

Dubai Marina & Palm Jumeirah

DUBAI MARINA | PALM JUMEIRAH

Neighbourhood Top Five

- ➊ Strolling down **The Walk at JBR** (p118), a pleasant strip chockablock with family-oriented indie cafes, restaurants and shops, and combining this with a spin around The Beach, a chic, new low-rise outdoor mall flanking a beautiful stretch of sandy beach.
- ➋ Partying from day to night at a sizzling beach club like **Zero Gravity** (p128).
- ➌ Enjoying a canalside dinner or drink with gorgeous views of the glittering marina skyscrapers, for instance at **Asia Asia** (p120).
- ➍ Cruising around the marina by **water bus** (p118), preferably at dusk or early evening.
- ➎ Catching the boat shuttle to the sleek **101 Lounge & Bar** (p123) for cocktails with a million-dollar view of the Dubai Marina skyline.



For more detail of this area, see Map p262 ➡

Explore Dubai Marina & Palm Jumeirah

Dubai Marina has become one of the most popular places to live in town and, though primarily residential, its pedestrian-friendly areas hold plenty of appeal for visitors. Carved from the desert, this is one of the world's largest man-made marinas, centred on a 3km-long canal flanked by a thicket of futuristic high-rises, including the eye-catching Cayan Tower. A stroll along the Marina Walk promenade is delightful, especially after dusk when you can gaze out at the glittering towers and bobbing yachts, stop by the dancing fountains and find your favourite dinner, drink or *sheesha* (water pipe) spot.

Just as pedestrian-friendly is nearby The Walk at JBR, a 1.7km-long strip of shops and family-oriented eateries paralleling a lovely sandy beach. JBR stands for Jumeirah Beach Residence, a vast cluster of 40 buttercream-yellow apartment and hotel towers overlooking the Gulf. Some sections of the beach are public and there's a jogging path, changing facilities, a small offshore waterpark and a handsome low-rise cluster of, yes, more shops and cafes with alfresco terraces called The Beach.

North of here are some of the most exclusive hotels in town, the tech enclaves of Dubai Internet City and Dubai Media City, where CNN, BBC World, Bloomberg and other outlets are based.

Putting into the Gulf is the Palm Jumeirah, an artificial island in the shape of a palm tree with a 2km-long trunk, 16-frond crown and 11km-long crescent-shaped breakwater. Built to increase Dubai's beachfront, it's home to luxury apartments, villas and hotels and punctuated by the garish Atlantis The Palm resort with its crowd-pleasing waterpark and aquarium.

Local Life

- ➔ **Strolling** Evenings are perfect for people-watching and chilling on The Walk at JBR and Marina Walk.
- ➔ **Dinner with a view** Be dazzled by the glittering jewel box that is the Dubai Marina at night from a lofty terrace table.
- ➔ **Beach it** Grab a towel and get working on your tan, then wrap up the day with a movie under the stars.

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Metro** The Red Line stops at Damac for the Dubai Marina. For the Walk at JBR, the Jumeirah Lakes Towers station is a bit more convenient.
- ➔ **Tram** Dubai Tram links Dubai Media City, JBR and Dubai Marina on an 11km loop.

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

The Dubai Marina is one of the most pedestrian-friendly areas in town and also has some convenient public transport. One way to get from A to B is aboard the brand-new air-conditioned Dubai Tram that trundles between Dubai Internet City and the Jumeirah Beach Residences. For a bargain cruise, explore the Dubai Marina aboard a water bus, preferably after dark.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Stay (p123)
- ➔ Tagine (p120)
- ➔ Rhodes W1 (p120)
- ➔ Fumé (p119)
- ➔ Toro Toro (p119)

For reviews, see p119. ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Jetty Lounge (p123)
- ➔ Barasti (p123)
- ➔ Atelier M (p124)
- ➔ Siddharta (p124)

For reviews, see p123. ➔

Best Views

- ➔ Atelier M (p124)
- ➔ Observatory (p125)
- ➔ 101 Lounge & Bar (p123)

For reviews, see p123. ➔