



## "Caravan Focus" – News from Orient Tours

### EVENTS

- **DUBAI AIR SHOW, from 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009**
- **DUBAI RUGBY 7S, from 03<sup>rd</sup> – 05<sup>th</sup> December 2009**
- **CAPITALA WORLD TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP, Abu Dhabi, from 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 – 02 January 2010**
- **DUBAI DESERT CLASSIC, from 04<sup>th</sup> – 07<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

### EXHIBITIONS AND ROADSHOWS

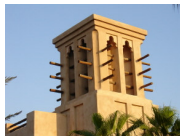
- **World Travel Market (WTM), London, United Kingdom, from 09<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> November 2009. Meet Orient Tours at the Dubai Tourism Stand and Sharjah Tourism Stand.**

### NEWS FROM ORIENT TOURS

**Orient Tours is proud to announce that we added 8 new tours (see below) in our brochure and these tours became operational from 01<sup>st</sup> November 2009.**

#### **A GLIMPSE OF HISTORY**

##### HALF DAY DUBAI WALKING TOUR



Experience the nostalgia of old Dubai during a walk through the heritage sites. We start in the old district of **Al Bastakiya**, with its narrow lanes and tall **wind-towers** (Barajeels). Continue to the **Dubai Museum**, located in **Al Fahidi Fort** and stroll through the **Old Souk** before crossing the creek by **abra** (water taxi). From the **Spice Souk**, we continue our walk to **Al Ahmadiya School**.

Established in 1912, it was the first regular school in Dubai. Our last stop is the **Gold Souk** where you can practice your bargaining skills.

#### **BOOMING DUBAI**

##### HALF DAY DUBAI DEVELOPMENT TOUR



Experience the new Dubai during this tour with a difference. Driving down Sheikh Zayed Road admire the glittering high rises en route to **Souk Madinat Jumeirah**, a beautiful recreation of an Arabian style market place. After a photo stop at the iconic **Burj Al Arab** your drive continues to **Palm Jumeirah**, a fully reclaimed, palm shaped island that is home to the magnificent Atlantis, The Palm. After a photo-stop, continue to **Ski Dubai**, the first indoor ski slope in the region, offering

fresh snow all year around. Our final stop will be at the base of what is currently the world's tallest building, the **Burj Dubai**. Here you have time to admire the **Dubai Fountain**, a spectacle of lights and sound and one of the world's largest performing fountains.

#### **CULTURAL TREASURES**

##### HALF DAY SHARJAH HERITAGE TOUR



Explore Sharjah, the cultural capital of the United Arab Emirates with its varied history and heritage. One of the Jewels on this tour is the **Islamic Civilization Museum**. Several galleries display carefully restored artifacts from around the Muslim world, celebrating Islamic contribution to the World Heritage. Continue to the **Heritage area** and visit the **Bait Al Nabooda**, former residency of a prominent pearl trader of yesteryears, an excellent example of old gulf architecture. A short stroll brings you to the

**Al Eslah school** where you will experience school life as it was over 70 years ago. After visiting this first school in town, you will spend some time in the oldest souk in the city, the **Al Arsa Souk**.

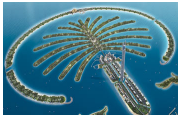
### THE COASTAL CARAVAN FULL DAY TOUR TO THE NORTHERN EMIRATES



This tour will take you to four of the seven Emirates. **Ras Al Khaimah, Umm Al Quwain, Ajman and Sharjah** will surprise you with their unique natural beauty. Your first destination will be the the **Maritime Museum** that celebrates the region's maritime heritage and which is based in Sharjah, the cultural capital of the UAE. During a visit of the Heritage area you get time to browse through the traditional **Souk Al Arsa** before you will have your next visit in Ajman, the smallest Emirate.

After a photo-stop at the beautifully restored Fort, drive north along the coast to reach the Emirate of Umm Al Quwain where you visit the old **Fort**, a former seat of government and residence of the ruling family. After a visit at **Falaj Al Mualla** where you will learn about the ancient irrigation system dating back to 500 B.C. we will stop at a **Camel racetrack**. Last stop will be the fast developing Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah where you make a photo-stop at **Jazirat Al Hamra**, the country's last remaining traditionally built village and now a 'ghost town'.

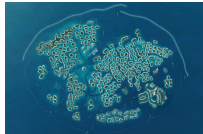
### A MODERN WONDER HALF DAY PALM JUMEIRAH CRUISE



Enjoy a boat ride towards **Palm Jumeirah**, a fully reclaimed palm tree-shaped island built off the coast of Dubai's famed **Jumeirah beach**. This, now iconic development has added 120 km of sandy beaches to Dubai's coastline. Self-declared 8<sup>th</sup> wonder of the world, its body mass is visible from outer space. En route you also enjoy a wonderful coastal view of the renowned **Burj al Arab**.

Light refreshments are available onboard. To conclude this tour you will drive onto **Palm Jumeirah island** for photo-stops by the awe inspiring Atlantis, The Palm, another of Dubai's landmarks and the first luxury hotel on Palm Jumeirah.

