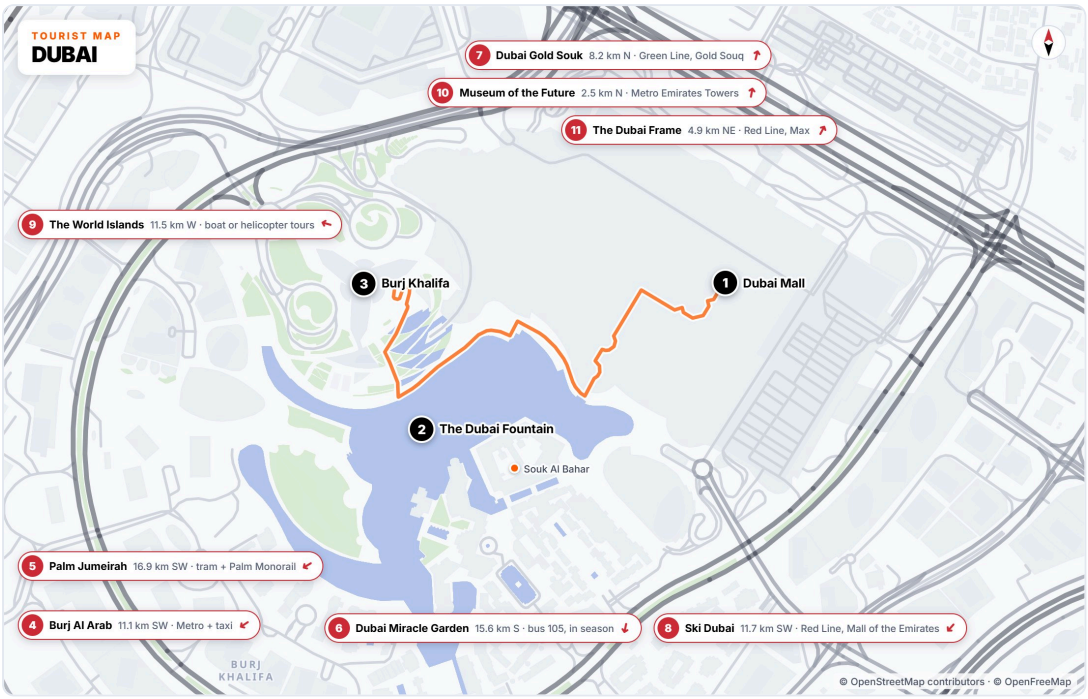
TOURIST MAP

Dubai Tourist Map

11 top sights, hidden gems and a walking route through Downtown. Numbers follow the walking order. Red numbers are worth a separate trip. The second map, of Dubai district by district, is on page 5.



Top sight on the route · Worth the trip · Hidden gem · Walking route 1.0 km · 15 min

1	Dubai Mall	Downtown Dubai	7	Dubai Gold Souk	Green Line, Gold Souq
2	The Dubai Fountain	Burj Khalifa Lake	8	Ski Dubai	Red Line, Mall of the Emirates
3	Burj Khalifa	Downtown Dubai	9	The World Islands	boat or helicopter tours
4	Burj Al Arab	Metro + taxi	10	Museum of the Future	Metro Emirates Towers
5	Palm Jumeirah	tram + Palm Monorail	11	The Dubai Frame	Red Line, Max
6	Dubai Miracle Garden	bus 105, in season			

Getting around

- Downtown is walked on foot: the route on the map runs from the Dubai Mall along the lake promenade to the Burj Khalifa. The rest of the city is spread along about 30 km of coast, so the far sights are reached by Metro, tram or taxi.
- Metro Red Line: Burj Khalifa/Dubai Mall station for Downtown, Emirates Towers for the Museum of the Future, Max for the Dubai Frame and Mall of the Emirates for Ski Dubai. The Green Line serves Old Dubai (Gold Souq, Al Ras, Al Ghubaiba); change at Union or BurJuman.
- Palm Jumeirah: Dubai Tram to the Palm Jumeirah stop, then the Palm Monorail from Palm Gateway along the trunk to Atlantis. Dubai Miracle Garden: bus 105 from Mall of the Emirates metro station, during the garden's season.
- Abras cross Dubai Creek between Bur Dubai and the Deira souks. The Burj Al Arab has no metro station: take a taxi from Mall of the Emirates, and see The World Islands on a boat or helicopter tour.
- Paper maps and timetables: the information points are listed on https://touristoffice.org/dubai-tourist-office/

About this map

The top sights, their photos and descriptions come from touristoffice.org/dubai/, where each sight has opening details, tickets and a longer guide. Addresses come from OpenStreetMap. The walking route was computed with the Valhalla pedestrian profile; its time excludes the visits. The district map draws the Dubai Metro, the Dubai Tram and the Palm Monorail from OpenStreetMap route relations. Hours and access change, check before you go. Edition: November 2026.

