

الجزيرة

Travel Guide



102nd International Selection Panel
February 18th - February 20th 2025



1. Important Travel Information

Visa & Entry Requirements

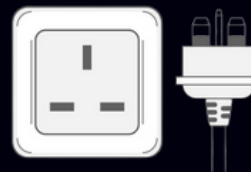
- Most nationalities can get a visa on arrival or require e-visas before travelling. Check with the UAE immigration [website](#) for details.
- Your passport must be valid for at least six months from your entry date.

Currency & Payment

- Currency: United Arab Emirates Dirham (AED)
- Credit cards are widely accepted, but carrying cash for small purchases is useful.

Mobile SIM Cards & Connectivity

- Main Providers: Du & Etisalat (Available at the airport and malls).
- Free Wi-Fi is available in malls, hotels, and metro stations.
- Adaptor: Plug Type: UK-style Type G



Airport Transfers

- Dubai International Airport (DXB) is the main airport.
- Transport options:
 - Metro: Red Line connects the airport to significant areas.
 - Taxis: Available 24/7 (cash & card accepted).
 - Ride Apps: Uber & Careem operate.



2. Good to Know

Local Dress Code & Cultural Norms

- Men: Light clothing is fine, but avoid sleeveless shirts and shorts in religious or formal settings.
- Women: Modest clothing is recommended, with shoulders and knees covered in public places. When visiting mosques, women should wear a headscarf and loose-fitting attire.
- Swimwear: Allowed at beaches, pools, and water parks but not in public areas like malls or streets.
- Public Affection: Holding hands is fine for married couples, but kissing and hugging in public can be frowned upon.

Prayer Times

- The call to prayer happens five times daily and lasts a few minutes.
- During prayer time, some businesses may pause service briefly.
- Respect religious practices: Avoid loud conversations or music near mosques during prayers.
- Fridays: The most important prayer day; expect some shops to open later in the afternoon.


Prayer Time Table

Fajr: 5:40 am
Duhur: 12:40 pm
Asr: 3:45 pm
Magrib: 6:00 pm
Isha: 7:35 pm

Behaviour

- **Tipping:** Not mandatory, but 10-15% is appreciated in restaurants.
- **Language:** Arabic is the official language, but English is widely spoken.
- **Alcohol:** Available in licensed hotels, bars, and restaurants but not in public areas.

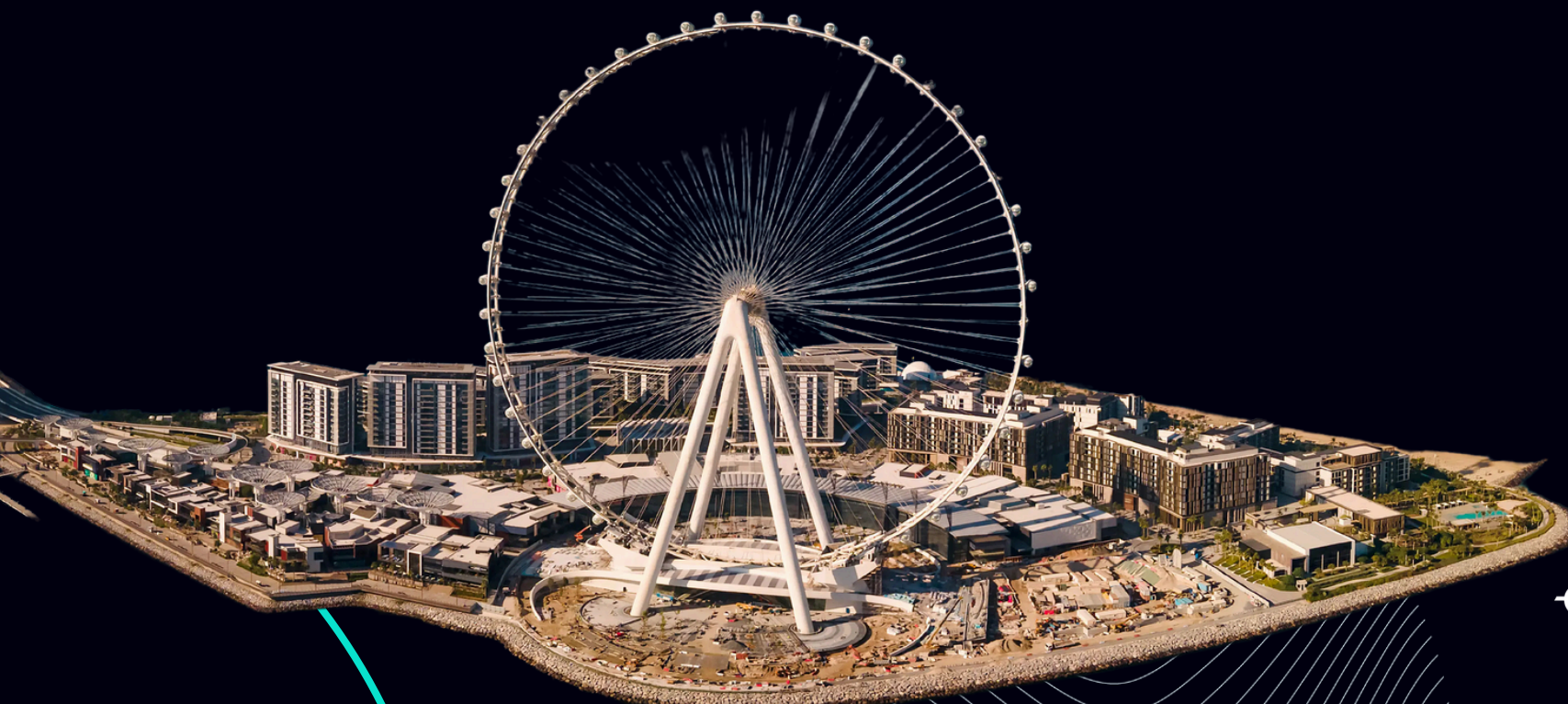
Public Behaviour:

