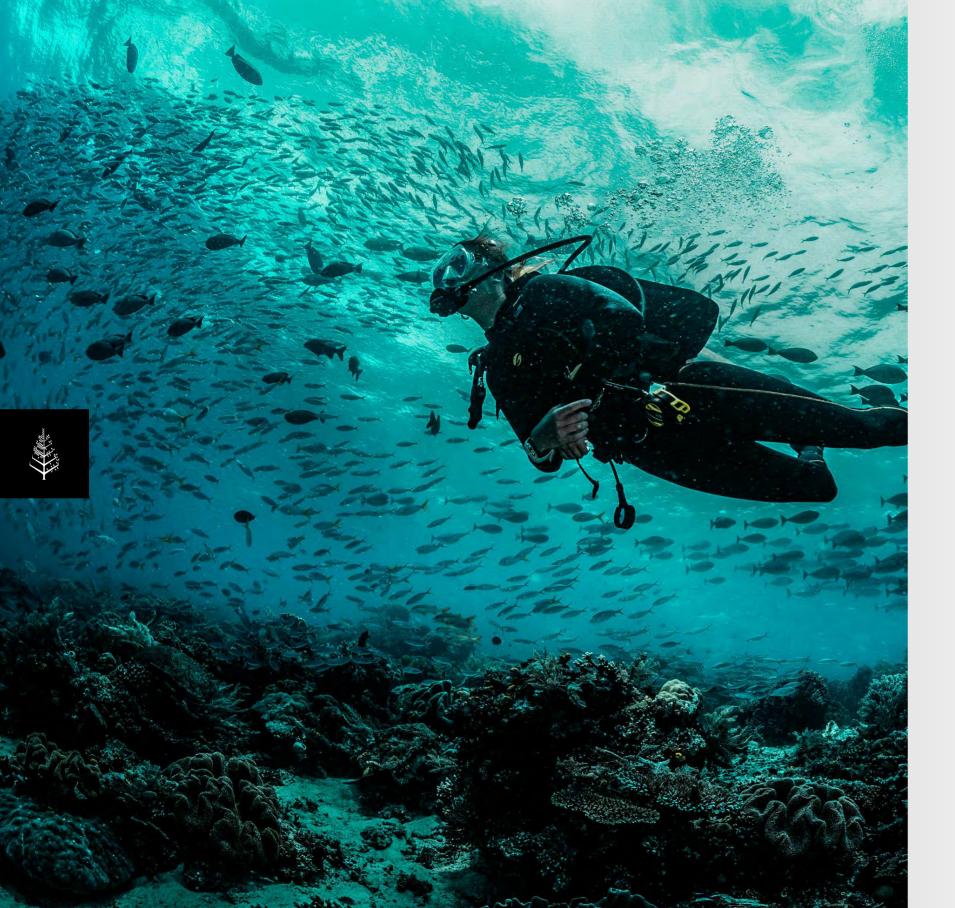
Enjoy this magic carpet ride over an endless ocean of sand dunes, emerald green oases, oryx, gazelles and wandering camels. Witness a breathtaking sunrise with the backdrop of the majestic Hajjar Mountains and be welcomed by the warmth of the desert people we chance to meet on landing. Get driven to our traditional Bedouin camp in our signature vintage Land Rovers.



ARUMA NANDIKA, POOL AND BEACH MANAGER

fun doesn't stop when the weather heats up too!





#### A WINTER WONDERLAND

#### DIVING

There's so much to explore beneath the surface of the Arabian Gulf. With the option of pool or open water dives for beginners and classes available at local scuba schools for all skill levels, Dubai is the ideal spot for an introduction to the hobby. In case you are not quite ready for open water, take the plunge at some of the world's famous aquariums in Dubai for a guaranteed sighting of thousands of marine animals, including sharks.

#### NIGHTLIFF

Dubai has much to offer in terms of late night entertainment and the emirate regularly hosts some of the most popular club nights and DJs from around the globe. The party scene in Dubai is restricted mostly to large hotels as these establishments have a liquor license that allows them to serve alcohol in their bars, lounges and clubs. If you plan on drinking, make sure you take a cab back, because getting caught will guarantee jail time.

#### AL-FRESCO DINING

A city constantly bathed in sunlight, Dubai knows how to best enjoy good weather, with the mild winter a prime time for al fresco lunches, brunches and dinners. Enjoy Middle Eastern-style lunch in pool-view gardens at SUQ, Asian seafood dinner by the sea at Sea Fu, before drinks and nibbles the Mediterranean way at Mercury Lounge – one of the most glamorous rooftop bars in Dubai boasting a spectacular view of the city's skyline.

#### THE BEACH

Dubai is home to some of the best beaches in the UAE. Many of the beaches are affiliated with hotels and only accessible by in-house guests. However, there are beaches that can be enjoyed at no cost whatsoever or for a minimal charge, and offer decent facilities that are kept relatively clean and patrolled by lifeguards. It is perfectly acceptable to wear swimwear at the beach. Sun, sand, clear skies and blue water – in Dubai you are bound to find your perfect

#### HELICOPTER TOURS

See the city from the air with a bird's eye view of the iconic landmarks by day. This is an ideal way to see Dubai if you have limited time or want to celebrate a special occasion.

#### LA MER

Literally translating to "The Sea", La Mer is a new beachfront destination that boasts a number of shops, cafes and restaurants which spans over 13.4 million square feet of existing and reclaimed land. Whether you enjoy laidback fun at Dubai's eclectic beachfront, a journey through the bustling backstreets of the Wharf or a kick back at the beach, La Mer has something for everyone.

#### GOLF

Home to three of the world's top golf courses and host to three major world tournaments during the winter months, Dubai is certainly on the global golf radar. Golf in Dubai is for everyone. It's for both experienced players and beginners, families or solo players. There is coaching available too.





# Summer Fun

The fun activities don't stop as the temperature rises in Dubai, they just multiply.

There are a bunch of indoor activities you can enjoy during these last of the scorching months, and we've picked out our favourites.