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The 11 top sights

In walking order, with the full address of each one. Red numbers are worth a separate trip: they sit outside the centre, so the line below each one gives the transport to use.

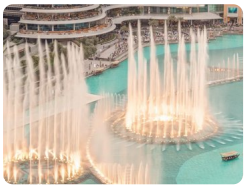


1 Dubai Mall — Downtown Dubai

The mall at the foot of the Burj Khalifa opened in 2008 and remains one of the largest shopping centres in the world, with more than 1,200 shops wrapped around the base of the tower. Most visitors come for what is not a shop: the Dubai Aquarium, whose ten million litre tank stands behind a viewing panel that needs no ticket, the Olympic size ice rink and the entrance to At the Top, the observation decks of the Burj Khalifa. The promenade on the lake side is the best free spot for the Dubai Fountain, and a long air conditioned walkway links the metro station to the doors.

Address Financial Centre Road, Downtown Dubai, Dubai

Free to enter; the aquarium tunnel, the ice rink and the Burj Khalifa decks are ticketed



2 The Dubai Fountain — Burj Khalifa Lake

The world's largest choreographed fountain system sits on the 12 hectare Burj Khalifa Lake, the water held between Dubai Mall, Souk Al Bahar and the foot of the tower. Jets fire in time with music and light, evening shows run at half-hour intervals with two shorter afternoon performances earlier in the day, and the crowd gathers along the mall waterfront and on the bridge across to Souk Al Bahar. The California firm WET designed it, and a boardwalk on the lake brings visitors close to the jets.

Address Burj Khalifa Lake, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Boulevard, Downtown Dubai, Dubai

Free from Burj Park, the Dubai Mall waterfront and the Souk Al Bahar bridge. The boardwalk platform and the abra rides are ticketed extras and timings are set by the operator.



3 Burj Khalifa — Downtown Dubai

The tallest building in the world rises 828 metres over Downtown Dubai, a tapering stack of setbacks that opened in 2010 and sets the outline every photograph of the city is framed around. Three observation decks are open to visitors: At the Top on levels 124 and 125, reached by one of the fastest double-decker lifts built, and a higher deck on level 148. The entrance sits on the lower ground floor of Dubai Mall rather than at the foot of the tower, and a late afternoon slot puts sunset over the Gulf and the switch to city lights in the same visit.

Address 1 Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Boulevard, Downtown Dubai, Dubai (At the Top entrance: lower ground floor, Dubai Mall)

Ticketed with timed entry. The tower itself is free to see from Burj Park and the promenade around Burj Khalifa Lake.



4 Burj Al Arab — Umm Suqeim

The sail-shaped hotel stands on its own artificial island off Jumeirah Beach, its outline drawn from the sail of a ship. Tom Wright of Atkins designed it, it opened in December 1999, and for over 25 years it has worked as shorthand for Dubai itself, lit above the Gulf every night. In April 2026 it closed for its first major restoration, led by the French interior architect Tristan Auer, who plans to keep most of the original interiors.

Address Jumeirah Street, Umm Suqeim 3, Dubai

Worth a separate trip · 11.1 km SW of the centre · Metro + taxi · Closed for restoration since April 2026, reopening planned for late 2027. The sail is seen from the public beaches of Umm Suqeim.



5 Palm Jumeirah — Palm Jumeirah

Built from sand dredged off the Jumeirah coast, Palm Jumeirah is shaped like a palm tree seen from above: a trunk, sixteen fronds and an outer crescent that carries the resorts that made the island famous. Atlantis The Palm anchors the crescent, joined in 2023 by Atlantis The Royal. The Palm Monorail runs up the trunk from Palm Gateway to Atlantis Aquaventure, and the Palm Jumeirah Boardwalk follows the inner side of the crescent, facing the Dubai skyline across the water.

