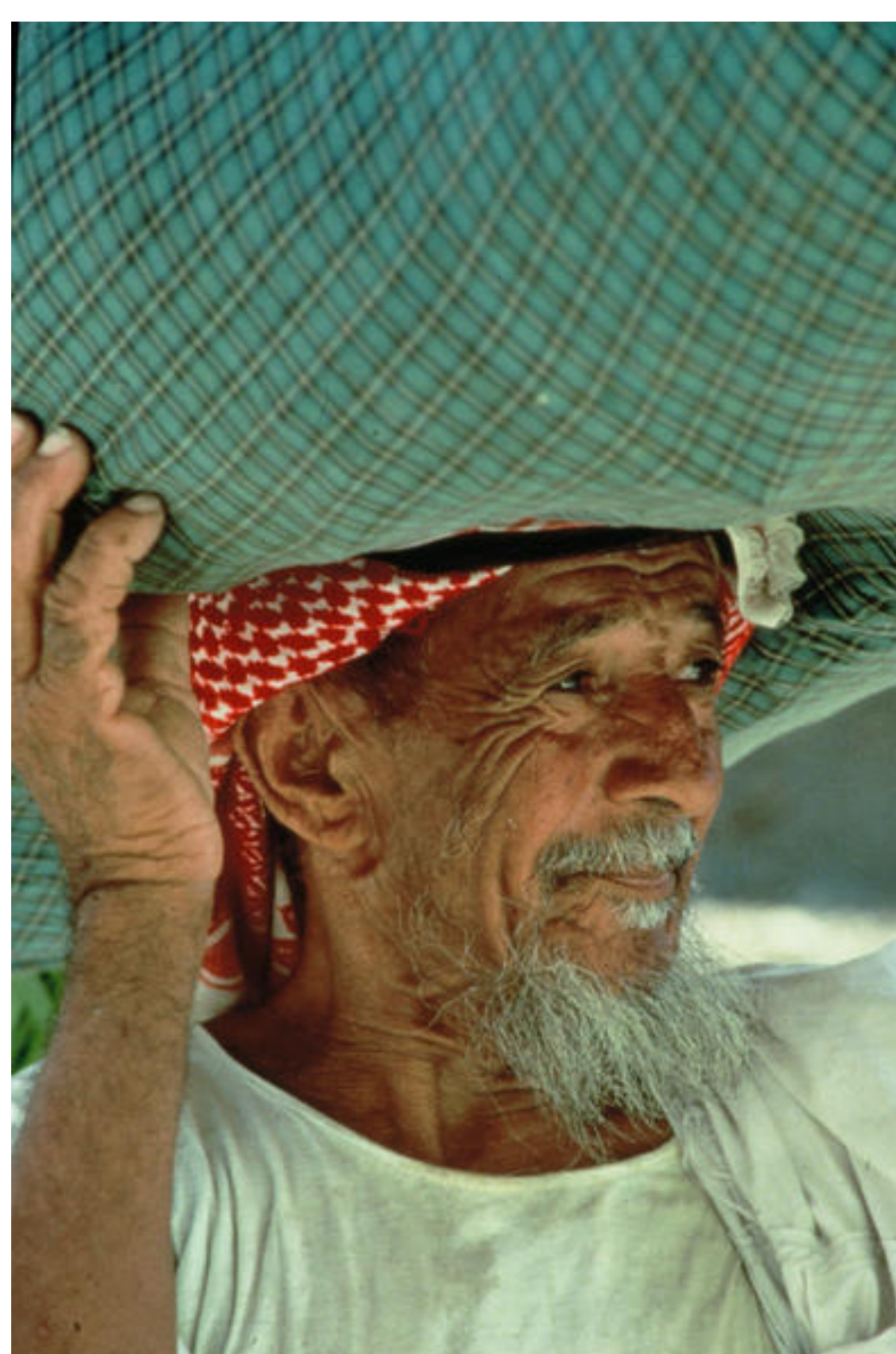




Dubai – Know Before You Go





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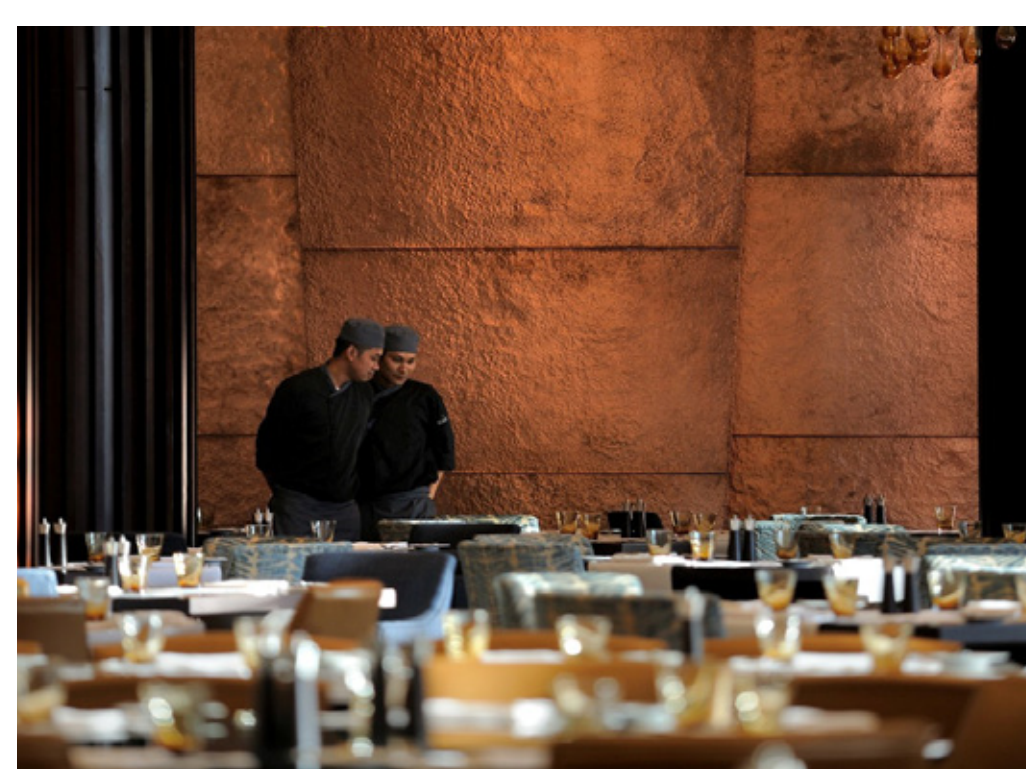


definitely
Dubai

DO respect local customs and traditions

Dubai is one of the world's most pioneering destinations – a cosmopolitan home to over 150 nationalities. However, it also has a rich Arabian heritage.