#### DUBAI SUMMER SURPRISES (DSS)

The DSS basically means six weeks of sales, deals and events to keep people entertained through the city's hottest months. The city changes its colors to yellow and blue, as Modhesh the mascot comes out to entertain residents and tourists alike. Not only will you be able to benefit from the ultimate sales on your favorite brands, you will also get amazing discounts on Dubai's top attractions. As part of DSS, 72 hour-sales are held from Monday to Wednesday each week during DSS, and brands have additional discounts. Lastly, the grand final sale usually takes place over the last three days of DSS and features the very last price cuts of the summer. Besides this there are performances by international stars, plenty of stage shows, roaming acts and the malls are packed with freebies and surprises. This is the best time to upgrade your closet and enjoy the summer.

#### WATER SPORTS & WATER PARKS

Diving, sailing, jet-skiing. When it comes to marine thrills Dubai has it all. With more than 50km of coastline, water sports abound in Dubai. Making the most of the clear skies and temperate days, you can opt for a leisurely dusk sail, a high-speed tour on a jet-ski or something a little more daring like Flyboarding or the latest thrill, Seabreaching.

For those who like to take things a little easier, the water parks in Dubai have something for everyone, from thrilling rides for adrenaline junkies to idyllic beaches and poolside lounges.

# Indoor Activities

When the weather becomes too unbearable, it is time to move on to indoor activities.

## RESTAURANTS FOR DINING OUT IN THE EVENING

If you can't help but take advantage of the great outdoors, before sunrise is the best time to go for a jog or desert safari. However, if you're not an early bird, gather your group of dearest people and have a sunset feast at your favourite restaurant when the temperature cools down in the evening. Most of the restaurants and bars in Dubai open until late, and close even later for Iftar during Ramadan.

Summertime is a popular time for locals to jet off on vacation, so outdoor venues and rooftop lounges are closed as it is off-season and the temperature can be unbearable outside. However, there are plenty of ways to enjoy Dubai despite the tremendous heat.

#### IMG WORLD

IMG Worlds of Adventure is the world's largest temperature-controlled indoor theme park offering numerous rides and attractions. The park is divided into four zones, Marvel Comics, Cartoon Network, Lost Valley Dinosaur Adventure and IMG Boulevard. Each zone has rides and experiences that reflect its theme perfectly. Aside from roller coasters, thrill rides and attractions, IMG World of Adventure is also home to a number of retail stores, exclusive dining venues and a 12-screen multiplex cinema.

# Seasonal Activities

#### RUGBY 7S

The Emirates Rugby 7s is the ultimate rugby tournament and one of the highlights on Dubai's sporting calendar. It is an excellent day-out; whether you like rugby or not. There is a lot going on over the three days at the Sevens Stadium, so you may struggle to fit it all in. It has become something of a tradition to visit the Rugby 7s in costume.

The Abu Dhabi Grand Prix centres around the final race of the Formula One season, with the biggest names in F1 heading to Abu Dhabi to crown a winner. Don't worry if you don't get trackside, there is always something special organized, including the music industry's biggest names and massive parties happening on Yas Island. You might not catch any of the racing action, but you may be lucky enough to spot one of the drivers at the after-parties.

#### COLOR RUN

The mission of the international Color Run event is to bring people together and make the world a happier, healthier place. The experience is more about the memories you make during the event, than your mile per minute. The fun continues after the race with music, dancing and huge vibrantly colored powder throws.

#### AUTODROME

Fasten your seatbelts and experience the thrill of burning rubber at the Dubai Autodrome. Youngsters can discover the thrill of driving with the First Drive Experience, designed for children aged 12-18, and groups with a competitive spirit can rally together and speed through the Kartdrome. The arena also accommodates all types of local and world-class motorsport events.



LORENZO MARAVIGLIA, FOOD AND BEVERAGE DIRECTOR

#### FORMULA 1 ABU DHABI GRAND PRIX





#### NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS

Every year Dubai outdoes itself with a spectacular range of fireworks at its three most iconic locations on New Year's Eve: The Palm Jumeirah, The Burj Khlaifa and the Burj Al Arab. Watching these fireworks is immensely popular, so needless to say the venues are packed with people. Make sure you plan well as the crowds can be phenomenal. There are also a range of other locations from which the fireworks can be enjoyed, so you don't have to spend the better part of your day travelling or waiting around.

#### DIWALI

Diwali, also known as Festival of Light, is India's biggest festival and also one of its most joyful. This festival takes place over five days in November, when the weather in Dubai is very pleasant. If you're celebrating Diwali in Dubai — which is all about new beginnings — there are plenty of concerts, festivals and fun to be had in the city's malls. Food plays a very big role during the festival, so make sure you check out the Foodie guide for the perfect dining places during the festivities.

#### **EID FESTIVITIES**

Eid is a time where families spend time together and exchange gifts and worship. In Dubai, the celebrations include multicultural activities featuring live performances, concerts, fireworks displays, and much more. Wherever you decide to celebrate Eid, don't forget to wish people "Eid Mubarak", which translates to "blessed Eid".

#### GLOBAL VILLAGE

Global Village is a seasonal attractions and shopping extravaganza held in the cooler winter months. The venue features 27 pavilions and offers an extensive events and entertainment programme, including firework displays and performances by international stars. There are over 20 restaurants and cafes and over 100 food and beverage kiosks, featuring cuisines from all over the world.