Address Palm Jumeirah Road (the trunk), Palm Jumeirah, Dubai

Worth a separate trip · 16.9 km SW of the centre · tram + Palm Monorail · Free. The island is public and reached by road or monorail; its resorts, beach clubs and attractions charge separately.



6 Dubai Miracle Garden — Al Barsha South

Roughly 72,000 square metres of Al Barsha South are laid out as sculpted displays rather than borders: a heart-shaped tunnel, a floral castle and an Emirates A380 covered in blooms. The garden counts its flowers in the tens of millions each season, and the Dubai Butterfly Garden next door is visited on its own or with a combined ticket. It opens only in the cooler months and closes over the summer for maintenance and replanting.

Address Al Barsha South 3, Dubai

Worth a separate trip · 15.6 km S of the centre · bus 105, in season · Ticketed and seasonal. Season 15 runs daily from 8 October 2026 to 31 May 2027, 9:00 to 21:00 on weekdays and to 23:00 at weekends.

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7 Dubai Gold Souk — Deira

Hundreds of jewellers line the covered arcades on the Deira side of Dubai Creek, their windows stacked with gold sold by weight rather than at a fixed price, in a spread of carats and designs from across the region and beyond. All of the merchandise is regulated by the Dubai government, so authenticity is checked rather than taken on trust, and retailers expect to be bargained with. Diamond-set pieces, strings of pearls, platinum and silver share the windows. The Spice Souk is a three-minute walk away, the Perfume Souk five, and the Deira Old Souq abra station puts Al Fahidi one short water crossing away.

Address Sikkat Al Khail Street, Deira, Dubai

Worth a separate trip · 8.2 km N of the centre · Green Line, Gold Souq · Free to walk through. Most shops open 10:00 to 22:00 and individual stores vary, per Visit Dubai www.visitdubai.com/en/places-to-visit/the-gold-souk.



8 Ski Dubai — Al Barsha

An indoor ski slope runs down the side of Mall of the Emirates, recognisable from a distance by the slanted box perched on the roof, and the air inside is kept around freezing all year. A chairlift carries skiers and snowboarders to the top of the run, while everyone else rides a bobsled, rolls downhill inside a zorb ball, crosses a frozen zipline or walks through a snow cavern. A colony of king and gentoo penguins lives here and can be met up close. Chalet-style restaurants around the edge look straight onto the snow, with the shoppers passing in the windows behind.

Address Mall of the Emirates, Sheikh Zayed Road, Al Barsha 1, Dubai

Photo: "Ski Dubai, Mall of the Emirates, Dubai (Ank Kumar) 02" by Ank Kumar commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ski_Dubai,Mall_of_the_Emirates,_Dubai_(Ank_Kumar)_02.jpg (CC BY-SA 4.0 creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/).

Worth a separate trip · 11.7 km SW of the centre · Red Line, Mall of the Emirates · Ticketed by session. The mall around it is free to enter and sits on its own metro station.



9 The World Islands — Offshore

About 300 man-made islands lie off the Jumeirah coast, grouped into seven sets that trace the continents of a world map across roughly 232 kilometres of new shoreline. Dredging began in 2003 and most islands are still undeveloped; a few hold resorts, among them the Heart of Europe cluster and the Anantara World Islands hotel, whose guests cross by boat. The map only resolves from the air, which is why most people meet The World from a helicopter.

Address Offshore from Jumeirah, Dubai (islands reached by boat only)

Worth a separate trip · 11.5 km W of the centre · boat or helicopter tours · No general admission and no scheduled public transport. Resort guests cross by boat; otherwise the archipelago is seen from a private yacht or a helicopter tour.



10 Museum of the Future — Sheikh Zayed Road

A steel torus stands on a planted green mound beside Sheikh Zayed Road, its skin cut with Arabic calligraphy of three quotations by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum. It opened in February 2022 and its curved facade is built from 1,024 individually shaped panels that light up after dark. Inside, its exhibitions are being remade: the museum closed on 1 September 2026 and plans to reopen with new experiences in early 2027.

Address Sheikh Zayed Road, Trade Centre 2, Dubai

Worth a separate trip · 2.5 km N of the centre · Metro Emirates Towers · Closed since 1 September 2026 for new exhibitions, reopening planned for early 2027; the building is seen from Sheikh Zayed Road. Emirates Towers metro station on the Red Line stands beside it.