The Emiratis are friendly, welcoming people who demonstrate an open-minded and tolerant approach to over 8 million international visitors annually. But their interesting culture and values should always be understood and respected to ensure that you get the most out of your visit and enjoy a trouble-free, experience rich holiday, along with the vast majority of other visitors.



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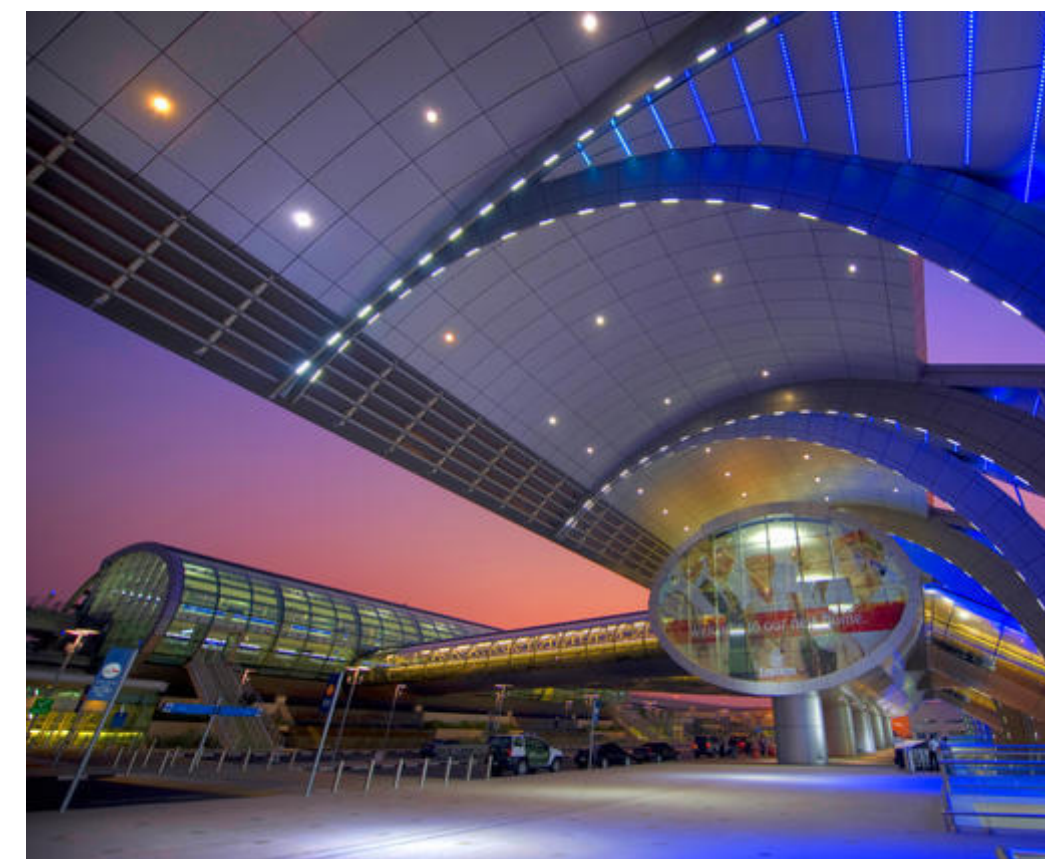


