



# INFO SHEET

## Family Travel in Dubai

With an exciting mix of things to do for kids and adults alike, Dubai is the ultimate family friendly holiday destination.

Many of the hotels in Dubai happily cater for children with dedicated pools, clubs and playgrounds, along with specialised programs and activities to keep the younger members of the family entertained! These hotels have swimming pools for children to splash around in all day, others have tennis courts and sporting facilities including exciting water based activities such as banana boating, parasailing or surfing. Hotels that cater to families can also organise a babysitting service.

Outside of your hotel, Dubai offers a large range of family-focused attractions, events and activities to choose from.

### Dubai's best family experiences

- **Burj Khalifa** Shoot to the top of the world's tallest building in high speed elevators (traveling at 10 metres per second... faster than an Olympic sprinter in full-flow!) to take you up to the 124th floor observation deck 'At The Top' of the Burj Khalifa. The unobstructed 360 degree view of the city, desert and sea is a great starting point that will help you gather your bearings and decide which attractions you'll head off to next. For the VIP experience, enjoy the new luxury Sky Lounge on 148<sup>th</sup> floor.
- **Kidzania**, a huge city-like complex, is a place where children can get a taste of the adult world through roleplaying their future careers... which should help to answer the age old question: "What do you want to be when you grow up?".
- **Dubai Mall** is also home to an Olympic sized **ice rink** where kids could play ice hockey or even attend a disco on ice! Alternatively, the **SEGA Republic** indoor theme park offers five zones of entertainment for all ages.
- **The Lost Chambers** fantastical labyrinth of underwater halls, passageways and fish tanks recreates the legend of the lost city of Atlantis. Some 65,000 exotic marine creatures inhabit aquariums, where rays flutter and jellyfish dance, moray eels lurk, and pretty but poisonous lion fish float.



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- **Wadi bashing:** Many visitors to Dubai are often surprised that, in addition to the rolling sand dunes and world-class beaches, the city is just a short drive away from the impressive Hajar Mountains. These mountains play host to one of the locals' favourite past times – 'wadi bashing'. 'Wadi' is the Arabic word for valleys or dry riverbeds formed by streams that flow through the mountain range. A bumpy 4x4 drive through the **wadis** (or 'wadi bashing') is great fun - and isolated rock pools filled with fresh mountain water provide the perfect place to cool off.
- **Dubai Fountain** in the huge, 30-acre Burj Khalifa Lake stands in the shadows of the world's tallest building and shoots water jets as high as 150 metres. Accompanied by music, the marvellous water and light show can be seen from more than 30 kilometres away.
- **Dolphin Bay:** An up-close encounter with a dolphin - one of the world's most amazing and graceful creatures – is an once-in-a-lifetime experience. At **Dolphin Bay**, in the world-famous Atlantis resort on the man-made wonder that is the **Palm Jumeirah**, all members of the family can get up-close to these wonderful animals, playing games and, of course, getting a photograph to remember the experience.
- **The Desert:** With miles upon miles of fine red sand, Dubai's **desert** 'outback' features striking rolling sand dunes and an unforgettable sense of timelessness. Aside from the breathtaking scenery, the sandy slopes create the ideal backdrop for thrill seekers – either by racing through the sandy dunes in four-wheel drives or skiing and boarding down the powdery sand.
- **Ski Dubai:** One of the coolest things to do in Dubai is to ski in desert! **Ski Dubai** in the Mall of the Emirates is one of Dubai's landmark attractions and the Middle East's first indoor ski resort. It's a great attraction for all the family and offers different levels of ski runs and snowboarding courses.
- **Aquaventure** water park at Atlantis, one of the world's most advanced water-attractions, which features huge slides, 'Master Blasters', rivers, rapids, a dedicated children's play area, lush tropical landscapes and a private beach.
- **Dubai Aquarium:** Stand back and enjoy the tranquillity of more than 33,000 fishes from 140 species swimming through the 10-million litre **Dubai Aquarium** in **Dubai Mall**. The huge tank is the largest suspended aquarium in the world and the **Underwater Zoo** is the best spot to observe it from. You can even jump in and swim with the fishes!



