



An Insider's Guide

to

ABU DHABI

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

About Desert Adventures

For over 25 years, Desert Adventures has been a **premier DMC partner to tour operators and travel agencies worldwide**, by offering superior destination management services for FIT, VIP, and Leisure Group travel in the UAE, Oman and Jordan.

Our depth of local expertise, vast global reach, strong industry relationships and direct integrations with hotels, attraction suppliers, and key players in the global travel industry – including government and tourism authorities – have enabled us to deliver a high standard of destination services, which can be customized for specific markets and individual client needs. In addition, our robust B2B booking engine and XML integration makes it extremely easy to book an exceptional adventure for your clients.



THE DESERT ADVENTURES ADVANTAGE

25
YEARS
IN BUSINESS

(AN ACKNOWLEDGED
LEADER IN DMC
SERVICES FOR DUBAI,
OMAN AND JORDAN)



GROWING
INTERNATIONAL
FOOTPRINT

(WITH REPRESENTATION
OFFICES IN EVERY MAJOR
REGION AROUND THE
WORLD)



SOLID
INDUSTRY
NETWORK

(1,000+ HOTEL &
EXCURSION PARTNERS;
STRONG TIES WITH GOV'T
& TOURISM AUTHORITIES)



EXTENSIVE
PORTFOLIO OF
UNIQUE PRODUCTS

(HUNDREDS OF TOURS,
ATTRACTIONS, CURATED
TOUR PACKAGES FOR FIT
AND GROUPS, AND
PREMIER GROUND
FACILITIES)



MULTILINGUAL
TEAM OF INDUSTRY
EXPERTS

(COMPRISED OF NEARLY
200 PROFESSIONALS,
WITH MARKET SPECIFIC
TEAMS PROVIDING END-
TO-END SUPPORT FOR
OUR TRAVEL PARTNERS)



SPECIALIZED
SUPPORT FOR VIP
GUESTS

(DEDICATED TEAM FOR
ENSURING ALL VIP GUEST
BOOKINGS ARE TREATED
WITH THE UTMOST CARE
AND PRECISION)

WE ARE PARTNERED WITH 500+ HOTELS & RESORTS ACROSS THE UAE

204
FIVE-STAR
HOTELS
★★★★★

400
CITY

190
FOUR-STAR
HOTELS
★★★★

4
AIRPORT

87
THREE-STAR
HOTELS
★★★

31
HOTEL
APARTMENTS

6
DESERT

117
BEACH

13
ISLAND



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

emir·ate | \ 'e-mə-rət

noun

a political territory that is ruled by a dynastic Arabic monarch-styled emir.

Formed in 1972 through the unification of 7 emirates, this tiny nation has become one of the most captivating destinations in the world.

Salient Facts



Over 153 destinations are directly connected to Dubai and Abu Dhabi international airports.



Visa-free travel for over 60 nationalities. Indian nationals with a US Visa/Green Card or EU/UK residence visa can avail of visa-on-arrival valid for 14 days.



Year-round sunshine; Expect exceptional deals during the summer (May – August); Peak travel season is from November – April.



Consistently ranked amongst the safest countries in the world.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

