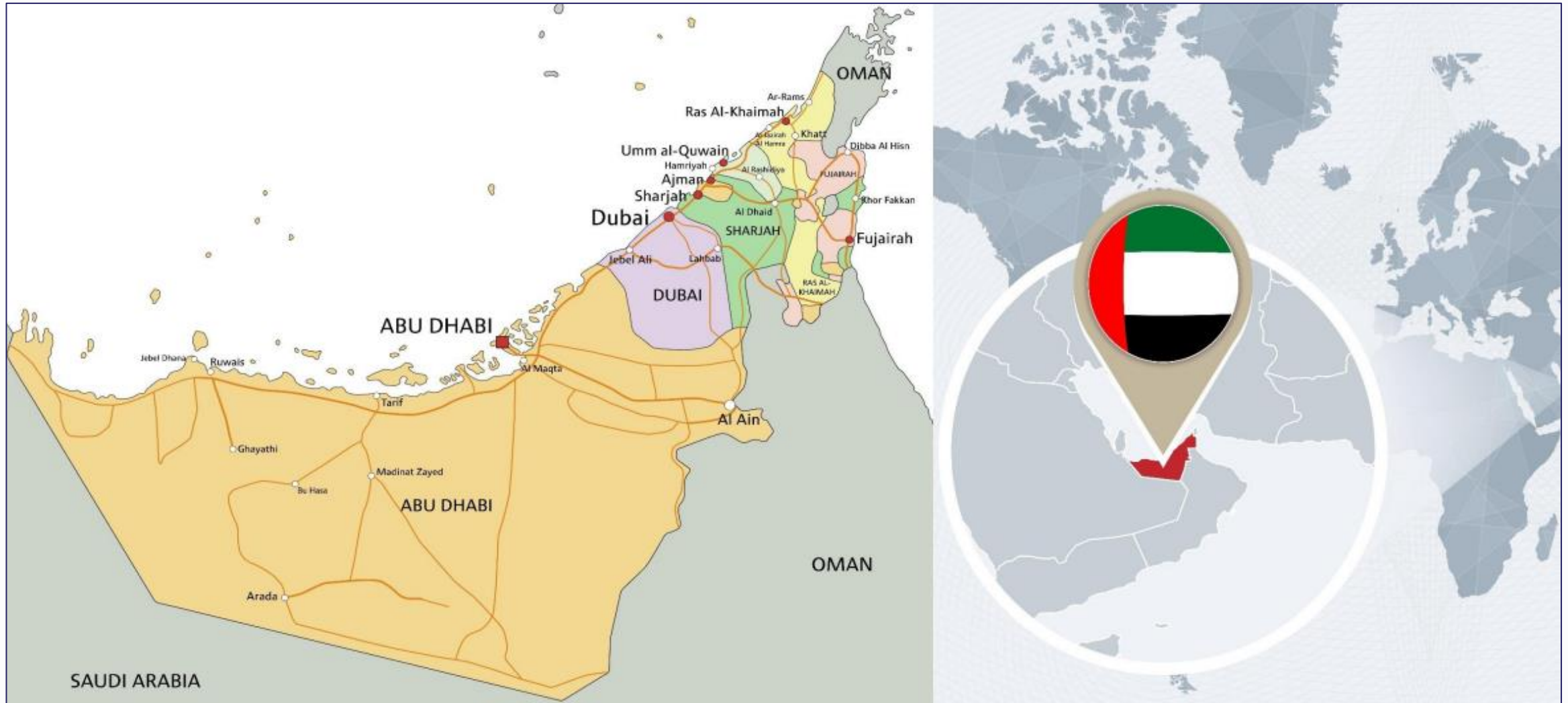


# DESTINATION ABU DHABI





# ABU DHABI, CAPITAL OF THE UAE



# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

## DESTINATION ABU DHABI

### Location

Abu Dhabi is the largest of the seven emirates that make up the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

### Capital

Abu Dhabi is the capital of the UAE and is a fascinating archipelago made up of over 200 islands.

