



Dubai & Abu Dhabi

**“All you’ve got to do is decide to go
and the hardest part is over.**

So go!”

TONY WHEELER, COFOUNDER – LONELY PLANET

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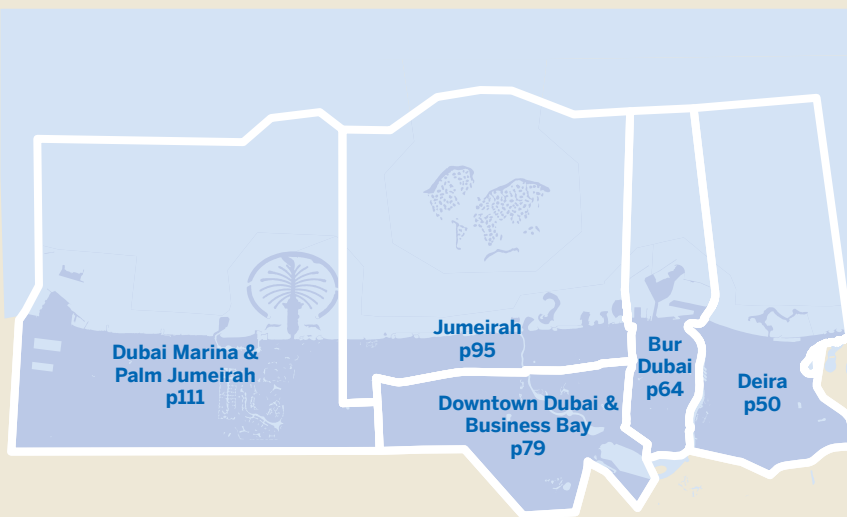
(left) **Spice Souq, Deira p53** Local spices are on sale at this working souq.

(above) **Emirates Palace, Abu Dhabi p135** A cultural hub of the city.

(right) **Gold Souq, Deira p52** A dazzling display of gold.



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Dubai & Abu Dhabi's Top 10

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Burj Khalifa (p81)

1 Slicing through the slipstream of the sky's superhighways, there is no more potent a symbol of Dubai's aspiration to position itself as a major global player than its phalanx of futuristic skyscrapers. Above them all looms the Burj Khalifa, shaped like a deep-space rocket and at 828m the world's tallest building. Clad in 28,000 glass panels, it also lays claim to several more superlatives, including the highest outdoor observation deck, the most floors, the highest occupied floor and a lift (elevator) with the longest travel distance.

📍 Downtown Dubai & Business Bay

Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque (p127)

2 Abu Dhabi's snow-white landmark mosque was conceived by Sheikh Zayed, the country's 'founding father'. It has truly impressive dimensions with 80 marble domes held aloft by 1000 pillars and space for 50,000 worshippers. Open to non-Muslims, the main prayer hall is a visual extravaganza drenched in gold leaf and boasting massive crystal chandeliers, the world's largest handwoven carpet and pillars adorned with intricate semiprecious stones and floral marble inlays.

📍 Abu Dhabi



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5

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Louvre Abu Dhabi (p156)

3 The much anticipated, Jean Nouvel–designed Louvre Abu Dhabi finally opened to great fanfare in late 2017. Sunlight filters through its huge perforated dome onto a cluster of 23 galleries sheltering 600 priceless works that illustrate our shared humanity across time, ethnicity and geography. Highlights include a Da Vinci painting, a Chinese Buddha and a bronze statue from Benin. The dome pays homage to desert-palm shading – its geometric openings represent the interlaced palm leaves used in traditional roofing – and creates a cinematic ‘rain of light’ as the sun’s rays pass throughout the day.

📍 Abu Dhabi

Shopping (p37)

4 Shopping malls represent an integral part of the culture and lifestyle in Dubai and Abu Dhabi. Not merely places for maxing out your credit cards on fashion, electronics or gourmet foods, malls are also where locals go to socialise in cafes and restaurants, to catch a movie in a state-of-the-art multiplex or to get adrenaline kicks in an indoor theme park or game arcade. The best and biggest of the bunch is Dubai Mall, which features not only 1200 shops but also a giant aquarium, an indoor ice rink and a genuine dinosaur skeleton. DUBAI MALL (P82)

📍 Shopping

Exotic Souqs (p52)

5 For a dose of *Arabian Nights* flair, head to Dubai’s historic core and plunge headlong into its charmingly chaotic warren of souqs. There are sections for spices and perfume, but the headliner is the dazzling Gold Souq. Even if you don’t have a thing for bling, a walk through here will feel like you’ve entered a giant Aladdin’s Cave. It’s fun to just watch the action, especially in the evening. If you’re buying, sharpen your haggling skills no matter whether shopping for teensy earrings, an engagement ring or a dowry-worthy necklace.

SPICE SOUK (P53)

📍 Deira

Al Fahidi Historic District (p67)

6 Wandering around this restored heritage area in Bur Dubai provides a tangible sense of historic Middle Eastern architecture and culture. Low-lying traditional courtyard buildings flank this quiet labyrinth of lanes, many of them featuring arabesque windows, decorative gypsum screens and wind towers. Some contain craft shops, small heritage museums, art galleries, artsy guesthouses or cafes serving local fare, including Arabic breakfasts and camel milk smoothies. The Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding leads guided tours of the quarter.