emir·ate | \ 'e-mə-rət

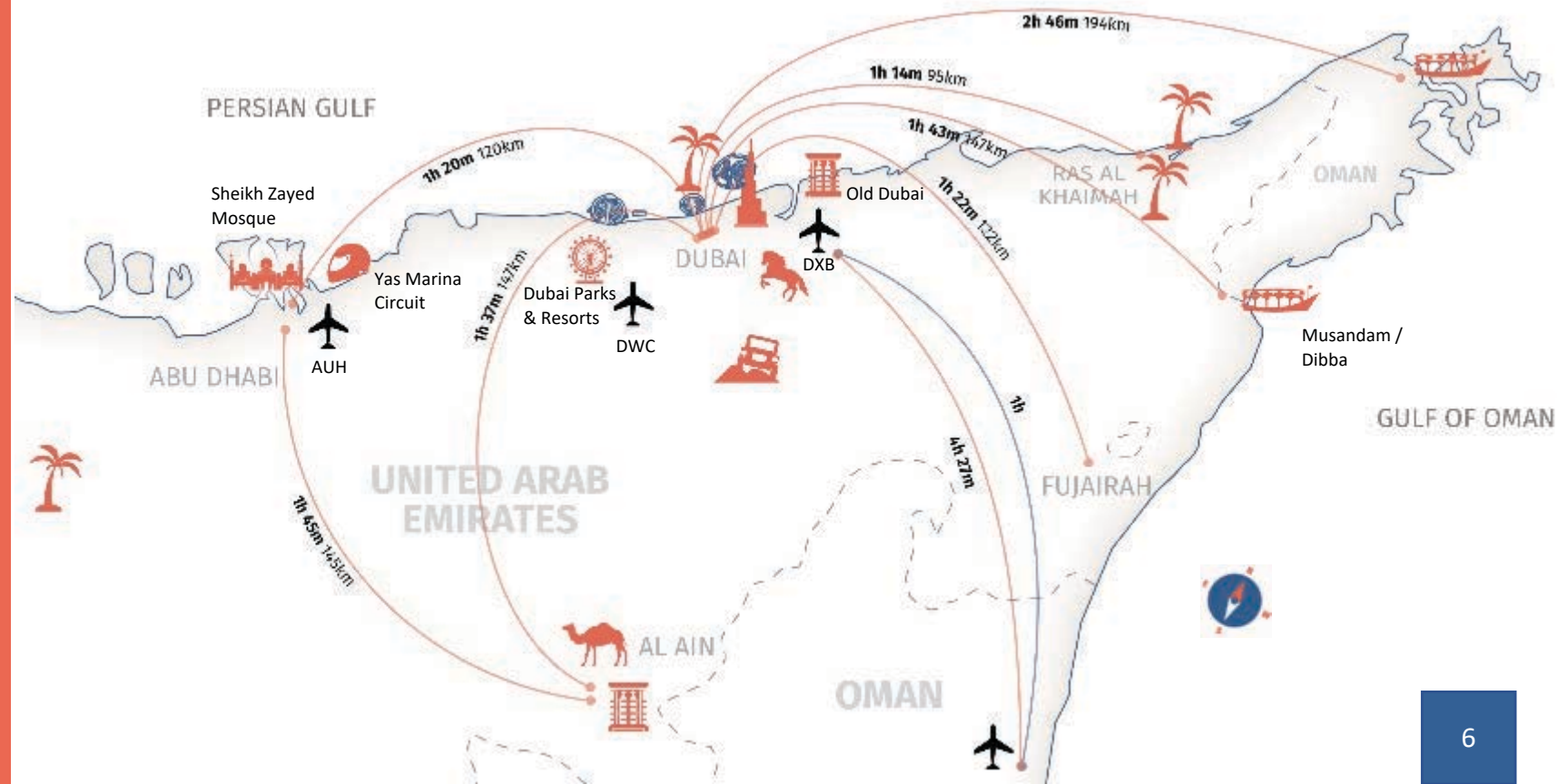
noun

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Formed in 1972 through the unification of 7 emirates, this tiny nation has become one of the most captivating destinations in the world.

Map of the UAE

The map below showcases key landmarks and attractions across the UAE along with general distance and travel time estimates.



ABU DHABI



Abu Dhabi's culture is rich with history, epic adventure and incredible tales of the Bedouins' (nomadic Arab people) fortitude. From a sleepy fishing village to one of the most futuristic cities on the planet, Abu Dhabi has come a long way. Its world-class hotels guarantee luxury and make it a trip worth remembering.

DESTINATION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ **WHAT'S NEW**
- ▶ **NEIGHBOURHOODS**
- ▶ **FEATURED HOTELS**
- ▶ **MUST-SEE SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS**
- ▶ **SPORTS AND EVENTS**

WHAT'S NEW?

HOTEL ►

RIXOS MARINA ABU DHABI RESORT

Rixos Marina Abu Dhabi is an iconic architectural landmark that unites the very best of Arabic and Turkish culture, dining and hospitality. This hotel seamlessly fuses sophisticated aquatic and arabesque design to tell the story of Abu Dhabi from its ancient seafaring origins to a thriving cosmopolitan city that takes pride in its heritage and ultimate luxury experiences.



WHAT'S NEW?

ATTRACTIONS ►

SEAWORLD ABU DHABI

The region's largest and most expansive multi-species aquarium is coming to the first-of-it's-kind marine theme park - SeaWorld Abu Dhabi, which will add to Yas Island's already impressive list of record-breaking attractions.

This theme park features a myriad of immersive experiences, interactive exhibits, rides and habitats and will be built alongside UAE's first marine research, rescue, rehabilitation and return center.



WHAT'S NEW?

ATTRACTIONS ►

ABRAHAMIC FAMILY HOUSE

Encompassing a mosque, a church, a synagogue and a forum to learn and nurture mutual understanding, the Abrahamic Family House welcomes people from all walks of life to exchange knowledge and practice faith.



NEIGHBOURHOODS

DOWNTOWN ABU DHABI

This area was once a modest island settlement and has now been transformed into a modern, cosmopolitan, high-rise city. You will find a mix of ancient history, rich culture and heritage, stunning nature, beautiful beaches, high-end luxury, surprising wildlife, family-friendly adventure, world-class shopping, renowned golf courses and a welcoming atmosphere.