### Geography

The emirate of Abu Dhabi is divided into three regions: Abu Dhabi city and surrounds, Al Ain and Al Dhafra.

### Time

+4 hours Greenwich Mean Time with no daylight saving.

### Population

The population of Abu Dhabi is approximately 3 million, 20% Emirati citizens and 80% expatriates from around the world.

### Language

Arabic is the official language, although English is widely spoken and most road and shop signs, as well as restaurant menus, are in both languages.

### Religion

Islam is the official religion of the UAE and Abu Dhabi is tolerant of other religions with people being free to practise their religious beliefs.

### Currency

The UAE dirham (AED or Dhs), which is divided into 100 fils and is pegged against the US dollar (1 USD = AED 3.6725).

### Power Outlets

Abu Dhabi uses the same type of plug as the United Kingdom: square three-pin sockets with an electricity supply of 220/240 volts at 50 Hz (Type G).

### Basic Arabic

Hi: Salam  
Good morning: Sabah el kheer  
Welcome! Marhaba  
Thank you (very much)!: Shukran (jazeelan)  
You're welcome! (for thank you): Afwan  
Goodbye: Ma'a salama

# ICONIC LANDMARKS



## SHEIKH ZAYED GRAND MOSQUE

Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque is an iconic and unique house of worship and is the UAE's largest mosque.

Non-Muslims cannot enter mosques in UAE, but Sheikh Zayed Mosque is an exception and accepts visitors with daily guided tours every day.

It can accommodate more than 41,000 worshippers.



## LOUVRE ABU DHABI A UNIVERSAL MUSEUM

Designed by Jean Nouvel, displays permanent galleries and temporary exhibitions.

Includes a children's museum, rooftop café and Michelin star chef at Fouquet's restaurant.

*\*Image courtesy of Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi*



## QASR AL HOSN

Qasr Al Hosn, also known as the White Fort, is the oldest stone building in the city, and as such has become a symbol of Emirati heritage, culture, and tradition.

The iconic fort opened to the public in late 2018, showcasing a range of historical artefacts, photographs, and Memorabilia.



## QASR AL WATAN

Qasr Al Watan - 'Palace of the Nation', the new cultural landmark in Abu Dhabi.

Boasts of seven zones showcasing: Presidential Gifts, Spirit of Collaboration, A Memory from the Palace, The Great Hall, The Presidential Banquet, House of Knowledge and the Qasr Al Watan Library.



# ACTIVITIES



## YAS ISLAND

AN ENTERTAINMENT DESTINATION

CLYMB: Yas Island's newest attraction

Warner Bros. World™ Abu Dhabi

Ferrari World Abu Dhabi: The world's first Ferrari-brand theme park

Yas Waterworld: Award-winning waterpark

Yas Marina Circuit: Hosts the annual F1 Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix



## JUBAIL MANGROVE PARK

ABU DHABI'S LATEST ATTRACTION

First self-contained educational, nature and leisure destination of its kind.

Cultural and ecological information on the trees in the region.

Focused on protection and preservation of the natural habitat and wildlife.

Open daily: 8 am to 6:30 pm

Kayak tours through the mangroves are also available.



## DUNE BASHING DESERT EXPERIENCE

Dune bashing is a fantastic way to explore Abu Dhabi's soaring dunes and impressive sand valleys.

Dune-bashing experiences also feature camel rides, sandboarding, henna painting, trying on traditional clothing, falcon and sometimes saluki (desert hunting dog) shows, and belly-dancing performances.