📍 **Bur Dubai**

Burj Al Arab (p97)

7 This landmark luxe hotel, with its dramatic design that mimics the billowing sail of a ship, floats on its own artificial island and has become the iconic symbol of Dubai's boom years. The interior is all about impact, drama and unapologetic bling, with dancing fountains, gold fittings, shiny marble and whirlpool baths your butler can fill with champagne if you so wish. If a stay exceeds your budget, you can still partake in the opulence by making reservations for cocktails, afternoon tea or dinner in the underwater restaurant.

📍 **Jumeirah**



7



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8

Dubai Museum *(p66)*

8 Housed in Bur Dubai's oldest surviving structure, this museum provides a well-laid-out introduction to the history of Dubai. Marvel at the turbo-evolution of this city from simple desert settlement to futuristic metropolis in just a third of a century. Dioramas recreate traditional scenes in a souq, at home and in the mosque, while other galleries focus on life at sea and in the desert. An archaeological exhibition illustrates the ancient history of the region with a display of items unearthed during excavations at local digs.

 **Bur Dubai**



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IMG Worlds of Adventure (p91)

9 In 2016, Dubai added four theme parks to its stable of attractions, including IMG Worlds of Adventure, the world's largest indoor theme park. Daredevils can join the Avengers in battling the evil Ultron, get pummelled by Thor in a lunch-losing top-spin ride, pose for selfies with a walking dinosaur and feel like a cannonball when going from zero to 100 in 2.5 seconds on the Velociraptor coaster. Little kids, meanwhile, will be enchanted by Ben 10, Gumball and the Powerpuff Girls in the Cartoon Network wing.

📍 Downtown Dubai & Business Bay



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Emirates Palace (p135)

10 One of the most expensive hotels ever built, Emirates Palace allegedly came at a price tag of a cool US\$3.5 billion. Surrounded by carefully manicured fountain-laden gardens, it has its own marina, helipad and 1.3km-long sandy beach. The interior is an opulent feast decked out in marble, gold and mother of pearl, hundreds of palm trees and 1000 Swarovski crystal chandeliers. The exterior looks especially magical when illuminated at night.

📍 Abu Dhabi

Behind the Scenes

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AD Abu Dhabi
EC UAE East Coast
SH Sharjah

2nd December Street 100

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Dubai Maps

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-  Beach
-  Bird Sanctuary
-  Buddhist
-  Castle/Palace
-  Christian
-  Confucian
-  Hindu
-  Islamic
-  Jain
-  Jewish
-  Monument
-  Museum/Gallery/Historic Building
-  Ruins
-  Shinto
-  Sikh
-  Taoist
-  Winery/Vineyard
-  Zoo/Wildlife Sanctuary
-  Other Sight

Activities, Courses & Tours

-  Bodysurfing
-  Diving
-  Canoeing/Kayaking
-  Course/Tour
-  Sento Hot Baths/Onsen
-  Skiing
-  Snorkelling
-  Surfing
-  Swimming/Pool
-  Walking
-  Windsurfing
-  Other Activity

Sleeping

-  Sleeping
-  Camping
-  Hut/Shelter

Eating

-  Eating

Drinking & Nightlife

-  Drinking & Nightlife
-  Cafe

Entertainment

-  Entertainment

Shopping

-  Shopping

Information

-  Bank
-  Embassy/Consulate
-  Hospital/Medical
-  Internet
-  Police
-  Post Office
-  Telephone
-  Toilet
-  Tourist Information
-  Other Information

Geographic

-  Beach
-  Gate
-  Hut/Shelter
-  Lighthouse
-  Lookout
-  Mountain/Volcano
-  Oasis
-  Park
-  Pass
-  Picnic Area
-  Waterfall

Population

-  Capital (National)
-  Capital (State/Province)
-  City/Large Town
-  Town/Village

Transport

-  Airport
-  Border crossing
-  Bus
-  Cable car/Funicular
-  Cycling
-  Ferry
-  Metro station
-  Monorail
-  Parking
-  Petrol station
-  Subway station
-  Taxi
-  Train station/Railway
-  Tram
-  Underground station
-  Other Transport

Routes

-  Tollway
-  Freeway
-  Primary
-  Secondary
-  Tertiary
-  Lane
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-  Road under construction
-  Plaza/Mall
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-  Tunnel
-  Pedestrian overpass
-  Walking Tour
-  Walking Tour detour
-  Path/Walking Trail

Boundaries

-  International
-  State/Province
-  Disputed
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-  Marine Park
-  Cliff
-  Wall

Hydrography

-  River, Creek
-  Intermittent River
-  Canal
-  Water
-  Dry/Salt/Intermittent Lake
-  Reef