What to see here:

- Visit the Abu Dhabi corniche
- Go shopping in one of the many luxurious malls
- Go golfing in one of the city's many golf courses



NEIGHBOURHOODS

YAS ISLAND

This landmark, family-friendly entertainment hub is just a 30-minute drive from the city and a 15-minute drive from Abu Dhabi International Airport. Yas Island is home to an F1™ racetrack, several theme parks, an incredible links golf course, beautiful beach, stunning hotels, an impressive mall and much more. It's the perfect place to bring the kids, from toddler to teen, for a fun-filled holiday by the sea.

What to see here:

- Yas Marina Circuit
- UAE's second largest shopping center – Yas Mall



NEIGHBOURHOODS

SIR BANI YAS ISLAND

A nature-based destination home to stunning wildlife, a range of family-friendly adventure activities, five-star boutique hotels, luxury villas, purpose-built stables and historical sites, Sir Bani Yas Island is one of eight islands making up the desert islands of Al Dhafra. More than half this island is made up of the Arabian Wildlife Park, one of the region's largest wildlife reserves home to more than 17,000 free-roaming animals.



NEIGHBOURHOODS

SAADIYAT ISLAND

Just seven minutes from downtown Abu Dhabi and 20 minutes from Abu Dhabi International Airport, the gorgeous Saadiyat Island houses the world's largest single concentration of premier cultural assets, including the Louvre Abu Dhabi, and will include Zayed National Museum and Guggenheim Abu Dhabi in the future.



NEIGHBOURHOODS

AL MARYAH ISLAND

This upmarket island is perfect for visitors who love the finer things in life. Home to dramatic turquoise sea views, five-star hotels and the upmarket The Galleria shopping mall, this plush destination promises a fabulous day out with friends or family



NEIGHBOURHOODS

NURAI ISLAND

From the Arabic word 'nur' meaning 'light', this sun-drenched paradise boasts azure waters, powder-white soft sand beaches, as well as stunning architecture and gardenscapes. A blissful retreat for solo travelers, families and couples seeking peace and tranquility, the idyllic Zaya Nurai Island is home to unparalleled and uninterrupted Arabian Gulf views.



NEIGHBOURHOODS

AL AIN

Just a 90-minute drive from Abu Dhabi, Al Ain is the capital's garden city, one of the world's oldest permanently inhabited settlements and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Think lush and ancient oases you can wander through, historical forts, archaeological parks home to ancient artefacts, old-world palaces, charming camel markets, an equestrian, shooting and golf club, and vibrant souks (markets) selling authentic Emirati crafts, spices, carpets, perfumes and more.

What to see here:

- Visit the Abu Dhabi corniche
- Go shopping in one of the many luxurious malls
- Go golfing in one of the city's many golf courses





FEATURED HOTELS

EMIRATES PALACE

Blending incredible opulence and Arabian heritage, Emirates Palace is indulgent in every feature.

The hotel features 394 of the largest and most luxurious rooms and suites in Abu Dhabi.

The hotel is landmark stop on many city tours through Abu Dhabi, where guests are served tea sprinkled with 24 Carat gold flakes.



FEATURED HOTELS

THE ST. REGIS SAADIYAT ISLAND ISLAND RESORT, ABU DHABI

This award-winning resort is just 20 min from the airport and 10 min from the bustling downtown in Abu Dhabi.

The hotel features 376 luxuriously-appointed rooms and suites.

Early check-in and late check-outs are complimentary.



FEATURED HOTELS

THE RITZ CARLTON ABU DHABI, GRAND CANAL

Nestled in 57-acres of lush gardens and shimmering pools, the hotels features 447 guestrooms and suites plus 85 private villas.

Located in close proximity to the airport and major attractions that include the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque.

The resort also features a 21,500-sq-ft Bedouin-inspired spa, and live entertainment along with authentic dining experiences.

FEATURED HOTELS

JUMEIRAH AT SAADIYAT ISLAND RESORT

Featuring one of the most private stretches of beach coastline in Abu Dhabi, this luxurious resort is also one of the most eco-friendly hotels in operation today, featuring a completely plastic-free environment

The hotel comprises 293 rooms, suites and villas, 7 restaurants and bars, 3 swimming pools floodlit tennis court, and a 400m natural beach

FEATURED HOTELS

ANANTARA EASTERN MANGROVES ABU DHABI HOTEL

One of the finest hotels in Abu Dhabi, the Eastern Mangroves Hotel and Spa by Anantara enjoys the unique distinction of being an idyllic, secluded paradise, while still being very close to all the bustling action of the city. The stunning surroundings of the resort, along with its array of recreational facilities makes this Anantara resort a sought after one amongst tourists travelling to the city.



FEATURED HOTELS

ROSEWOOD ABU DHABI


Located on Al Maryah Island at the core of Abu Dhabi's new International Financial Center, Rosewood Abu Dhabi is a five-star hotel that brings sophistication to new heights. Inspired by the glistening Arabian Gulf, this 5-star hotel in Abu Dhabi features 148 spacious guestrooms and 41 luxurious suites. Guests will discover stunning views of the turquoise waterfront, a full spectrum of dining destinations and world-class amenities at this new landmark in Abu Dhabi.