11 The Dubai Frame — Zabeel Park

Two gold-clad towers 150 metres tall carry a bridge across the top, holding Old Dubai's low-rise streets to the north and the Downtown towers to the south inside the same picture frame, from the edge of Zabeel Park. Glass panels in the floor of the sky deck look straight down to the ground. At ground level the city's past is told through animation, holographic effects, traditional music and scent, and a Future Zone projects Dubai fifty years ahead. It opened on 1 January 2018.

Address Zabeel Park, Gate 4, Dubai

Worth a separate trip · 4.9 km NE of the centre · Red Line, Max · Ticketed, open daily 8:00 to 21:00. Max metro station (formerly Al Jafiliya) on the Red Line is the nearest.

10 hidden gems

Smaller places worth a detour, each with its address. Those outside the map frame show their distance from the centre.

Elephant Clock
A nine-metre working replica of the water clock Al-Jazari described in 1206 stands in the India Court of Ibn Battuta Mall.
India Court, Ibn Battuta Mall, Sheikh Zayed Road, Jabal Ali, Dubai · 23.2 km SW of the centre, outside the map

Queen Elizabeth 2
The Cunard liner, retired in 2008, is moored at Mina Rashid and has been a floating hotel since 2018.
Mina Rashid, Dubai · 7.2 km N of the centre, outside the map

Dale Chihuly Sculpture
More than 3,000 pieces of blown glass by Dale Chihuly rise about 10 metres from a pool in the lobby of Atlantis The Palm.
Lobby of Atlantis The Palm, Crescent Road, Palm Jumeirah, Dubai · 17.7 km SW of the centre, outside the map

The Aquarium at Dubai Mall
The 10-million-litre tank of the Dubai Aquarium fills one wall of the mall's ground floor and can be seen from the shops.
Ground floor, Dubai Mall, Financial Centre Road, Downtown Dubai, Dubai · at top sight 1 on the map

Etihad Museum
Opened in 2017 beside Union House, where the UAE was founded on 2 December 1971, it tells the story of the federation.
Jumeirah Street, Jumeira 1, Dubai · 4.9 km N of the centre, outside the map

Souk Al Bahar
An Arabian-style souk of shops and restaurants on Burj Khalifa Lake, linked to the Dubai Mall by a footbridge over the water.
Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Boulevard, Downtown Dubai, Dubai

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Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood
Lanes of coral-stone houses with wind towers on the Bur Dubai side of the Creek, free to wander at any hour.
Al Fahidi Street, Al Souq Al Kabeer, Bur Dubai, Dubai · 7.8 km N of the centre, outside the map

JBR Beach
A public beach about 1.7 kilometres long below the towers of Jumeirah Beach Residence, with The Walk just behind it.
The Walk, Jumeirah Beach Residence, Dubai Marina, Dubai · 19.8 km SW of the centre, outside the map

Jumeirah Mosque
Opened in 1979 in sandstone on Jumeirah Street, it is free to photograph from outside and visited inside on guided tours.
Jumeirah Street, Jumeira 1, Dubai · 4.2 km N of the centre, outside the map

Kite Beach
A free public beach in Umm Suqeim with running and cycling tracks, food trucks and a view of the Burj Al Arab.
Kite Beach, off Jumeirah Street, Umm Suqeim 1, Dubai · 8.0 km SW of the centre, outside the map

Neighbourhoods

The Boulevard and the Dubai Mall
Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Boulevard loops round Downtown Dubai past hotels, cafes and the Dubai Opera. On its north side, the Dubai Mall (1) is linked to Burj Khalifa/Dubai Mall metro station by a long covered footbridge.

Burj Khalifa Lake and Souk Al Bahar
The Dubai Fountain (2) plays on the lake between the mall, the Burj Khalifa (3) and Souk Al Bahar, an Arabian-style souk of shops and restaurants. A footbridge crosses the water from the mall to the souk, and Burj Park lies at the foot of the tower.

DIFC and Sheikh Zayed Road
Across Sheikh Zayed Road to the north, the Dubai International Financial Centre gathers round The Gate building, with art galleries and restaurants in Gate Village. Further north, the Museum of the Future (10) stands beside the Emirates Towers metro station.

Business Bay
South and east of Downtown, the towers of Business Bay line the Dubai Water Canal, which links the Creek with the sea at Jumeirah. Business Bay metro station on the Red Line serves its western end.