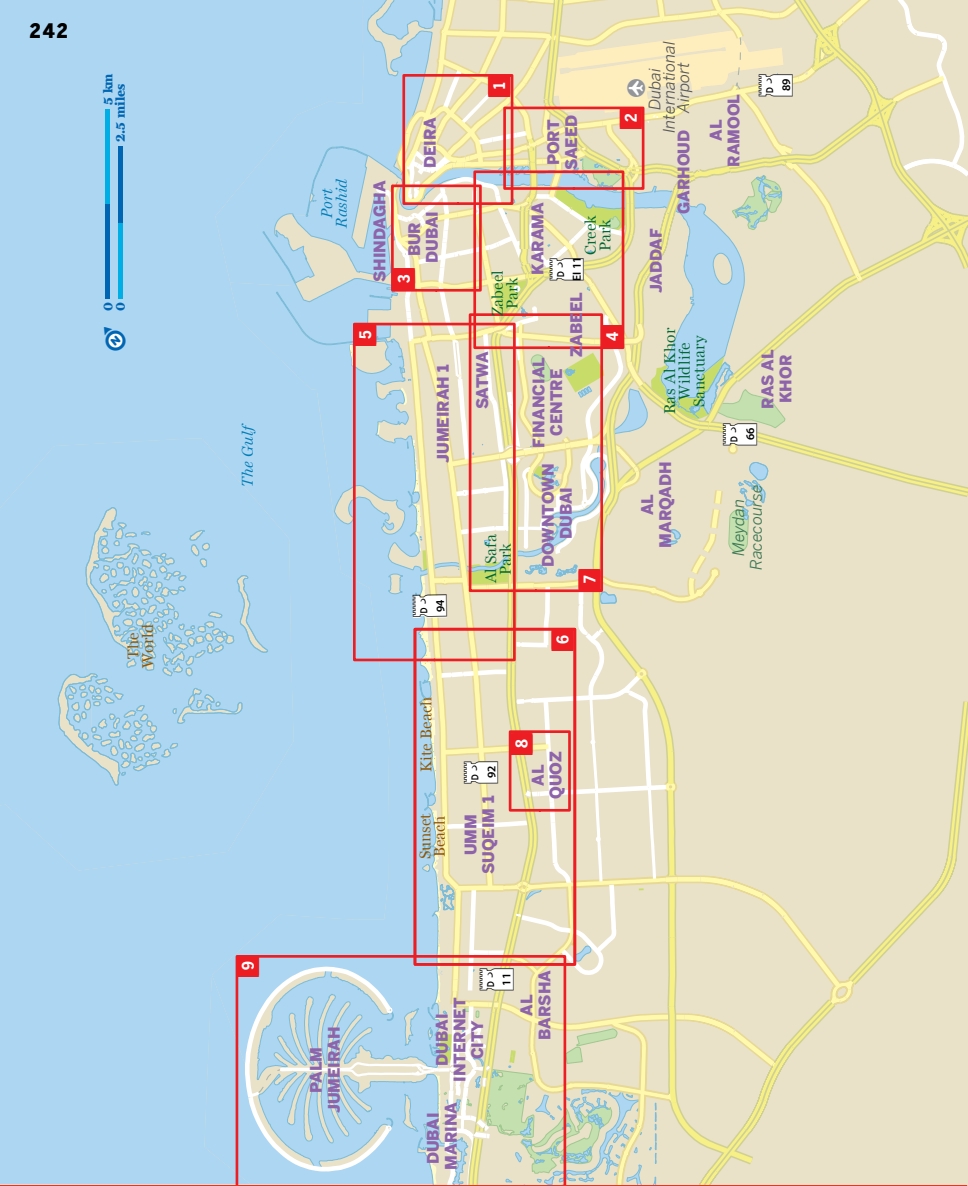
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-  Airport/Runway
-  Beach/Desert
-  Cemetery (Christian)
-  Cemetery (Other)
-  Glacier
-  Mudflat
-  Park/Forest
-  Sight (Building)
-  Sportsground
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- 9** Dubai Marina & Palm Jumeirah (p262)



DEIRA & EASTERN CREEK NORTH *Map on p244*

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- 1 Gold Souq B1

📍 Sights

- 2 Al Ahmadiya School A1
 3 Covered Souq C2
 4 Dhow Wharfage B2
 5 Heritage House A1
 6 Museum of the Poet Al Oqaili A1
 7 Naif Market D3
 8 National Bank of Dubai C6
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 10 Spice Souq B2
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- 12 Afghan Khorasan Kabab C2
 13 Al Dawaar E1
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 15 Aroos Damascus E6
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🛍 Shopping

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🏊 Sports & Activities

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🛏 Sleeping

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 31 Hilton Dubai Creek C7
 32 Landmark Hotel Baniyas C3
 33 Marco Polo Hotel F5
 34 Radisson Blu Hotel C5
 35 Riviera Hotel C4
 36 Sheraton Dubai Creek Hotel &
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DEIRA & EASTERN CREEK SOUTH

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3 YalumbaD6		
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5 Dubliner's.....C6		12 Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club..... A5
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BUR DUBAI & WESTERN CREEK NORTH



