



t i m e l e s s
FUJAIRAH



هيئة السياحة والتراث
FUJAIRAH TOURISM & ANTIQUITIES AUTHORITY

A special edition visitors' guide produced by Explorer exclusively for Fujairah Tourism & Antiquities Authority askexplorer.com



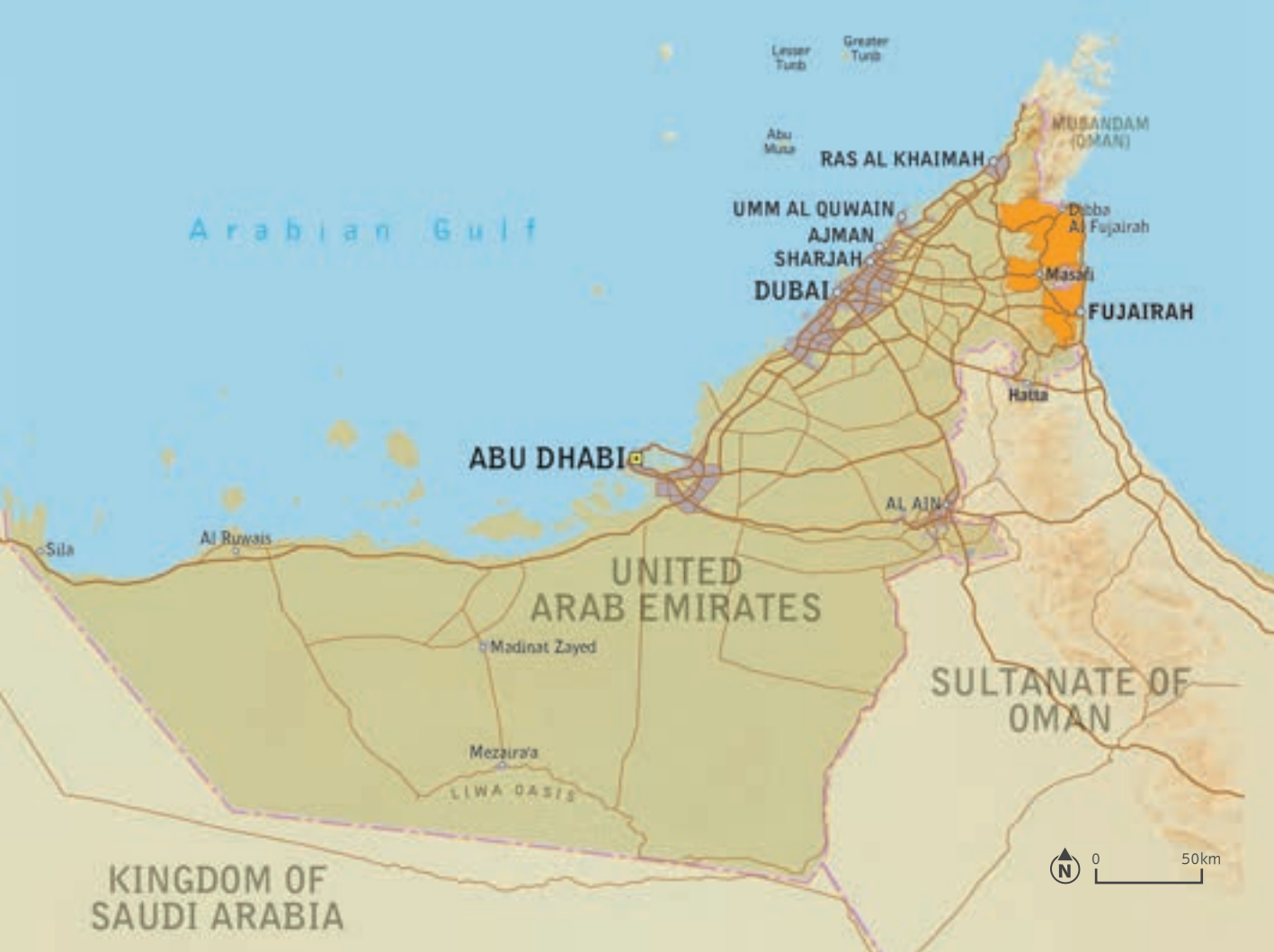
t i m e l e s s
FUJAIRAH

fujairahtourism.ae



t i m e l e s s
FUJAIRAH

Your essential travel guide



t i m e l e s s
FUJAI RAH

fujairatourism.ae

Fujairah Mini Visitors' Guide

Copyright © Fujairah Tourism & Antiquities Authority 2020
1st Edition – February 2020



مجلس السياحة والتراث
FUJAIRAH TOURISM & ANTIQUITIES AUTHORITY

Published For

Fujairah Tourism & Antiquities Authority
PO Box 500, Fujairah, United Arab Emirates
+971 9 223 1554 fujairahtourism.ae



Published By

Explorer Publishing & Distribution
PO Box 34275 Dubai, UAE
+971 4 340 8805 info@askexplorer.com
askexplorer.com

Photographs © Fujairah Tourism & Antiquities Authority
& Explorer Publishing & Distribution

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

While every effort and care has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this publication, the publisher and Fujairah Tourism & Antiquities Authority cannot accept responsibility for any errors and omissions it may contain.

WELCOME

Known for its splendid Indian Ocean coastline, year-round sunshine and peaceful, friendly atmosphere, Fujairah is famous for its sun-kissed beaches and rich underwater world. Out of the seven emirates comprising the United Arab Emirates, Fujairah is the only one that lies on the eastern side of the country along the Gulf of Oman. Visitors can enjoy luxurious seafront resorts, coral reefs and thrilling year-round watersports such as yachting, scuba diving and deep-sea fishing.

In the rugged interior, Fujairah's majestic mountain ranges and picturesque valleys are waiting to be discovered. The natural landscape is dotted with mineral springs and quaint, rural villages ideal for hiking, off-roading and camping.

Fujairah is also a great place to learn more about the history of the UAE with a fascinating array of cultural and heritage sites that include ancient forts, castles, mosques and heritage villages that honour the Arabian coastal life of yesteryear.

Whether you are visiting for a weekend or for business, as a family or as a couple, we hope this guide will help you explore Fujairah's many charms.

CONTENTS



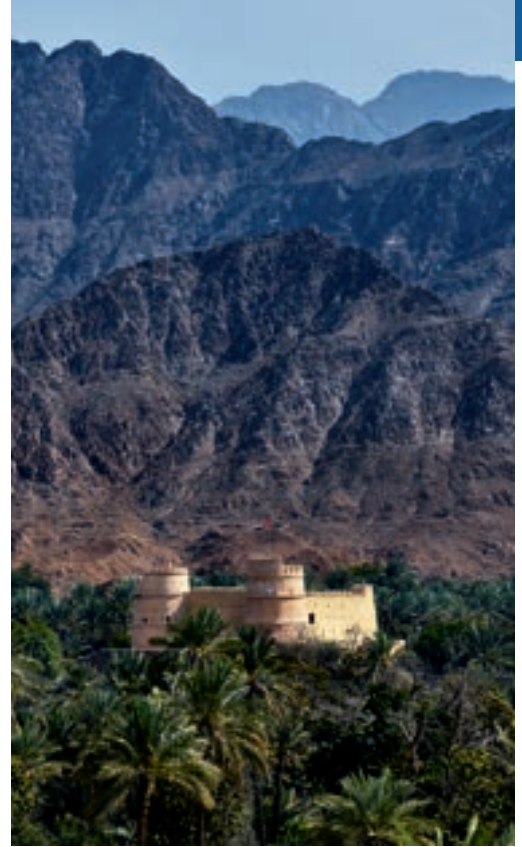
| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|------------|
| MUST DOS | 06 | ACTIVITIES | 53 |
| ESSENTIALS | 21 | Hiking, Camping & Off-Roadng | 54 |
| A Brief History | 22 | Fishing | 62 |
| Facts & Figures | 24 | Watersports | 64 |
| Vital Information | 26 | Scuba Diving & Snorkelling | 66 |
| Religion | 28 | Culture & Heritage | 70 |
| A Guide to | | Wellness | 78 |
| National Dress | 29 | Family Fun | 80 |
| Events & Festivals | 30 | Shopping | 82 |
| Language | 32 | | |
| ATTRACTIONS | 35 | PLACES TO STAY | 87 |
| Dibba | 36 | GOING OUT | 99 |
| Masafi | 38 | Local Specialties | 100 |
| Beaches & Parks | 40 | Seafood | 104 |
| Wadis & Mountains | 44 | Cafes | 105 |
| | | INDEX | 106 |