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- **Wild Wadi:** For more wet and wild adventures, **Wild Wadi** waterpark has more than 30 rides and attractions for all the family. It is themed around the tale of Juha, a good friend of Sinbad the Sailor and a known character from Arabian folklore.
- **Beaches:** Enjoy the calm turquoise waters of the Arabian Gulf at Dubai's beaches. For a few dirhams, try **Jumeirah Beach Park**, with lifeguards on duty, a children's play area, barbecues and picnic tables; or **Al-Mamzar Beach Park**, one of Dubai's hidden gems for kids with play areas, plus three pools with waterslides for cooling off. Other free beaches include the popular **Jumeirah Open Beach**; **Kite Beach**, a quiet and pristine stretch of sand with no facilities; and **Umm Suqueim Beach**, with fabulous views of the Burj al-Arab.
- **Parks:** **Creekside Park** has playgrounds, gardens, kiosks, restaurants and a 2.5km cable-car ride for fabulous vistas of the park and waterfront. Kids naturally gravitate to Children's City, a learning centre jam-packed with interactive exhibits that playfully explain scientific concepts, the human body, space exploration and natural wonders. Or, **Za'abeel Park**, which has gorgeous lakes, ponds, a jogging track, a skateboard park, a BMX track and fabulous views of the Sheikh Zayed Rd skyline make this park perfect for families. Also here is Stargate, a space-themed amusement park with five domed buildings (named Earth, Moon, Saturn, Mars and UFO) where they can race go-karts, ride a roller coaster, take a spin on a small ice rink or watch 3D movies.
- **Theme parks:** **IMG Worlds of Adventure** is Dubai's first mega themed entertainment destination promising visitors from around the world the excitement of four epic adventure zones in one location. Two of the four zones represent renowned global brands Cartoon Network and MARVEL, while IMG Boulevard and the Lost Valley – Dinosaur Adventure zones are original concepts created by the IMG Group. **Dubai Parks & Resorts** provides three parks: **Bollywood parks**, A celebration of Mumbai's legendary film industry in 5 zones inspired by Bollywood blockbusters. **Legoland** is where awesome awaits for families looking for a great day out, or the ultimate shortbreak experience. Legoland is bursting with interactive family rides, live shows, building workshops, and amazing attractions, including awe-inspiring Miniland areas reflecting iconic buildings and attractions from the Resort location – all built using the iconic Lego brick. **Motiongate** is the Middle East's first Hollywood inspired Themepark, with rides and attractions based on popular shows and movies.



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- **Trampoline Parks:** Bounce and Jump box are trampoline parks where the floor is the wall and gravity doesn't exist. With more than 100 interconnected trampolines housed within huge, colorful spaces, trampoline parks are a spring-loaded urban playground where hard surfaces are replaced with circus-grade sponge, giant air bags and springs.
- **Global Village:** Global Village is Dubai's leading family entertainment and cultural attraction with a unique shopping experience at 30 pavilions each representing a different country. Global Village also offers a variety of dining options from different cuisines, along with thrill rides and children rides at the Fantasy Island.
- **Indoor skydiving:** iFLY Dubai is an indoor skydiving experience that makes controlled human flight a reality. Flying at iFly Dubai takes you up to four meters in the air with an instructor guiding you through your sessions. The air conditioned tunnel keeps you cool while you "fall" for a longer time than any natural descent like bungee jumping and sky diving.
- **Dubai Aqua Park, The Beach:** The Dubai Aqua Park is a large inflatable obstacle course in the water opposite Jumeirah Beach Residence. Packed with slides, swings, blockades, bumps and even monkey bars, it's thirsty work making your way around the 2,500 sq m site, which can be found a little under 100m offshore. Measuring in at a staggering 77m long and 35m wide, making it, of course, the largest in the Middle East. The park is shaped into the Dubai Logo.
- **Citywalk:** Citywalk is an ideal outdoor destination providing the ultimate lifestyle experience with its unique mix of innovative retail and upscale gourmet outlets. City Walk offers a variety of high-end lifestyle options in the retail, grooming, wellness and F&B sectors comprising leading international brands. There's also a mini themepark, Hub Zero, where the kids can play, as well as Green Planet which is an indoor rainforest.



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- **Dubai Safari Park:** The Animal Exhibits are geographically distributed over a number of main villages, the visitors are transported between the major attractions by eco-friendly solar powered vehicles to guarantee a unique experience; the project consists of 8 major Zones that include, Arabian safari, Asian Village, African Village and Safari Village.
- **Dubai Frame:** The concept reflects a journey through time, starting at the mezzanine level, where visitors enter into an immersive experience representing the Past history. Projections, mist effects, smells, and motion create the immersive mood setting of the space. After that, the visitors are directed to the second experience on the Sky deck level that represents the Present of Dubai. The visitors will experience uninterrupted views of Dubai from all sides. “Old Dubai” to the north, and “New Dubai” to the south.