



United Arab Emirates, 7 Days · Tailor-made by car

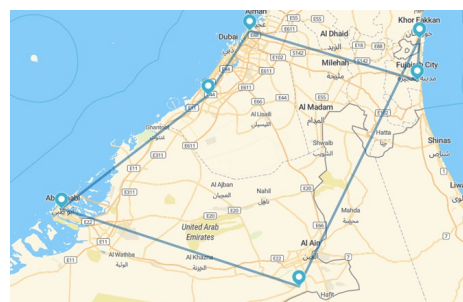
Four United Arab Emirates Route

The United Arab Emirates has only been a single country since 1971, when at the end of the British Protectorate the seven emirates decided to merge into a federal monarchy with its capital in Abu Dhabi. You'll start off your tour in Dubai, a former fishing village that's today one of the most spectacular cities in the whole world. You'll then continue your journey to Abu Dhabi, the largest emirate of all. Here you'll enjoy its wealth of cultural and entertainment attractions, such as the Louvre Museum and the Formula 1 circuit. You'll then head eastwards to the cities of Al Ain and Fujairah, passing through a multitude of fishing villages that still cherish the essence of yesteryear. After a visit to the city of Sharjah, you'll head back to Dubai to marvel at the views from its skyscrapers and explore the world's largest shopping mall. And this is just a teaser of what awaits you in the Emirates.

Come on, you can't miss it!

Departure date: Departures from June 2026 till June 2027

From: Dublin, Shannon, Cork



EXOTIC

Travel details

DAY 1 · CITY OF ORIGIN - DUBAI

Flight departure from the city of origin to Dubai. Arrival and rental car pick-up at the airport. Rest of the day at your leisure to visit Dubai.

You'll have the chance to discover this truly spectacular and ever-vibrant metropolis, which has metamorphosed from a sleepy fishing village into one of the most glamorous cities in the Persian Gulf. Dubai showcases an incredibly cutting-edge architectural model. Its underground transport system, its man-made islands and its soaring skyscrapers are all proof of this. There's no other city on the planet with more skyscrapers per square metre. Dubai is also a must-visit destination for lovers of luxury and once-in-a-lifetime experiences, while also being a key business hub in this part of the world. You could start off in the Jumeirah area, home to the Great Mosque, a building that pays homage to modern Islamic architecture. It's also the site of one of Dubai's most iconic buildings, the Burj Al Arab Hotel, which stands aloft on the crescent of the artificial island shaped like a palm tree. The Burj is actually the only seven-star hotel in the entire world. Its sail-shaped silhouette will leave you breathless, as will its opulent interior. Another fascinating fact about this hotel is that tennis greats Andre Agassi and Roger Federer were invited up to a rooftop court to play a friendly game before a tournament in the city. A tour of the hotel costs about 100 euros (there are numerous options, so check in advance). If you want to unwind, pop over to Jumeirah Beach and admire the sheer magnificence of the Burj Al Arab from the sand. What's more, the Jumeirah area is where you'll find an array of hotels with stunning views of the skyline at night. You'll soon realise that the Dubai nightlife revolves around hotels, so the ones in Jumeirah are great for dancing the night away. Where better place to have dinner, marvel at fantastic views and party away before going to sleep!

Overnight stay in Dubai.

DAY 2 · DUBAI - ABU DHABI

Departure to Abu Dhabi, the largest city and capital of the United Arab Emirates, barely two hours away from Dubai. The name Abu Dhabi actually means 'Father of the Gazelle'. Although skyscrapers also prevail here, you'll notice that there aren't quite as many as in Dubai. Before arriving in the city centre as such, stop off at the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque. (Note: Check out opening hours and dress code in advance). This is one of the largest mosques in the world and can accommodate up to 30,000 worshippers. The mosque is completely covered in marble inlaid with semi-precious stones in geometric shapes. And it's only a relatively new build, having been completed in 2007. Gracing the main prayer hall is the largest carpet in the world, hand-woven in Iran. Then head to the Heritage Village, which houses a small museum that showcases the traditional daily life of the Arab community before the discovery of oil. You'll be captivated by the simplicity of bygone life as you stroll around the huddle of huts. It's also a great place to admire Abu Dhabi's "skyline" with its magnificent skyscrapers. Then set off for two of the islands found in Abu Dhabi. Don't worry, though, as they're connected by road to the city itself, so driving there is no problem. First stop is Yas Island. The Formula 1 circuit is here and you can take a tour around it. (Note: We recommend booking in advance. There are two-hour-long tours either at 10.00 am or 2.00 pm. Not included). Very close by is Ferrari World, the largest indoor theme park in the world. Attractions here include an incredible roller coaster, a go-karting track, and much more. (Note: Admission 70 euros. If you decide to go, spend at least four hours here. Not included). Just over the water is Saadiyat Island, home to the Louvre Abu Dhabi Museum. Its state-of-the-art construction cost more than 100 million euros. The museum showcases pieces both from the East and the West. (Note: Admission 15 euros. Open from 10.00 am to 8.00 pm, except Mondays. Not included). Both Dubai and Abu Dhabi are truly cosmopolitan cities and you can savour dishes from all over the world. Even so, you should definitely try local specialities such as tagine (lamb stew), shawarma (kebab) or faina (chickpea flatbread). The "Mezlai" and the "Al Noukhada" are two highly-recommended restaurants for local cuisine. Abu Dhabi is a much more laid-back city than Dubai, but you can still find some lively nightlife in the hotel area around Al Zahiya, for example.