FEATURED HOTELS

W ABI DHABI - YAS ISLAND

Experience an exhilarating island experience at the only hotel in the world located on an F1 circuit. Each of the vibrant guestrooms offer spectacular views of the F1 race track or the Yas Marina from the floor-to-ceiling windows. Inspirational architecture unravels in the form of a bold welcome area, bespoke welcome desks shaped like oil drops and jewel-tone furnishings depicting the colors of liquid gold.





FEATURED HOTELS

ANDAZ CAPITAL GATE, ABU DHABI – A CONCEPT BY HYATT

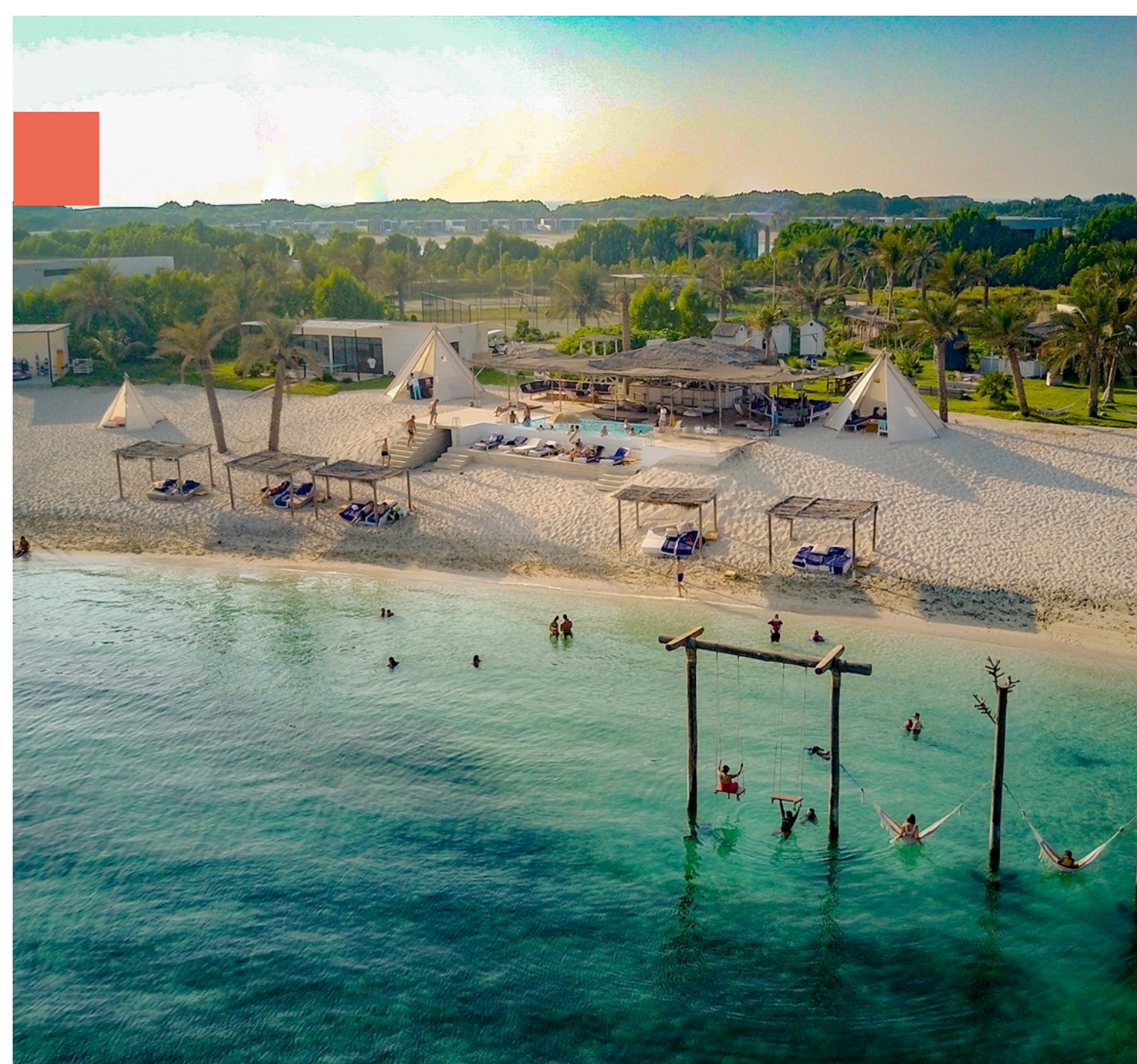
Distinctively local, in every sense, Andaz Capital Gate Abu Dhabi is only 15 minutes away from the airport and most key attractions. The impressive 18° leaning design stands tall as the gateway to a luxury lifestyle hotel stay. Arrive a visitor and depart as a local, as the hotel's art gallery, local touch points and cultivated dining experiences will transform your stay.

