



Abu Dhabi

Photo: ventdusud/Shutterstock.com



ventdusud/Shutterstock.com

With its awesome glass skyscrapers that reflect the bustle of daily life, magnificent buildings such as the Emirates Palace, its lively souqs, excellent international restaurants and long stretches of white beaches lapped by the crystal clear waters of the Gulf, Abu Dhabi is a city of outstanding contrasts.

The throbbing heart of the city lies 250 metres off-shore on an island linked to the mainland by the Al Maqtaa Bridge and Mussafah Bridge. Home to the respected Abu Dhabi Cultural Foundation and the Al Hosn Palace museum, along with numerous venues for the arts, the wealthy city is the cultural as well as the commercial hub of the emirate of Abu Dhabi.



dotshock/Shutterstock.com



Aleksander Karpenko/Shutterstock.com

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5 Off the Beaten Track
Destinations in Asia

ArrivalGuides

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Top 5



Emirates Palace

Dominating the skyline along the Corniche, the massive Emirates Palace oozes...



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Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque

A fabulous white structure and a landmark in Abu Dhabi, the mosque was built...



THE CITY



Philip Lange/Shutterstock.com

Abu Dhabi can trace its history way back to the Bronze Age and has a long tradition of profitable trading. However, it wasn't until the 1950s – when oil was found – that it was transformed from its desert landscape into the fabulous city it is today. Designed in a grid-like fashion with wide open spaces and boulevards, this is the second largest city in the oil-rich United Arab Emirates, after its neighbour Dubai, and also the seat of government and capital of the emirate of Abu Dhabi.

Daily life centres around its main thoroughfares, including the busy Sheikh Zayed Street and the paved waterfront Corniche. Always bustling, the Corniche is where visitors can be seen admiring the stunning pink-washed Emirates Palace at the Ras Al Bateen, built as a hotel for visiting royalty, and locals can be seen jogging or cycling with much enthusiasm. Families with children and leisure walkers regularly enjoy the atmosphere.

A short walk from the waters edge are streets full of shiny new skyscrapers that house the city's financial and banking institutions, its world famous company offices and its government buildings. At pavement-level, hotel and restaurants cater for every taste, while shopping malls are full of designer fashions. In contrast,

the many souqs offer gold, spices or traditional craft items.

DO & SEE



Patryk Kosmider/Shutterstock.com

Abu Dhabi's attractions are diverse and vary from landmark architectural triumphs to centuries-old structures and beaches. The Corniche sweeps along the waterfront from one side of the city to other, passing by the lavishly-planted Al Markaziyah Gardens, one of the many parks in the city, and Lulu Island across the water, which is delightful with its palm trees and nature reserve.

Emirates Palace



Dominating the skyline along the Corniche, the massive Emirates Palace oozes opulence and luxury. Built as a hotel, one of the finest in the world, it is worth seeing, even if the room rates are out of budget. Look out for the Triumphant Arch under which royals pass if staying in the palace and its gardens full of fountains. The palace is famous for its gold-plated lobby, roof frescoes and crystal chandeliers.

Photo: Shahid Khan/Shutterstock.com

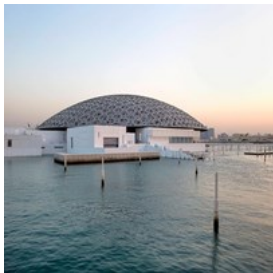
Address: West Corniche Road, Abu Dhabi

Phone: +971 2 690 9000

Internet: www.emiratespalace.com

Email: reservation.emiratespalace@kempinski.com

Louvre Abu Dhabi



The Louvre Abu Dhabi was recently established - in 2017 - and is, with its 24,000 square metres in size, the largest art museum on the Arabian

peninsula. The building itself is worth a visit just for its design, with a one-of-a-kind floating dome. The museum boasts a 8,000 square metre gallery which contains a 12-chapter history of humanity, from prehistoric artefacts to modern artwork, and four temporary exhibitions per year.

Photo: [Wikiemirati/Wikimedia Commons](#) (image cropped)

Address: Saadiyat Cultural District, Abu Dhabi

Phone: +971 600 56 55 66

Internet: www.louvreabudhabi.ae

Email: contact@louvreabudhabi.ae

More Info: Opening times and tickets:

www.louvreabudhabi.ae/en/visit/plan-your-visit

Abu Dhabi Desert Safari



Adventure lovers should not miss the opportunity to take part in some of the activities offered by Abu Dhabi Desert Safari.

Join a dune drive through the desert or a camel ride, attend some belly dancing lessons, try on the traditional costumes and take amazing sunset pictures.

