



**DUBAI STOPOVER TRIP**

## STOPOVER OVERVIEW

If you're flying to the other side of the world, why not break your long journey up with a stopover in Dubai?

Enjoy 4 days and 3 nights in this glamorous state, that will amaze you in every way. Be in awe of the sheer scale of this powerhouse city, as you wander the vast streets surrounded by hundreds of skyscrapers.

Head to the top of the world, as you climb up the Burj Khalifa – the tallest building in the world at 828 metres high (additional cost)! Get lost in Dubai Mall, the world's largest shopping centre with over 1200 shops and restaurants and head outside to watch the fantastic water and light show at Dubai Fountain.

Alongside all of the glitz and glamour, Dubai also has historic neighbourhoods, colourful souqs (markets), museums, mosques, beaches and of course the desert!

As a part of the trip fee, you will get to hop on board a land cruiser and head into the deserts of Dubai! The evening will be spent dune bashing, admiring the sunset, watching traditional dances and enjoying a BBQ under the Arabian stars – something you will never forget!

You will also head off on a 4-hour city tour around all of the major attractions. See the contrast between 'new' and 'old' Dubai, where you will get to admire the beaches, hotels, viewpoints, museums, mosques and more!

This is your chance to explore this ever-growing city that provides the perfect mix of independent travel and guided tours.

With so much to see and do, you won't find a more fun filled trip on offer anywhere else! Each weekend trip starts on a Saturday and finishes on a Tuesday, costing just **£219 per person**.

The following are included within this fee:

- Return airport transfers
- Accommodation
- Guided desert safari
- Guided city tour

## START DATES

The amazing stopover trip starts **every Saturday** throughout the year. You are more than welcome to take part at the start or end of your volunteering placement.

Please note that the stopover trips will be at their busiest during the months of June through to September.

## BOOKING YOUR PLACE

You can simply add this stopover trip when applying for any of our programmes in Asia and Southern Africa.

If you've already signed up for one of our volunteer programmes and would like to add this trip, please email us – [hello@themightyroar.co.uk](mailto:hello@themightyroar.co.uk).

Please note our weekend and stopover trips are non-refundable and non-transferable between volunteers.

## ITINERARY

### DAY ONE – ARRIVAL AND FREE TIME

Your flight needs to land into Dubai International Airport (DXB) after 9am on your selected start date. Our local co-ordinator will be there to greet you and take you to your hostel to check in.

The rest of the day will be free for you to explore everything Dubai has to offer.

## **DAY TWO – CITY TOUR AND FREE TIME**

After breakfast you will head off in a land cruiser to explore the different sides to Dubai. The vast scale of this ever-growing city will soon become known as you drive around taking in all of the best-known landmarks.

See the contrast between ‘new’ and ‘old’ Dubai, where you will get to admire the Presidential Palace, Jumeirah Mosque, La Mer beach, the Grand Souk (old market) and The Frame.

We shall stop at Jumeirah Beach, where you’ll be able to get amazing photos of the Burj Arab as well as the golden sand beach. We will also visit a little-known viewpoint, where you can admire hundreds of skyscrapers down at the marina - make sure to bring your camera!

Not only this, but you’ll visit all of the famous hotels, learn a bit about each and have the chance to take some photos. These include the Burj Kalif, Palm Atlantis and the Burj Arab.

Last but not least, you can take an optional tour around Dubai museum located within the oldest fort in the country - costing under £1.

Learn about the history of Dubai and how it has developed into the powerhouse city that it now is. Read all about the ancient

After settling in, you will get a delicious barbecue dinner under the twinkling Arabian stars.

Everyone will sit back and enjoy 5 performances throughout the evening. These include two belly dances, fire dancing and a traditional tanoura dance.

During the evening, you will also be able to get Henna tattoo and dress up in traditional clothing for a photo.

There are several optional extras throughout the evening, including quad biking in the desert, VIP table seating and a camel ride.

We urge all of our volunteers to be mindful on the welfare of animals and to avoid partaking in camel riding activities – although it’s totally down to you.

## **DAY THREE – FREE TIME, DESERT SAFARI, TRADITIONAL DANCING, BBQ & SANDBOARDING**

There is nothing planned for the first part of today, so you can continue exploring Dubai.

At around 2pm, our local co-ordinator will pick you up from the hostel to head off on a desert safari! One of the major highlights of the stopover trip, you will head deep into the desert for an exhilarating 4x4 excursion.