#### **DUBAL CANAL**

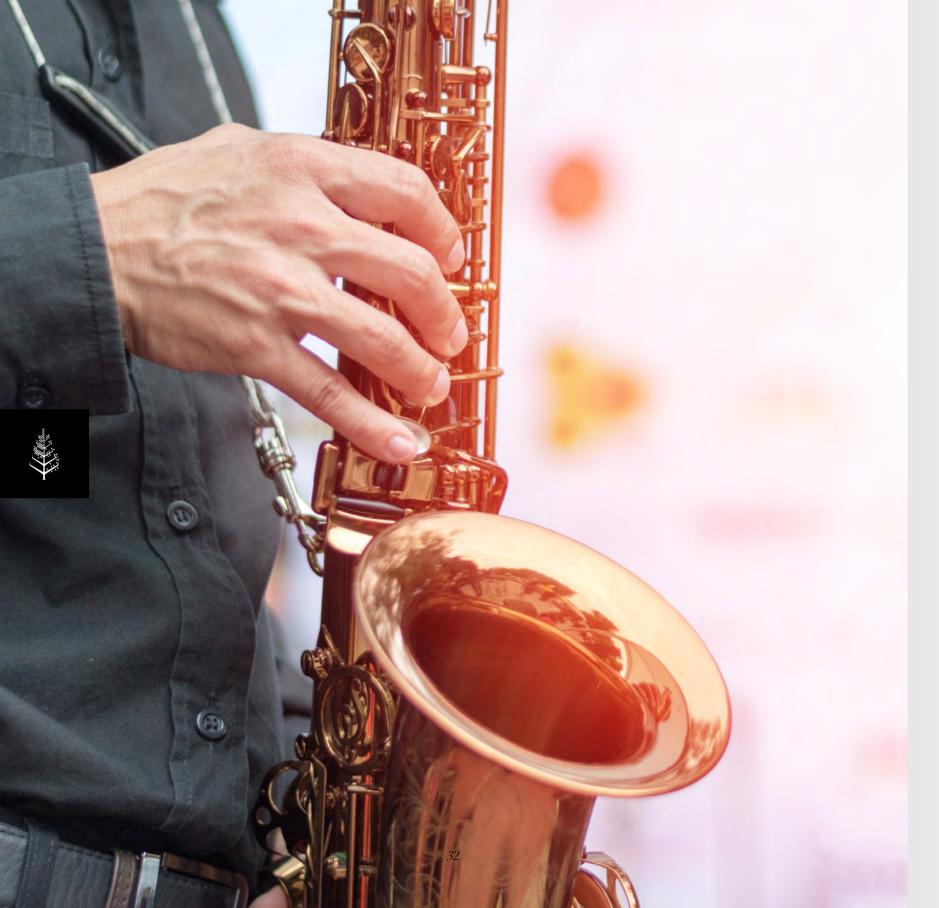
Dubai Canal is the city's newest attraction. There is a mechanical waterfall and pedestrian bridges across the Canal, allowing you to cross at key points, take in stunning views and observe the passage of water vessels below.

#### MIRACLE GARDEN

The Guinness World Record-holding Dubai Miracle Garden opens its doors during colder seasons providing visitors an attraction to explore with different themes each year. The park is home to the more than 45 million blooming flowers, so you can feast your eyes on blooming pyramids, stars, igloos, and even hearts.

#### CHRISTMAS MARKETS

You might not feel the Christmas freeze in Dubai, there might not be snow on the ground and your chin might not be buried in a pure-wool scarf, but if you can't enjoy a Christmas market, we are afraid you can't enjoy anything. Stalls, seasonal smells, Christmas lightings, Santas... there's something for all the family to enjoy.



## DUBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The Dubai International Film Festival is a platform for Arabic filmmakers and talents from around the region to come together. The opening ceremony and main events are glittering affairs, rolling out the red carpet for international stars, awards, premieres and honors. During this time, numerous cinema and open-air screenings take place all over the city as film fans come together to share their appreciation.

#### ART WEEK

Art Week is the region's largest cultural festival taking place each March, with hundreds of cultural activities in institutions, universities, commercial galleries, hotels and outdoor public spaces across the Emirates. Throughout the week, there are exhibitions and events covering every angle of creativity, from classic masters of art to interior design and social events for art enthusiasts.

#### MUSIC CONCERTS FOR ALL

Rarely a week goes by without a big-name celebrity dropping into the UAE. Dubai is the go-to destination for music mega stars to get some much-needed downtime after their summer tours in the West.

#### DUBAI JAZZ FESTIVAL

The festival has been an attraction for many fans from all over UEA with a total of half a million attendees, an amazing line-up of artists spanning genres and generations, unmatched outdoor setting with breathtaking scenery, delicious food at the F&B Village, a remarkable Arts & Crafts Village featuring talented artists, and an array of fun and exciting onsite activities from The Exhibit Village.



# Best for Families

Dubai is an ideal holiday destination for families, with theme parks, beaches, brunches and more to keep everyone happy. Here is a roundup of the best activities, attractions, dining spots and special locations for family fun.

### KIDS FOR ALL SEASONS PROGRAMME

Our complimentary Kids For All Seasons (KFAS) programme is designed to educate and entertain children ages 4 to 12. The supervised programme creates memorable and educational experiences in a casual, fun environment. On Thursdays and Fridays, the club is open until late for parents, who want to enjoy a romantic date night.