Photo: [saisnaps/Shutterstock.com](#)

Address: Mariyam Tower, Corniche Road, Abu Dhabi

Phone: +971 2 666 1255

Internet: www.abudhabidesertsafari.net

Email: alaindesertsafari@gmail.com

More Info: Other website: www.abudhabi-desert-safari.com/safariabudhabi@gmail.com

Emirates Heritage Village



A Bedouin desert camp complete with tents made from goat's hair, a bustling souq, mud hut village and a fishing harbour are all

reconstructions that make fascinating displays in the Emirates Heritage Village. Visitors can sometimes try their hand at traditional crafts like pottery or weaving, which are demonstrated in a series of small workshops within the village.

Photo: [outcast85/Shutterstock.com](#)

Address: Abu Dhabi Theatre Road, Corniche Brake Water, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 9:00-16:00 (Saturday to Thursday)

15:30-21:00 (Friday)

Phone: +971 2 681 4455

Email: info@torath.ae

More Info: visitabudhabi.ae/en/see.and.do/attractions.and.lan.dmarks/cultural.attractions/heritage.village.aspx

Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque



A fabulous white structure and a landmark in Abu Dhabi, the mosque was built to incorporate architectural influences from around the world.

Moroccan, Italian, Chinese and styles from the UAE itself can be detected. There are over 1,000 columns and 80 domes decorated with marble and semi-precious stones, while huge courtyards and lakes can be seen in the grounds. The mosque, named after Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan (president of the UAE for over 30 years), has four minarets on its corners.

Photo: [Luciano Mortula - LGM/Shutterstock.com](#)

Address: Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque Center, Abu Dhabi

Phone: +971 2 419 1919

Internet: www.szgmc.gov.ae/en/Home

Email: info@szgmc.ae

Qasr al-Hosn Palace



Built in 1761 as a royal residence and the city's oldest building, this beautiful palace can be found next to the Abu Dhabi Cultural

Foundation. Its main entrance is decorated in true Islamic style with colourful tiles, while inside mashrabiya screens and carved wooden doors have stood for centuries.

Photo: Philip Lange/Shutterstock.com

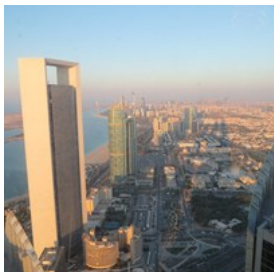
Address: Between Zayed 1st Street, Khaled Bin Al Waleed Street, Hamdan Bin Mohammed 5th Street and Sheikh Rashid Bin Saeed 2nd Street, Abu Dhabi

Phone: +971 2 444 0444

Internet: <http://www.qasralhosn.ae/en>

Email: info@qasralhosnfestival.ae

Observation Deck at 300



Located inside the Etihad Towers complex, this observation deck offers some of the best views of the city and is an unmissable attraction.

Entry comes with a fee, but the experience is most definitely a rewarding one.

Photo: Christoph Derndorfer/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Tower 2, Level 74, Jumeirah at Etihad Towers, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 10:00-19:00

Phone: +971 2 811 5666

Internet: www.jumeirah.com/en/hotels-resorts/abu-dhabi/jumeirah-etihad-towers/restaurants-and-bars-at-jumeirah-at-etihad-towers/observation-deck-at-300

Email: JADrestaurants@jumeirah.com

Ferrari World Abu Dhabi



This enormous venue is called "world" for a reason: it houses a variety of Ferrari, themed exhibits and even several fun rides. Come with a few hours to spare if you want to make the most of your visit.

Photo: Keren Varon/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ferrari World, Yas Island, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 11:00-20:00

Phone: +971 2 496 8000

Internet: www.ferrariworldabudhabi.com

Al Ain Camel Souq



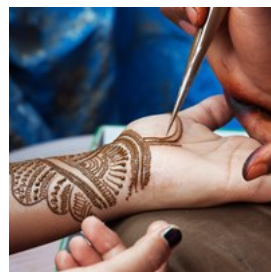
If you want to experience the atmosphere of souqs, the traditional Arabian markets, then head to Al Ain, a city on the border with Oman, in the

Emirate of Abu Dhabi, and prepare yourself for a close encounter with lots of camels. Look at how camel merchants trade and enjoy taking hilarious pictures with the amusing animals.

Photo: Tomasz Ganclerz/Shutterstock.com

Address: Cattle Market, Zayed Bin Sultan Road, Al Ain

Women's Handicraft Centre



No holiday in Abu Dhabi would be complete without a visit to this fascinating centre. Local female Bedouin artists and artisans, usually

wearing a traditional dress, demonstrate age-old crafts, including henna body painting, embroidery and silver thread work in a series of small huts. Visitors should remove their shoes before entering the huts, as is the local custom.

Photo: Elena Mirage/Shutterstock.com

Address: Women's Association Complex, Karama Street, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 7:00-15:00 (Sunday to Thursday)

Phone: +971 2 447 6645

The Corniche



The Corniche is an area frequented by locals and tourists alike, and the promenade is a wonderful stretch of land perfect for an evening walk. There is a beach in the area, and an evening dhow boat ride offers wonderful vistas of the shoreline.