*\*Image courtesy of Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi*

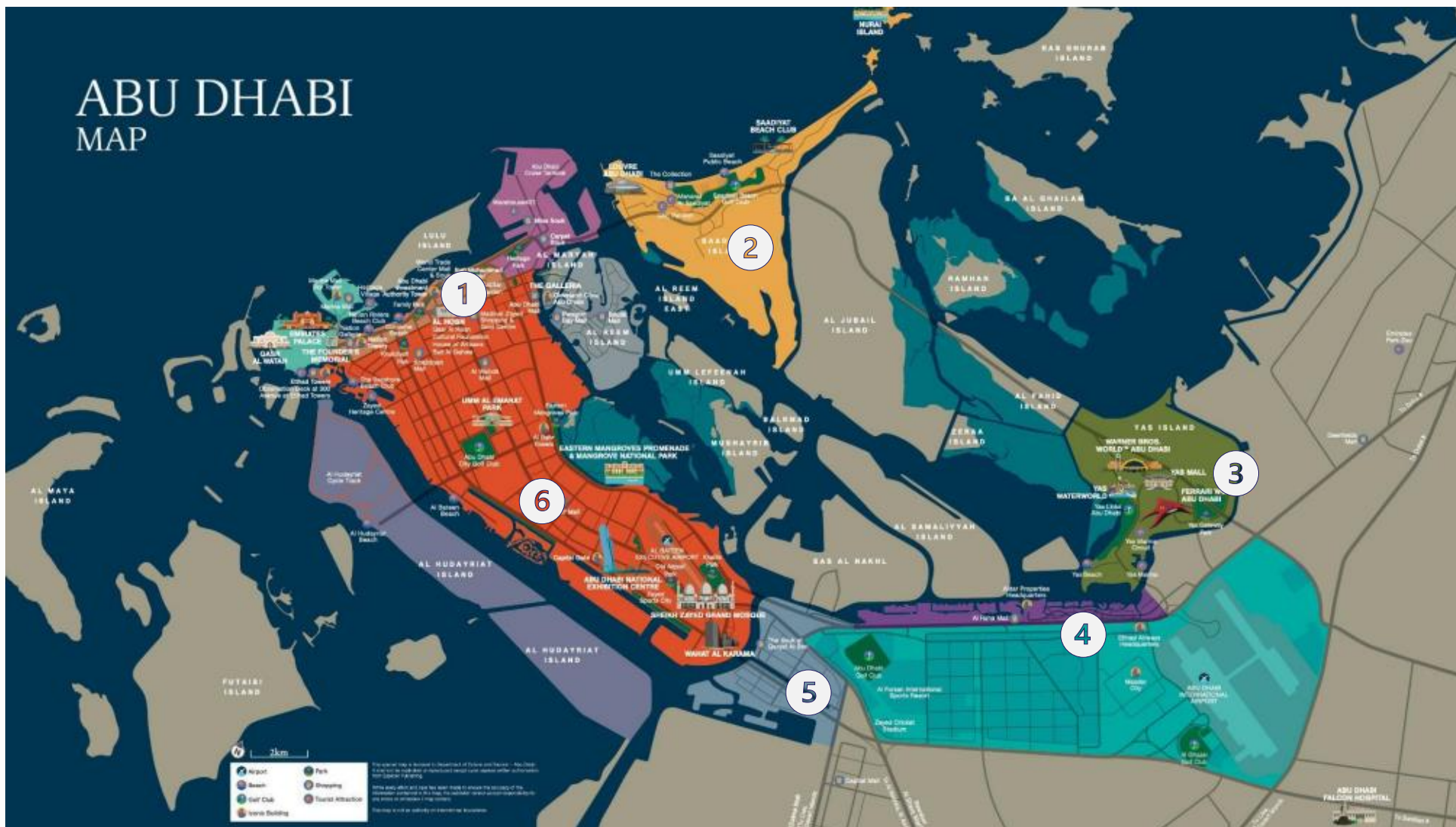


## PEARL DIVING

Abu Dhabi's history is deeply connected to the sea and the pearling industry contributed to the economic growth of the UAE.

The world's oldest-known natural pearl, which was 8,000 years old, was found in Abu Dhabi in 2019.

Tours are hosted on traditional pearling dhows, while Emirati guides explain how the country's forefathers dived for and traded pearls, the crew sing traditional songs and guests are given the chance to dive for pearls followed by a meal onboard.





