

United Arab Emirates

Travel Facts



US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens exercise increased caution in travel to the United Arab Emirates due to the threat of missile or drone attacks and terrorism.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

Passport/Visa Requirements

For the latest passport and visa requirements for this country, please consult the U.S. State Department's "Learn About Your Destination" search tool, available through the link below.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages.html>

US Embassy/Consulate

[971] (2) 414-2200; US Embassy in Abu Dhabi, Embassies District, Plot 38, Sector W59-02, Street No. 4, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.; abudhabiacs@state.gov; <https://ae.usembassy.gov/>

LGBTQIA+, Women, and Travelers with Special Needs

When venturing abroad, LGBTQ+ travelers can face unique challenges since laws, attitudes, and legal protections vary from country to country. Consult the website via the link below to learn what precautions to take before and during your trip.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations.html>

Telephone Code

971

Local Emergency Phone

998, 999

Vaccinations

The CDC and WHO recommend the following vaccinations for United Arab Emirates: hepatitis A, hepatitis B, yellow fever, typhoid, rabies, anthrax, meningitis, polio, measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), chickenpox, shingles, pneumonia, influenza, and COVID-19.

<http://www.who.int/>

Climate

Desert; cooler in eastern mountains

Currency (Code)

Emirati dirhams (AED)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

230 V / 50 Hz / plug type(s): G



Type G

Major Languages

Arabic, English, Hindi, Malayam, Urdu, Pashto, Tagalog, Persian

Major Religions

Muslim (official) (Sunni, Shia, other), Christian, Hindu, Buddhist, agnostic, other

Time Difference

UTC+4 (9 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

Potable Water

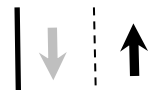
Yes, but some opt for bottled water

International Driving Permit

Suggested

Road Driving Side

Right



Tourist Destinations

Dubai (includes Burj Khalifa (world's tallest building), Burj-al-Arab Hotel (world's tallest hotel), Dubai Creek Dhow Ride, Dubai Museum); Jebel Ha feet; Bastakia; Al-Bidyah Mosque; Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilization; Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque; Al Ain

Major Sports

Soccer, cricket, tennis, table tennis

Cultural Practices

For men, the traditional Emirati greeting is the khushmak, or touching of the noses. Women greet each other by shaking hands and giving a kiss on the cheek. Kissing the top of the head is also a common way of greeting in the UAE.

Members of the opposite gender should not embrace unless they are closely related.

Tipping Guidelines

Even if there is a service charge, tip the waiter 10-15% of the total bill. Many Dubai residents choose to tip taxi and hail-riding services 5-10 dirhams or to round up the fare.

Souvenirs

Silk pashminas, leather goods, perfumes, gold and silver items

Traditional Cuisine

Kabsa (or Al Machboos) — chopped meat, fried onions, salt, other spices, and dried lemon served with rice cooked in the broth from the meat mixture

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