#### AQUAVENTURE

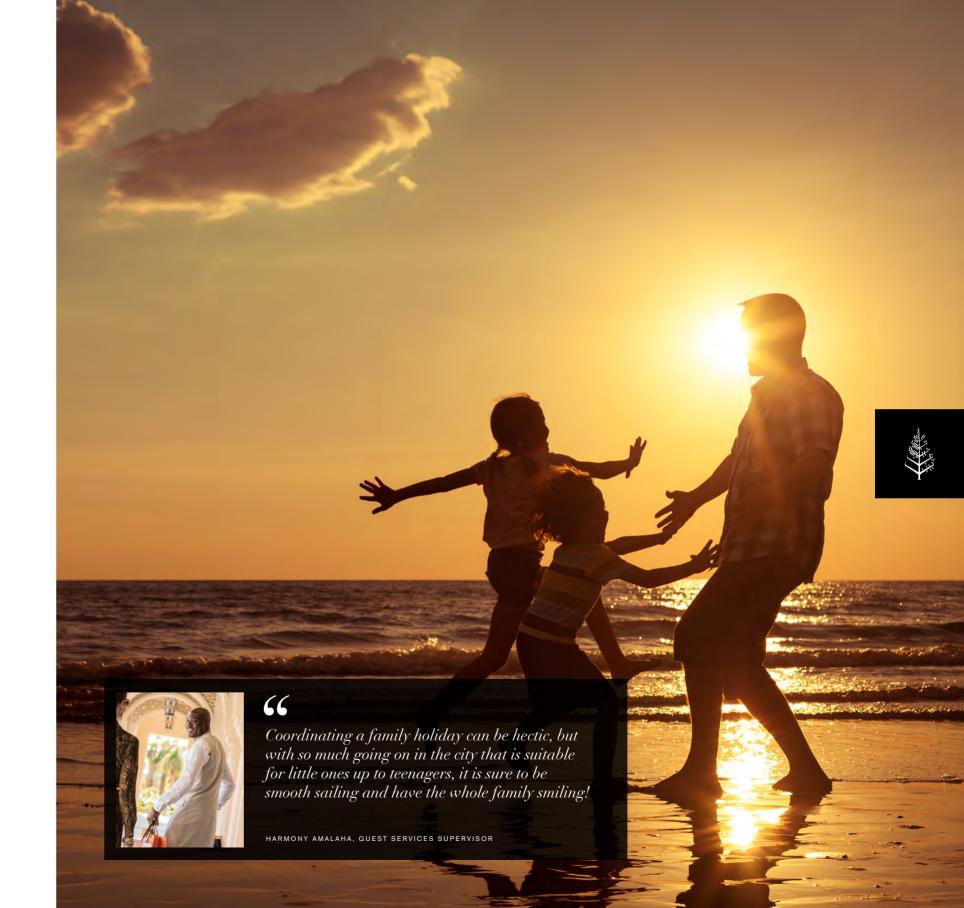
Part of the Atlantis The Palm resort, the Aquaventure Dubai boasts impressive water rides and adventures fit for all ages. Enjoy the attractions as you wish: career down corkscrew chutes, ride through shark tunnels, watch the little ones at the Splasher's kids' area, and unwind on the lazy rivers. Make sure you upgrade to include entrance to The Lost Chambers, the Atlantis-themed aquarium.

## FESTIVE CELEBRATION IN THE HOTEL

During festive seasons like Christmas, Easter and Eid festivals, there are plenty of special activities for little ones to get involved in that ensure everlasting memories.

#### LEGOLAND WATERPARK

Splash into a world of Lego adventures at the region's only waterpark designed specifically for families with young children. Let your creativity flow with over 20 Lego-themed water slides and attractions including the wave pool, Duplo toddler play area, and Build-A-Raft River, where you can customise your very own Lego raft.





#### THEME PARKS

Dubai is becoming the most exciting adventure playground in the world. Whether it's family fun or hair-raising thrills you're after, there are laughs in store for all. Head to IMG Worlds of Adventure, the world's largest indoor theme park, or visit Dubai Parks and Resorts, where there's fun for the whole family at Motiongate Dubai, Legoland Dubai and Bollywood Parks Dubai.

#### **DUBAI MALL**

The Dubai Mall is anything but a typical mall. It's the largest and most-visited retail and entertainment destination in the world. There are a number of amazing attractions for families spreading all over the mall to enjoy throughout the year.

## AQUARIUM AND UNDERWATER ZOO

Rising to the third floor of The Dubai Mall, the aquarium is home to 140 species of sea life and has several ways to experience underwater life, starting with a stroll through a 48-metre walk-through tunnel offering a complete fish-eye view, with sand tiger sharks and stingrays swimming overhead. You can also take a glass-bottom boat tour, get wet in a snorkeling cage and even don an oxygen tank to go swimming with the sharks.

#### KARTDROME

If you enjoy the thrill of the go-kart racetrack, head straight to Kartdrome. This is Dubai's primary go-karting track and definitely an ideal spot for family fun. Available for ages 7-15 years, kids start out with fantastic driving tuition from the experts at the Dubai Autodrome. Beside Go-Karting, kids can also have a blast with Laser Tag in the medieval maze, race room simulators, billiards tournaments, Playstation alley, and lots of other fun games.

### SKIDUBALIN MALL OF THE EMIRATES

Yes, you read it right. You can come to the desert and go skiing. When the heat starts to get to your little people, an easy way to cool them off is by spending the day in the world's largest indoor snow park. With bobsledding, tobogganing, chairlifts and penguins in addition to ski and snow boarding, there's something for the entire family (children over 2 years old) to enjoy year-round.

#### ICE RINK

For those seeking a change from the beaches, there is an Olympic-sized ice rink inside the Dubai mall, offering an array of activities for beginners to professionals of any age. The ice rink also provides ice skate rentals on site, but be sure to bring a jacket and gloves for the little ones, as life can get chilly on ice.

#### KIDZANIA

Kidzania is a children's entertainment theme park. It offers youngsters the opportunity to experience adult life through role-play in a child-sized city. The adventure into early adulthood starts as soon as they come to the Kidzanis International Airport. Children arrive with nothing but a boarding pass and 50 kidzos (the Kidzania currency). To earn more money, they must get a job and work. Children are dressed up in realistic uniforms and have to perform guided tasks to earn their wage. Kidzania encourages children to think and act independently. Parents who choose to enter the venue can either observe them experiencing the activities or relax in the parent's lounge.

#### FLIGHT SIMULATOR IPILOT

The simulators at iPILOT allow a range of ages to fly a plane with real apparatus and a life-like cockpit. It is suitable for anyone above the age of six years old, so those children who dream of being a pilot can get a real-life experience. iPILOT reaches out to people with dreams; people who want to experience flying a plane but may not be able to spend thousands on Aviation College, or simply people who want to have some fun.

#### BOUNCE

Bounce is one of Dubai's most kid-friendly spots and the coolest urban playground destinations.

This indoor trampoline park boasts over 100 interconnected trampolines, providing options for fun-seekers of all ages. The Mini Bounce programme hosts activities for children between three and five years old who want to get a jump start while older bouncers can team up and participate in a game of dodgeball.

#### IFLY

Have you always wanted to skydive but could never pluck up the courage or perhaps you have a fear of heights? Enjoy the ultimate free-fall experience without leaving the ground or jumping out of a plane at iFly Dubai. Free falling is a fun, cool activity that even small kids can try without any risks involved.