Overnight stay in Abu Dhabi.

DAY 3 · ABU DHABI - AL AIN

Bid farewell to Abu Dhabi and set off for Al Ain, a city inside the emirate of Abu Dhabi just by the border with Oman. It was the birthplace of Sheik Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the first president of the United Arab Emirates. Surrounded by oases, its nickname is the "Garden City". Its irrigation system is peculiar. It is based on what is known as the 'falaj', which has been used for thousands of years in the Middle East and delivers groundwater via a network of tunnels. You can see it in full force at the Al Ain Oasis, right in the heart of the city. Al Ain is far less cosmopolitan than Dubai or Abu Dhabi. Here you can experience a much more local and more authentic atmosphere. The cityscape is also completely different, as urban planning regulations don't allow new-builds of more than four storeys. We recommend several activities for today. The camel market will give you a fascinating insight into the trade of these animals. Meanwhile, Sheikh Zayed's palace has been converted into a museum where you can find out more about the former president and admire replicas of objects used in Bedouin desert life. The Al Ain National Museum narrates the city's history ever since the Stone Age. And in the south of the city, the Al Jahili Fort, built at the end of the 19th century, is a very popular tourist attraction. If you're looking for views over the city, the 1,340-metre-high Jebel Hafeet Mountain is definitely the best bet. Something you should definitely do before bedtime is to have tea or coffee at a shisha bar, a very typical activity in this area.

Overnight stay in Al Ain.

DAY 4 · AL AIN - EAST COAST - FUJAIRAH

Today's journey will take you further along the east coast of the United Arab Emirates up to Fujairah, in the northeast of the country. En route, you'll wind your way through the agricultural area of Al Dhaid, leaving behind the browns and ochres of the desert for the more vivid colours of the mountains. And then you'll arrive in Fujairah, capital of the emirate of the same name. With about 100,000 inhabitants, the city is famous for the mud brick Fujairah Fort dating back to the sixteenth century. The complex consists of a castle, mosque and several old houses. Its past is intrinsically linked to colonialism, as it played a key role in the struggle against the settlers. The views of the city from the Fort are outstanding. (Note: The Fort is open from 8. 30 am to 5. 30 pm. Check details online and make sure you book in advance). You can also visit the Fujairah Museum and the Heritage Village, two must-sees that will give you a fascinating insight into the city's history. In the afternoon, you can drive over to other attractions in the northeast of the country. Very close to Fujairah is the citadel of Bithna, built in the 18th century. The east coast is dotted with pocket-sized fishing villages. The port city of Khor Fakkan is proof of that. It's well worth seeing the seventeenth-century Al Badiyah Mosque here, the oldest in the country. Finally, the ancient town of Dibba, commanding a strategic point on the Gulf of Oman, boasts impressive views out to the Indian Ocean.

Return and overnight stay in Fujairah.

DAY 5 · FUJAIRAH - SHARJAH - DUBAI

Some 200 kilometres separate Fujairah from Dubai. Set off in the direction of Sharjah, the capital of the emirate that bears the same name. UNESCO named it the Cultural Capital of the Arab World thanks to its seventeen magnificent museums. King Faisal Mosque is an essential visit, as it's one of the biggest in the UAE. The Heritage Area is also well worth exploring. Here you'll find a wealth of historic buildings carefully restored with original materials. The central square is home to the Souk Al Arsah, a marketplace where you can pick up some stunning antiques and souvenirs or enjoy a bite to eat at its quaint coffee shops. Nearby is the Al-Hisn Fort, which was demolished and restored to its former glory in the 1990s to house a fascinating museum. There's also a whole district packed with galleries and museums that'll whisk you back in time. Before leaving, pop down to the waterfront and the Blue Souk, a retail hub full of carpets, jewellery and handicrafts. You'll find the perfect souvenir here! After this thrilling stop-off, head back on the road to Dubai.