Photo: Philip Lange/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Corniche, Abu Dhabi

Al Maqtaa Fort



Built to protect the city from invaders around 200 years ago, this fort stands close to the Al Maqtaa Bridge on its approach to Abu Dhabi city. Built in the traditional style of the day in soft sand coloured stone with ornately carved wooden features, and remaining almost intact, it is considered an important historical proof of the city's past.

Photo: Philip Lange/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Maqtaa Fort, Abu Dhabi

More Info: Near Al Maqtaa Bridge

Al Bateen Shipyard



Abu Dhabi has long been famous for its expertise in building dhows, the traditional sailing vessels that were the lifeline to importing and exporting

goods in days gone by. Visitors can still see a more modern version of the crafts being made at the Al Bateen Shipyard, which can be found on the west side of the island.

Photo: Paul Kopplin/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Bateen Airport, Abu Dhabi

DINING



Aleksandar Milutinovic/Shutterstock.com

Emirati cuisine is quite cosmopolitan and you can find food from all over the world. The specific food for the United Arab Emirates is a blend of Asian and Middle Eastern cooking.

Breakfast is usually bread served with cheese or eggs while the main meals contain plenty of meat, grain and dairy. People often drink a red tea with mint after dinner, as it helps the digestion.

Mezlai



One of the many restaurants found inside the Emirates Palace, this elegant venue has a lavish decor and an international fine dining menu. The amazing surroundings, together with a friendly and efficient service, will complete your wonderful culinary experience.

Photo: KatarinaVe/Shutterstock.com

Address: Emirates Palace, The Corniche, Abu Dhabi
 Opening hours: 13:00-22:30
 Phone: +971 2 690 7999
 Internet: www.kempinski.com/en/abudhabi/emirates-palace/dining/restaurants/mezalai
 Email: restaurants@emiratespalace.ae

Cho Gao Marina Walk



Lose yourself in the incredible Asian atmosphere of Cho Gao Marina Walk lounge, noticeable in every single detail, from the decor to the food and even the service. The wide choice of Asian fusion dishes will impress you: try the more common - nevertheless excellent - sushi, the Chinese pecking duck, or the intriguing Thai and Vietnamese cuisines, and complement your meal with a good drink.

Photo: nioloxs/Shutterstock.com
 Address: InterContinental Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi
 Phone: +971 2 666 6888
 Internet: www.dining-intercontinental-ad.ae/cho-gao
 Email: inquiries.icabudhabi@ihg.com
 More Info: Book a table: reservations.icabudhabi@ihg.com

Fishmarket



An market-style restaurant that has a long held reputation for its great Thai-style lobster, crab and other seafood speciality dishes, each presented with a creative twist. Fishmarket, located right on the beach and is part of the Intercontinental Hotel, opens for lunch and evening dining daily.

Photo: Shebeko/Shutterstock.com
 Address: InterContinental Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi
 Opening hours: 12:30-16:00 19:00-23:30 (Sunday to Thursday) 12:30-23:30 (Friday, Saturday)

Phone: +971 2 666 6888
 Internet: www.dining-intercontinental-ad.ae/fishmarket
 Email: inquiries.icabudhabi@ihg.com
 More Info: Book a table: reservations.icabudhabi@ihg.com

Mezzaluna



In this elegant venue, inspired by the top restaurants in the North of Italy, you will find authentic Italian flavours. The selection of dishes is impressive and the rich menu contains food prepared with the finest ingredients, from pasta with lobster to seafood from Sardinia and olive oil from Liguria. Last but not least, the view over the beach and the blue waters of the Gulf will allow you to have an unforgettable time at Mezzaluna.

Photo: leonori/Shutterstock.com
 Address: Emirates Palace, The Corniche, Abu Dhabi
 Opening hours: 12:30-15:00 19:00-23:00
 Phone: +971 2 690 7999
 Internet: www.kempinski.com/en/abudhabi/emirates-palace/dining/restaurants/mezzaluna
 Email: restaurants@emiratespalace.ae

Le Vendôme Brasserie



Located in the amazing Emirates Palace, Le Vendôme offers an array of simple and quality dishes, for which the talented chefs carefully select the best seasonal ingredients. Sitting outside, on its terrace, you will have the most elegant buffet in the city with a view over the beautiful beach.

Photo: Andrey Bayda/Shutterstock.com
 Address: Emirates Palace, The Corniche, Abu Dhabi
 Opening hours: 06:30-11:00 (Breakfast) 12:30-15:30 (Lunch) 18:30-23:30 (Dinner)

Phone: +971 2 690 7999

Internet: www.kempinski.com/en/abudhabi/emirates-palace/dining/restaurants/le-vendome

Email: restaurants@emiratespalace.ae

Pizza di Rocco



Rocco's award-winning pizzeria is said to be one of the best pizza restaurants in Abu Dhabi, and an undisputed favourite for Italian

tourists. Not completely satisfied with the most traditional Italian pizzas, the owner created his very own using locally sourced ingredients, to always offer new, unexpected flavours.