#### GREEN PLANET

The Green Planet is a real treat for nature lovers. It realistically mimics the rainforest environment by regulating temperature and humidity levels, and it is home to an impressive assortment of 3,000 living species. There are educational programmes for Dubai's schools at the museum too – with 15 on offer for kids aged from three to 14.

#### CITY WALK: HUB ZERO

Situated in City Walk shopping and leisure district,
Hub Zero is a place where gaming comes alive.
Hub Zero is an indoor park where the virtual world
of the screen becomes a reality. Hub Zero offers a
variety of activities like laser tag, a 4D theatre, driving
experiences, and an area for the most passionate
gamers. There's even something for the little ones,
in the children's centre at Crazy Dave's Garden. Hub
Zero is a great way for kids and the young at heart to
take in some indoor activities in Dubai.

#### CINEMAS

With 22 screens and seating for nearly 3,000 cinemagoers, the Reel Cinemas in Dubai Mall is certainly the biggest movie theater in the UAE, meaning there's always a family friendly movie playing.

#### LA MER

Add more fun and relaxation to your day at La Mer with activities curated for the whole family to enjoy, from jumping on a giant inflatable air pillow to laying down on the white sands along the Jumeirah beach.



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#### JUMEIRAH BEACH RESIDENCE (JBR)

Offering the ultimate beachside bliss, JBR is Dubai's go-to hotspot for action-packed entertainment for the whole family. JBR's gorgeous beach development offers a fabulous running and cycle path, that's ideal for scooter rides for the kids. The Play Zone is packed with fun activities for children of all ages, and is divided into different areas for different ages. For one to three-year-olds, there is a soft play area with soft toys, inflatables and a plastic ball pen. An arts and crafts tent, and fun games including a giant Jenga kit are available for children from four to eight. For nine to 14-year-olds there is snooker, football and other fun team sports. And for over 15-year olds there is a bungee run, a turbo challenge, and other fun games. An array of family-friendly entertainments is organised throughout the weekend from artistic bubble shows, magic shows, puppet shows and musicians, amongst others.

#### DESERT SAFARI

If it's sand dunes and magic carpets you're after, a desert safari adventure is a kid-pleasing favourite. A short drive from the city centre is the Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve, where families enjoy everything from 4×4 dune-bashing, camel rides, sand-board surfing, wildlife-watching, falconry and traditional desert meals in a Bedouin camp. Most experiences are suitable for all ages, but there are some height restrictions for children, so check before you book.

#### SIGHTSEEING DHOW

Experience a sightseeing tour with a difference, on a traditional wooden dhow boat. Built by local fishing communities and once used as the primary mode of transportation and trade, these ships have now become an anchor between the past and present. The various dhow cruise options - from spell-binding views to onboard entertainment - promise unique experiences and unforgettable memories for the entire family.

#### SIGHTSEEING YELLOW BOATS

This fast-paced sightseeing tour offers breathtaking scenes in the open water while onboard a speedboat. The adventure starts from Dubai Marina, taking you to the spectacular attractions of Dubai where you have a different perspective of the iconic Burj Al Arab, the Atlantis Hotel, the Palm Jumeirah. It's so excitingly enjoyable that you won't mind getting wet during the adventure and the kids will definitely love it.

#### BLUEWATERS ISLAND DUBAI EYE

Bluewaters Island is built on another man-made island opposite to Jumeirah Beach Residence coastline and near Dubai Marina. Featuring a 210-metre-tall ferris wheel called 'Dubai Eye', it dominates the Dubai Skyline and offers a mixture of amusement avenues as well as dining and shopping choices.





## SECTION 4:

# Dine Dubai

If you are in need of an escape from the cuisine trials of daily life, look no further.

Dubai is a paradise for foodie travelers. Below you will find a roundup of the best restaurants, hidden gems and special dining experiences in Dubai that can satiate your taste buds.

#### DINE DUBAI

## Hidden Gems

Dubai offers all kinds of world cuisines, from street food (Indian, Arabic) to fine dining with internationally renowned signature Chefs. Don't hesitate to contact our Concierge team, who will be more than happy to help you creating your very own foodie adventure.

#### RAVI'S, SATWA

Located in the heart of Satwa, Ravi's is not about fine dining, but what you will find here is excellent, extremely affordable Pakistani food. Everything is very basic, like the plastic chairs and plastic tablecloths, but the focus is on the cooking. There is a menu, however staff will tell you what is available when you are there and recommend what to have. According to locals, Ravi's is the cheapest and most delicious Pakistani restaurant in Dubai, but be careful, the food is spicy.

#### BU QTAIR, JUMEIRAH BEACH

Bu Otair is known in the Jumeirah neighborhood for its affordable prices and tasty seafood dishes. The menu is very limited and you have the option to choose between two local fishes: hamour or sherif and fresh prawn. Accompaniments of white rice and paratha are served with your main. It can become very busy once the evening sets in, so we recommend getting there early to avoid the crowds.

#### AJI. THE PALM

Aji (pronounced Ah-hee) specialises in Nikkei cuisine, which is a combination of Japanese and Peruvian food. Set in the Palm's beachfront dining venue, Club Vista Mare, the restaurant is beautiful and glamorous but not pretentious. Typical of any fusion restaurant, you get a mixture of cooking styles and ingredients, and dishes here may present as the most Instagrammable food gimmick.

#### BB DIFC

Located in DIFC on Happiness Street, BB promises to bring social dining to the region; a fresh, homegrown approach to an Eastern menu, delivered with polished but light-hearted service, and found in a compelling, compact interior. Signature dishes are mindful of guests' appetites by offering an Inclusive not Exclusive approach with Vegan, Vegetarian and Meat based dishes.



# A taste of the Middle East

#### AL FANAR

Have you ever wondered what Dubai was like in the 1960s? Consider Al Fanar a time machine. The restaurant is set in a very traditional Emirati interior, which gives the feel of an old Emirati city and serves traditional Emirati cuisine, just how grandma used to make it. Al Fanar is particularly popular with locals who enjoy leisurely feasts in its cushioned, majlis-style tents.