See map
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- 1** Dubai Museum G4
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- 3** Alserkal Cultural Foundation H4
- 4** Bur Dubai Souq G3
- 5** Coffee Museum H4
- 6** Coin Museum H4
- 7** Crossroads of Civilizations Museum G1
- 8** Diwan Mosque H4
- 9** Grand Mosque G3
- 10** Hindi Lane H3
- 11** Majlis Gallery H4
- 12** Saruq Al Hadid Archaeology Museum G1
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- 43** Rainbow Hotel F5
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BUR DUBAI & WESTERN CREEK SOUTH *Map on p252*

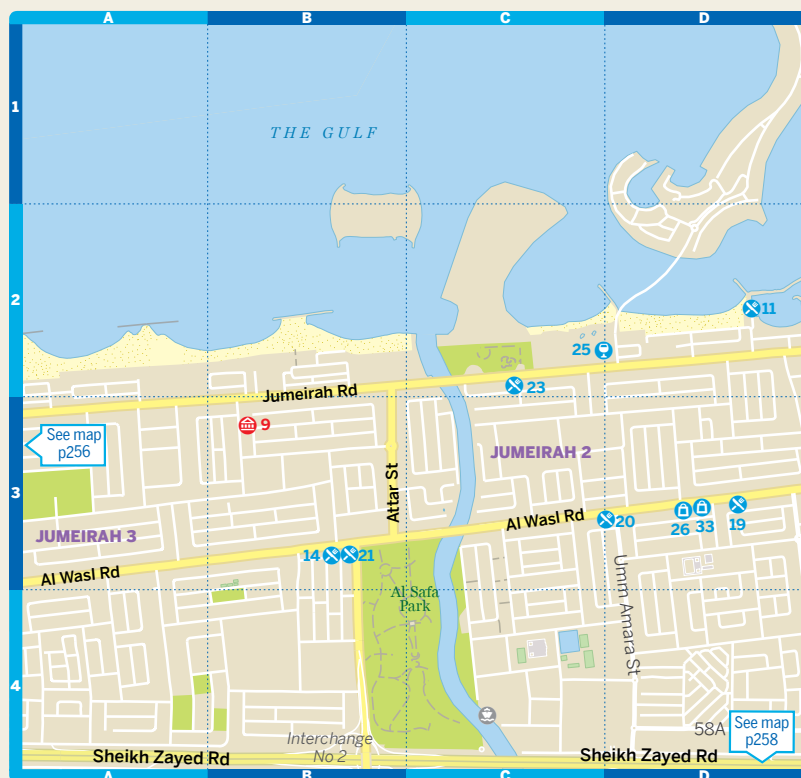
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BUR DUBAI & WESTERN CREEK SOUTH







Top Sights

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- 1 Etihad MuseumH2

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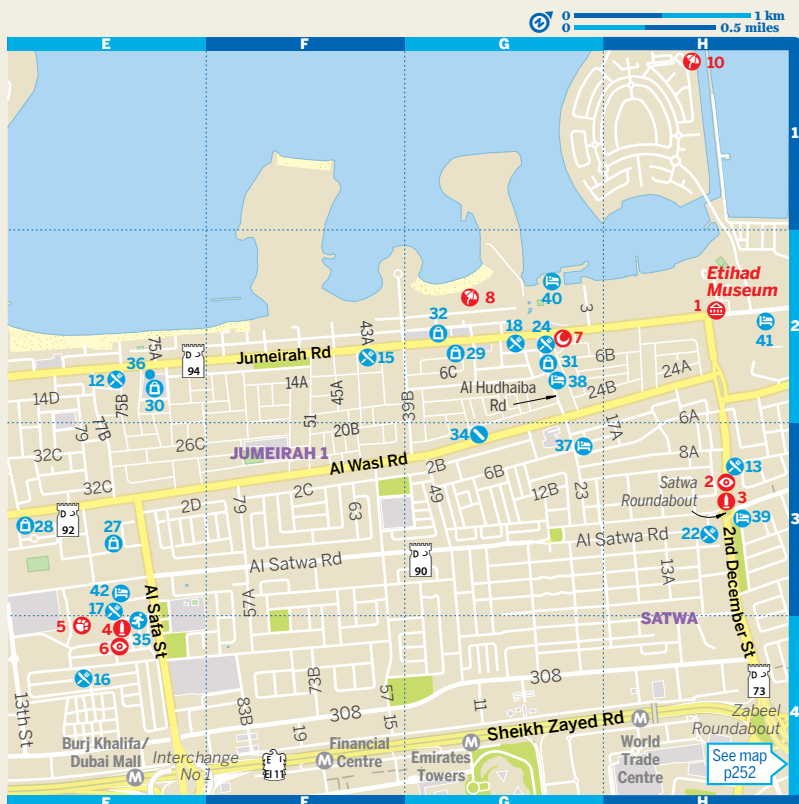
- 2 2nd December StreetH3
 3 Dubai Street MuseumH3
 4 Dubai WallsE4
 5 Green PlanetE4
 6 Hub ZeroE4
 7 Jumeirah MosqueG2
 8 La MerG2
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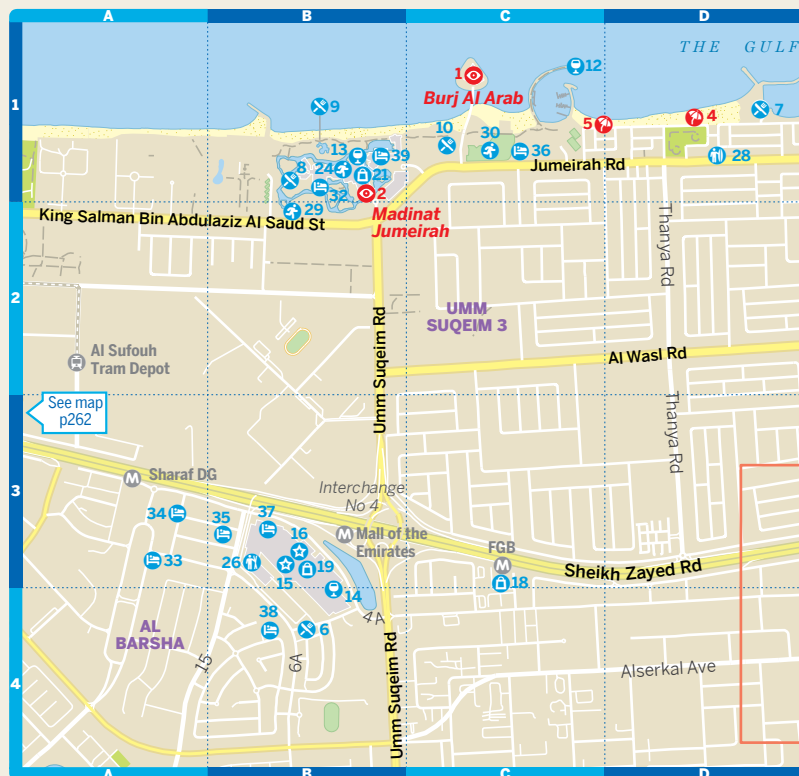
- 11 3 FilsD2