Photo: James Steidl/Shutterstock

Address: Salam Street, Abu Dhabi

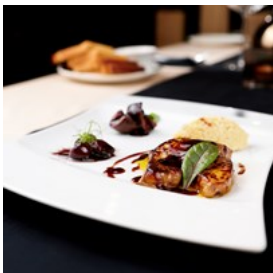
Opening hours: 11:00-24:00 (Saturday to Wednesday)

11:00-2:00 (Thursday, Friday)

Phone: +971 2 885 3222

Internet: www.pizzadirocco.com

Hakkasan



Fine dining in a spectacular location, designed with unique, modern embellished wooden furniture and marbled Chinese forms.

This upscale Asian restaurant is located inside the Emirates Palace Hotel and serves delicious duck dishes, along with other Cantonese specialities and excellent seafood. Hakkasan wine list is as well impressive, with a selection of Italian, French, South African and Australian labels.

Photo: Maksim Toome/Shutterstock.com

Address: Emirates Palace, The Corniche, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 15:00-17:00 (Afternoon tea/bar) 18:00-24:00

(Dinner) 18:00-2:00 (Bar) 12:00-16:00 (Brunch, only on

Friday)

Phone: +971 2 690 7739

Internet: www.hakkasan.com/locations/hakkasan-abu-dhabi

Email: hakkasan@emiratespalace.ae

Camacho Italian Restaurant & Sushi Bar



Serving a fusion of Japanese and Italian cuisine, Camacho brings together the best of both worlds: quality sushi and freshly made pizza and

pasta, along with a huge list of desserts and non-alcoholic fresh cocktails (also known as "mocktails").

Photo: Digital Painting/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Seef Village Community Mall, 1st Floor, Corniche Al Qurm, Abu Dhabi

Phone: +971 2 444 9660

Internet: www.camachorestaurant.com

Email: info@camachorestaurant.com

Byblos Sur Mer



Fine dining in a unique location with a great rooftop terrace. Byblos Sur Mer is an upscale restaurant that enjoys a spotless reputation and

serves a variety of dishes, including local specialities and top quality Lebanese cuisine (the latter is considered the best in the city).

Photo: Piccia Neri/Shutterstock.com

Address: InterContinental Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 12:30-1:30 (Saturday to Wednesday)

12:30-2:30 (Thursday, Friday)

Phone: +971 2 666 6888

Internet: www.dining-intercontinental-ad.ae/byblos-sur-mer

Email: nquiries.icabudhabi@ihg.com

More Info: Book a table: reservations.icabudhabi@ihg.com /

Children and pregnant women are only permitted in the

non-smoking areas of the restaurant / Children welcome only

until 22:00

Koi Restaurant & Lounge



Friday brunch is traditional in Abu Dhabi, and Koi Restaurant upholds the custom by serving a splendid brunch where patrons take their pick from the 30 dishes on offer. The restaurant has a romantic setting and serves modern Japanese food with a Californian spin.

Photo: Narong Jongsirikul/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Collection at The St. Regis Saadiyat Island Resort, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 18:30-1:00 (Saturday to Wednesday)
18:30-2:00 (Thursday, Friday) 12:30-16:00 (Friday brunch)

Phone: +971 2 678 3334

Internet: www.koirestaurant.ae

Email: reservations@KOIrestaurant.ae

CAFES



JOAT/Shutterstock.com

Cafes in Abu Dhabi tend to be sophisticated yet informal, and serve a wide choice of coffees with light snacks and pastries rather than fast food.

Vienna Plaza



An Austrian-style coffee house, the Vienna Plaza serves delicious pastries and light snacks. Bright and elegant, this cafe is a delightful place to meet

friends or business associates for a quick meeting on the move.

Photo: Eakkapan Asavapanumas/Shutterstock.com

Address: Hilton Abu Dhabi, Corniche Road, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 7:00-1:00

Phone: +971 2 681 1900

Internet: www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/uae/hilton-abu-dhabi-AUHHITW/dining/index.html

Email: abudhabi.info@hilton.com

More Info: Located at Hilton Hotel, Abi Dhabi

Le Café



Shiny and sleek in looks, Le Café is located inside the Emirates Palace and has a tempting display of pastries and cakes, some covered in chocolate, others oozing fruit and cream, which can be served with an excellent cappuccino. This glamorous cafe is said to be the best afternoon tea spot in Abu Dhabi: it will be difficult to resist.

Photo: Dzimitry1991/Shutterstock.com

Address: Emirates Palace, The Corniche, Abu Dhabi

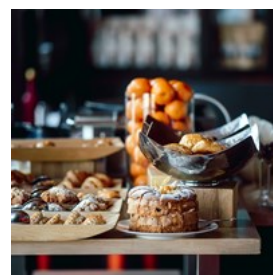
Opening hours: 6:30-1:00

Phone: +971 2 690 7999

Internet: www.kempinski.com/en/abudhabi/emirates-palace/dining/bars/le-cafe

Email: restaurants@emiratespalace.ae

Cafe 302



Highly recommended for its healthy breakfast buffet, Cafe 302 is a quiet spot with a modern interior located at the Al Maha Arjaan Hotel. It offers a wide assortment of food and beverages. Have a seat on the terrace if the weather allows, and enjoy a good coffee with some pastries in a nice, relaxed atmosphere.