# THE CORNICHE

The Corniche is 8 km long, and includes children's play areas, separate cycle and pedestrian pathways, restaurants, cafés and the Corniche Beach.

**Where to stay:** 20+ hotels, ranging from 3-5\* offering luxury rooms or serviced apartments

**What to do:** Walk/Cycle along the Corniche, enjoy a Golden Cappuccino at Emirates Palace, visit Marina mall, enjoy the spectacular view from Observation Deck at 300 (the highest vantage point in Abu Dhabi), go parasailing or skydiving, relax on the beach, visit the Heritage Village and marvel at one of the worlds tallest flagpoles

**Where to eat:** From cafes along the Corniche to fine dining restaurants, there is plenty on offer, including a revolving restaurant and high tea at Emirates Palace or Observation Deck at 300

**Suitable for:** Business travelers, families and couples

**Distance from Airport:** 30 minutes





# SAADIYAT ISLAND

Saadiyat Island in Abu Dhabi offers an enticing mix of things to do, including arts and culture.

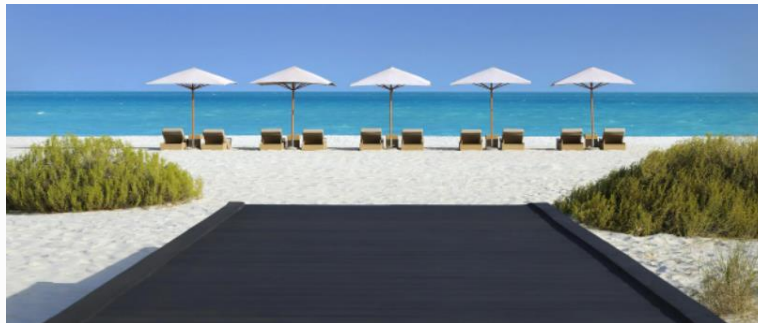
**Where to stay:** renowned for its 5\* accommodation, with 5 luxury properties to choose from and Zaya Nurai located on a private island (10 minutes away by speedboat)

**What to do:** Visit Louvre Abu Dhabi and Manarat Al Saadiyat , enjoy a round of golf at the Saadiyat Beach Golf Club, relax on the beach at Mamsha Al Saadiyat's Soul Beach or at the Saadiyat Beach Club

**Where to eat:** Mamsha Al Saadiyat offers more than 10 F&B outlets along a pristine strip of beachfront, each hotel has several dining outlets from pool bars to sports bars and casual restaurants to fine dining options

**Suitable for:** Couples and families

**Distance from Airport:** 30 minutes





# YAS ISLAND

This landmark, family-friendly entertainment hub is the perfect place to bring kids (from toddler to teen), thrill seekers and those looking to unwind. Yas Island is the ideal location for a fun-filled holiday by the sea.

**Where to stay:** Yas Island offers a choice of 10 hotels ranging from 3-5\* including the worlds first Warner Bros themed hotel

**What to do:** Yas Island is home to an F1™ racetrack (on certain days of the week you can walk/run/cycle around the track), several theme parks (CLYMB, Warner Bros. World™ Abu Dhabi, Ferrari World Abu Dhabi (the world's first Ferrari-brand theme park) and the award-winning Yas Waterworld, an incredible links golf course, beautiful beach, stunning hotels, an impressive mall and the new Etihad Arena

**Opening soon:** Sea World Abu Dhabi

**Where to eat:** Pier 71 offers more than 10 F&B outlets, Yas Marina offers several more F&B options, and each hotel has several bars and restaurants

**Suitable for:** Families, business travelers and couples

**Distance from Airport:** 15 minutes







## AIRPORT & SURROUNDING AREAS

The Abu Dhabi Airport, Khalifa City and surrounding areas includes one of the world's most sustainable urban communities amongst other residential areas.