Za'abeel and Zabeel Park
North-east of DIFC, Za'abeel holds the royal Za'abeel Palace and Zabeel Park, whose lawns stretch north of Sheikh Zayed Road. The Dubai Frame (11) stands at the park's Gate 4.

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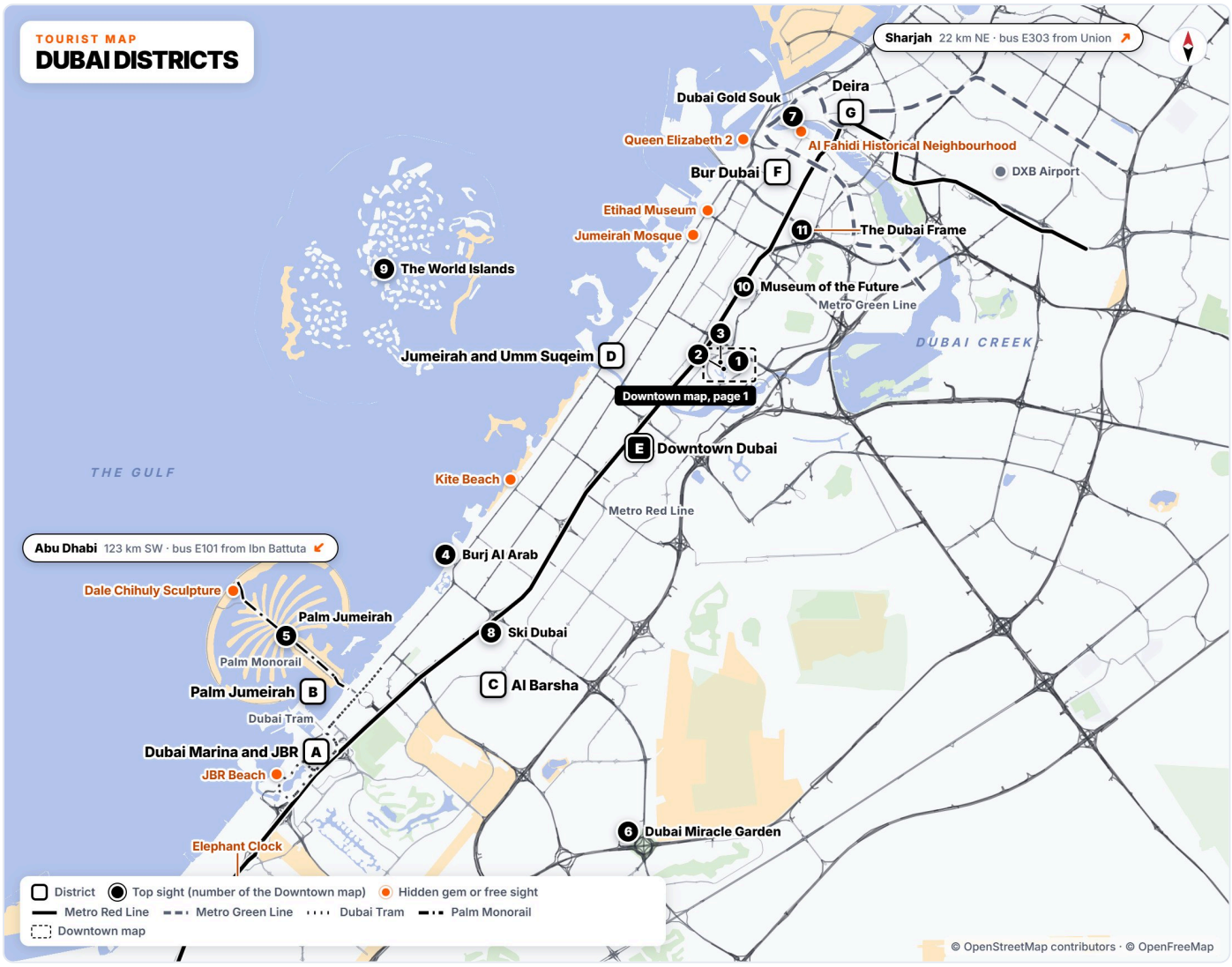
Dubai district by district

Dubai runs for about 30 km along the Gulf, from Dubai Marina in the south-west to Deira on Dubai Creek. Letters run from south-west to north-east, numbers are the top sights of page 1, and the dashed box is the Downtown map of page 1.



