

VIEW FROM THE TOP



Burj Khalifa at sunrise

DUBAI'S SKYLINE ISN'T JUST MESMERIZING — IT OFFERS LUXE EXPERIENCES WITH UNMATCHED VIEWS, ADDING A NEW DIMENSION TO THE “HIGH LIFE” THAT THIS MEGAPOLIS IS SYNONYMOUS WITH.

BY ANANYA BAHL



Skydive Dubai organizes treats for lovers of adrenaline-pumping adventure

It took Dubai a few decades to transform from a Middle-Eastern fishing village to one of the most opulent metropolises in the world. A far cry from its humble beginnings, this Emirate is a place where the rich-and-renowned hobnob and luxury is the order of the day, every day. An urbane centre with an enviable collection of high-rises, Dubai offers visitors the chance to take full advantage of its many vantage points — some of which literally touch the sky!

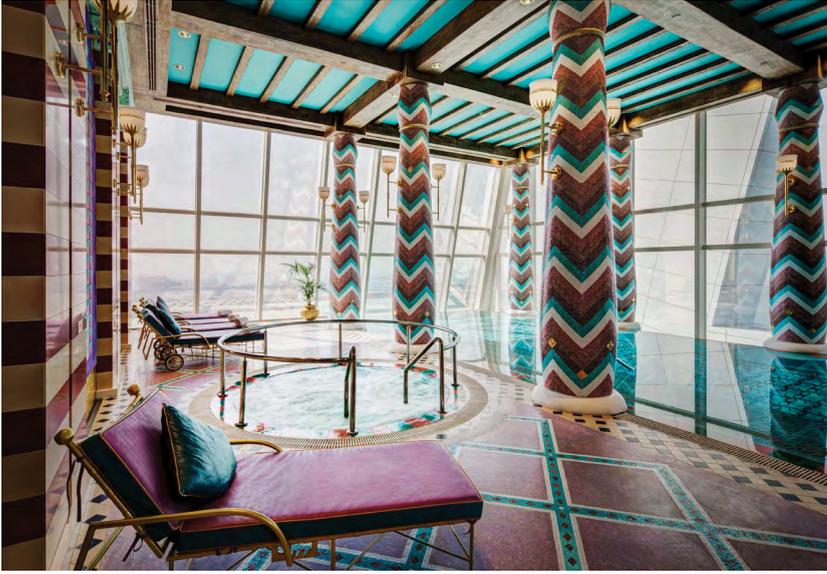
Enjoy a new “high” on your next vacation in the Manhattan of the Middle East as you soak in the glorious views that this city lavishly serves up. After all, it’s only fitting that a top-class

destination offers magnanimous views from the top! Here are some essential experiences that must feature on your Dubai itinerary.

There’s no way you can leave Dubai without visiting the Burj Khalifa. One of the quintessential tourist spots in the city, the tower gives you a bird’s eye view of Dubai’s sprawling urban landscape. Looming large over the city at 2,716.5 ft and boasting 160 storeys, it is the tallest building in the world, and consequently, houses an elevator with the longest travel distance in the world! Speeding at 10 metres per second, the world’s fastest double-decked elevators take you to “At the Top, Burj Khalifa” which is spread across two floors. Level 124 is home to high-power telescopes and an outdoor

DESTINATION

DUBAI



From top: Burj Al Arab Talise Spa; and
Dubai Frame

observation deck while Level 125 offers an Arabic-style, 360-degree deck as well as “Dubai – A Falcon’s Eye View”.

The city’s newest attraction is the Dubai Frame —150 metres high and 93 metres wide — located in Zabeel Park to give visitors a chance to experience the best of old and new Dubai. Its two towers are connected by a 100 square metre bridge, offering a 360 degree view of the city. The experience is divided into three phases. First is Old Dubai. Starting at the mezzanine floor, it employs projections, fragrances, and other effects to capture the charm of the old city. There’s also the Past Gallery which tells the tale of Dubai’s evolution from a small fishing village to its current status as one of the world’s foremost cities. Then, there is Present Dubai at the Skydeck level which offers views of old and new Dubai, including the Emirates Towers, Burj Khalifa, Deira, Umm Harare, and Karama. Finally, before you exit, you are treated to a swirl tunnel that’s designed to resemble an apparatus for time travel which arrives at Dubai, 50 years into the future! On the 18th floor of the Burj Al Arab, the world’s most luxurious hotel, is an oasis of serenity that overlooks the

Arabian Gulf. Welcome to the Talise Spa, a peaceful haven, sitting pretty at a height of 150 metres above sea level. The minute you enter, smiling faces await you, ushering you into a soothing world of glorious rejuvenation. With a curated therapy menu comprising giants from the world of wellness like Carol Joy, Aromatherapy Associates, and La Prairie, rest assured that you will be more than taken care of. What’s more? The views are nothing short of spectacular! While you are indulging your senses completely, there are unending panoramas of the gulf to be enjoyed from the therapy rooms!

Touch the proverbial “Cloud 9” with Skydive Dubai — a treat for lovers of adrenaline-pumping adventure. With this experience, you will be enjoying the city’s landmarks in reverse fashion: from top-down, as you zip across like a bird! You can opt for tandem skydiving in which you will be strapped onto a harness with a world-class expert. The thrill of freefalling at 120 miles per hour is unparalleled and you can choose between the Palm Jumeirah Island and Desert Campus as venues. A restaurant named after an Italian ski town that’s located in the middle of a desert—where else can you expect such a delightful paradox but in Dubai? Alta Badia, perched at the 50th floor of the Jumeirah Emirates Towers hotel, is an ode to the ski resort of the same name that’s nestled in the mighty Dolomites in northern Italy. Much like its namesake, this gorgeous restaurant offers pristine views coupled with special Ladin cuisine that’s marked by old-world dishes spruced-up with seasonal produce. The restaurant offers a “Brunch At The Top” experience every Friday where you can enjoy delicious pastas, arancini, and fritturas. The soft jazz music, ambience, and unparalleled views also make it an awesome venue for a romantic date! ■