definitely
Dubai

DO enjoy a drink and a dance

Dubai has hundreds of licensed restaurants, pubs and clubs where drinking and dancing is enjoyed. It is home to some of the world's most recognisable names in dining and entertainment, as well as other authentic, local venues.

Remember that you need to be 21 or over to drink legally in Dubai and alcohol abuse, drinking in non-licensed areas or being drunk in public are not tolerated, making it altogether a very enjoyable night out for all!



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DO check your medication before your trip

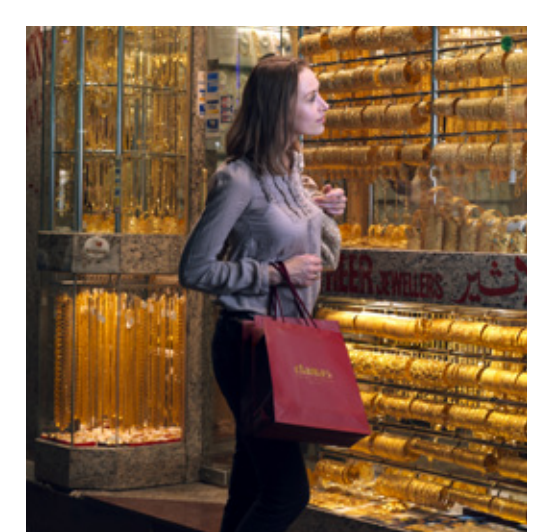
Like most countries, narcotic drugs are illegal in Dubai.

The emirate has a clear policy helping it retain an unrivalled reputation with one of the world's lowest crime rates. Guidelines exist to ensure visitors' and residents' safety. Some medicines do appear on the Government of the United Arab Emirates, Ministry of Health's list of restricted and controlled medicines.

This includes various over the counter medicines such as those containing Codeine.

For a trouble-free visit, if you are travelling with any of the listed medications, carry a doctor's note or prescription, keep medicines in original packaging and only take an appropriate quantity for the duration of your trip.

For further information:
www.moh.gov.ae



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DO behave yourself in public

Dubai wants every visitor to enjoy their stay. Of the millions of people who visit each year, the vast majority have a trouble-free stay and thoroughly enjoy themselves. Dubai's laws and culture promote modesty and respect so offensive language, spitting, aggressive behaviour and public displays of affection such as holding hands or kissing won't be tolerated.

Unfortunately the actions of a few can mar the experience for others, so please make sure you treat the destination with the respect it deserves. Similarly you will find the streets are safe and pleasantly free of litter and graffiti.



DO make the most of Dubai during the Holy Month of Ramadan

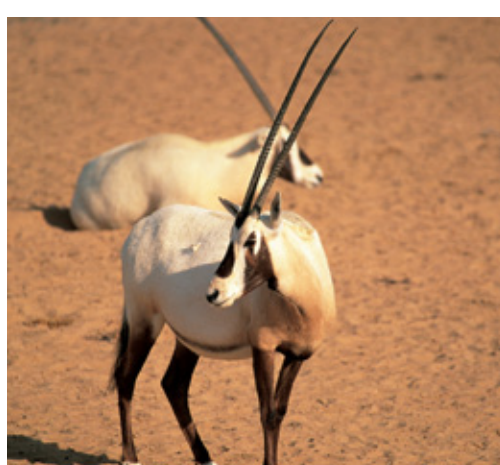
Dubai offers a genuine year round cultural getaway.

During Ramadan while Muslims are fasting from dawn to dusk, the majority of activities run normally during the day with slightly shorter opening hours.

Non-Muslims can easily eat and drink in many hotels and restaurants and often by the pool or on the beach too. Out of respect for those who are fasting, these areas are screened off during the day.

