

Sharjah

A Harmony Of Authenticity and Modernization

Sharjah - Islamic Tourism

At the crossroads of East and West, in the middle of the road between Asia and Europe stands Sharjah the capital of Arab culture and one of the UAE's seven emirates. This distinguished location was one of the attractions which made Sharjah the focal point for tourists and those interested in discovery and adventure.

The harmony that exists between authenticity and modernization and the combination of contemporary trends and tradition enabled the city to progress and take advantage of its local roots. Sharjah's cultural tradition makes it an oasis of culture and art.

Rich variety

One of the city's main attractions is its enchanting natural beauty, which extends to Khor Fakkan with its resorts, Kalba with its bird sanctuary and turtles, Dhaid Oasis with its agricultural products and Dibba al-Husn with its glorious Islamic history.

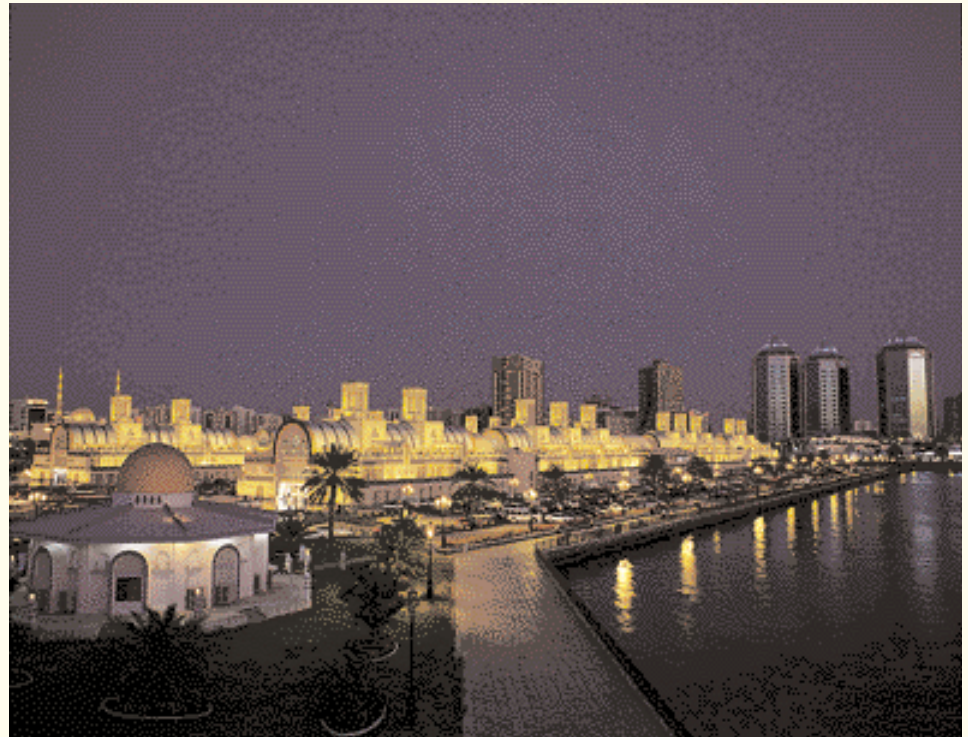
Art

Art lovers will find the best artifacts from the 18th century in the art zone with its historical architecture and many galleries as well as the biggest museum in the Gulf region.

Heritage

Sharjah's well preserved, authentic heritage is one of its distinguishing features. It has 15 museums each concentrating on some historical or cultural aspect of life. There is the Sharjah Husn Museum which was built in 1820. It is renowned for its unique, Arab architecture. The people of the emirate meet at the Husn to celebrate their culture and achievements.

On display is jewelry, metal work, tools used in pearl fishing and some rare photographs. The Islamic Museum contains rare manuscripts dating back to 1254 Hegira and



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the first map drawn by Al-Idrissi. The Bait Al-Nabodah museum focuses on life 150 years ago. The guest house of Ibrahim al-Madfaa is distinguished by its circular air shafts (Barajils) unique to the UAE.

Beaches

For those interested in beach tourism and swimming, there are plenty of opportunities in Sharjah. The best places for water sports can be found in Khan, Dibba al-Husn and Khor Fakkan.

The enchanting desert

A night time trip to the desert is an ideal way to experience desert life, camp under the stars, ski on the sands and enjoy a barbeque.

Despite its attachment to tradition, Sharjah is a truly modern, 21st century emirate. The old and the new co-exist in a happy symbiosis, complimenting each other and ensuring visitors have a wonderful time. ■