Photo: Demkat/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Maha Arjaan by Rotana, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 6:00-23:00

Phone: +971 2 610 6666

Internet: www.rotana.com/arjaanhotelpartments/unitedarabemirates/abudhabi/almahaarjaanbyrotana/diningout/cafethre ezerotwo

More Info: Located at the Al Maha Arjaan Hotel by Rotana

Shakespeare and Co



Established in Dubai in 2001, Shakespeare and Co rapidly expanded throughout the UAE and offers excellent coffees and appetising pastries in

elegant yet familiar environment. The cafe located in the Central Market has a Victorian-inspired design, which creates a lovely ambience, and it's a perfect spot to spend some time with friends, colleagues or family. The eggs Benedict (poached eggs with grilled smoked turkey ham on brioche bread) are highly recommended for breakfast.

Photo: joephotostudio/Shutterstock.com

Address: Central Market, Hamdan Street, Abu Dhabi

Phone: +971 2 639 9626

Internet: www.shakespeare-and-co.com

More Info: Other locations in Abu Dhabi:

www.shakespeare-and-co.com/locations/#location-abu-dhabi

Jones the Grocer



Established in 1996 in Australia as an unconventional grocery, cafe and cheese store, Jones the Grocer expanded internationally

and arrived in the UAE where, today, it's very popular. The cafe located in the Al Mamoura building, in Abu Dhabi, offers cakes and other pastries, along with great brunch food and

coffees.

Photo: Jacob Lund/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Mamoura, Corner 4th Muroor and 15th Street, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 8:00-23:00 (Sunday to Thursday) 9:00-23:00 (Friday, Saturday)

Phone: +971 2 443 8762

Internet: www.jonesthegrocer.com

Email: almamoura@jonesthegrocer.com

Cappuccino's Cafe



Living up to its name, this bright and light cafe in the lobby of the Crowne Plaza Hotel serves frothy cappuccino in huge cups every day. Other coffees

and teas are available too, of course, and there's a delicious array of cakes, pastries and finger sandwiches to choose from.

Photo: Sontaya Chaiyapan/Shutterstock.com

Address: Crowne Plaza, Hamdan Street, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 7:00-23:00

Phone: +971 2 616 6187

Internet: www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/gb/en/abu-dhabi/ahua/hoteldetail/dining#

More Info: Located at the Crowne Plaza Hotel

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



ventdusud/Shutterstock.com

Abu Dhabi has a good choice of bars and nightclubs, although almost all of them will be found inside hotels. Hookah lounges are popular, as are rooftop bars and establishments offering stunning views over the shining UAE capital. Alcohol is served freely to non-Muslims.

Captain's Arms



Captain's Arms is an authentic English pub located at Le Meridien Village that regularly offers "beer of the week" promotions and good live music. Enjoy the relaxing atmosphere and good company, either in the festive dining room or in the lush garden.

Photo: Khakimullin Aleksandr/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Village at Le Meridien, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 12:00-1:00 (Saturday to Wednesday)

12:00-3:00 (Thursday, Friday)

Phone: +971 2 644 6666

Internet:

www.thevillageatlemeridienabudhabi.com/en/captains-arms

Email: 01899fnb@starwoodhotels.com

More Info: Located at The Village at Le Meridien

Trader Vic's



An elegant French Polynesian venue that has a long held reputation for its great cocktails presented with considerable flair, Trader Vic's is open daily and offers exquisite island cuisine and drinks in an enjoyable Latin American atmosphere.

Photo: dmitrymoi/Shutterstock.com

Address: Beach Rotana Hotel, Abu Dhabi

Internet: www.tradervics.com

More Info: Trader Vic's Abu Dhabi:

www.tradervics.com/locations/abu-dhabi/ / Opening times: ww

w.rotana.com/rotanahotelandresorts/unitedarabemirates/abu

dhabi/beachrotana/diningout/tradervics

Jazz Bar & Dining



The perfect place for jazz lovers, Jazz Bar & Dining is an award-winning venue located at the Hilton Hotel that regularly offers live shows, with both bands and amazing soloists. Enjoy the warm, welcoming atmosphere, complemented by a good cocktail and some snacks.

Photo: sirtravelalot/Shutterstock.com

Address: Hilton Abu Dhabi, Corniche Road, Abu Dhabi

Phone: +971 2 681 1900

Internet: www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/uae/hilton-abu-dhabi-AU

HHITW/dining/jazz-bar.html

Email: abudhabi.info@hilton.com

Ray's Bar



Enjoy a great evening out at this subtly lit, elegant venue, located on the 62nd level of the Jumeriah Hotel. Intimate and relaxing, it offers great cocktails, happy hours, fine dining food and an awesome view of the city, especially at night.