FEATURED HOTELS

ZAYA NURAI ISLAND

Zaya Nurai Island is situated along the Arabian Gulf, just a 12-minute boat ride from Abu Dhabi's Saadiyat Island. This exclusive island resort is surrounded by clear waters, powder white soft sand and lush vegetation

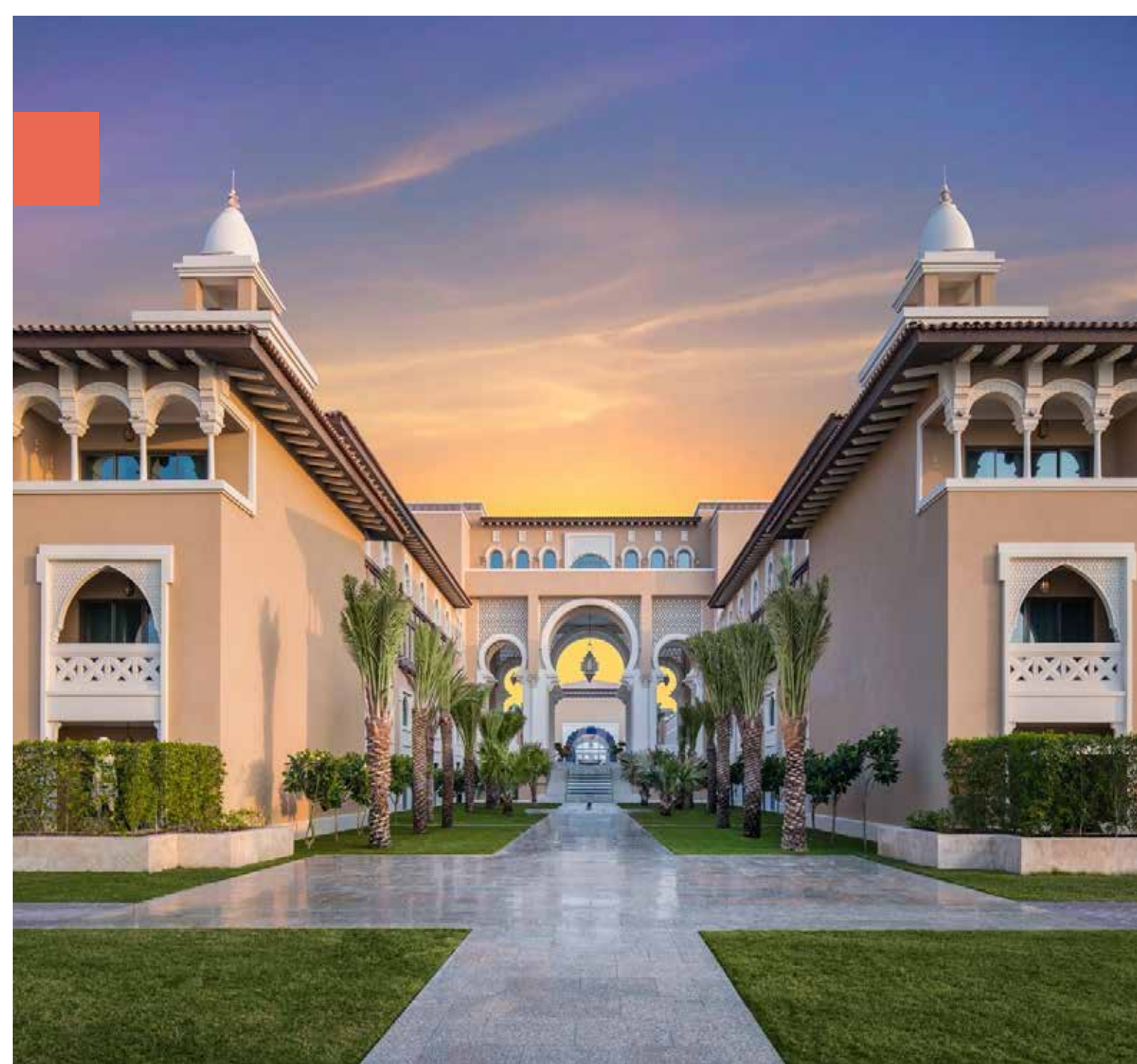
The contemporary villas are designed to blend into the landscape, and they all come with private temperature-controlled pool and floor to ceiling windows overlooking the Arabian Sea.