BEACHES

Fujairah's 70km Indian Ocean coastline has some of the country's best beaches [page 40](#)



AMAZING FORTS



Fujairah's forts and watchtowers are a majestic sight [page 70](#)

AL BIDYA MOSQUE



Step inside the oldest existing mosque in the country [page 75](#)

Explore Fujairah's wadis and mountains for breathtaking natural scenery [page 44](#)

THE GREAT OUTDOORS



WATERSPORTS

Glide, dip and splash about with an adrenaline-fuelled day out on the water [page 64](#)



SCUBA DIVING



Explore corals and wrecks at Fujairah's world-class dive sites [page 66](#)

WADI WURAYAH

The UNESCO Biosphere Reserve has some of the country's rarest plants and animals [page 51](#)



SHEIKH ZAYED MOSQUE



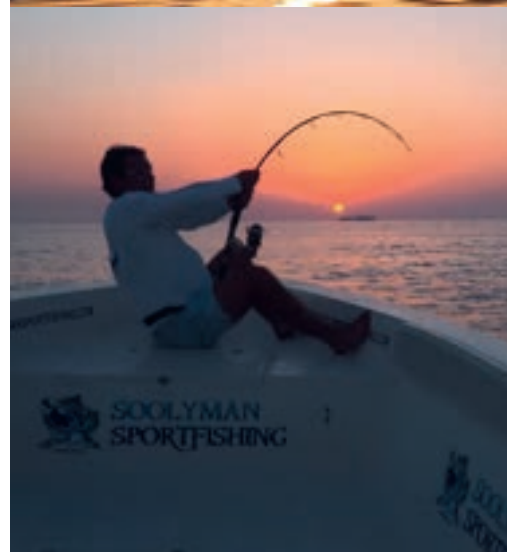
Fujairah's gleaming mosque is an architectural wonder [page 74](#)

BULLFIGHTING

Fujairah's famous Friday afternoon bullfight is a must-see [page 77](#)



FISHING



Haul in a big one with spectacular, year-round fishing [page 62](#)



Fresh seafood, traditional Arabic food and cafe culture [page 100](#)



SHOPPING

Pick up a one-of-a-kind holiday memento at Fujairah's markets and malls [page 82](#)



EVENTS & FESTIVALS



The annual calendar brims with fun events for all ages [page 30](#)



ESSENTIALS

Discover the real
Fujairah; its
present, its past
and its plans for
the future

A BRIEF HISTORY
22

FACTS & FIGURES
24

VITAL
INFORMATION
26

RELIGION
28

GUIDE TO
NATIONAL DRESS
29

EVENTS &
FESTIVALS
30

LANGUAGE
32



Fujairah is undergoing modernisation while honouring its ancient past

A BRIEF HISTORY

Fujairah's history can be traced back many thousands of years when the coastal area was inhabited by fishermen. Its modern history dates to 1808 when Sheikh Mohammed bin Mattar, the leader of the Al Sharqi tribe, built a castle surrounded by the old city. It is believed the emirate is named after 'tafajur', an Arabic word that refers to water gushing up from the emirate's mountainous springs.

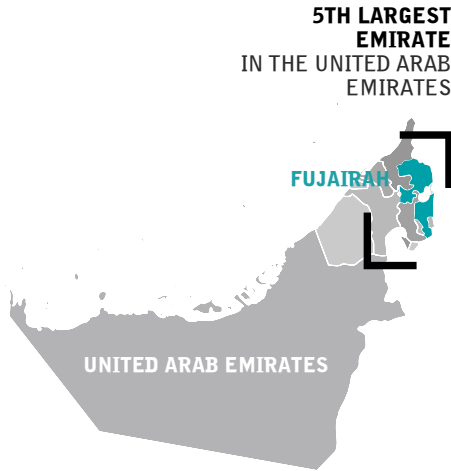
Fujairah joined the United Arab Emirates on December 2, 1971, and has undergone a rapid rate of economic, social and tourism development over the past few decades under the wise guidance of His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Mohammed Al Sharqi, Supreme Council member and Ruler of Fujairah.

With direct access to the Indian Ocean and international shipping routes, the emirate's historic seafaring and maritime activity continues to flourish at Fujairah Port – the only multi-purpose port on the eastern seaboard of the UAE, which has expanded into one of the three largest bunkering hubs in the world.

More than 800,000 tourists visit the emirate every year and mindful of the future, Fujairah 2040 Plan is an ambitious strategy to enhance infrastructure, boost hotel rooms and modernise the international airport. At the same time, Fujairah is focused on preserving its wonderful ancient history – reconstructing forts and castles and protecting important archaeological sites for tourists and generations to come.



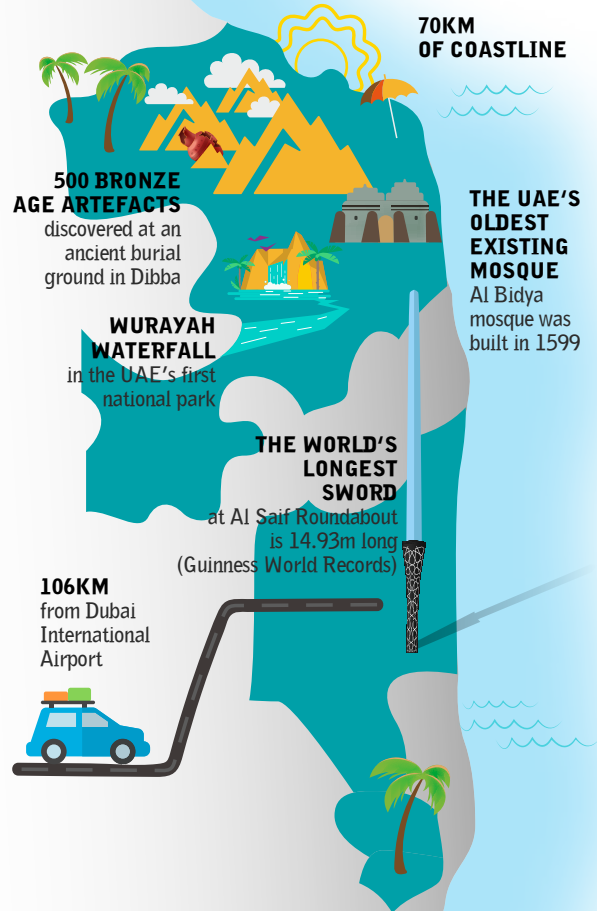
FACTS & FIGURES



25.4111° N, 56.2482° E
1,450 SQ KM
FUJAIRAH'S TOTAL LAND AREA



236,811
POPULATION
 Statistical Yearbook 2018



VITAL INFORMATION

**CLIMATE**

Av High 34.9°C
 Av Low 17.1°C
 Humidity 46-72%

**NATIONAL FLAG****TIME ZONE**

UTC 4+

**CURRENCY**

AED (Arab Emirate Dirham)
 \$ 1 = AED 3.67

**CALLING CODE**

Country +971
 Fujairah 09

**ELECTRICITY**

220/240 volts
 50 cycles
 Square three-pin socket

**WORKING HOURS**

Sunday to Thursday
 Government
 (8.30am-2.30pm)

USEFUL CONTACTS

Fujairah Tourism & Antiquities Authority (FTAA)
www.fujairhtourism.ae
 09 223 1554
 or 09 222 9085

Cars Taxi
 09 223 3533

Reyama Taxi
 056 754 4903

Fujairah International Airport
www.fujairah-airport.ae

999 for Police

998 for Ambulance

RELIGION



ISLAM

Islam is the official religion of the UAE and is widely practised throughout the country. There are many mosques in Fujairah and the call to prayer can be heard across the city. Muslims pray five times a day. You may see people kneeling to pray in public; it is considered impolite to stare at people praying or to walk over prayer mats. Friday is the Islamic holy day and many businesses are closed until mid-afternoon in accordance with state and Islamic law.

RAMADAN

During the holy month of Ramadan, Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset. Non-Muslims should also not eat, drink or smoke in public, and dressing more conservatively is recommended. Most businesses and services have shorter operating hours and may even close fully during the day. The month of Ramadan is not fixed and occurs earlier each year depending on the sighting of the moon. It concludes with a three-day holiday known as Eid Al Fitr.