Alcohol can be purchased after sunset and there is also a host of culturally interesting activities for visitors to participate in and enjoy, including the magnificent Iftar feasts at sunset to celebrate the daily breaking of the fast. Ramadan is a great opportunity to sample Dubai's rich and authentic cultural offering, which is still to be discovered by many visitors to the region.

Clothing should considerably be kept more modest at this time of year.



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DO discover the cultural depths to Dubai

The heritage and culture of Dubai is at the heart of its appeal, from its origins as a pearl fishing port, to today's pioneering city which is home to the world's most iconic skyline: it is a true land of contrasts.

Visitors should embrace all that it has to offer. To help uncover this, the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding (SMCCU) introduces visitors to the traditions, values and culture of the United Arab Emirates. A range of interesting activities

can be arranged through the centre including guided tours of Jumeirah Mosque with opportunities to ask questions about Islam; traditional meals prepared and hosted by local Emiratis; walking tours of the historic Bastakiya district; Arabic classes and even Iftar feasts during Ramadan.

Why not visit SMCCU, located in Bastakiya, Bur Dubai or for more information visit: www.cultures.ae



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DO take a glimpse at Dubai's past

Visitors can go to the fascinating Dubai Museum for a look at how Dubai has developed over the decades.

Or why not take a wander through the authentic gold and spice souks for a spot of haggling and to see where Dubai started out? For only about 20 pence you could get there by taking a traditional abra (wooden water taxi) through the hustle and bustle of the traders on the Creek.

DO experience more than just your hotel

Dubai is so much more than just a city break destination. Visitors should make the most of their trip by seeing all four corners of the emirate, including the expansive desert which is home to traditional nomadic communities. You can also experience desert safaris showcasing local food and authentic entertainment alongside adrenaline fuelled sand-sports, while the stunning coastline offers a whole host of refreshing watersports and views of the breathtaking Palm Jumeirah.





DO wear respectful clothing

Awareness that you are visiting an Islamic country means that you will feel much more comfortable in this very tolerant environment by wearing appropriate clothing.

While swimwear is entirely appropriate by the pool or on the beach, this would be frowned on by the conservatively dressed local population in more public locations such as in the streets or malls, where more modest clothing is more suitable.





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DO organise a trip to Dubai without worrying about inoculations

You can travel to the emirate safe in the knowledge that you do not require any specific vaccines, jabs or health checks.

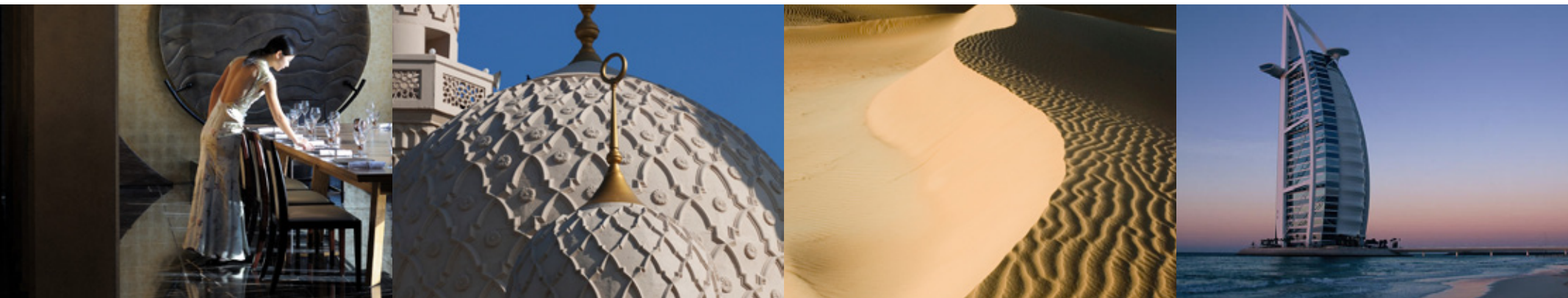
DO travel to Dubai with friends

Advise your hotel in advance if you are travelling as an unmarried couple and they will make the necessary arrangements to ensure you have an enjoyable stay.

DO take out travel insurance before you leave

We want you to enjoy your trip to Dubai knowing that you are completely covered. Therefore we recommend you take out sufficient travel insurance dependent on your holiday needs before you depart from home.

DO have fun and enjoy your trip to Dubai...!



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Visit: www.definitelydubai.com for further destination information and
Visit: www.fco.gov.uk/travel for up to date travel advice on Dubai.

Travel agents visit: <http://uk.dubaixperts.com> for online training and
to receive the DTCM's monthly travel trade e-newsletter.