FEATURED HOTELS

RIXOS PREMIUM SAADIYAT ISLAND

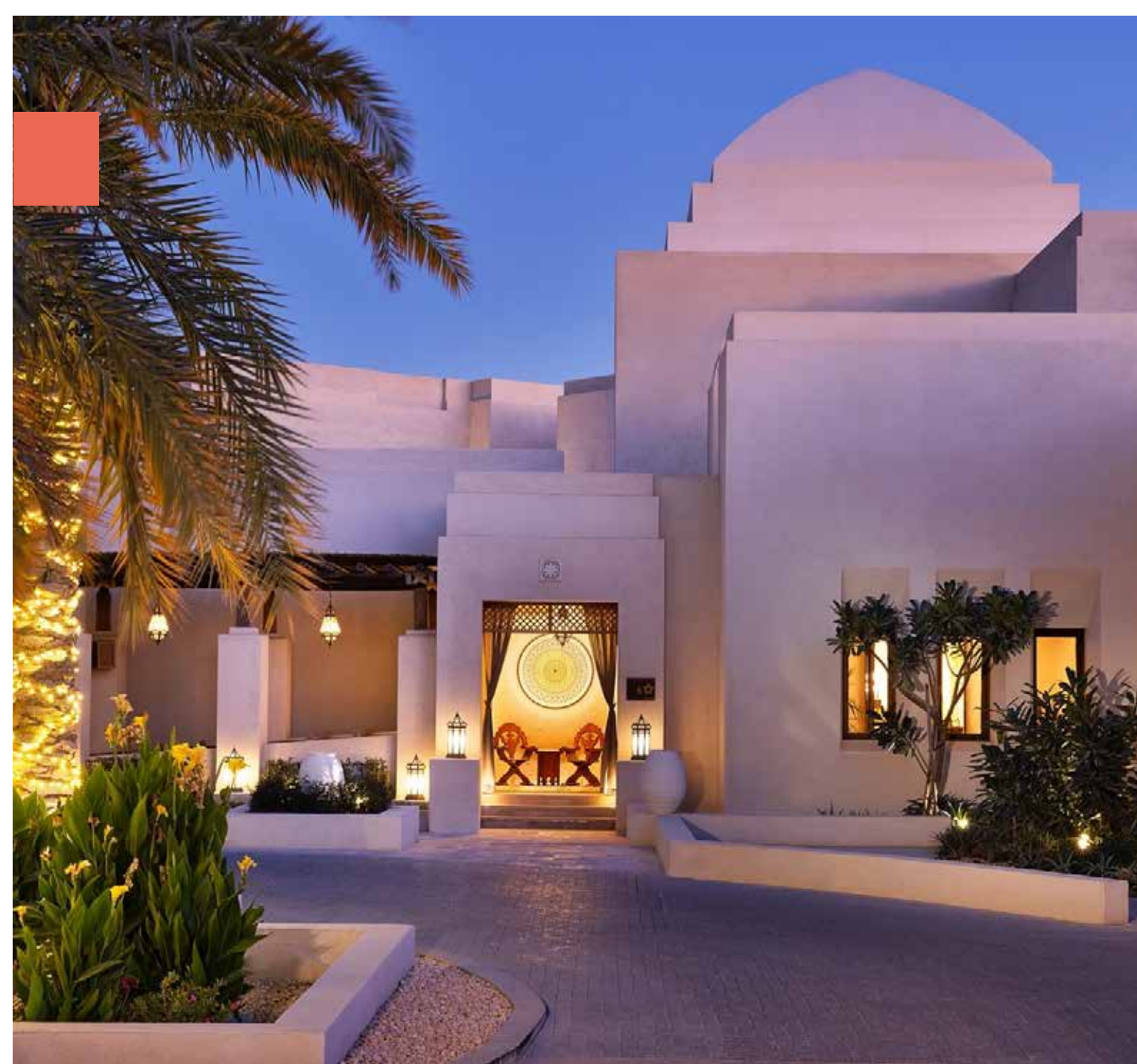
Inspired by arabesque architecture, Rixos Saadiyat Island offers refined luxury and comfort within its rooms and suites as well as access to a variety of dining, leisure and entertainment activities. The luxury villas, designed for travellers seeking the finer experience in life, deliver unparalleled levels of comfort, privacy and elegance.



FEATURED HOTELS

AL WATHBA, A LUXURY COLLECTION DESERT RESORT AND SPA, ABU DHABI

Deep within the desert landscape lies Al Wathba, a Luxury Collection Desert Resort & Spa, Abu Dhabi - an intimate retreat suffused with natural beauty and serene tranquility. With a distinct Spa as the hallmark of the hotel experience, guests can rebalance their equilibrium and embark on an individual wellness journey. Inspired by classical dwellings, the boutique resort's 99 guest rooms and villas feature timeless local details, traditional artwork, and Arabesque accessories, alongside a range of dining destinations showcasing the dunes to panoramic perfection.





FEATURED HOTELS

PARK HYATT ABU DHABI HOTEL AND VILLAS

Experience a stay in an award-winning beach resort in Abu Dhabi. Park Hyatt Abu Dhabi presents the best of both worlds, an uncommon journey of lounging around the most pristine shores of Saadiyat, to adventures on the sun-kissed sands of the Arabian desert.



