Dubai: first-trip booking checklist

A practical companion to our Dubai guides

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01 Before paying

- ☐ Confirm passport-specific entry rules with the relevant UAE authority or airline; a GCC residence card is not universal admission permission.
- ☐ Check your own government's current travel advice and whether your insurance covers the planned trip.
- ☐ Write down the total hotel price, including taxes, deposits, transfers and cancellation terms.

02 Build a realistic budget

- ☐ Separate accommodation, meals, transport, attraction tickets and an emergency reserve.
- ☐ Compare the cost of getting to an attraction with its admission price. A free stop can still need an expensive transfer.
- ☐ Check the exact abra route and current fare. Traditional Dubai Creek crossings and sightseeing cruises are different products.

03 Choose experiences carefully

- ☐ Verify the official ticket seller, entry slot, included level and refund terms for paid attractions.
- ☐ Check whether a gallery, beach or public viewing area has different rules from a paid event or private facility.
- ☐ Plan outdoor walking around the weather, shade and the needs of children or less-mobile companions.

04 Before leaving your hotel

- ☐ Confirm the return journey and last public-transport service; keep a licensed-taxi alternative.
- ☐ Ask about food ingredients, accessibility, dress and photography rules where relevant.
- ☐ Keep copies of bookings and essential contacts offline. Do not publish passport or booking identifiers when sharing your trip.

OFFICIAL REFERENCES

Visit Dubai: budget planning
Visit Dubai: public and free experiences
UAE government: visas

Planning checklist, not visa approval. Reconfirm rules, fares and availability before booking.