



5 DAY ITINERARY

Couples

A growing number of couples are heading to Dubai to experience all that the emirate has to offer – from shopping, to world-class spas, top culinary dining experiences and breathtaking sights and unsurpassed facilities. With the combination of beach and desert at such close quarters to the city there is something to suit everyone's taste.

Dubai is a world-leading shopping destination with over 50 shopping malls, boasting a variety of retail outlets selling tax free items. With everything from high-street to a range of local stores and designer boutiques including a branch of Harvey Nichols. Once the shopping is done, couples visiting Dubai can enjoy some of the world's finest restaurants in stunning surroundings. Some of the world's best known chefs, including Gary Rhodes, Giorgio Locatelli and Nobu Matsuhisa to name but a few have opened restaurants in the emirate.

Couples are also spoilt for choice with the variety of spas in Dubai, their unique themes, style and concept treatments. Influences are drawn from the East and West and this international feel is evident with spa themes ranging from Egyptian and Thai to contemporary. Dubai's spa backdrops include the beach, city, and desert providing the perfect opportunity to relax and unwind.

Day One

Learn more about Islamic religion and culture, the Jumeirah Mosque hosts guided tours operated by the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding. This is a beautiful, intricately detailed mosque, which offers travellers the opportunity to learn more in a relaxed and open atmosphere.

Later, you can enjoy a traditional Emirati meal hosted by an Emirati at the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding. As well as enjoying the delicious meal that is accompanied by dates and Arabic coffee, the centre provides the perfect environment to ask questions and understand more host about UAE culture, traditions and customs.



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Day One Continued...

In the afternoon explore the atmosphere of Bastakiya, one of the oldest traditional Emirati neighbourhoods in Bur Dubai. Alternatively experience the emerging art scene in Dubai's new art districts. Recently becoming a focal point for contemporary Arabic art and young artists, the Al-Quoz area, is home to cutting-edge galleries including Al Serkal Ave which at first glance looks like a block of warehouse spaces but is actually home to more than 10 art galleries, creative spaces and a coffee shop. While in Al Quoz, also visit Traffic, Third Line and Meem Gallery.

Downtown, you will find local and international exhibitions at Art Space, The Empty Quarter and the XVA Gallery within the Dubai International Financial Centre.

Sitting in the shadow of the world's tallest building, the Pavilion Downtown Dubai is a contemporary art space with a view. The space includes two art galleries, a restaurant, a cinema, a library, an espresso bar, a shisha café and a lounge.

Late afternoon, enjoy the world's tallest manmade structure, the Burj Khalifa. On level 124, "At the Top", take in the breathtaking 360° view of the city, desert and ocean.

Enjoy Sunset Cocktails at At.mosphere Bar with spectacular views followed by dinner at Armani/Ristorante located in the Armani Hotel, the restaurant draws on the rich gastronomic traditions of Tuscany and other Italian regions to provide classic and authentic culinary delights.



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Day Two

Enjoy an up-close encounter with a dolphin - one of the world's most amazing and graceful creatures. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience at Dolphin Bay, in the world-famous Atlantis resort and a photograph to remember the experience is priceless!

Spend the rest of the morning relaxing and enjoying the calm turquoise waters of the Arabian Gulf at one of Dubai's beaches. Enjoy water sports such as sailing, snorkelling, parasailing, speed boating or windsurfing or take a boat trip round the Palm and the World.

Alternatively relive the ancient art of traditional pearl diving in Dubai with Jumeirah Hotels & Resorts. Dressed in traditional clothing, board an authentic dhow boat off the shores of Jebel Ali and use original pearl diving methods to collect oysters in the calm and shallow waters of the Gulf.

In the afternoon, enjoy a traditional Haman experience in one of the 42 treatment rooms or bask in steam rooms, saunas, floating baths and adventure showers and come out feeling total refreshed and revitalised at the Talise Ottoman Spa, Jumeirah Zabeel Saray

In the evening, combine dining and sightseeing by taking a romantic dhow cruise. The Bateaux Dubai is a unique boat that provides an unforgettable experience by combining fine dining and fantastic sightseeing, and the all-glass vessel offers unobstructed 360 degree views of the Dubai Creek.