#### MAMA TANI CAFÉ

Mama Tani, which means 'second mother' in Arabic, is an Emirati soul food café in Jumeirah that serves an array of local delicacies. The menu is simple and Mama Tani breakfast is served all day. The golden round 'khameer' is known as the traditional breakfast bread, which you can customize by combining your choice of fillings.

#### SAUDI KITCHEN

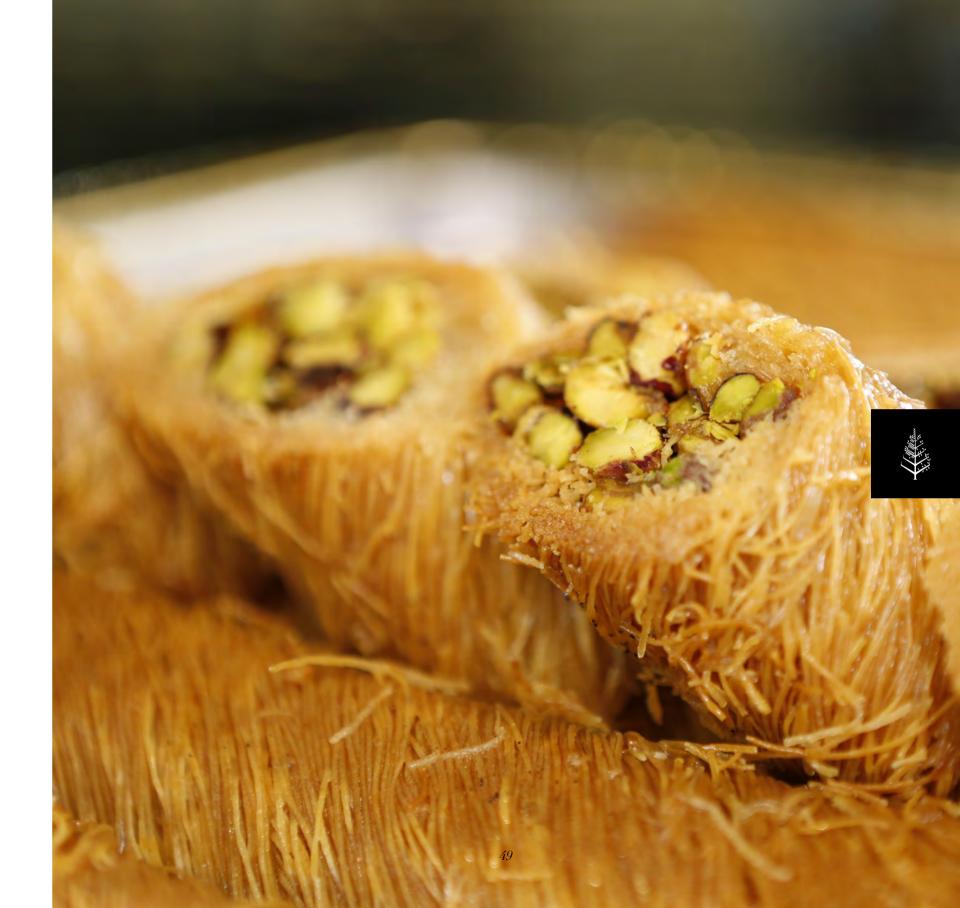
A branch of the original restaurant in Abu Dhabi, Saudi Kitchen is the perfect place to try traditional, falling-off-the-bone lamb or chicken such as mandi (slow-roasted for many hours and served with rice and chilli sauce) or madfoon (slow-roasted with nuts and raisins over rice).

#### SIRAJ, SOUQ AL BAHAR

Siraj is one of the finest restaurants in Dubai to serve Emirati-Levantine fusion cuisine and one that attracts a reassuringly local crowd. The restaurant's interiors pay tribute to the UAE, with seven distinct arches representing each Emirate. The menu mixes old with new and offers traditional dishes. There is an area outside for shisha too.

#### THE MAJLIS CAFÉ

Majlis Dubai is a lobby lounge where we serve our unique Camel Milk Chocolate and have a convivial "Pause Café" while nibbling on delicate finger food within a lavish Arabian yet modern atmosphere



# A taste of the Middle East

#### MASGOUF

Masgouf is named after a traditional Iraqi dish, served during big parties like wedding with a unique cooking technique that involves a fresh water carp being butterflied and skewered around a wood fire. Gather a hungry group of friends or starve yourself for a week, or both, and be prepared to enjoy an enormous feast.

#### EM SHERIFF

As one of Dubai's most sought out Middle Eastern restaurants, Em Sheriff is well-known for serving authentic Lebanese cuisine amidst a fascinating architectural vision of royal blue hues and charming vintage pieces designed to look like an antique Lebanese mansion. The restaurant doesn't have a menu and, for a fixed price, you'll get 32 dishes delivered to the table.

#### AL NAFOORAH

Al Nafoorah boasts of an extensive menu and serves the finest Lebanese cuisine, in the most opulent and remarkable surroundings. The restaurant is lavishly decorated with high ceilings and dark woodcarvings to create a characteristically majestic feel, while the ambiance remains warm and relaxed. The wideranging menu is packed with all kinds of traditional dishes, from seafood to traditional shawarma, to mixed meat grills. Al Nafoorah is a preferred destination for many as it is the perfect spot for everything from a family dinner to a special occasion.

# Dining Delights

#### SEA FU

Serving up seafood with an Asian influence, SeaFu is the signature restaurant inside our glamorous resort. The ambience is relaxed, classy and elegant without being overbearing or stuffy. The sunken lounge with fire pits offers spectacular views of the Arabian Gulf. With a delightful à la carte bar menu available throughout the evening, you can savour small dishes whilst listening to our DJ playing funk-themed music.

#### ZUMA

Zuma Dubai has been placed in the top 100 of the World's 50 Best Bars. The restaurant serves its dishes in a steady flow, allowing diners to sample each dish at a leisurely pace. You can order from a comprehensive menu of Japanese classics that includes miso-marinated black cod, sushi, sashimi and a selection of smaller dishes. The crowd is stylish and you will definitely feel like you are dining with the A-listers in town.

