

Dubai Fact Sheet

Important facts to consider when planning your trip to Dubai.

Currency

Dirhams (AED or Dhs)

Banks

Many International banks have branches in Dubai, as well as exchange services.

Credit Cards

American Express, Diner's Club, Visa and Master Card are widely accepted throughout Dubai in shops, hotels, restaurants and other establishments.

Language

Arabic is the national language. English is widely spoken and understood, as well as Hindi and Farsi. The two main business languages are English and Arabic.

Water

Although tap water is safe since it is desalinated, tourists and residents consume bottled mineral water.

Photography

Do not take pictures of Arab nationals, unless permission is granted.

Safety

Dubai is known worldwide for its safety. Nonetheless, one still needs to take precautionary measures. Although Dubai is very open compared to other Emirates, it is still predominantly a Muslim city. Laws and regulations must be adhered to by tourists and residents.

Emergency Numbers

Police 999 | Ambulance 998 | Fire 997

Alcohol

Available in licensed areas (certain hotels, restaurants and bars). Legal drinking age is 21. You cannot purchase alcohol without a license.

Ramadan

During Ramadan, between sunrise to sunset, it is suggested that non-Muslims respect the traditions of Muslims living in Dubai. Do not eat, chew gum, drink, smoke or swear in public.

Electricity

220 volts AC, 50Hz

Weather

Subtropical arid climate and sunny most of the year. Summer months (June- August) get extremely humid and hot with an average temperature of up to 41C, however it can reach up to 50C. During the Winter (December - February) the weather is around 24C.

Time

4 hours ahead of GMT.

Dress Code

Dubai is a cosmopolitan city, however we would still advise you with the following in respect of local customs and norms.

- Do not wear very short or tight attire
- When visiting the Malls do not wear shorts with strappy tops
- Only wear beach attire when at the beach
- Cover your shoulders when visiting the traditional parts of the city

In Emirates outside of Dubai, modest attire is required due to the traditional and conservative way of living.