FEATURED HOTELS

BAB AL QASR HOTEL

Set on the pristine waters of the Arabian Peninsula in an exclusive and unrivalled beachfront location, close to the presidential palace, Bab Al Qasr is a unique new landmark on Abu Dhabi's ever-changing skyline.

Iconic architecture and traditionally inspired Arabian décor combine to create a contemporary celebration of Arabic hospitality.



FEATURED HOTELS

CONRAD HOTEL ABU DHABI ETIHAD TOWERS

Marvel at spectacular city and Gulf views from your room above Abu Dhabi. This modern hotel is within 10 minutes of the Presidential Palace and features a 74th floor observation deck, 12 award-winning restaurants and bars, and a full spa with 13 treatment rooms. The hotel offers over 10,000 sq. ft. of event space, three outdoor pools, and a private beach.



FEATURED HOTELS

HILTON ABU DHABI YAS ISLAND

The Hilton Abu Dhabi -Yas Island Hotel, located on the three-kilometre-long Yas Bay promenade, offers 545 rooms and an exceptional choice of culinary delights in several restaurants. Guests can enjoy complimentary access to fascinating Yas Island theme parks.



FEATURED HOTELS

INTERCONTINENTAL ABU DHABI

Guests can enjoy a refined stay on the waterfront at InterContinental® Abu Dhabi, located at the city's dynamic heart. This five-star hotel invites its guests in with light-filled, sophisticated spaces, award-winning dining, premium wellness facilities and 390 spacious guest rooms bathed in the panoramic city and coastal views.

FEATURED HOTELS

THE WB ABU DHABI, CURIO COLLECTION BY HILTON

Step into a world of color and creativity in the world's first Warner Bros. themed hotel. Guests can enjoy daily access to Yas Island theme parks during their stay as well as a variety of enjoyable activities at the hotel itself. With five delectable dining options, a full-service spa, and a fitness center equipped with the latest gear, this hotel is a perfect getaway for all.



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque

The impressive and inspiring Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque is one of the world's largest mosques and the only one that captures the unique interactions between Islam and other world cultures.

Insider Tips:

- Bring your sunglasses. Not only is Abu Dhabi sunny in general, the white marble of the mosque also reflects the sun making it especially bright
- Visit the mosque early in the morning to avoid the crowd and if possible, take a second trip during the evening before the sun sets for the beautiful golden hour views



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

Louvre Abu Dhabi

The iconic Louvre Abu Dhabi is the first universal museum in the Arab World, translating and fostering the spirit of openness between cultures. This art-lovers' dream displays works of historical, cultural and sociological significance, from ancient times to the contemporary era.



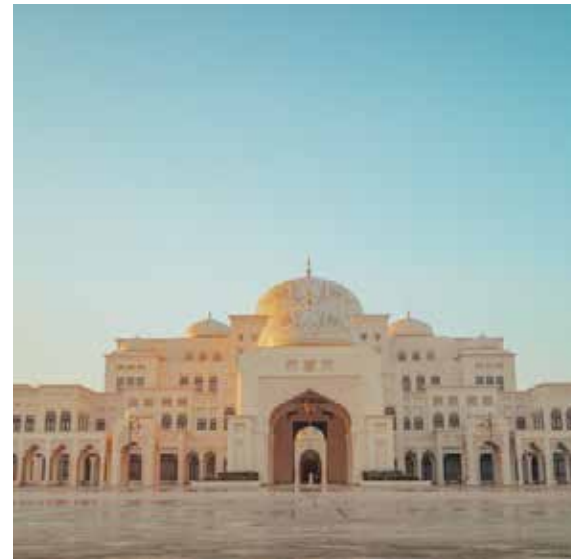
SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

Qasr Al Watan

Qasr Al Watan is a working Presidential palace and a majestic cultural landmark that invites the world to discover the rich legacy of knowledge and tradition that has shaped the UAE's journey

Insider Tips:

- When you are in the Majlis, do not rush out or you will miss the multimedia presentation on the history and significance of the Majlis
- While the library has over 50,000 books, don't miss out on the estimated 16 million publications in the Qasr Al Watan digital collection.



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

Qasr Al Muwaiji

Situated at the western approach to Al Ain city, Qasr Al Muwaiji's picturesque structure is a fine example of early 20th-century mud-brick architecture and a great place to take stunning photographs. The building is a simple but striking form: a square enclosure with projecting corner towers and a grand entrance gate.

Insider Tips:

Local emiratis often do their culturally significant dance to



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

Emirates National Auto Museum

If you're looking for a quirky place to take some impressive photographs, head to this gem. A great place to stop on the way to or from Liwa, and some 45 kilometers south of Abu Dhabi city, this 'pyramid' houses around 200 cars belonging to His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Hamdan Al Nahyan.



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

Jabel Hafit tombs

If you're looking for a quirky place to take some impressive photographs, head to this gem. A great place to stop on the way to or from Liwa, and some 45 kilometers south of Abu Dhabi city, this 'pyramid' houses around 200 cars belonging to His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Hamdan Al Nahyan.