#### MERCURY LOUNGE

The jewel atop Four Seasons, Mercury Lounge is a dynamic Dubai rooftop bar with one-of-a-kind views: overlooking the Dubai skyline and the Burj Khalifa on one side, and the Arabian Gulf on the other.

Now reminiscent of a lounge on the shores of the Mediterranean, its summer closure saw the restyling of Dubai's most idyllic and glamorous rooftop, with a new concept and relaxed atmosphere to create the perfect destination to see you from dinner through to dancing into the night.

#### LA PETITE MAISON

Tous celebres ici – otherwise translated to 'Everyone is famous here' is the greeting on the glass door as you step into La Petite Maison. The restaurant serves Nicoise cuisine from the old town of Nice, where French Mediterranean cuisine has evolved due to the influence of Ligurian Italy across the border. For any French food connoisseur, it's a culinary experience not to be missed.

#### MINA BRASSERIE AT DIFC

A new modern, lively brasserie for lunch and dinner, in partnership with award-wining American Chef Michael Mina, MINA Brasserie at Dubai International Financial Centre is the new hotspot for the eclectic Dubai crowd as it offers an elevated dining experience, serving beautifully craveable dishes that are both comforting and delicious in a lively, sophisticated environment. Highlights will include za'taar salmon and caviar with shallot potato cake; tuna tartare with pine nuts, garlic, mint and sesame-habanero oil; phyllo-crusted Dover sole with brown butter-caper sauce; and wood-fired lamb chops.

#### FLAMINGO ROOM

Perfectly situated on Jumeirah's turtle lagoon with the back drop of the azure blue of the Arabian sea, Flamingo Room by tashas provides a casual, chic all day dining experience – from lunch into the evening for dinner and cocktails. The restaurant has South African roots and the breakfast menu mixes the expected morning staples with delightfully quirky additions.



# Dining Delights

#### BLEU BLANC

World renowned chef David Myers invites you to experience Southern France through his eyes and palate with Bleu Blanc. As you enter the restaurant, an open-plan kitchen showcases the skill and passion of the chefs at work, with the sizzle of the grill tantalising you with a taste of things to come. Overlooking sweeping panoramas of Dubai's seas, rich flames roasting fine meats, fresh seafood, and robust vegetables make for a transportive experience.

#### SCALINI

The latest addition to the Restaurant Village at the Four Seasons Resort Jumeirah, Scalini is a fine dining Italian restaurant that has its roots in London and boasts an air of ambient charm as both staff and clientele create a warm and stylish vibe to your dining experience. Enjoy classics such as a beef tartare and signature burrata alongside signature spaghetti dishes served in a pasta wheel and tossed with truffle.

#### ROBERTO'S

Roberto's stays away from the Italian clichés of chequered table clothes and Roman iconography on the walls. Instead, the venue is designed with classic elegance and simplicity. The menu is divided into courses of antipasti, soups, pasta dishes and seafood-heavy main dishes. Between the trendy location and views of Dubai's skyline, chic setting and overall well-executed menu, Roberto's is a great spot for a lively dinner out.

#### COYA

Located inside the restaurant village of the Four Seasons Resort Dubai at Jumeirah Beach, the award-winning restaurant from London focuses on traditional elements of Peruvian cooking with a modern spin. The food is absolutely stunning, and at times surprising with explosions of unexpected flavor. As for desserts, you will undoubtedly be tempted by the visually delicious platter, with its South American sweet treats.

### Casual Eats

#### NUSR-ET

Originally a Turkish Steakhouse established by the Butcher/Chef Nusret Gokce — or better known as #saltbae, the amazing melting meat is the core of the restaurant's menu and fame. It was already busy but after #saltbae himself going viral with his trademark move of sprinkling salt off his chiseled forearm, Nusret is now one of the most talked-about restaurants on the planet.

#### BISTRO DES ARTS

Bistro des Arts is a quintessential 1970 Parisian bistro overlooking the waters of Dubai Marina, serving a repertoire of classic "Terroir" French home-style food with a rustic French décor and a garden vibe terrace.

#### RÜYA

Located inside Dubai Marina's Grosvenor House hotel, this Turkish restaurant is modern and contemporary, but also manages to exude traditional Turkish culture and ambience. Its menu is designed by the famous chef, Colin Claque, formerly of Zuma Dubai and Jean-Georges, and some dishes date back 3,000 years.

#### RAMUSAKE

Ramusake is not a restaurant you are likely to stumble across unless you know it is there.

Technically, it is in the Hilton DoubleTree, Jumeirah Beach Residence (JBR), but on a parking level. This JBR gem adopts its own brand of cool, with a ceiling made of a giant wooden abacus, and walls covered in hand painted ocean murals in the style of Japanese artist Hokusai. The food lives up to the surroundings: beautifully presented Japanese dishes with a modern twist.

#### DIN TAI FUNG

For dim sum fans, Din Tai Fung needs no introduction. Originally founded over 40 years ago in Taiwan, Din Tai Fung has since gained such an impressive following that there are now over 100 outlets worldwide, including two in Dubai. Perusing the menu, you will be astounded by all the different options of wontons, dumplings, buns, noodles, rice and soups. Ordering by scribbling on the tick sheet menu, in no time baskets of steamed delights will appear on your table.

#### MATTO

From the creators of award-winning restaurants and lounges, Iris and Indie DIFC, comes Matto, a home-grown Italian restaurant tailored to bring out the pleasures of a hearty meal at a light price. Matto packs a punch for flavor. The menu is expansive, and features many classic favorites, but what comes out of the kitchen is presented in a modern way. From lunchtime dining to sunset drinks, whether for business or pleasure, Matto is a venue for any occasion.

#### **BLACK TAP**

From NYC to DXB, Craft Burgers, Crazy Shakes and Craft Hops. New York style burgers, fries, wings, craft beers, mason jar drinks, salads, sides, and of course our world famous Crazy Shakes making this the must try for every food tourist and burger obsessed.