### FLY AND SAIL FULL DAY TOUR TO THE NORTHERN EMIRATES BY LAND, AIR & SEA



Enjoy a 40-minute aerial sightseeing tour of Dubai's dramatic and ever changing coastal skyline as well as the rugged natural beauty of the Northern Emirates. Travelling at 1,500 feet, you will enjoy a bird's eye view of Dubai's iconic landmarks such as Dubai Creek, Burj Al Arab, Palm Jumeirah and **The World islands** as well as **Burj Dubai**, presently the

world's tallest building. Then fly north over the coastal areas of Sharjah, Ajman and Umm Al Quwain before reaching Ras Al Khaimah. Land at Hilton Ras Al Khaimah and board a motor sailing schooner where welcome refreshments await you, as you set sail on a relaxing cruise around the **Arabian Gulf**. Weather permitting; enjoy swimming or snorkeling then be treated to a 3-course lunch accompanied by soft drinks and tea/coffee. Return to the marina where your transfer awaits you.

### BACK TO BASICS HALF DAY CRAB HUNTING TOUR IN UMM AL QUWAIN



Enjoy a drive to **Umm Al Quwain**, one of the Northern Emirates. After reaching Flamingo Beach Resort, you take a short boat ride towards **mangrove islands** for your **crab hunting** experience in shallow waters. After a successful hunt, you enjoy **buffet dinner** with your 'catch of the day' crab dish!

### CAPITAL EXPERIENCE FULL DAY SHEIKH ZAYED MOSQUE & FALCON HOSPITAL VISIT




Your tour begins with a drive to the outskirts of Abu Dhabi City where you will visit a modern wonder, the newly built **Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque**. Visitors can expect an enjoyable experience including awe inspiring information about the architecture of this opulent mega-structure, a fitting tribute to the late President of the UAE, HH Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan. From here, you drive to the unique **Abu Dhabi Falcon Hospital**, the region's first and only dedicated facility for falcons. Visit the well maintained exhibit section and learn about the


different species of falcons then see some of the fascinating tools of a falconer's trade. At the treatment rooms a trained care-giver provides explanations on common ailments and their treatments. Next experience an enthralling show as a falconer displays his prowess and the falcon's range of hunting skills after which you will enjoy a brief photo opportunity with these graceful birds.

## **NEWS FROM UNITED ARAB EMIRATEES**

<p><b>The Address Dubai Mall</b></p> <p><b>Location:</b> Downtown Burj Dubai  <b>Soft-opened:</b> Early Sep 2009  <b>Category:</b> 5 star</p> 	<p><b>Guestrooms:</b> 244 guestrooms and suites and 449 serviced residences.</p> <p><b>Guestroom facilities:</b> complimentary wireless internet access, flat screen television, iPod docking station and gourmet tea/coffee station.</p> <p><b>Food &amp; Beverage Outlets:</b> Ember, the signature restaurant, NA3NA3, the authentic Arabian restaurant, Karat, the lobby lounge, Amatista, the cocktail bar &amp; cigar lounge and Cabana, the poolside restaurant &amp; terrace lounge.</p> <p><b>Leisure Facilities:</b> a Spa with 12 treatment rooms, sauna &amp; steam rooms, fitness centre, swimming pool and hair salon. The hotel has direct access to the Dubai Mall.</p> <p><b>Conference &amp; Meetings:</b> a ballroom for up to 650 guests and 6 additional rooms.</p>
---	--

<p><b>The Address Dubai Marina</b></p> <p><b>Location:</b> Dubai Marina / Sheikh Zayed Road  <b>Soft-opening:</b> Early November 2009  <b>Category:</b> 5 star</p> <p><b>Guestrooms:</b> 200 guestrooms including suites</p> <p><b>Guestroom facilities:</b> complimentary wireless internet access, iPod docking station and gourmet tea/coffee station.</p> <p><b>Food &amp; Beverage Outlets:</b> Mazina, the all day dining restaurant, Brasserie Rive Gauche, the French restaurant, Kambaa, the lobby lounge, Shades, the pool bar and Blends, the cocktail bar.</p> <p><b>Leisure Facilities:</b> A Spa with 12 treatment rooms, fully equipped fitness centre, sauna &amp; steam rooms, hair salon and an infinity swimming pool. The hotel is directly linked to Dubai Marina Mall which boasts around 160 stores.</p>	 <p><b>Conference &amp; Meetings:</b> 1 ballroom and 15 meeting rooms.</p>
---	--

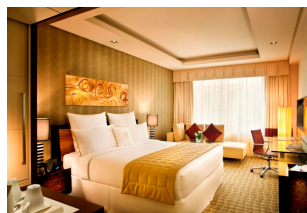
<p><b>Gold Swiss-Belhotel Dubai</b></p> <p><b>Location:</b> Bur Dubai  <b>Soft Opened:</b> 1st Oct 2009  <b>Category:</b> 4-star</p> <p><b>Guestrooms:</b> 184 guestrooms including suites</p> 	<p><b>Guestroom facilities</b> LCD television, internet, tea/coffee making facilities.</p> <p><b>Food &amp; Beverage Outlets:</b> Senses, the all day dining restaurant, The Kebab Connection, the specialty restaurant and the Liquid Lounge, the lounge bar.</p> <p><b>Leisure Facilities:</b> outdoor, rooftop swimming pool, health club, steam room, courtesy shuttle service and internet connectivity in the public areas.</p> <p><b>Conference &amp; Meetings:</b> 2 meeting rooms</p>
--	--