A GUIDE TO NATIONAL DRESS

**KANDURA**

A white collarless, ankle-length shirt. On formal occasions, a black or brown robe called a bisht is worn over it as a jacket

**GUTRAH**

A white or red checked cloth headdress, secured with a black cord called an agal

**ABAYA**

A loose, flowing robe worn over clothing, ranging from simple black to embroidered fabric with unique sleeves

**SHEYLA**

A thin material scarf draped over the head to cover hair

**BURQA**

A stiff yet light fabric mask usually worn by older Emirati women to partially cover their face

EVENTS & FESTIVALS



Fujairah's annual festivities range from family-friendly cultural days to world-class international sporting competitions

FEBRUARY

Maktoum Al Sharqi Falconry Championship

The sport of falconry is an integral part of the UAE's heritage and this event, inaugurated in 2018, sees hundreds of falconers and their magnificent birds compete for prizes across various categories.

Fujairah International Arts Festival

Fujairah's biggest cultural and arts event draws hundreds of global artists with theatrical performances, street carnivals and traditional competitions taking place all over the emirate.

APRIL 18

World Heritage Day

Every year, Fujairah Tourism & Antiquities Authority celebrates UNESCO World Heritage Day with an array of traditional performances, competitions and local food to honour and preserve the emirate's heritage, identity and folklore.

DECEMBER 2

National Day

National Day celebrates the formation of the UAE on December 2, 1971 with lively national marches and public celebrations bringing together all of Fujairah's residents.

RAMADAN

Sports Championships

An action-packed series of sporting events is held throughout the month of Ramadan each year at a variety of venues, with skilled athletes thrilling spectators at football and taekwondo tournaments to cricket and beach volleyball matches.

SPORTING EVENTS

Fujairah's sporting calendar includes some adrenaline-fuelled world-class events such as Formula Future World Championship, Fujairah Offshore Fishing Tournament, and UIM XCAT World Championship. Others honour historic Emirati traditions – particularly Fujairah Al Shoosh Traditional Race and Fujairah Traditional Rowing Race, which use traditional boats used by east coast fishermen.



A little Arabic can go a long way and is always appreciated – especially “truly local” phrases

LANGUAGE

Hello/Goodbye Marhaba (hello) and Maasalaamah (goodbye or with peace) are standard greetings. As-salaamu alaykom is more formal and means “peace be upon you”. The response is: “Wa alaykom is salaam”

Thank you Shukran

Yes and No Na’am (yes) and La (No)

Please Min fadlik (female) and Min fadlak (male)

I’m sorry/excuse me/you’re welcome
Afwaan works if you bump someone in a crowd, need to excuse yourself or say “you’re welcome”

Dear The English term of endearment is used widely but habibi (f: habibti) is just as popular



If Allah wills it Inshallah is used liberally to mean “hopefully”, such as “He will be OK inshallah”

Thanks to Allah Alhamdulillah is used to express gratitude

It’s what Allah wished Maashallah is used to express appreciation, to congratulate someone for having a beautiful child or a nice car

TALK LIKE AN EMIRATI

Yallah
“Come on”, “Let’s go” or “Hurry up”

Wallah?
“Really?” or “Are you serious?”

Yanni
A filler similar to “Like” or “You know?”

Shu Hadha/Shu ha
Used to express frustration, meaning “What’s this?”

Khalas
“Enough”, “Stop” or “Finish” – ideal to get your taxi driver to stop or to indicate you’ve had enough to eat



ATTRACTIONS

DIBBA
36

MASAFI
38

BEACHES &
PARKS
40

WADIS &
MOUNTAINS
44

Fujairah is a
treasure trove of
natural wonders
waiting to be
discovered



SAIL AWAY

Experience Dibba Al Fujairah's serene sea views and marine life from a traditional wooden dhow.

For visitors eager to stay longer, Dibba Al Fujairah has some other sights, such as the peaceful park at Dibba Beach – the social heart of the seaside town where families and friends gather for coffee, picnics and coastal strolls. Amid the low-lying plantations, it's also possible to rent small farms in the rural villages for a truly local experience. For history buffs, don't miss the archaeological site known as Dibba Al Fujairah Fort/Castle.

Dibba Al Fujairah is a tranquil retreat surrounded by natural beauty

DIBBA

A charming seaside town at the northern tip of the eastern Arabian Peninsula, Dibba Al Fujairah is a sleepy little place with mesmerising views of the Gulf and the mountains. The sheer peaks rise to spectacular heights in this part of the emirate, drawing hikers and campers from around the country, while others embark on scuba diving, fishing and sailing trips from Dibba Port, exploring calm blue waters and hidden coves aboard an Arabian dhow. These traditional wooden sailing vessels offer an unhurried, memorable way to experience the beauty of the Arabian Peninsula with easily arranged, fully-crewed day and overnight trips.



MASAFI



Masafi is the perfect place to pick up some souvenirs of your East Coast adventure

The small town of Masafi is perhaps best known for its natural mineral water, which is drawn from a number of natural underground springs running beneath the foothills of the majestic Hajar Mountains. The rocky landscape acts as a natural filtration system, distilling and purifying the water and adding salts, ions and minerals.

With so many natural springs running between the layers of ancient rock, the surrounding wadis around Masafi are particularly lush with rural farms growing all kinds of vegetables and exotic fruits, many of which are sold at Souq Al Juma. This legendary market – which is better known as Friday Market, even though it operates every day of the week – lines both sides of the main road. It's a popular stop-off point for visitors who can buy all manner of things from plants, souvenirs and Fujairah's famous earthenware pottery to local dates and honey.

Masafi is also home to some of Fujairah's important archaeological sites, many of which are being restored for visitors.

STEP BACK IN TIME

One of the most accessible archaeological sites in this area is Masafi Fort, a small yet interesting fort that was restored in the early 2000s.

BEACHES & PARKS



There are plenty of ways to soak up the sunshine in Fujairah with 70km of coastline and beautiful parks

BEACHES

Fujairah’s Indian Ocean coastline is beautifully scenic with the majestic peaks of the Hajar Mountains hugging the shoreline. Beaches are diverse, from rocky, flat strips to sandy crescents. In the city, much of the seafront is occupied by container ports and the terminal but the southern end of Fujairah Corniche is being transformed to make the most of the ocean panorama. For pleasant swimming, head to the calm waters at palm-lined Umbrella Beach.

For more beaches, head north on the coastal road to Dibba. Qidfa is a peaceful sandy beach with shaded seating areas while the long stretch of open, rocky coastline at Al Fiquet draws family holidaymakers with its food trucks and designated camping grounds. For soft sand and watersports, Al Aqah is famous for its vividly blue Gulf waters, mountainous backdrop and five-star resorts with private beaches.

AL AQAH ISLAND

Located opposite the Sandy Beach Hotel and Al Aqah Beach, Al Aqah Island offers some of the best diving, snorkelling and marine life experiences in Fujairah with a richly coloured coral reef and diverse sea life.

The open beaches to either side are public and popular for swimming, camping and aquatic fun of every kind, such as stand-up paddleboarding.

Dibba Al Fujairah is the ideal place to set off on a dhow trip to snorkel and swim in sheltered coves. If you're staying ashore, Coral Bay just south of the port is a petite, protected beach hidden from the road by trees. Swimming isn't permitted at Dibba Beach, though the adjacent park – dotted with playgrounds and lawns – is ideal for picnicking.



From left: Dibba Beach, Ain Madhab Park, Al Aqah Island

PICNIC TIME

There's nothing Fujairah residents love more than a picnic and there are few places as pretty to unroll a rug as Ain Madhab Park. Situated in the foothills of the mountains just 50 metres from Fujairah Fort next to Heritage Village, this landscaped park (closed on Sundays) has rolling lawns and tall trees, playgrounds and even swimming pools. Another great park for picnics is Ladies Park, where women and children can spend time outdoors. The park has beautiful views, diverse flowers, comfortable seating areas and a fun and safe children's play area, along with a cafeteria offering snacks and drinks.



WADIS & MOUNTAINS

Fujairah's peaks and wadis have a raw, natural beauty with limitless potential for exploration

Fujairah's rugged terrain owes much of its splendour to the Hajar Mountains, the highest range in the eastern Arabian Peninsula. The lush greenery can often take visitors by surprise with date plantations and farms that grow wonderfully fresh produce. Take advantage of the cooler winter temperatures to hike, camp or mountain bike. In summer, try an off-road drive in the comfort of an air-conditioned 4WD or beat the heat in the mountains. The wadis listed here are easily accessible, though the terrain requires a 4WD unless specified.



ANCIENT ROCK ART

Human figures, leopards and camels are just some of the Bronze Age petroglyphs found in Fujairah's wadis, including Wadi Al Hayl and Wadi Saham. Etched into the rock face, the ancient art dates back more than 3,000 years. Most of these outdoor art galleries are being preserved but some glyphs are on display at Fujairah Museum.