Day Three

Begin the day by drifting high above the skies in the early hours of the morning in a hot air balloon set deep in the heart of the desert. Floating 3000 feet over the sands in a hot air balloon is one of the best ways to see and study the many aspects of the local landscape-the shimmering golden dunes, emerald green oases, immense blue desert skies, rare flora and fauna, and the occasional camel or two.



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Day Three continued

In the afternoon, enjoy the ‘just for you’ desert safari with trained safari guides driving 4x4 vehicles lead the thrilling journey - over dunes and through the Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve. Experience the desert on camel back deep into the heart of the desert where a secluded spot is ideal to view the desert sunset and to absorb the serenity of the sands.

A private tent lit by flaming torches and set up with piping hot food and unlimited beverages add practical touches to the ethereal dining ambience. Other traditions of local hospitality revive memories of the Arabian Nights with Bedouin style seating, aromatic water pipes, and optional arrangements such as a private vehicle, falconry show, celebratory cake, henna painting, fortune telling, or belly dance performance.

Day Four

A trip to Dubai is not complete without a day’s shopping outing. Dubai’s myriad of malls and shopping precincts offer unrivalled retail experience. The Dubai Mall is the largest mall in the world is home to more than a thousand retail outlets and features high-end designer labels and high street fashion. It is also a leisure destination with a centrepiece in the mall, the Dubai Aquarium and Underwater Zoo and offers over 150 food and beverage outlets. In the evening dine by the Dubai Fountain, the world’s largest dancing fountain in sync with classical, Arabic and world music which performs daily from 6pm.

If the Dubai Mall does not shop you out, the Mall of Emirates is also a great shopping destination offering more than 500 international brands retailing fashion, lifestyle, sports, electronics and home furnishing products. It also houses Ski Dubai, a 400m indoor ski slope and snow park. Later, 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 everyone and offers different levels of ski runs and snowboarding courses. You can even enjoy an up-close and personal experience with the snow penguins that live in a specifically built a housing area that mimics an Antarctic environment.



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Day Four continued

For a more traditional shopping experience, try Souk Al Bahar, next to Dubai Mall. This charming Arabesque mall brings an element of tradition to this vibrant, urban environment. Souk Al Bahar has over 100 shops and has a strong outdoor dining theme with more than 22 restaurants and cafés lining the waterfront promenade offering exclusive views of Burj Khalifa and The Dubai Fountain or alternatively the Souk Madinat Jumeirah is a must.

Wander through the traditional Arabian souk, past wind towers, lantern lit hallways and narrow waterways to discover the treasures hidden within, with specially selected shops, restaurants and bars to entertain throughout the day and into the night.

After a hard day of shopping, head to the Talise Spa to relax and rejuvenate. The spa is located conveniently in Madinat Jumeirah and offers couple's suites. Choose from a variety of facials, massages and body treatments using the ultimate in spa products. Relax amidst the tranquil waterways and tropical landscapes of Madinat Jumeirah and enjoy one of the restaurants in the resort after.

Day Five

Spend your final day exploring the traditional souks of the emirates by taking an Abra over the creek. You will find these souks stocked with juicy dates, fragrant herbs and spices, carved trunks, Dallahs or Arabic coffee pots, traditional daggers, goblets of marble and antique gold and silver jewellery. Some of the more popular souks include the Deira Gold Souq for gold and jewellery; the Deira Spice Souq for exotic herbs and spices; Bur Dubai Souq for textiles and trinkets.



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Day Five continued

For an indulgent end, enjoy sunset cocktails at Burj Al Arab, followed by dinner at Pierchic, Madinat Jumeirah. Stylish, serene and simply spectacular, the venue is situated at the end of a pier off Al Qasr, it's achingly romantic with amazing sunset views. Pierchic serves only the finest seafood dishes, washed down with a balmy breeze and the serene views of the Gulf's azure waters.

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