Photo: Kondor83/Shutterstock.com

Address: Jumeirah at Etihad Towers, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 17:00-3:00

Phone: +971 2 811 5666

Internet: www.jumeirah.com/en/hotels-resorts/abu-dhabi/jumeirah-etihad-towers/restaurants-and-bars-at-jumeirah-at-etihad-towers/rajs-bar

Email: JADrestaurants@jumeirah.com

More Info: Located at the Jumeriah

Glo



Glo lounge is a trendy nightlife venue with an extensive cocktail list and shisha on the menu. The establishment's design is very sleek and gets

beautifully lit up at night.

Photo: Chubykin Arkady/Shutterstock.com

Address: Rosewood Abu Dhabi, Al Maryah Island, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 12:00-1:00 (Saturday to Wednesday)

12:00-2:00 (Thursday, Friday)

Phone: +971 2 813 5550

Internet: www.rosewoodhotels.com/en/abu-dhabi/dining/Glo

Email: abudhabi@rosewoodhotels.com

More Info: Located at the Rosewood Abu Dhabi

Blue Bar



This bar's unique blue lighting and ambience make for an enjoyable, relaxing experience. Its elevated location provides an awesome view of the city.

Photo: Ivan Mateev/Shutterstock.com

Address: Hilton Hotel, Sheikh Rashid Bin Saeed Al Maktoum Street Road, Abu Dhabi

Phone: +971 2 617 0000

Internet: www3.hilton.com

More Info: Located at the Hilton Capital Grand Abu Dhabi

Level Lounge



If you adore house and techno sounds, you should pay a visit to Level Lounge, on the rooftop of the Crowne Plaza. DJs provide the music, the staff serves drinks inside or on the terrace, while you just have to enjoy your evening cocktail with a stunning view of the city.

Photo: Maxim Blinkov/Shutterstock.com

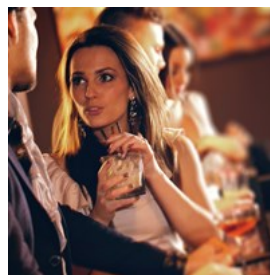
Address: Crown Plaza Hotel, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 17:00-2:00

Phone: +971 2 621 6800

Internet: www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/gb/en/abu-dhabi/abu-dhabi/hoteldetail/dining#

Black Pearl



The Black Pearl is a cocktail bar with elegant decor, big comfy sofas, an elite clientele and an amazing selection of drinks. Located right on the waterfront at Al Raha Beach, it hosts live music most evenings.

Photo: Jacob Lund/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Raha Beach Hotel, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 12:00-2:00

Phone: +971 2 508 0555

Internet:

www.alrahabeach.danathotels.com/en/black-pearl.html

Email: fmb.alraha@danathotels.com

More Info: Located at the Al Raha Beach Hotel

SHOPPING



Corrado Baratta/Shutterstock.com

Whether you choose to haggle for a bargain at a bustling market – otherwise known as a souk – or spend time in a lavish air conditioned mall just off the Corniche, shopping in Abu Dhabi will be a memorable experience.

Traditional purchases include carpets, rugs, textiles, gold and spices, all of which can be found in dedicated souks where lots of stalls selling the same thing are grouped together. An example is the Gold Souk, not far from the Sheikh Rashid Bin Saeed Al-Maktoum Street. Such items can be found in general souks too, or in specialist shops.

Souks are also good for finding antiques or craft items to take home as souvenirs. In contrast, the shopping malls tend to be full of expensive jewellery and designer fashion.

The Galleria



The beautiful, modern building of the Galleria Mall houses multiple high-end boutiques and is an oasis of tranquillity for relaxed, no-rush

shopping.

Photo: MediaGroup_BestForYou/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Maryah Island, Al Falah Street, Abu Dhabi

Phone: +971 2 616 6999

Internet: www.thegalleria.ae

More Info: Opening times, facilities and store guide:

www.thegalleria.ae/en/info

Mina Fish Market



Going to the local fish market could become an entertaining break from shopping malls during your stay in Abu Dhabi: come here to stock up on

fresh seafood and marvel at extraordinary marine creatures caught in the gulf.

Photo: lupu robert ciprian/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Meena, Abu Dhabi

Mina Fruit & Vegetable Souk



Located right opposite the Fish Market, this souk sells fresh fruit and vegetables and is a colourful, fragrant spot to stock up on high quality

foods.

Photo: Ekaterina Pokrovsky/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Meena, Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi Mall



Among the best shopping malls in the city is the Abu Dhabi Mall, where you can shop for just about anything from big brand names to more

affordable fashion labels.