Wadi Al Hayl

A tarmac road leads to Al Hayl Fort, making this wadi accessible in a 2WD. The wadi and the surrounding mountains are prime for picnicking, easy hikes and even a water view at Hayl Dam.

Map 2 H2

Wadi Khabb & Jebel Yibir

Long and narrow Wadi Khabb winds past small hamlets and scenic rock formations before ascending to the 1,527 metre Jebel Yibir.

Map 2 C4 and 2 A4

Wadi Sidr & Sana

These picturesque fertile valleys are easily accessible from Masafi and are lined with farms and plantations that wind up to a mountain plateau with fantastic views down to the sea and Dibba.

Map 2 C4

From top left:
Wadi Sidr &
Sana, Jebel
Yibir, Wadi Al
Hayl, and above,
Camping at Wadi
Sidr & Sana



From left: Hiking
in Wadi Tayyibah,
calcite pools in
Wadi Madaq

Wadi Tayyibah

Ideal for the wetter months when the seasonal pools, streams and waterfalls are flowing, this lush wadi also has a small village and Tayyibah Museum for a glimpse into the area's history.

Map 2 D3

Wadi Madaq

Dotted with small villages and farms, the wadi's bright aquamarine pools get their colour from calcite-rich geology. The wadi winds through a mountainous region with caves and fossils and leads to a section where the rocky terrain meets desert dunes.

Map 2 E4

Wadi Siji

Scattered with farms, this wadi is popular for off-roading and is home to a dam that can store 1.2 million cubic metres of water.

Map 2 F5



Wadi Wurayah – UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

With its freshwater streams and beautiful waterfall, Wadi Wurayah National Park is a natural treasure that has been recognised for its astonishing variety of flora and fauna. There are some 208 plant species and 13 mammals found in the wadi such as the caracal lynx and Blanford's Fox, with recent sightings of the Indian crested porcupine. The 222-square-kilometre park also has 15 reptile and 94 bird species, including the rare Omani owl, and 25 different kinds of dragonflies.

As one of the few places left in the UAE where traditional farming practices continue, Wadi Wurayah's Biosphere Reserve status means the area is recognised for maintaining a balance between humans and nature. While access might be restricted to protect the fragile ecosystem, some areas are open for ecological activities with permits and access arranged through select operators such as Fujairah Adventures (fujairahadventures.com).



ACTIVITIES

There's something
for everyone in the
emirate's rugged
great outdoors

HIKING, CAMPING &
OFF-ROADING
54

FISHING
62

WATERSPORTS
64

SCUBA DIVING &
SNORKELLING
66

CULTURE &
HERITAGE
70

WELLNESS
78

FAMILY FUN
80

SHOPPING
82

HIKING, CAMPING & OFF-ROADING

Fujairah's amazing natural scenery is an outdoor playground. Pitch a tent on a beach or head to the wadis and mountains to hike, bike and off-road



OFF-ROADING

The Hajar Mountains are ideal for 4WD off-road adventures with easy-to-follow tracks that wind through wadis. The driving is varied and picturesque through striking geological landscapes with rocky boulders, rural farms and villages. In the wetter months, the landscape is verdant with plantations and seasonal pools. For fans of desert driving, Fujairah's red-orange dunes are easily reached from Masafi.



For more information, routes and tips, check out Explorer's UAE Off-Road guide at askexplorer.com/shop



CAMPING

Fujairah's diverse landscape offers myriad places to pitch a tent and sleep under the stars.

Beach

The wide, sandy beaches to either side of Al Aqah are popular spots while the rocky stretch of Al Fiquet beach (families only) can get busy during holiday weekends, with food trucks for convenience. The tiny, protected beach of Coral Bay is idyllic, facing Dibba Bay's Hajar Mountains north at Dibba Al Fujairah.



TAKE CARE

Please be mindful of the environment and be sure to take all waste with you when you leave.

Desert

Camp amid rust-red dunes framed by mountains in Fujairah's unique desert region, easily reached from Masafi.

Mountains & Wadis

The pretty oasis scenery of Wadi Tayyibah is popular for shaded date-palm plantations, small villages and even seasonal pools. For high-elevation campsites with spectacular views, try the designated campsites on Jebel Yibir or the plateau between Wadi Sana and Wadi Sidr. The mountainous Al Tawyeen area is popular with mountaineers and hikers with natural caves and viewpoints. Closer to the city, try Fujairah Adventure Park, an outdoor park with designated camp sites and facilities that's ideal for families.



MOUNTAIN BIKING

Trails in Fujairah's wadis and mountains are varied and exciting. Beginners can ride through Masafi's lush plantations along rolling 4WD tracks. Experienced bikers can tackle steep, white-knuckle trails on Jebel Yibir or Wadi Sana for a challenging climb of 500 metres in three kilometres, epic views and an equally thrilling descent.



FUJAIRAH ADVENTURE PARK

The emirate has grand plans to transform into the top adventure hub in the region, and thrill-seekers can get their fix at an enormous new family-friendly park dedicated entirely to outdoor recreation. It's just one of Fujairah Adventures' many projects and sites designed for visitors to get active and take in the natural scenery. Phase 1 includes well-marked hiking trails, camp sites and rest areas, while skateboarders and BMX-ers can hurtle around a 1,800-square-metre asphalt pump track built by Velosolutions, ideal for skaters and riders of all levels.

09 222 2252; fujairahadventures.com

LOOK OUT FOR AFLAJ

A falaj is an ancient system of channels carved or built into the stone. A traditional way to irrigate farms, aflaj (the plural) are still widely used today in Fujairah and you will likely spot one while hiking.

HIKING

There's a hike for all levels in Fujairah's rugged mountain peaks and wadis, from gentle ambles to more intense treks. Wadi Tayyibah has plateaus with views over the valleys, an ancient falaj and rock pools after the rain. For budding archaeologists, Wadi Madaq's caves and fossils make an interesting day's exploration. More experienced trekkers can venture through Wadi Khabb to Jebel Yibir; at 1,527 metres, it's the highest peak in the UAE with high-altitude trails and sensational views.

A series of well-marked trails designed by Fujairah Adventures (09 222 2252; fujairahadventures.com) take in the best of the emirate.

Fujairah Adventure Park – 10km

Just minutes from the city, these gentle beginner and intermediate trails wind through wadis and mountain ranges, and past a natural lake with views of the old city and Heritage Village. [Map 1 D5](#)

Fujairah City Trails – 1.9km

Flag Trails (The Seven Summits) is wonderful for beginners, families or special needs visitors with monuments, rest areas and viewpoints overlooking farms and the city of Fujairah. [Map 1 E6](#) [Map 2 H2](#)



STAY SAFE

The UAE's climate and conditions require some extra precautions.

- Let someone know where you are going at all times
- Stay hydrated and carry more water and food than you think
- Take a first aid kit and a charged mobile phone
- Double up with GPS and a map
- Don't underestimate the sun – slather on the sunscreen and cover up
- Temperatures can plummet in winter, especially at altitude; warmer clothes are essential
- Pay attention when hiking – rocks are sharp and can be unsteady underfoot
- Never camp in wadis if there's a chance of rain; flash floods can occur within seconds

Al Sharya Trails – 2.5km

A more challenging, intermediate hike takes in scenic views over farms, old villages and the city.

[Map 1 B2](#)

Al Tawyeen

From beginners to advanced explorers, this mountainous region is a hub for rock climbing and mountaineering, rich with ancient petroglyphs, viewpoints and caves. Some trails have solar-powered lights for night hikes.

[Map 2 B4](#)

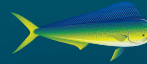


Marlin, yellowfin tuna, dorado – these are just some of the enormous fish found in the waters off Fujairah’s east coast

FISHING

Fujairah is an angler’s dream – a fantastic fishing destination with deeper waters and large oil tankers off the coast attracting colossal species like striped marlin and sailfish. Unlike the rest of the country, sports fishing is a year-round activity in Fujairah. In fact, many species tend to be more active in the warmer summer months meaning there’s always the potential to snare a big one, though make sure you opt for an operator that follows sustainable and responsible catch and release practices – particularly with species like sailfish and marlin. Head to Fujairah International Marine Club to find licensed captains and boats fitted with all the required gear from rods and reels to tackle and lures. Afterwards, the crew will happily clean up your catch for you to take home or better still, arrange to have it cooked at a local restaurant.