- 12 Al FanarE2
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 17 Lima DubaiE3
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 - 27** City WalkE3
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4 Night Beach D1
5 Sunset Beach C1

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8 Pai Thai B1
9 Pierchic B1
10 Rockfish C1
11 Salt F1

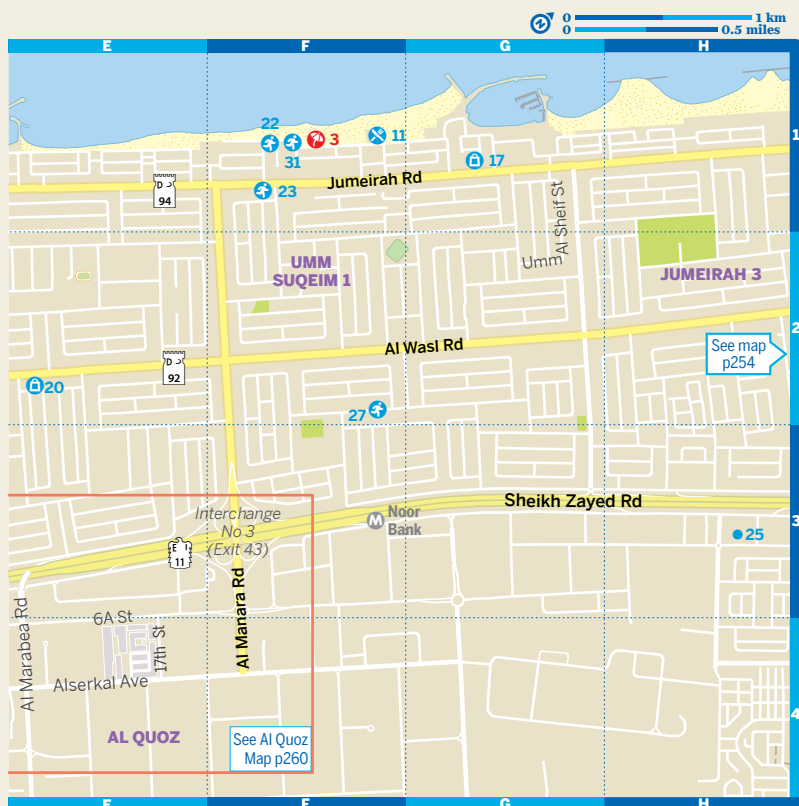
Zheng He's (see 39)

Drinking & Nightlife (p105)

- 12 360° C1
13 Agency B1
Bahri Bar (see 39)
14 Brunswick Sports Club B4
Folly by Nick & Scott (see 13)
Gold on 27 (see 1)
Skyview Bar (see 1)

Entertainment (p107)

- 15 Dubai Community Theatre & Arts
Centre B3
Madinat Theatre (see 2)
16 Vox Mall of the Emirates B3

