

## **Location**

Burj Al Arab is part of The Jumeirah Beach Resort complex, situated on Jumeirah Beach Road, a leisurely half hour drive from Dubai International Airport. Soaring 321m; Burj Al Arab towers above the renowned Jumeirah Beach Hotel and Wild Wadi Water Park. This unique sail-shaped building stands proudly on a man-made island some 280m offshore, linked to the mainland by a slender, gently curving causeway.

## **History**

In 1993, architect Tom Wright of WS Atkins took on the challenge of creating this groundbreaking superstructure. It was to be extravagant and luxurious, a reflection of its Arabic heritage and traditions of hospitality, a beacon to light the city's future.

Construction of this architectural and engineering marvel commenced in 1994 and Burj Al Arab's doors officially opened on 1 December 1999. It took two years to reclaim the island in the shore waters of the Arabian Gulf, drilling 250 foundation piles 40m deep into the seabed, and a further three years to complete the magnificent landmark. The aim of the architects and designers was to create a totally unique structure that would become the icon of Dubai.

## **Structure and Exterior Design**

At 321m high, Burj Al Arab is the world's tallest all-suite hotel building, taller than the Eiffel Tower and only 60m shorter than the Empire State Building. With its helipad on the 28<sup>th</sup> floor and a restaurant seemingly suspended in mid air, this hotel has become a landmark and icon on the Dubai skyline.

Designed in the shape of a billowing Arabian dhow sail, the façade represented an astonishing technical challenge, featuring a double-skinned Teflon-coated woven glass fibre screen. It is the first time such technology has been used vertically in such form and extent in any building worldwide. It is dazzling white by day and used as a canvas for a rainbow of spectacular light displays at night, providing a brilliant entrance to the marvels that await the guest inside.

At the entrance, fireballs 2.5m in diameter are propelled 8m into the air from each of the four towers, created by releasing a controlled amount of non-toxic propane gas. The result is a spectacular optical illusion, with the flames reflecting in the hotel's glass exterior. Bursts of fire are also incorporated into the Ellipse fountain at the hotel entrance, combined with 20,000 litres of water and orchestrated into the most unique and dramatic visual symphony.

Combining the latest technology with a long-standing reputation of Arabian hospitality, Burj Al Arab symbolizes the very essence of Dubai, embracing the best of the new alongside traditions of the past.

## **Interior Design**

Khuan Chew, of KCA International, drew the inspiration for the interiors from the land, its people and culture. A robust and vibrant colour palette was derived from the elements; earth, air, fire, water and approximately 1,590m<sup>2</sup> of 24-carat gold leaf was used to embellish the interior. The layout incorporated ancient and revered traditions of hospitality, particular to Arabic nations.

The world's tallest atrium is over 180 meters in height, abundant in warm, natural light and flanked by golden columns, with a beautiful central fountain where arches of water dance and suddenly burst over 42m into the air.

Situated between the escalators leading to Sahn Eddar, the Cascade Waterfall combines finely atomized water with fibre optics to produce a unique kaleidoscope effect. As water

and fog flow downward through its glass, stone-filled steps, water arches elegantly in choreographed movement.

### **Guest Rooms and Suites**

An all-suite hotel standing 27 double-height storeys high, Burj Al Arab comprises 202 duplex suites. Convenience, luxury and a highly personalized service are available for every traveller, enhanced by private reception desks on every floor, as well as in-suite check-in and a brigade of exclusive butlers that provide around the clock assistance to each and every guest.

Reaching new heights of luxury and service levels, the hotel offers a choice of:

142	Deluxe Suites (One Bedroom)
18	Panoramic Suites (One Bedroom)
4	Club Suites (One Bedroom)
28	Two Bedroom Suites
6	Three Bedroom Suites
2	Presidential Suites
2	Royal Suites

Suites range from 170m<sup>2</sup> to 780m<sup>2</sup> in floor area featuring floor to ceiling windows with a breathtaking view of the sea, and all are equipped with the latest technology, laptop computers featuring Windows Vista and Microsoft Office 2007 and internet access.

Numerous services and functions can be managed by the television and remote control, including the ability to view any visitor to the suite and give access without leaving the comfort of your armchair, and every suite has a minimum of 6 telephones.

Every suite benefits from a range of unique first-class flourishes, including an extensive selection of complimentary Hermes amenities and a pillow menu with 17 options, including some for children. A special bath menu is also available and the butler will be glad to explain the different options: from the refreshing Mint Bath to the most decadent Extreme Indulgence, including caviar, champagne and strawberries.

Special facilities are available for our younger guests: Sinbad's Kids' Club is located on the 18<sup>th</sup> floor, and in-suite babysitters can be arranged on request.

The two Royal Suites span the entire 25<sup>th</sup> floor, where palatial surroundings reach unsurpassed peaks of luxury, including a private elevator, private cinema, rotating beds, Majlis (Arabic meeting room) and extremely spacious dressing rooms.

### **Royal Arrival**

Burj Al Arab boasts one of the world's largest fleets of Rolls Royce's (including Park Wards, Silver Seraphs and Phantoms) all of which are available for guest transfers to the airport or around Dubai. Exclusive helicopter transfers to and from Dubai International Airport can be arranged, as well as scenic tours of the city and man-made islands. The Marhaba Welcome is the epitome of true Arabian hospitality: guests arriving at Burj Al Arab are welcomed with rose water, refreshing cold towels, dates, Bakhoor and authentic Arabic coffee.