In the evening, we recommend a cruise on a dhow, a traditional Arab boat on which you'll be served up a banquet of Arabic food while you spend a couple of hours sailing around the marina, admiring views of the city's souks and palaces. (Note: Check opening hours and prices in advance. Not included).

Overnight stay in Dubai.

DAY 6 · DUBAI

You've got the whole day ahead to savour Dubai. You can start off in Al Bastakiya, Dubai's historical district. Find out more about the city's history at the Dubai Museum, located in the ancient Al-Fahidi Fort. You can also stroll through the old quarter or pay a visit to the Sheikh Mohammed Centre to get a better understanding of the culture of Dubai. You can then jump on an abra, the local water taxi, to enjoy a spectacular view of the marina. On the other side are the spice and gold markets, ideal places for wandering around and picking up a souvenir. In the afternoon, you can explore the heart of modern Dubai or take a desert safari. If you choose the first option, you can start off at the Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building, towering 828 metres high and with a jaw-dropping 162 floors. You'll have already seen it from other places, for sure, as it stands out above all the other skyscrapers. With simply breathtaking views, it receives about two million visitors each year. Get ready for a height experience and some vertigo! (Note: A ticket to the At The Top observation deck will cost you around 100 euros). In the afternoon, you can engage in some retail therapy at the Dubai Mall, the largest shopping centre in the world and full of luxury boutiques, children's attractions, an aquarium and even an ice rink. More than 1,200 stores of all kinds await you on its six floors. It's the ideal place for some last-minute shopping before you head home. Don't miss the fountain on your way out and the incredible view of Burj Khalifa. If you prefer a desert-based experience, you can speed across the dunes in a 4x4, take a camel ride and visit a Bedouin camp. (Note: These tours usually last about six hours and have to be bought in advance. Not included). In the evening, head out for a drink in the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC). You can choose between a host of things to do in this financial hub.

Overnight stay in Dubai.

DAY 7 · DUBAI - CITY OF ORIGIN

Arrival at the airport with enough time to drop off your rental car and flight back to the city of origin.

Arrival. End of the trip and our services.

Your trip includes

Your trip includes

- ✓ Return flight.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Dubai.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Dubai.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Abu Dhabi.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Abu Dhabi.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Al Ain.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Al Ain.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Al Fujayrah.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Al Fujayrah.
- ✓ Rent-a-car.

Your trip doesn't include

- ✗ Accommodation taxes in United Arab Emirates direct payment in facility.
- ✗ Visa to enter in United Arab Emirates.
- ✗ Possible toll charges.
- ✗ Insolvency protection.

Destinations Visited

Dubai



Abu Dhabi



Al Ain



Khor Fakkan United Arab Emirates



Al Fujayrah



Sharjah



Important remarks

- As per new security regulations, all passengers visiting United Arab Emirates (organised or otherwise) must carry an identification at all times: either an original passport or a photocopy of it is sufficient.
- United Arab Emirates is a Muslim country and the month of Ramadan is of major significance to its residents. During Ramadan, entertainment and alcohol will be restricted in most of the country. The sale of alcohol will be restricted in many places, although some establishments will offer alcohol for sale to tourists. During this period, local businesses may also have shorter opening hours.
- Driving in the UAE is generally quite safe. The roads are in impeccable condition. Speed limits on motorways are between 100 and 120 km/h and there are radars every two kilometres. Most roads have several lanes. In cities like Dubai or Abu Dhabi, it's common to see five lanes on each side. There are usually no problems for parking. In places like the Dubai Mall, the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque or Ferrari World, you can park for free.
- Triple rooms in Asia are generally rooms with twin beds or a double, in which a folding bed is installed to accommodate the third person. Due to the inconvenience this causes, we advise against using this option as far as possible.
- Check-in time at the hotel on the day of arrival depends on each establishment, but in no case will it be before 3:00 p.m., unless otherwise indicated.
- The proposed excursions and tours for each day are purely suggestions, as you can tailor the trip to suit your times, tastes and needs.
- A credit card is considered a guarantee, so sometimes you will need one for check-in at hotels.
- Hotels usually have cots available. Otherwise, babies will have to share a bed with an adult.
- To pick up your rental car, you'll need a credit (not debit) card in the name of the person who made the booking, who must also be the named driver of the vehicle.
- Consult the necessary documentation to enter the destinations visited and for transit in the countries where air stopovers are made.
- The local currency is the dirham (AED), and there are exchange offices at airports and shopping malls.