**Shopping****(p107)**

- Camel Company (see 21)
- 17** Garderobe..... G1
- 18** Gold & Diamond Park..... C3
- Jalabiyat Yasmine..... (see 21)
- Lata's..... (see 2)
- 19** Mall of the Emirates..... B3
- 20** O' de Rose..... E2
- 21** Souk Madinat Jumeirah..... B1

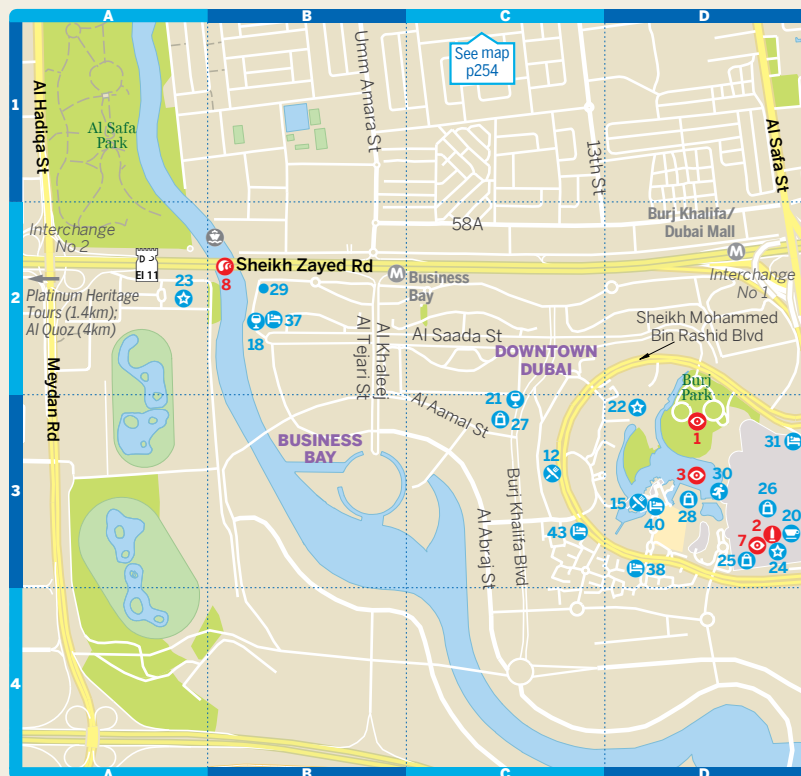
Sports & Activities**(p109)**

- 22** Dubai Kitesurfing School..... F1
- 23** Dukite..... F1
- 24** Madinat Jumeirah Abra Rides..... B1
- 25** Platinum Heritage Tours..... H3
- 26** Ski Dubai..... B3
- 27** Splash 'n' Party..... F2

- 28** Surf House Dubai..... D1
- 29** Talise Spa..... B2
- 30** Wild Wadi Waterpark..... C1
- 31** XDubai Skatepark..... F1

Sleeping**(p188)**

- 32** Al Qasr Hotel..... B1
- Burj Al Arab..... (see 1)
- 33** Centro Barsha..... A3
- 34** Donatello Hotel..... A3
- 35** Ibis Mall of the Emirates..... B3
- 36** Jumeirah Beach Hotel..... C1
- 37** Kempinski Hotel Mall of the Emirates..... B3
- 38** La Villa Najd Hotel Apartments..... B4
- 39** Mina A'Salam Hotel..... B1



Top Sights

(p81)

- 1 Burj Khalifa D3

Sights

(p82)

- Ayyam Gallery(see 6)
 Cuadro(see 6)
 Dubai Aquarium &
 Underwater Zoo(see 26)
 2 Dubai Dino D3
 3 Dubai Fountain D3
 4 Dubai International
 Financial Centre F2
 5 Empty Quarter F2
 6 Gate Village F2
 7 KidZania D3
 8 Sheikh Zayed Bridge
 Waterfall B2

- 9 World Trade Centre H2

Eating

(p85)

- Al Nafoorah (see 36)
 Asado (see 15)
 At.mosphere (see 1)
 Baker & Spice (see 28)
 10 Carnival by Tresind F2
 Eatly (see 26)
 11 Hoi An E1
 Karma Kafé (see 28)
 12 Leila C3
 Milas (see 24)
 13 Noodle House F2
 14 Sum of Us H1
 The Daily (see 41)

- 15 Thiptara at Palace

Downtown D3

- 16 Zaroob F2

Zuma (see 6)

Drinking & Nightlife (p89)

- 17 40 Kong H1
 18 Bridgewater Tavern B2
 Cabana (see 31)
 Cavalli Club (see 34)
 Cirque Le Soir (see 34)
 19 Fibber Magee's G1
 20 Majlis D3
 Nippon Bottle
 Company (see 33)
 21 Treehouse C3



★ Entertainment (p91)

- Blue Bar (see 39)
- 22** Dubai Opera D3
- 23** La Perle by Dragone A2
- 24** Reel Cinemas D3

🛍 Shopping (p92)