Districts and their top sights

With the letters and numbers of the map, from south-west to north-east.

A · Dubai Marina and JBR

Towers ring the man-made Dubai Marina, and JBR Beach runs along the sea in front of Jumeirah Beach Residence. The Dubai Tram loops through the district and meets the Metro Red Line at DMCC and Sobha Realty; Ibn Battuta Mall, with the Elephant Clock, is a few stops further south-west.

Hidden gems and free sights JBR Beach · Elephant Clock

B · Palm Jumeirah

The palm-shaped island reaches out to sea from Al Sufouh, its trunk lined with flats and beaches and its crescent with resorts, Atlantis The Palm among them. The Palm Monorail runs up the trunk from Palm Gateway, beside the Palm Jumeirah tram stop.

Top sights 5 Palm Jumeirah

Hidden gems and free sights Dale Chihuly Sculpture

C · Al Barsha

An inland district along Sheikh Zayed Road, built round Mall of the Emirates and its Red Line station, home of Ski Dubai. Dubai Miracle Garden lies further inland in Al Barsha South, reached by bus 105 from the mall during its season.

Top sights 8 Ski Dubai · 6 Dubai Miracle Garden

D · Jumeirah and Umm Suqeim

A long, low-rise strip of villas, beaches and parks along Jumeirah Street, from Jumeira 1 down to Umm Suqeim, where Kite Beach looks towards the Burj Al Arab. Jumeirah Mosque and the Etihad Museum stand at its northern end, and The World lies offshore.

Top sights 4 Burj Al Arab · 9 The World Islands

Hidden gems and free sights Kite Beach · Jumeirah Mosque · Etihad Museum

E · Downtown Dubai
The Burj Khalifa, the Dubai Mall and the fountain lake form the centre of the new city, beside Sheikh Zayed Road and Burj Khalifa/Dubai Mall metro station. North along the road lie DIFC and the Museum of the Future.

Top sights 1 Dubai Mall · 2 The Dubai Fountain · 3 Burj Khalifa · 10 Museum of the Future

Hidden gems and free sights Souk Al Bahar · The Aquarium at Dubai Mall

F · Bur Dubai
The old town on the west bank of Dubai Creek, with the wind-tower houses of Al Fahidi, souk lanes by the water and the abra stations. To the south the Dubai Frame stands in Zabeel Park, and the QE2 is moored at Mina Rashid on the coast.

Top sights 11 The Dubai Frame

Hidden gems and free sights Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood · Queen Elizabeth 2

G · Deira
The trading quarter on the east bank of the Creek, with the Gold Souk, the Spice Souk and the dhow wharves. Green Line stations Al Ras and Gold Souq serve the souks, and Dubai International Airport lies on Deira's eastern side.

Top sights 7 Dubai Gold Souk

Getting around Dubai

- The driverless Dubai Metro has two lines. The Red Line runs along Sheikh Zayed Road from Centrepoint, past the airport and Downtown, to Expo 2020 and Life Pharmacy; the Green Line runs through Deira and Bur Dubai from e& to Creek. They meet at Union and BurJuman.
- The Dubai Tram runs about 14.5 km through Dubai Marina and JBR and along Al Sufouh Road, with metro links at DMCC and Sobha Realty and the Palm Monorail at Palm Gateway, beside the Palm Jumeirah tram stop.
- Wooden abras cross Dubai Creek between the Bur Dubai and Deira souks in a few minutes, and RTA water buses and ferries run on the Creek and along the coast.
- Taxis are metered and easy to find, and a Nol card pays for the Metro, the tram and RTA buses. From June to September daytime heat passes 40°C, so long walks are best left to the evening.
- Dubai International Airport (DXB) has Red Line stations at Terminals 1 and 3.

Beyond the map

Abu Dhabi 123 km SW of Dubai
The capital of the United Arab Emirates lies south-west along the coast road, with the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque and the Louvre Abu Dhabi. RTA bus E101 runs from Ibn Battuta bus station to Abu Dhabi's central bus station.
touristoffice.org/abu-dhabi/

Sharjah 22 km NE of Dubai
The neighbouring emirate begins where Deira and Al Qusais end, with its heritage area and museums near the Corniche. RTA bus E303 runs from Union metro station to Al Jubail bus station in Sharjah.
touristoffice.org/sharjah/

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