### **Restaurants and Bars**

With superb cuisine in dramatic settings and restaurants situated both among the stars and below the sea, dining at Burj Al Arab is truly a unique experience.

### **Al Muntaha – Sky View Restaurant**

In Arabic, the "ultimate" or "highest", Al Muntaha is suspended on the 27<sup>th</sup> floor, 200m above the Arabian Gulf, offering unrivalled views of Dubai and the coastline shimmering in the distance.

Reached by express panoramic lift travelling at 6m per second, the restaurant features seating for up to 120 guests who can enjoy delicious contemporary European cuisine in a sophisticated setting with one of the most breathtaking views of Dubai. The incorporated cocktail area of Skyview Bar is a stylish and exclusive venue for afternoon tea, sunset cocktails and pre- and post-dinner drinks, with an experienced and passionate team of trained Mixologists create personalized cocktails to suit the guest's tastes and mood.

### **Al Mahara - Seafood Restaurant**

Al Mahara or "the oyster shell" is a seafood lover's paradise that dives into the Arabian Gulf to delight its guests. Diners will be treated to a truly memorable and exciting experience as they approach the restaurant via a three-minute simulated submarine voyage from the hotel lobby.

Guests can enjoy the most succulent selection of seafood either in the main restaurant area, surrounded by the varied sea-life of the Gulf and illuminated by the glow of enormous seafood aquaria, or choose to be in the privacy of one of three exclusive private dining rooms.

### **Junsui**

The Japanese word for 'pure', Junsui is a contemporary restaurant offering authentic Asian dishes prepared live in opulent surroundings. The family-friendly restaurant is located on the ground mezzanine floor, with stunning views over the Arabian Gulf, and includes an adjacent cocktail lounge for pre and post dinner drinks.

With 12 live cooking stations in an open kitchen concept and no less than 45 specialized Asian chefs in the culinary team, Junsui offers a mouth-watering union of culinary delights from Japan, China, Thailand, Indonesia and Korea.

### **Al Iwan - Sea View Restaurant**

The "Royal Dining Hall" is located in the heart of the world's tallest atrium, flanked by golden columns and adjacent to the main lobby. Al Iwan is an oasis dedicated to feeding the senses in every respect as guests here can enjoy a taste of the finest Arabian hospitality, whilst impressive interior decoration successfully mixed with traditional objects d'art make up the restaurant's warm ambience, ideal for a relaxed rendezvous.

### **Bab Al Yam - Poolside Restaurant**

Located adjacent to the private outdoor swimming pool and sun-deck at the base of Burj Al Arab, Bab Al Yam, or the "Sea's Door", offers a relaxing, tranquil atmosphere in a beautifully landscaped and green island oasis.

From the intimacy of their suites, guests can venture out to this café restaurant that provides informal dining with attractive sea views. Alternatively guests can relax at the Pool Bar and enjoy refreshing beverages and cocktails.

### **Majlis Al Bahar – Beachfront Restaurant**

Located on Burj Al Arab's private beach, Majlis Al Bahar is an exclusive sea-facing restaurant that is natural, welcoming and refreshingly informal. Majlis Al Bahar is an al fresco restaurant that specializes in Modern Mediterranean and Middle Eastern dishes, with an emphasis on fresh, vibrant flavours and plenty of lighter options. The adjacent bar is perfect for watching the sun set over the Gulf, and further along the beach, enticing clusters of specially designed sun lounges await our guests.

### **Sahn Eddar – Atrium Lounge**

The perfect meeting area befitting the splendour of Burj Al Arab, "The Reception of the House", Sahn Eddar, is located at the base of the world's tallest atrium. Warm and welcoming classic tones, mosaic and marble flooring and torch lighting provide the perfect backdrop for guests wishing to linger over morning coffee, individual chocolate fountains or afternoon tea while watching the 42m water column leap skyward towards the peak of the atrium.

### **Conference and Banqueting Facilities**

Burj Al Arab offers the most technologically advanced meeting and conference facilities on the 27<sup>th</sup> floor. Set high over the Arabian Gulf, with the benefit of an outdoor terrace to enjoy the balmy winter nights, the sumptuous décor of Al Falak Ballroom and Conference Suites, inspired by an 18<sup>th</sup> Century Viennese opera house, provide an unforgettable venue. Accessible via its atmospheric veranda, the Ballroom has marble pillars encompassing a central gold dome, with a dazzling crystal chandelier as a centrepiece.

Complementing the ballroom is a series of five conference suites, each with seating capacities of up to 40 persons, and containing the ultimate in sophisticated facilities and equipment.

### **Assawan Spa & Health Club**

Located on the 18<sup>th</sup> floor of Burj Al Arab is Assawan Spa, a lavishly decorated, private health and fitness facility, named after the Assawan stone, which is known for its purity and healing properties. Its unique location allows guests to enjoy a spectacular view from the Jacuzzis, spas and pools as well as the massage, beauty and therapy rooms and even the aerobic room.

Separate ladies and gentlemen's facilities offer complete seclusion for guests seeking relaxing and reviving treatments in the hands of the most highly trained professionals. The extravagant décor is reminiscent of bathing pools used by ancient Middle Eastern civilizations, with a colour scheme representing the UAE national flag.