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## Hot Spots

#### PIER 7, MARINA

Marina Mall's 'gourmet tower', Pier 7 is a culinary destination offering different restaurant and lounge themes with 360-degree views of Dubai Marina. There is easy pedestrian access from Marina Mall, or you can arrive by boat from the marina itself. There's also the convenient option of valet parking. Pier 7 offers something for everyone, with most of the major global cuisines and crazes covered in just a handful of venues: Arabic, Asian, British, European, Latino... the list goes on. Moreover, the pace ranges from relaxed restaurant to lounge bar, right up to nightclub, making it possible to enjoy a night out without stumping up a cab fare once.

#### CITYWALK RESTAURANTS

City Walk the urban living concept by Meraas, is an ideal outdoor destination providing the ultimate lifestyle experience with its unique mix of innovative retail and upscale gourmet outlets. It blends easy going street café culture with high-end dining.

#### DIFC RESTAURANTS

There's so much more to this vibrant Dubai neighborhood than banks and businesses. The most talked-about restaurants and cafes are located in the DIFC. Whether you sip your coffee at leisure or dine in style at the Centre's top-notch restaurants, the DIFC offers a delectable array of choices that suit the tastes of its community.

#### LA MER

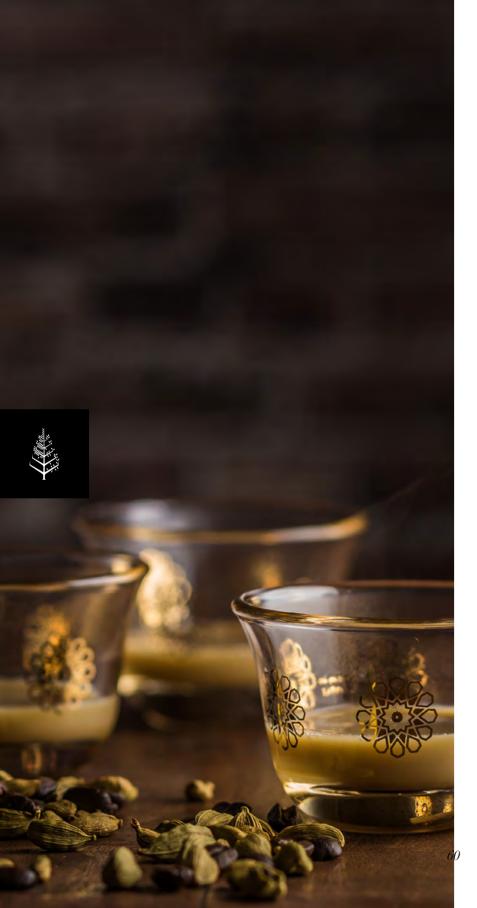
Literally translating to "The Sea", La Mer is a new beachfront destination that boasts a number of shops, cafes and restaurants which spans over 13.4 million square feet of existing and reclaimed land. Whether you enjoy laidback fun at Dubai's eclectic beachfront, a journey through the bustling backstreets of the Wharf or a kick back at the beach, La Mer has something for everyone.

#### CLUB VISTA MARE

Featuring seven unique restaurants, Club Vista Mare is set directly on the beach with views of The Palm's eastern shoreline and some of Dubai's world-famous landmarks. Cuisines on offer include Italian, Middle Eastern, European, American Nikkei (Peruvian-Japanese) and Ethiopian through a variety of brands. Each restaurant has indoor and outdoor terrace seating, with some featuring space directly on the beach.



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# Coffee Culture

#### % ARABICA

% Arabica was founded in 1988 by Kenneth Shoji in Kyoto, Japan, and has an excellent reputation for its perfect cup of coffee and fine food. It's about quality coffee roasted fresh in-house, served using the top espresso machine in the world providing you with the best experience. Arabica is authentic, complete with original coffee bean sacks, and brown communal tables and chairs adding to the artisanal vibe.

#### ARABIAN TEA HOUSE

Every aspect of Arabian Tea House Restaurant Café has been designed so that it truly recreates the past way of Emirati life.

#### COFFEE MUSEUM

For coffee enthusiasts, a visit to this place will be an incredible experience. Located in one of Dubai's heritage hubs, AI Fahidi in Bur Dubai, the Coffee Museum showcases a wide selection of antique items illustrating regional and international coffee history and culture. The museum emphasizes coffee education to the interested customers who wish to learn more about coffee, coffee roasting and coffee brewing. The freshly brewed coffee at the coffee bar is a MUST according to visitors.

# Healthy

#### COMPTOIR 102

Housed inside a stylish boutique, Comptoir 102 is what happens when healthy eating meets Parisian taste. The café specializes in organic food and local produce, and recipes are primarily vegan, raw and gluten-free. We recommend you arrive early before they run out of daily specialties. Further, make sure you get around and take plenty of cool pictures here because of its photogenic set up.

#### WILD AND THE MOON

Wild & the Moon offers a delicious selection of coldpressed juices, nut milks, smoothies, salads, soups, desserts, and snacks to provide a healthy alternative to the urban crowd. It is a peaceful hang out spot where you can feed your body with healthy juices, healthy food and good vibes.

#### HEAT

If you're watching your waistline or looking for somewhere to pop into after your gym work out, head to HEAT Cafe & Grill. Short for Healthy Eats And Treats, all dishes here are no more than 400 calories. An open kitchen features a grill plate where most of the food is cooked. The focus is on low fat and low carbohydrate meals. The menu features a range of uncomplicated dishes, with an offering of healthy sides.



#### DINE DUBAI

# Concierge Hidden Gems

#### FOOD TOUR

Arva and Farida Ahmed - two Indian sisters born and raised in the UAE - open the doors to the most exciting eateries to introduce you to delicious fare - from Moroccan to Nepalese to Indian - on their small-group walking tours, the first food tours in Dubai. During these three-to-four hour tours, you'll experience the small restaurants, culinary treasures, and hidden gems that fill old Dubai.

#### BISTRO DES ARTS, MARINA

Bistro des Arts is a quintessential 1970s Parisian bistro overlooking the waters of Dubai Marina, serving a selection of classic French home-style food with a rustic French décor and a garden vibe terrace. The restaurant offers Parisienne bistro-style fare, from breakfast through to late-night supper. You can choose from a well-curated wine list, a raw seafood bar and freshly baked bread and pastries all served in a laid-back casual environment.