- 25** Balqees Honey D3
- Candylicious (see 26)
- 26** Dubai Mall D3
- 27** Farmers Market on the
Terrace C3
- Kinokuniya (see 26)
- Nayomi (see 26)
- 28** Souk Al Bahar D3

🏃 Sports & Activities (p94)

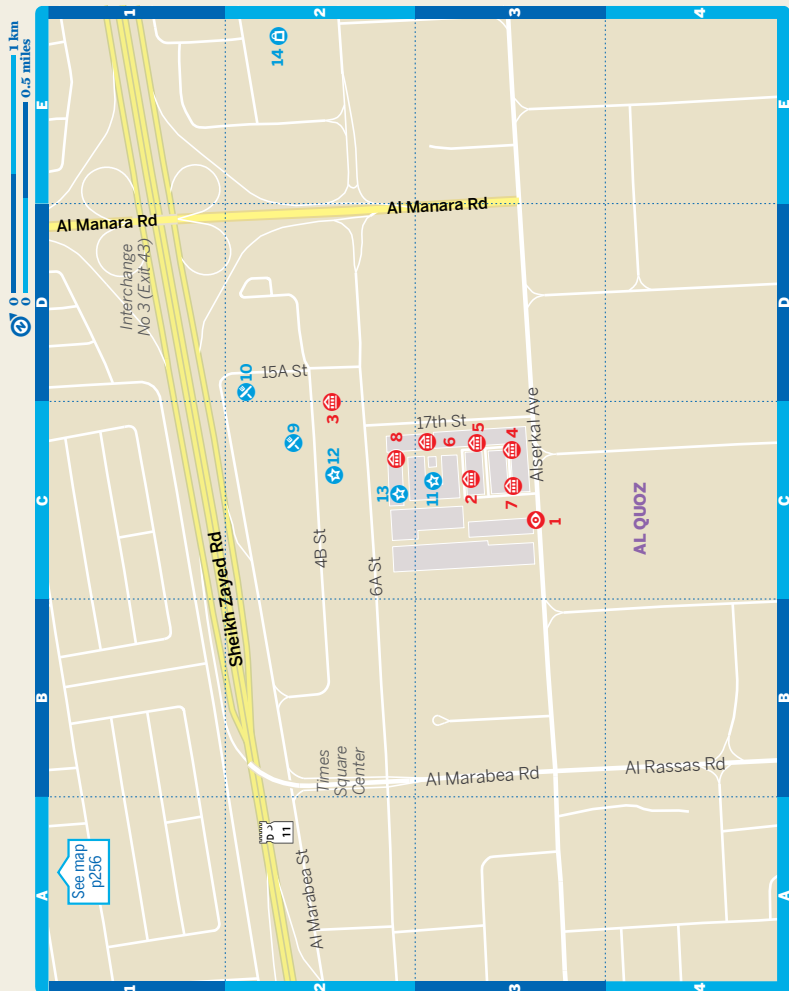
- 29** Arabian Adventures B2
- Arabic Language
Centre (see 9)
- 30** Dubai Fountain Lake
Ride D3
- Dubai Ice Rink (see 24)
- Spa at Palace
Downtown (see 15)
- Talise Spa (see 36)

🛌 Sleeping (p186)

- 31** Address Dubai Mall D3
- 32** Carlton Downtown E2
- 33** Dusit Thani Dubai E2
- 34** Fairmont Dubai G1

- 35** Ibis World Trade
Centre G2
- 36** Jumeirah Emirates
Towers F2
- 37** JW Marriott Marquis
Hotel Dubai B2
- 38** Manzil Downtown D3
- 39** Novotel World Trade
Centre G2
- 40** Palace Downtown D3
- 41** Rove Downtown E3
- 42** Shangri-La E2
- 43** Vida Downtown Dubai .. C3

AL QUOZ



Sights

- (p84)**
- 1 Alserkal Avenue C3
 - 2 Carbon 12 C3
 - 3 Cartoon Art Gallery C2
 - 4 Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde C3
 - 5 Green Art Gallery C3
 - 6 Leila Heller Gallery C3
 - 7 Salsali Private Museum C3
 - 8 The Third Line C2

Eating

- (p89)**
- 9 Lime Tree Cafe C2
 - 10 Tom & Serg D2

Entertainment

- (p91)**
- 11 Cinema Akil C3
 - 12 Courtyard Playhouse C2
 - Fridge (see 5)
 - 13 The Junction C2