FUJAIRAH FISH SPECIES



DORADO (MAY-SEPT)

Also known as mahi-mahi, these tremendous fish can grow to 40kg and are found around tankers and channel markers



SAILFISH (YEAR-ROUND)

With sail-like dorsal fins, they can grow up to 3m in length and are found in both shallow and deeper waters



YELLOWFIN TUNA (MAY-SEPT)

Marked by bright yellow dorsal fins, these fish can reach a whopping 180kg and can be caught during the day and night



AMBERJACK (YEAR-ROUND)

This deep-water fish can be found lurking around buoys, wrecks and pinnacles

WATERSPORTS



Whether you're a thrill-seeker or prefer something more leisurely, Fujairah is an aquatic playground

Watery fun abounds along the east coast. Most of the beachfront resorts have on-site dive and watersports centres offering an exhilarating array of activities. Choose from wakeboarding, jet-skiing or parasailing – one of the most popular activities that sees people parachute through the air with a bird's eye view over the Gulf and the stunning Hajar Mountains.

Adrenaline junkies can get strapped into the Tornado – an oversized, towable tube pulled along by a speedboat, while families can share a giggle with a banana boat ride. There are many more relaxed options to enjoy the warm, clear waters, such as stand-up paddleboarding, pedalos and kayaking.

Outside of hotels, opt for a professional watersports provider like Adventure Sports (adventuresports.ae).

JUST CRUISE

For boat cruises and yacht charters with licensed operators, head to Fujairah International Marine Club (fimc.ae).

SCUBA DIVING & SNORKELLING



The splendour of Fujairah's underwater life attracts scuba divers from around the world

From shallow reefs to coral-covered wrecks teeming with colourful fish – Fujairah has the best diving in the UAE. The Indian Ocean marine life includes sting rays, black-tip reef sharks and turtles with dolphins and bigger pelagic species like whale sharks, which are spotted every year between April and July.

The underwater visibility averages between eight to nine metres while most sites are just a 10- or maximum 20-minute boat ride from shore. Among the most interesting sites are the wrecks – purposefully sunk, decommissioned ships that have now transformed into a thriving habitat for

marine life. Exploring wrecks requires advanced certification and should intrepid divers wish to go even deeper to see a U-533 German submarine wreck at a depth of 100 metres, technical experience is a must.

Fujairah is already a dive hotspot but looks set to become even more so with much talked-about plans to create the world's largest coral garden off the coast, which is expected to set a Guinness World Record.





TAKE THE PLUNGE

There's no need to be an expert to dive Fujairah – novices are welcome with local dive centres set up at many of the beach hotels offering scuba gear, PADI certification courses, discovery dives and even Bubble Maker courses for children aged eight and up.

Al Boom Diving

Le Méridien Al Aqah Beach Resort
04 342 2993; alboomdiving.com

Freestyle Divers

Royal Beach Hotel & Resort
050 891 8207; freestyledivers.me

Divers Down UAE

Miramar Al Aqah
050 553 1688; diversdownuae.com

XR Hub Dive Center

Fujairah International Marine Club
056 1386 233; xrdiving.com

AFTER DARK

Experienced divers can uncover a wealth of more timid exotic marine species, which venture out after the sun goes down.

POPULAR DIVE SITES

Dibba Rock

The country's first protected marine reserve (6 metres) is rich with coral gardens, resident reef sharks, turtles, barracuda and clownfish.

Inchcape 1 and 2

Two shipwrecks (30 and 22 metres) are suitable for advanced divers with brilliant coral, honeycomb moray eels, lionfish and seahorses.

Hole in the Wall

This swim-through rock (5-15 metres) has hard coral, rays, turtles, seahorses and nudibranchs.

Sharm Rocks

Three shallow rock pinnacles (9-14 metres) are home to clownfish, turtles, barracuda, yellowtail snapper, pipefish and cuttlefish.

Martini Rock

A submerged rock (12-19 metres) with soft coral, porcupine puffers, green turtles, parrot fish, nudibranchs and broomtail wrasse.

WHERE TO GO SNORKELLING

If you prefer to snorkel, Al Aqah Island, Dibba Rock, Martini Rock and Sharm Rocks all offer shallow coral gardens.

CULTURE & HERITAGE

FORTS & CASTLES

Used for surveillance and defence and standing through times of peace and strife, step inside these archaeological gems for an insight into Arabian life of yesteryear.

Fujairah Fort

Standing guard on a 20-metre rocky hilltop three kilometres from the coast, Fujairah Fort, considered one of the largest and most important forts in the area, was constructed between 1500 and 1550 and rebuilt between 1650 and 1700. It was also renovated several times, the most recent of which was the comprehensive restoration that ended in 2000. Its design – three circular towers, a square tower and a central hall – is unique in the region.



Al Hayl Fort & Village

Once the home of the ruling Al Sharqi family, the fort is set on a steep 40-metre hill near Wadi Al Hayl's ancient petroglyphs. Built in 1930, the robust fortress occupied an important strategic location on the way to Fujairah. After it was demolished, Al Hayl Square was built on a hill about 15 metres above ground. It consists of two floors and a roof that was dedicated to surveillance and defence as it has clear views of the surrounding areas.

Al Bithna Fort

Located in Al Bithna village, west of Fujairah on a hilltop surrounded by a lush green oasis, Al Bithna Fort is the second largest in the emirate with a long history of wars and battles. The fort consists of a main three-floor building that can be accessed through a very small gate, and a base with eight holes that enabled surveillance in all directions. It's also possible to climb the towers and explore rooms that include a midbassa (date storage room).

Awhala Fort

Standing on an Iron Age fort site, Awhala Fort is considered one of the largest fortresses discovered in the south-east Arabian Peninsula. The fort, estimated to be about 250 years old, has an 11-metre tower, intricate decorative features on the walls and a water well.

Masafi Fort

Dating back to 1450, this square-shaped fort is located on a small, low hill with one seven-metre-high circular tower in its south-western corner. Made from mud, stones and palm branches with multiple rooms that were built at different periods, the aflaj (water channels) discovered by a Japanese archeological team in the ground beneath the fort were used to irrigate farms in the area.



Dibba Al Fujairah Fort/Castle

Located in the Al Ghurfah area of Dibba, this majestic, historic castle is uniquely positioned away from the seashore, which helped to protect it from attacks by soldiers, who were an easy target from the forts's tall towers. The fort witnessed many wars between the Persians and the Arab inhabitants of the ancient city of Dibba, who were known as the Azad. The Azad defeated the Persians after failing to conclude a treaty and took over the famous castle, which had been left in ruins.

Sakamkam Fort

Built on a 13-metre hill overlooking the surrounding area, this fort is considered one of the most important historical sites in the emirate. Recently renovated by Fujairah Tourism & Antiquities Authority with a circular tower; a room, kitchen and bathroom; a small prison and an outdoor courtyard, the fort protected the area and its farms and houses, and controlled the corridor between the coast and the interior. Sakamkam residents also used the fort as a meeting place to discuss social matters and celebrate special occasions.



MOSQUES & MUSEUMS

Explore Fujairah's rich Islamic and Arabian heritage through religious structures and fascinating artefacts.

FAST FACTS

- Sheikh Zayed Mosque can hold 32,000 worshippers and 14,000 in the courtyard
- The mosque has 65 domes and six minarets that rise between 84m and 100m
- The mosque's basement houses more than 200 ablution stations
- The female prayer hall can accommodate 2,500 women

Sheikh Zayed Mosque

An Islamic architectural masterpiece and a cultural landmark, Fujairah's much-photographed mosque is the country's second largest. Constructed with gleaming white granite and marble, the mosque is built on an area the size of three football fields. One of Fujairah's most important tourist destinations, the mosque makes an impressive sight, particularly when lit up at night.

Fujairah Museum

Opened in 1991, Fujairah Museum is now one of the most important museums in the UAE with a lens on Emirati history and heritage. With its two antique halls and three heritage halls, the museum gives visitors a closer look at rock art found in the region and ancient weapons, tools and artefacts discovered from four main sites

(Dibba Al Fujairah, Bidya, Bithna and Qidfa) that prove Fujairah was inhabited since the 3rd millennium BC. In the ethnography pavilion, traditional Emirati heritage comes to life through exhibits on agriculture and fishing with various handicrafts and elaborate Bedouin jewellery on display.

Al Bidya Mosque

Located on a low hillside on the coastal road to Dibba (see page 8), this mud-brick structure is the UAE's oldest existing mosque, built in 1599. With four curved domes, modestly dressed visitors can step inside to see smooth plastered walls that retain original elements, such as decorative carvings and a Mihrab prayer niche. Afterwards, walk up to the watchtowers for a beautiful view over local palm plantations.

Heritage Village

Spanning 6,000-sqm in Madhab, Heritage Village is a step back in time. The display village showcases Fujairah's history and heritage with models of traditional homes, tools and vessels used by ancient inhabitants, such as old fishing nets and boats. Figurines depict traditions and customs, while antiques and artefacts date back 300 years and include pottery, copper utensils, weapons, clothing and jewellery.