Photo: oneinchpunch/Shutterstock.com

Address: Abu Dhabi Mall, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 10:00-22:00 (Saturday to Wednesday)

10:00-23:00 (Thursday, Friday)

Phone: +971 2 645 4858

Internet: www.abudhabi-mall.com

Email: info@abudhabi-mall.com

Al Ain Souk



This is the city's "Old Souk", an authentic shopping street where you're never too far from a bargain, with the right amount of persistence in

haggling, of course.

Photo: mariakraynova/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Ain Souk, Abu Dhabi

Souk Al Zafarana



This relatively new souk still manages to capture the authentic Arabian atmosphere and sells all sorts of goods: traditional clothing, spices, and

much more. The souk even features a separate section catering to women only.

Photo: Nuno Miguel Lopes/Shutterstock.com

Address: Souk Al Zafarana, Abu Dhabi

Marina Mall



The Marina Mall, in The Corniche, is another excellent mall located on the waterfront. Shopping and entertainment options abound.

Photo: nd3000/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Corniche, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 10:00-22:00 (Saturday to Wednesday)

10:00-24:00 (Thursday, Friday)

Phone: +971 2 681 8300

Internet: www.marinamall.ae

Email: info@marinamall.ae

Virgin Megastore



Virgin Megastore is the music-lovers' paradise: all sorts of records, including vinyl, are on sale here, along with video games, electronic gadgets and all sorts of related accessories.

Other Virgin Megastores in Abu Dhabi:

- Al Wahda Mall: Hazza Bin Zayed Street, Abu Dhabi / +971 2 445 3327

- YAS Mall: Yas Island, Abu Dhabi / +971 2 565 1319

Photo: Alexandra Thompson/Shutterstock.com

Address: Abu Dhabi Mall, Al Zahiya Area, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 10:00-22:00 (Sunday to Wednesday)

10:00-23:00 (Thursday to Saturday)

Phone: +971 2 644 7882

Internet: www.virginmegastore.ae

City Mall



The City Mall, which is located in the north of the city, near the Mosque Gardens, and is a great place to find traditional crafts.

Photo: michaeljung/Shutterstock.com

Address: Madinat Zayed, Abu Dhabi

Opening hours: 10:00-23:00 (Sunday to Thursday)

10:00-24:00 (Friday, Saturday)

Phone: +971 2 667 9900

Internet: www.citymalluae.com

Email: info@citymalluae.com

Borders Bookstore



This compact bookstore includes a variety of English-language books neatly organised and easy to navigate.

Photo: Don Pablo/Shutterstock.com

Address: Al Wahda Mall, Abu Dhabi

Phone: +971 2 658 4181

Internet: www.alwahda-mall.com/borders

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



Andrzej Kubik/Shutterstock.com

Passport/Visa



Citizens of the Gulf Cooperation Member states, along with nationals of most EU countries along with the USA, Canada, Australia,

New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia, South Korea and Brunei are eligible to receive an entry visa upon arrival the Abu Dhabi Airport (free of charge, onward journey tickets may be requested). Nationals of other countries will require an entry visa, which can be pre-arranged by the visitor's travel agency, hosting hotel, or Etihad Airways (if one happens to be flying in with the airline). If none of those are viable options, a visa can also be applied for via a local UAE embassy.

Always make sure you have an up-to-date passport. If you need any further information, and in order to avoid migration complications, it is recommended to contact the embassy or consulate in your country or the one closest to you.

Photo: TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com

Internet: www.abudhabi.ae/portal/public/en/homepage/labour-law-and-employment/work-entry-permits-business/getting-a-visa-for-abu-dhabi

Abu Dhabi International Airport



Flights arrive into Abu Dhabi International Airport from around the world. The airport, the second largest in the United Arab Emirates,

lies over just 30 kilometres from the city centre, and has a full range of facilities for travellers and three main roads which will make it very easy to find: 2nd Street (Sheikh Rashid Al Maktoum

Street), 8th Street (Salam Street) and 30th Street (Khaleej Al Arabi Street).

An efficient bus service is provided: A1 buses connect the airport and the city, while the 490 buses connect the airport with Al Ain. They both run at 40 minute intervals and the journeys take approximately 45 minutes. Bus stops are indicated with blue and white signs. A shuttle service connecting the airport terminals is also available.

Abu Dhabi Airport taxis are available for journeys to and from the airport, just outside of it. For more information about fares and the limousine service, check out this page: www.abudhabiairport.ae/english/to-and-from-the-airport/services/taxis.aspx.

If you're interested in renting a car, there are several possibilities to do it. Every car rental company is located in Skypark Plaza, very close to terminals 1 and 3. You will find their contacts here: www.abudhabiairport.ae/english/to-and-from-the-airport/information/car-rental.aspx.

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: Abu Dhabi International Airport, Abu Dhabi

Phone: +971 2 505 5555

Internet: www.abudhabiairport.ae

Best Time to Visit



Winter is the best period to come to Abu Dhabi in terms of weather: temperatures are not too hot and not too humid, which makes this the

peak season. It is advisable to avoid the extremely hot summer months, although hotel rates are at their lowest then and not many tourists will be visiting the city. Abu Dhabi can

be doable in spring, between April and May, or fall, from September to October, both periods marked by pleasant weather, with prices starting to decrease in springtime, but on the rise in the fall season, as winter approaches. Also, many sporting and cultural events are held between April and May.