- **Avoid PDA,** respect local dress codes, and follow cultural norms.
- **Chewing Gum & Eating in Public Transport:** Chewing gum, eating, or drinking on the Metro or public transport is not allowed.
- **Photography:**  Avoid taking pictures with drones or people, especially locals, without permission. Photographing government buildings, military sites, and public areas can have serious legal consequences.
- **Swearing & Offensive Gestures:** Using profanity, making rude gestures or insulting someone (even online) can result in fines, deportation, or jail time.



3. Top Attractions in Dubai

1. [Burj Khalifa](#) – The tallest building in the world.
2. [Dubai Mall & Fountain Show](#) – Shopping, dining, and entertainment hub.
3. [Palm Jumeirah & Atlantis](#) – Iconic man-made island.
4. [Desert Safari](#) – A thrilling dune bashing experience.
5. [Dubai Marina & JBR](#) – Beachfront dining and nightlife.
6. [Old Dubai](#) (Al Fahidi, Gold Souk, and Spice Market) – Explore the traditional side of Dubai.
7. [Museum of the Future](#) – A glimpse into the world of tomorrow.
8. [Global Village](#) – Cultural pavilions, shopping, and entertainment.
9. [Ski Dubai](#) – Indoor ski experience inside Mall of the Emirates.
10. [Ain Dubai](#) – The world's tallest observation wheel.



4. Eat & Drink in Dubai

Local Dishes to Try:

- **Shawarma** – Grilled meat wrap with sauces.
- **Mandi** – Rice and slow-cooked meat dish.
- **Luqaimat** – Sweet dumplings with date syrup.
- **Harees** – Traditional wheat and meat dish.
- **Karak Tea** – Strong spiced tea popular in Dubai.

Recommended Restaurants:

- [Al Fanar](#) – Authentic Emirati cuisine.
- [Arabian Tea House](#) – Cozy traditional spot in Al Fahidi.
- [CÉ LA VI](#) – Stunning views from Burj Khalifa.
- [3Fils](#) – Award-winning seafood restaurant.
- [Salt](#) – Popular food truck for burgers at Kite Beach.



5. Useful Arabic Phrases

- Thank you – شكرا (Shukran)
- Hello - سلام (Salaam)
- Please – من فضلك (Min Fadlak - M / Min Fadlik - F)
- Yes – نعم (Naam)
- No – لا (La)
- How much? – كم السعر (Kam al-se'ar?)
- Excuse me / Sorry – عذراً (Uthran)
- Where is – أين (Ayna)
- Good morning – صباح الخير (Sabah al-khair)
- Good evening – مساء الخير (Masa' al-khair)
- I don't understand – لا أفهم (La afham)
- Water – ماء (Maa')
- Food – طعام (Ta'am)
- Help! – النجدة! (Al-najda!)



6. Getting Around

Public Transport: Dubai's public transport is modern, clean, and safe.

- [Dubai Metro](#) – Red & Green lines connect major areas.
- Taxis – Order on **Careem** or **Uber**, Taxis can also be hailed on the road starting at AED 12.
- Buses & Trams – Efficient and affordable options.
- Car Rentals – Requires an international driving license.
- Water Taxis (Abras) – Traditional boat rides in Dubai Creek.

7. Emergency Contacts

- Police: 999
- Ambulance: 998
- Fire Department: 997
- Tourist Helpline: 800 4888
- Lost & Found (RTA): 800 9090
- Embassies: Check with your country's embassy in Dubai.



8. Weather & What to Pack

Weather Forecast

- Temperature Range: 18°C - 28°C (64°F - 82°F)
- Generally pleasant with warm afternoons and cooler evenings.
- Little chance of rain but occasional breezes.

What to Wear:

- Daytime: Light, breathable clothing (cotton, linen, or moisture-wicking fabrics).
- Evening: A light jacket or sweater for cooler temperatures.
- Shoes: Comfortable walking shoes or sandals.
- Accessories: Sunglasses, hat, and sunscreen for sun protection.
- Mosques & Religious Sites: Women should bring a scarf to cover their heads, and both men and women should wear modest attire (long pants/skirt and covered shoulders).