**Where to stay:** There are several options to choose from including hotels located along the Al Raha beach, on the golf course (at the Abu Dhabi Golf Club) and at the airport

**What to do:** Choose from a variety of activities at the Al Forsan International Sports Resort including; motorsports, paintball, water sports, equestrian, shooting, archery and more, play a round of golf at the Abu Dhabi Golf Club and experience Masdar City - one of the world's most sustainable urban communities

**Where to eat:** Between two Marriott managed 5\* hotels there are 11 F&B options to choose from, there are cafes, coffee shops and food trucks scattered across the area with different cuisines to try

**Suitable for:** Business travelers, families and couples

**Distance from Airport:** 10 minutes



# GRAND CANAL (AL MAQTA)

Al Maqta Bridge was built in 1968 and was the first to connect the Abu Dhabi island to the mainland, this area is offers spectacular views of the canal and the iconic Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque.

**Where to stay:** There are 7 hotels to choose from, ranging from 3-5\*, with majority offering private beaches and

**What to do:** Visit the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, enjoy boat rides across the canal and other water sports, relax on the beach, shop at The Souk Qaryat Al Beri and visit Al Qana, which features The National Aquarium

**Opening soon:** Traditional Souq

**Where to eat:** Each of the hotels offers several F&B options, there is also The Souk Qaryat Al Beri and The Venetian Village (located near the Ritz-Carlton Abu Dhabi Hotel) that offer additional dining options

**Suitable for:** Business travelers, couples and families

**Distance from Airport:** 15 minutes



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# ABU DHABI ISLAND

Abu Dhabi city itself is on an island, 250 metres (820 feet) from the mainland. There are a number of bridges that connect it to the mainland and other islands, including Saadiyat Island and Reem Island.

**Where to stay:** 30+ hotels, ranging from 3-5\* offering luxury rooms or serviced apartments

**What to do:** Visit the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, Qasr Al Hosn, Qasr Al-Watan, shop at malls or traditional shopping centers (including the World Trade Centre Souk), relax at Umm Al Emarat Park, attend exhibitions at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, play a round of golf at the Abu Dhabi City Golf Club, Kayak in the mangroves and explore the surrounding Abu Dhabi islands

**Where to eat:** With an abundance of hotels (each offering their own F&B outlets) there are hundreds of options to choose from, there are street side cafes, coffee shops, food trucks and mall dining options

**Suitable for:** Business travelers, families and couples

**Distance from Airport:** 20-30 minutes





# DISCOVER MORE - A FEW HOURS FROM ABU DHABI CITY

ADDITIONAL POPULAR AREAS WITHIN THE ABU DHABI EMIRATE



## LIWA DESERT

**Where to stay:** Qasr Al Sarab Desert Resort by Anantara

**What to do:** desert drives & walks, camel trekking, horse riding, fat biking, archery, falcon & saluki shows, sand boarding, kids & teens clubs, activities and excursions and spa & wellness facilities

**Suitable for:** Families and couples

**Distance from Abu Dhabi:** 2 hours



## AL AIN CITY

**Where to stay:** 10+ hotels and resorts to choose from, ranging from 4-5\*

**What to do:** Al Ain Oasis, Qasr Al Muwaiji, Al Jahili Fort, Al Qattara Arts Centre, Al Ain Zoo, drive up Jebel Hafit, Wadi Adventure Park and more

**Suitable for:** Families and couples

**Distance from Abu Dhabi:** 1.5 hours

*\*Image courtesy of Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi*



## SIR BANI YAS ISLAND

**Where to stay:** Choose from 3 Anantara properties, 1 resort and 2 properties that offer villa only accommodation

**What to do:** nature & wildlife drive, archery, mountain biking, nature & wadi walk, discover conservation, culture & history tour, falcon show, horse riding, mangrove & sea kayaking, paddle boarding and spa & wellness facilities

**Suitable for:** Families and couples

**Distance from Abu Dhabi:** 3 hour drive followed by a 20 minute boat journey

*\*Image courtesy of Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi*