TRADITIONAL SPORTS

The east coast's heritage lives on with Fujairah's unique maritime and cultural events.

ON THE WATER

Made entirely from the stems of date palm fronds, shoosh or shasha (the plural) are small boats that were used by fishermen for centuries along the east coast of the UAE and Oman. While the reed boats are no longer used for fishing, they are still made by a few Fujairah craftsmen.

The Arab sailing races organised by the UAE Marine Sports Federation are also incredibly enjoyable to watch.

BULLFIGHTING

Fujairah's bullfight, held every Friday afternoon on the corniche for more than 70 years, is a bloodless sport. There are no matadors or red capes – rather, the event sees proud cattle owners leading their prized bulls into a fenced ring where they butt heads and lock horns. The winner is the beast that can use its sheer strength to successfully push away its opponent. There's no prize money exchanged and the atmosphere is light-hearted with families even bringing along young children.

REARING A WINNER

The pampered bulls are well looked after by their owners – some are even fed honey.



Fujairah's fresh ocean air sets the scene for head-to-toe pampering and world-class spa experiences

WELLNESS

ARABIAN RITUALS

The UAE's dates, mineral-rich camel milk and Arabian coffee don't just taste amazing – they are also used in beauty and wellness treatments. The one-hour hammam rituals at Willow Stream Spa (fairmont.com/fujairah) are inspired by Fujairah and the UAE and use products fused with these locally-sourced super-ingredients.

SPA PROGRAMMES

Pair a coastal break with a side of Mediterranean wellness at the first L'Occitane-branded spa in the Middle East (fujairah.intercontinental.com). Comprehensive one-, three- and five-day programmes include private yoga classes and detox therapies along with Provençal-inspired spa treatments.



From left: Willow Stream Spa at the Fairmont, Synergy Healing Centre, and yoga at InterContinental Fujairah Resort

HOLISTIC WELL-BEING

For mind and body wellness, Synergy Healing Centre is a well-being haven (synergyhealingcentre.ae). The chic villa opposite Century Mall offers world-class physiotherapy, yoga and Pilates classes along with hydrotherapy plunge pools, Ayurvedic consultation, vegan treats and cleansing juices.

AYURVEDA

The ancient Indian practice of Ayurveda can soothe and cure all manner of ailments and forms the basis for restorative treatments at Softouch Ayurveda (softouchspa.com) at Le Méridien Al Aqah Beach Resort. Try a massage with warm, medicated oil or a facial designed for your specific dosha type.

NATURE WELLNESS

Yoga, horse-riding and even swimming with camels at a local beach – connecting guests with Mother Nature is the philosophy at The Retreat, which arranges get-away-from-it-all wellness experiences and accommodation in the mountains north of Bidya (theretreat.ae).



Fujairah is incredibly family-friendly with a great mix of activities and adventure for all ages – here's what to do with children in tow

FAMILY FUN

KID-FRIENDLY CULTURE

Spark their imaginations by climbing ancient forts and watchtowers dotted around the mountains. The bullfight held every Friday near the corniche is also popular with kids – the sight of the enormous bulls butting heads will fascinate them!

AQUATIC FUN

Let them cool off with watersports, zooming around on an inflatable banana boat or tackling the slides and obstacles at the floating waterpark, Aqua Bounce, which is located at Fairmont Fujairah Beach Resort and open to non-guests.

BEAT THE HEAT

When it's time to escape into air-conditioning, the kids' clubs at resorts can be a lifesaver – as can the city's modern malls. Check out play centres like Fun City at Century Mall or Magic Planet at City Centre Fujairah, which also has the 11-screen VOX Cinemas.

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Roam palm orchards, clamber over rocks and look for fossils in Fujairah's mountains and wadis. Elsewhere, little ones can expend energy in the playgrounds and gardens of Ain Madhab Park, which also has small swimming pools (separate for men and women). If you have a mini Federer or a budding Olympic swimmer, Fujairah Tennis & Country Club has five courts and a lovely 25-metre outdoor pool.

MEET MARINE LIFE

Spot colourful fish while snorkelling around Al Aqah Island or board a dhow from Dibba for a day of swimming and snorkelling. If you have older kids (eight and up), sign them up for a Bubble Maker course at a PADI-certified dive centre where they'll learn how to breathe underwater.





Browse boutiques at modern malls or find locally made handicrafts at traditional markets

SHOPPING

MARKETS

Souq Al Juma in Masafi, better known as Friday Market, is a popular shopping destination for buying Fujairah's famous clay pottery made by local craftsmen, from large earthenware pots to smaller, elaborately designed recreations of Bronze Age pieces discovered at archaeological sites.

Look out for dates and local honey and before leaving, order a fresh juice and grilled corn on the cob from a vendor – the perfect snack before continuing your drive.



FRESH PRODUCE

Head to Thursday Market in Dibba where streetside vendors sell a colourful array of carpets and spices, among other products. Also, visit Fujairah's Central Market for local meat, fruit and vegetables, and seafood from fishermen arriving ashore with their daily catch.



MALLS

City Centre Fujairah

Offering choice, convenience and value for money across a wide range of categories, the mall features 105 brands, a Carrefour Hypermarket and multi-screen VOX Cinemas along with a Magic Planet family entertainment centre and international dining. 09 201 2310; citycentrefujairah.com

Fujairah Mall

An exclusive one-stop destination, the two-storey Fujairah Mall includes 81 shops and as it's located next to the main highway into the city, it's easily accessible from all residential and business districts. 09 224 4400; fujairahmall.ae

Century Mall

This mall has more than 130 retail outlets along with eight cinemas, a games arcade, fine-dining restaurants, cafes, food court, department stores and a Carrefour Hypermarket. 09 223 5118; safeergroup.com

Lulu Mall

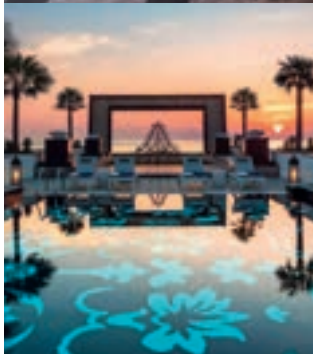
Just 10 minutes from anywhere in the city, the mall offers everything from shopping to fitness centres and entertainment to government services, and includes a Lulu Hypermarket. 09 202 5111; lulumallfujairah.com





PLACES TO STAY

Check in and relax
at one of Fujairah's
modern hotels or
beachside resorts



Fujairah has a hotel for all tastes and occasions from upscale resorts with private beaches to city hotels with mountain and sea views

Le Méridien Al Aqah Beach Resort Al Aqah

Winningly family friendly with Indian Ocean views, a private beach, multiple swimming pools and a kids' club, the hotel also has a spa and dive centre on site plus an extensive array of restaurants.

09 244 9000; marriott.com

Fairmont Fujairah Beach Resort Dibba

Backed by a mountainous landscape with top-notch dining and a luxurious spa, this beachfront property is a watersports hub with Fujairah's first-ever floating waterpark. The popular Lava Beach Club has multiple swimming pools, a kids' club and plush day chalets.

09 204 1111; fairmont.com

InterContinental Fujairah Resort Al Aqah

The all-white architecture, private beach and impressive infinity pools are accompanied by five-star dining and leisure facilities from a L'Occitane Spa and PADI-certified dive centre to kids' and teens' clubs.