Photo: VectorA/Shutterstock.com

Public Transport



The public bus system is quite well-developed in Abu Dhabi. Blue and white coloured buses run through the city regularly and tickets are available

in the form of re-loadable "Halifat" Smartcards, that may be purchased from ticket vending machines located at multiple locations throughout the city (bus stations and stops, DOT Customer Service Centers). Hold your card next to a card reader installed inside the bus for validation upon entry and exit.

A ferry service is provided by DOT: on many ferries you will be asked to show a valid ID and, in general, it is recommended to arrive 30 minutes before the ferries' departure.

Another good way to travel around the city and avoid the congestion is by using the Abu Dhabi Metro, which serves a big proportion of passengers and connects the city with its suburbs.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Internet: www.dot.abudhabi.ae/en/info/Public_Transport

Email: customer.care@dot.abudhabi.ae

Taxi



Getting around Abu Dhabi is straightforward, with most visitors opting to travel in the inexpensive taxis that constantly dart around

the city. It's a simple process of flagging a taxi down, telling the driver your destination and paying the small amount required for the ride. Taxis can be booked through several companies and have regular parking slots outside hotels and shopping malls too.

Tawasul Transport

+971 2 673 4444 / info@tawasul.ae

www.tawasul.ae/english/index.php

www.facebook.com/TawasulTransport

Al Ghazal Transport

+971 2 635 6060 / taxi@adnh.com (taxis)

+971 2 634 2200 / rentacar@adnh.com (cars)

+971 2 550 2160 / bus@adnh.com (buses)

+971 2 552 8400 / limo@adnh.com (limousines)

www.alghazaltransport.ae

National Taxi

+971 2 554 2231 (operations) /

ccaah@nationaltaxi.ae

www.nationaltaxi.ae/auh

Post



There are many post offices in Abu Dhabi, which are operated by Emirates Post. The main one is the Central Post Office, located in Zayed

City close to the Gold Souk.

Photo: Andy Fuchs

Address: Zayed City, Abu Dhabi

Phone: +971 4 600 599 999

Internet: www.epg.gov.ae/portal/_en/index.xhtml;jis=2CCB1E63F62AC4FC9BA1BDAD213D2FCB

Email: custservice@epg.gov.ae

Pharmacy



Abu Dhabi has many pharmacies that open from 8:30 to 22:30, some even 24 hours. For medical emergencies call 998. Al Manara is a chain

of pharmacies located all around Abu Dhabi. You will find one here:

Al Manara Pharmacy

Marina Mall

+971 2 681 7977

marinamall@manarapharma.ae

To see the other Abu Dhabi locations, check out this link:

www.almanarapharmacy.com/abu-dhabi.htm.

Photo: Gemma Garner

Phone: +971 2 681 4644

Internet: www.almanarapharmacy.com

Email: deltamed@delta-uae.com

Telephone



Country code: 971 Area code: 2

Photo: Jardson Almeida

Electricity



220/240 volts at 50 Hz,
with square three-pin
sockets.

Photo: Stirling Tschan

Population

1,145,000 (2015)

Currency

UAE dirham Dh = 100 fils

Opening hours

The large shopping malls usually open from 10:00 to 22:00, from Saturday to Thursday, and in the afternoon on Fridays, the day of prayer. Supermarkets often open earlier and smaller shops use to close for lunch for around two to three hours. The weekend in Abu Dhabi is Friday and Saturday.

Newspapers

The National
Abu Dhabi World
Al Ittihad
Gulf News
Khaleej Times
The Gulf Today
Time Out Abu Dhabi

Emergency numbers

Police: 999
Ambulance: 998
Fire: 997
Operator: 181

Tourist information

Visit Abu Dhabi - Department of Culture and Tourism
Nation Towers Corniche, Building B, Abu Dhabi
+971 2 444 0444

www.visitabudhabi.ae / www.tcaabudhabi.ae
info@visitabudhabi.ae / info@dctabudhabi.ae



Al Falah Street	D3	Corniche Road East - 1st Street	B2 C1	Rashid Bin Saeed Al Maktoum Street	B2 B3 C3
Al Istiqlal Street	A2 B2	Corniche Road West	A2 A3 B1 B2 C1	Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammad Street	B2 C2 D1 D2
Al Meena Street	D1	East Street	C2 C3 D3	Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Street	B2 C1 C2 D1
Al Nasr Street	A3	Khaled Bin Al Waleed Street	A3 B3	Umm Al Nar Street	C1
Al Salam Street	D1 D2	Liwa Street	B2	Zayed the First Street	A3 B3
Bani Yas Street	D2	Lulu Street	C2	Zayed the Second Street	C2 C3 D2
Corniche Road	C1 D1				