Shopping

- (p92)**
- Mirzam Chocolate Makers (see 13)
 - 14 Raw Coffee Company E2

DUBAI MARINA & PALM JUMEIRAH *Map on p262*

📍 Sights	(p113)	Pure Sky Lounge(see 11)
1 Ain Dubai.....	C4	29 Reem Al Bawadi..... E5
2 Cayan Tower	E5	30 Rooftop Lounge & Terrace.....F5
3 Club Mina.....	E5	Siddharta Lounge.....(see 53)
4 Fairmont The Palm Beach Club.....	F4	Smoky Beach.....(see 8)
5 JBR Beach.....	C5	31 Stereo Arcade..... C5
6 Lost Chambers Aquarium	F1	32 Tamanya Terrace.....F5
7 Pier 7	D5	33 Tap House
8 The Beach at JBR	C5	F3
9 The Walk at JBR	D5	34 Tribeca..... C5
🍴 Eating	(p114)	★ Entertainment
101 Lounge & Bar	(see 60)	(p122)
Al Khaima.....	(see 56)	35 Jazz@PizzaExpress
Al Nafoorah.....	(see 54)	C6
Asia Asia.....	(see 7)	36 MusicHall..... E3
10 Barracuda	D5	🛍 Shopping
11 BiCE	D5	(p123)
Blue Orange.....	(see 64)	37 Dubai Marina Mall..... D5
12 Bouchon Bakery	C5	38 Gallery One..... D5
13 Couqley	C6	Ginger & Lace.....(see 39)
14 Eauzone	F5	39 Ibn Battuta Mall
15 El Chiringuito	G4	A6
Fish Beach Taverna.....	(see 23)	🏊 Sports & Activities
Fûmé.....	(see 7)	(p124)
Indego by Vineet	(see 53)	40 Aqua Fun..... C5
Little Miss India	(see 4)	41 Aquaventure Waterpark..... F1
16 Massaad Barbecue.....	C5	42 Atlantis Abra Ride
17 Maya Modern Mexican Kitchen	D5	F1
18 Mythos Kouzina & Grill.....	D6	43 Beach Gym..... C5
Rhodes W1	(see 53)	44 Dhow Cruise
Stay.....	(see 60)	D5
Sushi Art	(see 8)	Dubai Ferry Cruises
Tagine.....	(see 59)	(see 10)
The Croft.....	(see 28)	45 Dubai Marina Water Bus
19 Toro Toro	E5	D5
Zafran	(see 50)	One&Only Spa
20 Zero Gravity.....	D5	(see 59)
🍷 Drinking & Nightlife	(p119)	46 Palm Jumeirah Boardwalk
Arabian Courtyard.....	(see 30)	G1
Atelier M.....	(see 7)	47 Skydive Dubai
Barasti.....	(see 64)	E4
21 Bliss Lounge	C5	48 Splash Pad
Buddha Bar.....	(see 53)	C5
22 Casa Latina.....	H6	49 Yoga by the Sea
Dek on 8	(see 58)	C5
23 Industrial Avenue.....	E5	🛌 Sleeping
24 Jetty Lounge.....	F5	(p190)
Lock, Stock & Barrel.....	(see 25)	50 Address Dubai Marina
25 Lucky Voice	G6	D5
26 N'Dulge.....	F1	51 Gloria Hotel
27 Nola Eatery & Social House.....	D6	G6
28 Observatory.....	E5	52 Grand Midwest Tower
		G6
		53 Grosvenor House
		D5
		54 Jumeirah Zabeel Saray.....
		D3
		55 Le Meridien Mina Seyahi Beach Resort
		& Marina
		E5
		56 Le Royal Meridien Beach Resort & Spa...
		D5
		57 Marina Dream Hostel.....
		C5
		58 Media One Hotel
		E5
		59 One&Only Royal Mirage
		E5
		60 One&Only The Palm.....
		E4
		61 Pearl Marina Hotel Apartments
		C5
		62 Ritz-Carlton Dubai.....
		D5
		63 Rixos Premium Dubai
		D5
		64 Westin Dubai Mina Seyahi Beach
		Resort & Marina.....
		E5

The map displays the coastal area of Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The Gulf of Persia is to the north, and the Arabian Sea is to the east. The map is overlaid with a grid labeled A, B, C, D horizontally and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 vertically. Key locations include Bluewaters Island, Dubai Marina, Jumeirah Beach, Jumeirah Lakes Towers, and the Sheikh Zayed Rd. The map also shows the Gulf of Persia and the Arabian Sea.





Our Story

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Dublin, Beijing and Delhi, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

Our Writers



Andrea Schulte-Peevers

Dubai

Born and raised in Germany and educated in London and at UCLA, Andrea has travelled the distance to the moon and back in her visits to some 75 countries. She has earned her living as a professional travel writer for over two decades and authored or contributed to nearly 100 Lonely Planet titles as well as to newspapers, magazines and websites around the world. She also works as a travel consultant, translator and editor. She makes her home in Berlin. Follow Andrea on Twitter @ASchultePeevers.



Kevin Raub

Abu Dhabi & Day Trips

Atlanta native Kevin Raub started his career as a music journalist in New York, working for *Men's Journal* and *Rolling Stone* magazines. He ditched the rock 'n' roll lifestyle for travel writing and has written nearly 50 Lonely Planet guides, focused mainly on Brazil, Chile, Colombia, USA, India, the Caribbean and Portugal. Kevin also contributes to a variety of travel magazines in both the USA and UK. Along the way, the self-confessed hophead is in constant search of wildly high IBUs in local beers. Follow him on Twitter and Instagram @RaubOnTheRoad.

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