

Photo: Panuvat Ueachananon/Shutterstock.com



ventdusud/Shutterstock.com

With glass skyscrapers that reflect the bustle of daily life, magnificent buildings such as the Emirates Palace, its lively sougs, excellent 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 Magtaa 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 commercial hub of the emirate of Abu Dhabi.

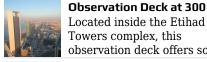


dotshock/Shutterstock.com



Aleksander Karpenko/Shutterstock.com









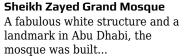




Towers complex, this observation deck offers some ... Emirates Heritage Village

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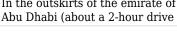
### Top 5

## Emirates Palace

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

Warner Bros. World Abu Dhabi Go back to the Stone Age with a visit to Bedrock, explore Gotham City, and S...

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Louvre Abu Dhabi The Louvre Abu Dhabi was recently established - in 2017 and is, with its 2...

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# 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

### Warner Bros. World Abu Dhabi



Go back to the Stone Age with a visit to Bedrock, explore Gotham City, and Superman's Metropolis at the Warner Bros. first indoor amusement park.

Spread across 38 acres and divided into six

lands, this is the perfect place for you to unleash your inner child on thrilling and fun rides of your favorite cartoon characters and DC heroes.

Photo: Dean Drobot/Shutterstock.com Address: Al Falah Road AE, Abu Dhabi Opening hours: Open daily from 10h - 20h Phone: +971 2 496 8008 Internet: www.wbworldabudhabi.com

### Jebel Hafeet Road and Mountain



In the outskirts of the emirate of Abu Dhabi (about a 2-hour drive from Abu Dhabi city centre), lies the Jebel Hafeet Mountain -- right

on the border shared by the UAE and Oman. Attractions are ample at the foot of the mountain, including luxury hotels with hot springs and refreshing pools, a zoo containing 4,000 animals, and caves open for exploration. An unexpected highlight is the namesake road leading here, voted 'best road on the planet' by several magazines based on its

driver-friendliness and drama of the surrounding scenery.

#### Photo: Wanancc/Shutterstock.com

Internet: visitabudhabi.ae/en/see.and.do/attractions.and.land marks/family.attractions/jebel.hafeet.aspx

#### 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: 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/jum eirah-etihad-towers/restaurants-and-bars-at-jumeirah-at-etiha d-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. 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/d ining/restaurants/mezlai 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/d ining/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/d ining/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-AU HHITW/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/d ining/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/arjaanhotelapartments/unitedarab emirates/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/a uhua/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/jum eirah-etihad-towers/restaurants-and-bars-at-jumeirah-at-etiha d-towers/rays-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

#### 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/a uhua/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: http://alrahabeach.danathotels.com/en/black-pearl.html Email: fnb.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

# **TOURIST 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/labou r-law-and-employment/work-entry-permits-business/getting-avisa-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.abu dhabiairport.ae/english/to-and-from-the-airport/s ervices/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-fro m-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) / ccauh@nationaltaxi.ae www.nationaltaxi.ae/auh

Photo: ArrivalGuides

# 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=2CCB1 E63F62AC4FC9BA1BDAD213D2FCB 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.

# Population

1,145,000

**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

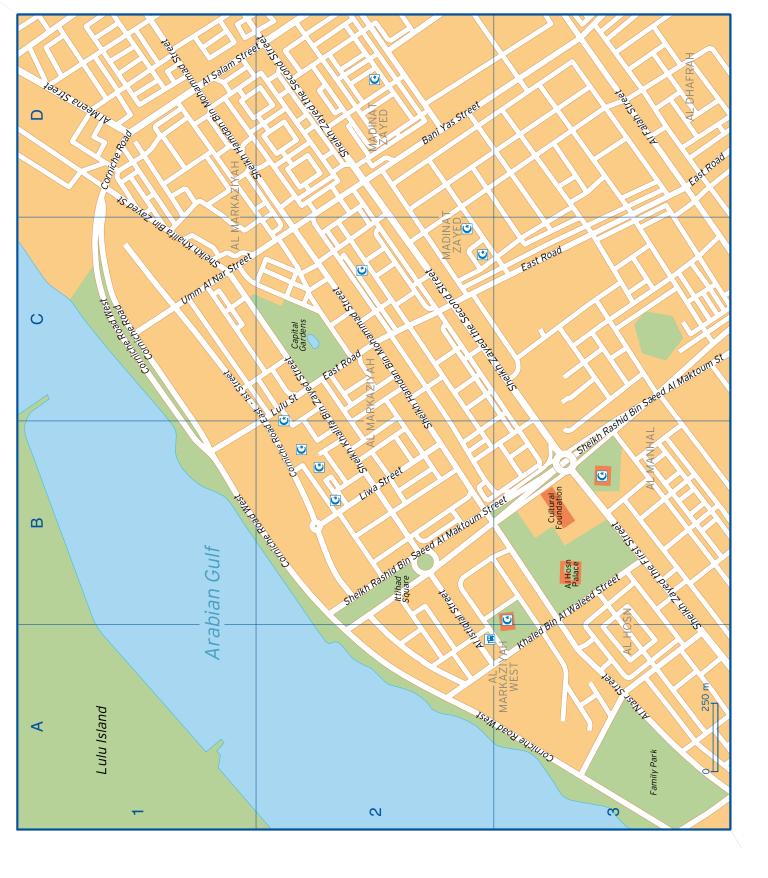
# Emergency numbers

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				