<p><b>Crowne Plaza Abu Dhabi Yas Island</b></p> <p><b>Location:</b> Yas Island  <b>Soft-opened:</b> 25<sup>th</sup> October 2009  <b>Category:</b> 4-star</p> <p><b>Guestrooms:</b> 428 guestrooms and suites.</p> <p><b>Guestroom facilities:</b> television, high speed internet connection, coffee/tea maker, iron &amp; ironing board, hairdryer safe deposit box etc.</p> <p><b>Food &amp; Beverage Outlets:</b> Jing Asia, the all day dining restaurant, Stills, the European restaurant, Barouk, the Lebanese restaurant, Vino, the lobby bar, Sundowner Pool bar, the trendy pool bar and Views, the lobby lounge café.</p> <p><b>Leisure Facilities:</b> state-of-the-art gym, sauna &amp; steam rooms, a squash court, swimming pool and Kids Club.</p>	 <p><b>Conference &amp; Meetings:</b> 1 ballroom, 4 meeting rooms and 1 boardroom.</p> <p><b>Other Facilities:</b> 4 Special Needs guestrooms.</p>
--	--

## **UPDATES FROM THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

### **Four Points by Sheraton Bur Dubai**

The hotel has completed the renovation of its guestrooms in July 2009.



Classic Room

### **Sofitel Dubai Jumeirah Beach**

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the opening of the hotel is delayed. As per the latest communication received from the hotel, the soft-opening is now planned early December 2009. ([for more details on this hotel, please refer to the summer edition of our newsletter sent to you in June 2009](#))

### **Marriott Dubai - The Harbour Hotel & Suites**

Since 15<sup>th</sup> September 2009, The Harbour Hotel & Residence is managed by Marriott Hotels. Henceforth, the property will be known as Marriott Dubai – The Harbour Hotel & Suites.

### **Al Badia Golf Club by InterContinental Dubai Festival City**

Since July 2009, Al Badia Golf Club (formerly known as Four Seasons Golf Club) is operated by InterContinental Dubai Festival City.

### **The Address Montgomerie Dubai**

Since October 2009, The Address Montgomerie Dubai (formerly known as Montgomerie Dubai) is operated by The Address Hotel & Resorts.

### **Traders Hotel, Qaryat Al Beri Abu Dhabi**

The hotel soft-opened on 01<sup>st</sup> August 2009, however, it will accept paying guests starting from 08<sup>th</sup> November 2009 only. ([for more details on this hotel, please refer to the summer edition of our newsletter sent to you in June 2009](#))

### **Radisson Blu Yas Island, Abu Dhabi**

The opening of this hotel is postponed to early November 2009. ([for more details on this hotel, please refer to the summer edition of our newsletter sent to you in June 2009](#))

### **Park Inn Abu Dhabi**

The opening of this hotel is postponed to end October 2009. ([for more details on this hotel, please refer to the summer edition of our newsletter sent to you in June 2009](#))

### **Fairmont Bab Al Bahr, Abu Dhabi**

Fairmont Bab Al Bahr, Abu Dhabi (formerly known as Fairmont Abu Dhabi Creek) is soft opened on 01<sup>st</sup> October 2009. However, the Seafood Restaurant (originally supposed to be a Lebanese restaurant), Chameleon Bar, Willow Stream Spa, Tennis Courts, Gym and the banqueting facilities are yet to open. These facilities are expected to open early 2010 only ([for more details on this hotel, please refer to the summer edition of our newsletter sent to you in June 2009](#)).

### **Anantara Qasr Al Sarab Resort & Spa, Abu Dhabi**

The hotel has soft-opened. ([for more details on this hotel, please refer to the summer edition of our newsletter sent to you in June 2009](#))



## **NEWS FROM THE SULTANATE OF OMAN**

### **Hotel Ibis Muscat**

**Location:** Al Khuwair, Muscat

**Soft Opened:** 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2009

**Category:** 3-star

**Guestrooms:** 171 guestrooms including 5 special needs rooms

**Guestroom facilities** LCD television and wireless internet

**Food & Beverage Outlets:** an all day dining restaurant and a bar with snacks available 24/7

**Leisure Facilities:** a fitness centre

**Conference & Meetings:** 4 meeting rooms

### **The Chedi, Muscat**

The hotel has upgraded all its guestrooms and facilities. All guestrooms are now equipped with a flat screen television, a Bose wave system with mini i-pod, tea / coffee making facilities and a Nespresso coffee machine.

### **Salalah Beach Marriott Resort**

Marriott International will manage Salalah Beach Marriott Resort (formerly known as Mirbat Beach Resort & Spa). Scheduled to soft-open on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2009, this property is located approximately 75 kilometers away from Salalah ([for more details on this hotel, please refer to the summer edition of our newsletter sent to you in June 2009](#))

**Next update: Early 2010**