09 209 9999; fujairah.intercontinental.com

Top: Le Méridien Al Aqah Beach Resort.
Centre: Fairmont Fujairah Beach Resort.
Bottom: InterContinental Fujairah Resort

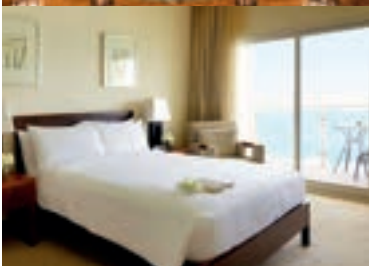
Miramar Al Aqah Beach Hotel Resort Al Aqah

The low-rise Moroccan-style resort faces the 200-metre Al Aqah beach with verdant grounds and pools. The hotel has numerous bars and restaurants, a PADI watersports centre and ample leisure and wellness facilities. 09 244 9994; miramaralakah.com



Radisson Blu Fujairah Resort Dibba

With sea-facing rooms and multiple restaurants, the hotel has a 500-metre private beach with five outdoor pools, scuba diving and a health club. 09 244 9700; radissonblu.com



Fujairah Rotana Resort & Spa Al Aqah Beach Al Aqah

A palazzo-style resort with terraces and lush grounds, the ample facilities include six restaurants, huge swimming pools and the Flipper's Kids' Club along with Zen the spa and an on-site PADI-certified dive and watersports centre. 09 244 9888; rotana.com

Blue Diamond AlSalam Resort Fujairah Fujairah Corniche

This modern hotel has a central location on the corniche with a bridge that links to Fujairah International Marine Club, a stretch of private beach plus an expansive, palm-fringed pool and sea-facing rooms and apartments. 09 202 7000; bluebayresorts.com

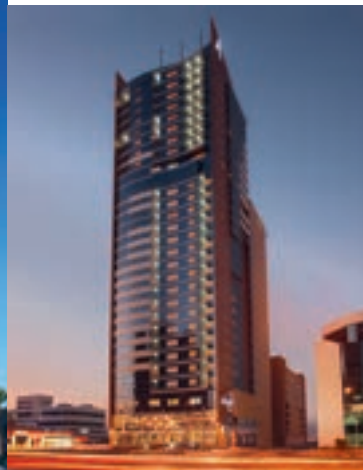
Al Diar Siji Hotel Fujairah Fujairah City

With smart rooms and suites and just moments on foot to the airport, malls and exhibition centre, this city hotel caters to both business and leisure guests. The hotel has a well-equipped executive floor, a gym and hair salons and even a bowling alley.
09 223 2000; aldiarhotels.com



Concorde Fujairah Hotel Fujairah City

Rooms at this upmarket urban hotel enjoy sweeping views out to the mountains with more panoramas from the rooftop pool. The hotel is a short stroll from city sights and shopping malls with a gym, all-day dining and Arabic restaurants.
09 224 9000; onetoonehotels.com



Nour Arjaan by Rotana Hotel Fujairah City

Longer-stay guests and corporate travellers will appreciate deluxe apartment kitchenettes, a Bodylines gym and the convenient city centre location. The extra niceties include a rooftop pool with views over the Hajar Mountains and the Sheikh Zayed Mosque.
09 202 5555; rotana.com

Sandy Beach Hotel & Resort Al Aqah

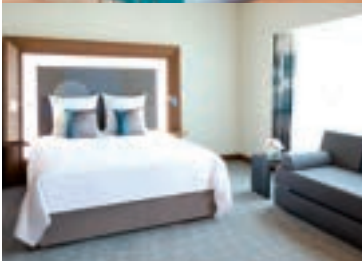
Full of character and laid-back charm, this beachfront favourite overlooks snorkel and dive hotspot, Al Aqah Island. Along with watersports and PADI-certified diving, the mix of bungalows, chalets and apartments are perfect for families with relaxed eateries and an Ayurvedic spa to boot.
09 244 5555; sandybeachhotel.ae



Novotel Fujairah Hotel Fujairah City

This contemporary four-star in the centre of the business and commercial district has plenty to attract leisure guests too with a wonderful outdoor pool and a 1920s style speakeasy bar.

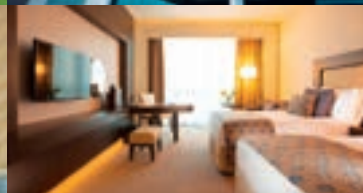
09 223 9999; accorhotels.com



Royal Beach Hotel & Resort Dibba

With a mix of suites, family-friendly chalets and villas, this beachfront property has a sandy stretch facing protected marine reserve, Dibba Rock, with children's playgrounds, pools and a ladies' spa. Watersports and scuba trips can be arranged via the on-site dive centre.

09 244 9444; royalbeach.ae



Fujairah Hotel & Resort Fujairah City

Across the road from Century Mall and a five-minute drive from the airport, families can enjoy resort facilities with tranquil gardens, a temperature-controlled pool, kids' playground and a nightclub. 09 222 8111

Royal M Fujairah Fujairah City

A luxury 20-storey hotel in the Haleefat area with a 14th-floor executive club and four signature restaurants and bars, the hotel has lavish pool, health club and spa facilities plus direct access to Fujairah Commercial Complex, the city's prestigious mall. 09 201 2000; royalmhotels.com

V Hotel Fujairah Fujairah City

Just moments to the malls, museum and fort and with the beach just across the road, the hotel has well-appointed rooms with sea views, a rooftop pool and some of Fujairah's liveliest nightspots. 09 202 3333; vhotel.ae



City Tower Hotel Fujairah Fujairah City

This hotel is within easy reach of the exhibition centre with spacious suites fitted with kitchenettes and separate gents' and ladies' health clubs. The cross-cultural food and beverage offerings include Keralan and Pakistani restaurants, Filipino and Arabic nightspots and an English pub. 09 223 6888; fortune-hotels.net



Ibis Fujairah Hotel Fujairah City

An economical option with proximity to the exhibition centre, the well-appointed property has an Italian/Mediterranean restaurant, a sports lounge and cafe. Guests can access the attractive rooftop swimming pool and fitness centre shared with Novotel and Aparthotel Adagio Fujairah. 09 223 9997; accorhotels.com

Mirage Bab Al Bahr Hotel & Resort Dibba

Located on Al Fiquet Beach in Dibba, the resort has a warm and friendly atmosphere ideally suited to families. Rooms and villas feature stunning Indian Ocean views with a beachside swimming pool, numerous international restaurants and plentiful recreational facilities. 09 244 8777; babalbah. miragehotelsgroup.com





GOING OUT

LOCAL
SPECIALTIES

100

SEAFOOD

104

CAFES

105

From fancy feasts
to street food,
Fujairah's fine
flavours will
please all palates

The cuisine in Fujairah spans the globe with Far East, Levantine and South-east Asian influences



LOCAL SPECIALTIES

A TASTE OF FUJAIRAH

Whether you feel like snacking on Arabic mezze and street eats or sampling the east coast's legendary seafood, there's something to satisfy all tastes. Local fare is a regional fusion of Gulf, Arabic and Levantine cuisine: think grilled meats, spiced rice dishes and zesty salads accompanied with yoghurt, flatbread, hummus and freshly squeezed juices.

The menu at popular Levantine eatery, Al Mallah, brims with shareable mezze like falafel and Syrian pastries (Fujairah Trade Centre; 09 222 2249). With a stone-covered facade, the enormous Al Meshwar is a local icon famed for Lebanese cuisine, serving mixed grills, light salads and extensive fresh juices in a family-friendly atmosphere (Hamdan Bin Abdullah Rd; 09 223 1113). Try the popular Iranian restaurant chain Sadaf (Corniche



EMIRATI DISHES TO TRY

Majboos

a spice-laden rice dish topped with lamb, chicken or seafood

Khabees

a dessert of toasted flour stirred with sugar, cardamom, saffron and rose water topped with nuts

Harees

a porridge-like dish of salted wheat, mixed with meat

Umm Ali

a creamy dessert made with milk, bread, raisins and nuts

Balaleet

cooked vermicelli noodles sweetened with sugar, saffron, cardamom and rose water topped with egg omelette

Luqaimat

deep-fried, doughnut-like dumplings flavoured with cardamom and saffron and drizzled with date honey

Regag

a thin and crispy round bread often served with cream cheese and honey

Rd; 09 223 3400) for tasty chelo kebabs and zereshk polo (rice with barberries). In Dibba, Alnouman Restaurant is a local favourite for grilled fish, meats, fresh salads, juices and hummus paired with fluffy Arabic khubz bread (Sheikh Hamad St; 09 244 1404). With a family-friendly atmosphere, the wide-ranging menu at Caesars Restaurant & Confectionery offers Indian, Chinese and Iranian dishes with plenty of tempting pastries and desserts (Hamdan Bin Abdullah Rd; 09 224 9900). Lovers of Turkish cuisine can try Mado Restaurant for traditional breakfast dishes, including simit, a type of circular sesame bread, and flaky borek pastries along with sweet, nutty dessert pastries like baklava and kunafa, best enjoyed with traditional Turkish coffee (City Centre Fujairah;



CAMEL BURGER & EMIRATI PANCAKES



You can't get more local than a juicy camel burger (the leaner meat has less cholesterol than beef, making it a healthy choice) or an Emirati breakfast of local pancakes: try chebab, fused with saffron and cardamom, or muhalla, which is made with dates.

Find both at The Sailors Restaurant & Cafe at Fujairah International Marine Club
09 222 1600
fimc.ae

09 244 2168). Othmani Turkish Restaurant in Dibba is also known for delicious Turkish cuisine with appetisers and grills served with piping-hot sesame bread (Near Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank; 09 244 4686/83). For authentic Yemini cuisine, head to Sheikh Al Mandi Restaurant to try mandi – a rice dish laden with spiced meat (Near Seif Dawlah Rd; 09 222 2674), while Al Mahbash Al Shaabi Restaurant serves madfoon, a tasty Arabic dish with succulent smoky meat and rice with private rooms ideal for families (Near Fahim Rd; 09 222 5445).