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

Al Jahili Fort

If you're looking for a quirky place to take some impressive photographs, head to this gem. A great place to stop on the way to or from Liwa, and some 45 kilometers south of Abu Dhabi city, this 'pyramid' houses around 200 cars belonging to His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Hamdan Al Nahyan.



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

Qasr Al Hosn

Over the centuries, Qasr Al Hosn has been home to the ruling family, acted as the seat of government, housed the National Consultative Council founded by the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, Founder of the UAE, as well as being a national archive. Today it stands as the nation's living memorial and a narrator of Abu Dhabi's history.

Insider Tips:

Once inside explore the outer fort. There are many nooks for Instagram worthy pictures!



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

The Founder's Memorial

This unique cultural attraction celebrates the life, legacy and values of Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the founder of the UAE, known as the Father of the Nation. This memorial offers locals and international travelers a unique way to immerse themselves in the history and culture of the UAE, with experiences designed to reveal aspects of the country's broader social, cultural and environmental heritage, from art to stories, exhibitions and more.

Insider Tips:

- Golden hour is the best time to visit for the perfect pictures



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

Abu Dhabi Falcon Hospital

The Abu Dhabi Falcon Hospital is the first public medical institution exclusively for falcons in the UAE. This is a great stop for tourists to learn about the national bird of the country and experience firsthand how to care for them!



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

The National Aquarium

The National Aquarium Abu Dhabi is the largest aquarium in the Middle East and is home to 46,000 animals spread across 10 zones spanning from the tropical waters of the Pacific and freshwaters of the Amazon to the frozen ice caps of the Arctic and the caves of the Mediterranean.

What to see here:

- The 200+ sharks and rays
- The historic roots of the city showcased in a deep dive into the magical world of Arabian pearl fishing

NEW EXPERIENCE



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

Yas Marina Circuit

Launched in 2009 to host the Formula 1™ Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, Yas Marina Circuit is still one of the UAE's most epic motorsports, sporting and business venues. Created to elevate Abu Dhabi's status as a world-class sporting destination, this impressive mega-budget circuit draws travelers from around the world.

Insider Tips:

- You can book a range of activities to do at the circuit from race car driving to cycling



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

Yas Waterworld

Yas Waterworld Abu Dhabi is a waterpark with Emirati heritage at its heart. The Lost Pearl is the central theme, following the story of a young Emirati girl on a quest to find a legendary pearl. Sitting atop Jebel Dhana, the park's towering centrepiece, sits an enormous pearl, bringing The Lost Pearl theme to life visually.



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

Warner Bros World

The world's biggest and fully air-conditioned indoor theme park, Warner Bros. World™ Abu Dhabi brings all the legendary characters from this famous studio to life. Meet Superman, catch up with Batman or Wonder Woman, or be entertained by Bugs Bunny, Scooby-Doo, Fred Flintstone and many more!



SIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

Ferrari World

The world's first Ferrari-branded theme park tells the marque's story with passion, showcasing more than 20 exhilarating and educational rides and attractions, incredible shopping, and authentic Italian dining experiences. Go from 0 to 240km/h in 4.9 seconds, while soaring to heights of 52 meters on the world's fastest roller-coaster Formula Rossa.



SPORTS & EVENTS

GOLF

Abu Dhabi is home to a number of world-class golf courses, some of which are host to the major tournaments by the PGA European Tour.

With a dedicated sports team, Desert Adventures creates custom golf holiday packages to include the best golfing experience during your Abu Dhabi stay!

Some of the top golf courses in Abu Dhabi are:

- Yas Links
- Abu Dhabi Golf Course
- Saadiyat Beach Golf Club

SPORTS & EVENTS

F1 GRAND PRIX ABU DHABI

The Formula 1 Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix will take place on 20 November 2022.

The most explosive sporting event in the region amasses crowds larger than the NFL Super Bowl. It takes place in the acclaimed Yas Marina Circuit

The 4-day event is filled with adrenaline-fueled on-track action. The entertainment areas and after race concerts make it an experience that shouldn't be missed whether you are a formula 1 fan or not

A photograph of two male MMA fighters in a sparring pose. The fighter on the left is in a high kick position, while the fighter on the right is in a defensive stance. They are both wearing MMA gloves and shorts. The background is a solid blue color with a subtle gradient. An orange square is visible in the top left corner of the image area.

SPORTS & EVENTS

UFC ABU DHABI SHOWDOWN

UFC®, the world's premier mixed martial arts organisation, and the Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi (DCT Abu Dhabi) have announced the return of Abu Dhabi Showdown Week, the third event of a five-year partnership, which will be headlined by UFC® 281 on Saturday, October 22, at Etihad Arena.



THE DESTINATION MANAGEMENT COMPANY

UAE | OMAN | JORDAN

Celebrating
25 YEARS
OF ADVENTURES

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