First, we will take the Land Cruiser off road, as you drive up, down and around the large red sand dunes – make sure you’re holding on!

As the sun starts to set, everyone will stop and get out of the car to take some amazing photos across the far-reaching dunes – you are sure to be mesmerised!

After a bit more fun driving through the dunes, we will head to our camp for the evening.

Your first activity lined up is to sandboard down the towering dunes! Once you have mastered this, everyone will take their seats within the camp.

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#### **DAY FOUR – DEPARTURE**

I'm afraid today is your last day, hasn't time flown? Our local co-ordinator will drop everyone back at the airport for 11am.

If your flight leaves at a later time, you can of course arrange your own transport (a taxi is recommended) for around £10.

Please note days two and three may be swapped around depending on arrival times and unforeseen circumstances such as religious holidays.

## **FREE TIME**

You will have plenty of free time to see Dubai, whether that be relaxing on one of the luxury beaches, shopping at the mall, doing some adrenaline activities or one of the many other things you can do!

We have listed a few of the main highlights below that you could be getting up to.

#### **MARINA AREA**

If you're looking for an amazing atmosphere with an unbeatable view then head to Pier 7 after dark. Based in the heart of the marina, you can sit up high amongst all of the lit-up skyscrapers watching the luxury yachts come and go. There are many restaurants and bars, where there is guaranteed to be something for everyone.

Enjoy a relaxing day by the pools admiring the skyscrapers overhead and party well into the night at Barista Beach Club.

With free entry, a great vibe and delicious food, it's the perfect place to sit back and relax. As the night draws in, there is generally always some kind of event taking place, from live bands to world famous djs.

#### **DOWNTOWN AREA**

Be on top of the world as you climb to the top of the Burj Kalifa - the tallest building in the world. When you're up in the skies, you can enjoy 360-degree views of Dubai - an out of this world experience!

There are several price options available, but the cheapest and most popular is to head to floors 124 and 125 - costing around £30.

If you're into shopping, then Dubai Mall is the place to be. Famously known for being the world's largest shopping centre, there are thousands of shops, restaurants and activities to check out.

Be sure to head outside to the Dubai Fountains, located at the bottom of the Burj Kalifa. Enjoy a free spectacular water and light show that runs every half an hour from 6pm. Every show is different, so why not hang around for a couple and see it from different views?

## ACCOMMODATION

Over the course of the trip, you will be staying at either a 3-star hotel or a central hostel. The accommodation will be basic but clean and comfortable and perfect for getting a good night's rest. You'll have all of the amenities you need such as western bathrooms with hot water and Wi-Fi – although this may be intermittent. You will generally be sharing rooms on same sex basis with between 2 and 6 people.

## MEALS

No meals are included within the stopover fee. There are so many options when it comes to meals, with many branded restaurants and supermarkets to choose from.

## FLIGHTS

Dubai International Airport is a major hub for connecting flights from Europe to Asia and even Southern Africa.

You can easily plan your flight route to go via Dubai, either taking advantage of the comparison sites 'Multi city' offering or by contacting us to help book your flights.

As most routes to our destinations head over the United Arab Emirates, spending a few days in Dubai will not make your flight prices rocket.

Please ensure your flights land into Dubai after 9am for the transfer to be included within the stopover fee.

## TRANSPORT

Your airport transfers are included within the stopover fee and will be by a private car.

When out and about, the most popular and convenient mode of transport is taxis. We recommend only getting in the standard metered taxis, not the Lexus cars that are offered at all of the tourist places - these cost 3 times more!

There is also a tram system that connects many of the regions together.

## VISAS

For all volunteers travelling on a British Citizen passport, you can simply get a visa on arrival into Dubai.

The visa will be automatically granted as you pass through immigration and is valid for a total of 30 days.

If you are a non-UK national, then it's still good news. Over 60 countries can get a visa on arrival, including the USA, Australia, Canada, Germany and more.

## TMR DUBAI FACEBOOK GROUP

Please feel free to join our dedicated Dubai Facebook group. Simply search for TMR Dubai on Facebook to request to join.

This is a great way of getting in touch with everyone else heading to Dubai at the same time as well as talking with previous volunteers.

**Please note that the trip is co-ordinated externally from our volunteering projects.**

A member of our team will arrange your airport transfers, accommodation, city tour and desert safari, but the trip will be unaccompanied and is an opportunity for some independent travel. We will of course be available as per normal on our emergency contact number and the local co-ordinator can assist with some things.