SEAFOOD

The abundant fish in the east-coast waters makes Fujairah a wonderful place for a seafood feast. Omani rock lobster, prawns and Sultan Ibrahim (a type of threadfin bream) are local specialties and at Dibba or Fujairah International Marine Club, you can have your haul cooked for a fee. For sustainable seafood, Copper Lobster serves a fresh-catch menu from tuna tartare to paella (dinner only; 09 204 1111; fairmont.com). The signature dish at Waves Beach Restaurant is black-ink spaghetti with shrimps, mussels and plump calamari (09 244 9888; rotana.com), while Drift Restaurant fires up a Jospser grill to imbue fish with a delicious charcoal flavour (09 209 9999; fujairah.intercontinental.com). For a more authentic local experience, head to Emirates Sea Restaurant for mouthwatering seafood dishes prepared with some of the freshest ingredients like lobster in addition to Iranian, Indian and Chinese food (Corniche Rd; 09 222 2785).



LOCAL OYSTERS

Dibba Bay Oysters is the first Middle East farm growing world-class gourmet oysters just 10km off the coast from Dibba Port. The Pacific cupped oysters thrive in Fujairah's pristine waters, which have lower salinity levels than the rest of the Gulf. The meaty, briny oysters are a favourite with chefs – try them locally and at top restaurants around the country.



CAFE CULTURE

Relax with a tea or recharge with a coffee after a day of adventure and discovery at one of Fujairah's many cafes. Photo Café offers burgers, pastas and sandwiches as well as desserts and hot and cold drinks (Al Hilal City; 09 222 5591), while Dolci Paris Café, with its Parisian-inspired interior (Al Rostamani Tower 1; 09 223 7008), and The Orangery (Fujairah Tower; 09 222 2787) are chic haunts with beautifully presented coffee and tea, and salads and pasta among the menu items. For an indulgent treat, Patatello Cafe is another popular spot with quirky interiors and "The Wanasa Cup" (Joy Cup). The calorific medley of brownies and caramel ice-cream is topped with kunafa (sweet pastry noodles) sprinkles and is served in a mug painted with local characters and Arabic expressions that patrons can keep. Saudi Delights (next to Fujairah Sports Club; 056 666 3659) and O2 Cafe (Hamdan Bin Abdullah Rd; 058 230 1313) are also popular for aromatic cups of coffee with local desserts, like luqaimat or saffron cake.



A

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| Accommodation | 87 |
| Aflaj | 59 |
| Ain Madhab Park | 43, 81 |
| Al Aqah Beach | 41, 56 |
| Al Aqah Island | 41 |
| Al Bidya Mosque | 75 |
| Al Bithna Fort | 71 |
| Al Diar Siji Hotel | |
| Fujairah | 92 |
| Al Fiquet Beach | 41, 56 |
| Al Hayl Fort | 71 |
| Al Sharya Trails | 61 |
| Al Tawyeen | 57, 61 |
| Ambulance | 27 |
| Aqua Bounce | 80 |
| Awhala Fort | 72 |

B

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Beaches | 41 |
| Blue Diamond Al Salam | |
| Resort Fujairah | 91 |
| Bullfighting | 77 |

C

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Cafes | 105 |
| Camping | 56 |
| Caves | 57, 60 |
| Central Market | 83 |
| Century Mall | 85 |
| Cinemas | 84 |
| City Centre Fujairah | 84 |
| City Tower Hotel Fujairah | 96 |
| Climate | 27 |
| Concorde Fujairah Hotel | 92 |
| Coral Bay | 42, 56 |
| Cuisine | 100 |
| Culture | 70 |
| Currency | 27 |

D

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Dibba Al Fujairah | 36, 83 |
| Dibba Beach | 42 |
| Dibba Al Fujairah Fort/Castle | 73 |
| Dive centres | 68 |
| Dive sites | 69 |
| Diving | 66 |

E

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Emergency | 27 |
| Emirati food | 101 |
| Events | 30 |

F

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Fairmont Fujairah | |
| Beach Resort | 89 |
| Family activities | 80 |
| Festivals | 30 |
| Fishing | 62 |
| Flag Trails | |
| (The Seven Summits) | 60 |
| Forts | 70 |
| Fujairah Adventure | |
| Park | 57, 59, 60 |
| Fujairah City Trails | 60 |
| Fujairah Fort | 70 |
| Fujairah Hotel & Resort | 95 |
| Fujairah International | |
| Marine Club | 62 |
| Fujairah Mall | 84 |
| Fujairah Museum | 74 |
| Fujairah Rotana Resort | |
| & Spa Al Aqah Beach | 91 |
| Fujairah Tennis | |
| & Country Club | 81 |

H

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Hajar Mountains | 44 |
| Heritage Village | 75 |
| Hiking | 60 |
| History | 22 |
| Hotels | 87 |

I

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Ibis Fujairah Hotel | 97 |
| InterContinental | |
| Fujairah Resort | 89 |

J

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| Jebel Yibir | 47, 57, 60 |
|-------------|------------|

L

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Ladies Park | 43 |
| Language | 32 |
| Le Méridien Al Aqah | |
| Beach Resort | 89 |
| Lulu Mall | 85 |

M

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| Malls | 84 |
| Markets | 82 |
| Masafi | 39, 82 |
| Masafi Fort | 72 |
| Mirage Bab Al Bahr | |
| Hotel & Resort | 97 |
| Miramar Al Aqah | |
| Beach Hotel Resort | 90 |
| Mountain biking | 58 |

N

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| National Dress | 29 |
| Nour Arjaan by | |
| Rotana Hotel | 93 |
| Novotel Fujairah Hotel | 94 |

O

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Off-roading | 54 |
| Oysters | 104 |

P

| | |
|---------|----|
| Parks | 40 |
| Police | 27 |
| Pottery | 82 |

R

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| Radisson Blu Fujairah Resort | 90 |
|------------------------------|----|

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| Ramadan | 28 |
| Religion | 28 |
| Restaurants | 100 |
| Royal Beach | |
| Hotel & Resort | 94 |
| Royal M Fujairah | 95 |

S

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Sailing | 76 |
| Sakamkam Fort | 73 |
| Sandy Beach Hotel | |
| & Resort | 93 |
| Scuba diving | 66 |
| Seafood | 104 |
| Sheikh Zayed Mosque | 74 |
| Shopping | 82 |
| Snorkelling | 69 |
| Souq Al Juma | 39, 82 |
| Spas | 78 |
| Sporting Events | 31 |

T

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| Taxi | 27 |
| Thursday Market | 83 |
| Traditional sports | 76 |
| Trails | 60 |
| Treks | 60 |

V

| | |
|------------------|----|
| V Hotel Fujairah | 96 |
|------------------|----|

W

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| Wadi Al Hayl | 45, 47 |
| Wadi Khabb | 47, 60 |
| Wadi Maidaq | 49, 60 |
| Wadi Saham | 45 |
| Wadi Sana | 47, 57 |
| Wadi Sidr | 47, 57 |
| Wadi Siji | 49 |
| Wadi Tayyibah | 49, 57, 60 |
| Wadi Wurayah | 51 |
| Waterpark | 80 |
| Watersports | 64 |
| Wellness | 78 |



PUBLISHING | MAPPING | CONTENT
محتوى | خرائط | نشر

Fujairah Visitors' Guide

1st Edition

Explorer Team

Chief Content Officer & Founder Alistair MacKenzie Editors Emily Snyder, Marie Nehme, Michelle Wranik-Hicks Research Team Leader Maria Luisa Reyes Creative Director Ieyad Charaf Designers Mohammed Shakkeer, Riyas Kajahussain Cartography Manager Zain Madathil, Kavita Mehrotra Photographer & Image Editor Hardy Mendrofa Consumer Publishing Director Ivan Rodrigues

EXPLORER

Explorer is the leading publishing, mapping and content provider in the GCC, boasting a wide range of best-selling retail products and an impressive corporate solutions portfolio, engaging visitors, residents and companies across the Middle East for the past 20 years.

Publishing

Explorer creates engaging content, delivered in a diverse range of consumer and corporate print and digital products.

Mapping

We offer the most innovative and fully client-integrated mapping solutions in the Middle East.

Content

Explorer develops unique content for clients and licenses a huge breadth of consumer content in various formats and languages.

