



Neighbourhood Walk Bur Dubai Waterside Walk

START AL FAHIDI HISTORIC DISTRICT
END KAN ZAMAN
LENGTH 3KM; TWO HOURS

Kick off your tour with a wander along the narrow lanes of **1 Al Fahidi Historic District** (p68), one of Dubai's oldest neighbourhoods. Check out the traditional wind-tower architecture. Pop into small exhibits like the **2 Coffee Museum** (p69) or the **3 Al Serkal Cultural Foundation** (p68) and stop for refreshments in the courtyard of **4 XVA** (p73) or the enchanting walled garden of the **5 Arabian Tea House** (p73).

Thus fortified, stop by the **6 Majlis Gallery** (p68), the oldest art space in Dubai, before continuing west along bustling Al Fahidi St to the **7 Dubai Museum** (p67), which introduces the history, heritage and development of this burgeoning city. Continue north from the museum and study the architectural details of the **8 Grand Mosque** (p69), which boasts Dubai's tallest minaret. Take the lane to the mosque's right-hand side and

continue straight ahead for a few steps, then duck left into teeny **9 Hindi Lane** (p69), a vibrant and colourful alley with pint-sized stores selling religious paraphernalia.

Exiting Hindi Lane takes you to the wooden arcades of **10 Bur Dubai Souq** (p69) and its colourful textile and trinket shops. After arriving at Bur Dubai Abra Station, follow the waterfront to the Shindagha Historic District, which is lined with the restored residences of Dubai's ruling family. Several of them now house themed exhibits, such as the **11 Traditional Architecture Museum** (p70) and the **12 Camel Museum** (p70). The key building along here, though, is the **13 Sheikh Saeed Al Maktoum House** (p70) which displays an intriguing collection of old photographs of Dubai. If you're visiting during Eid or the Dubai Shopping Festival, the **14 Heritage and Diving Villages** (p70) will be a hive of activity, providing an authentic glimpse into Emirati traditions. Ponder all that you've just seen while relaxing with a fresh juice or traditional meal at the waterfront **15 Kan Zaman** (p73).



Neighbourhood Walk Deira Souq Stroll

START SPICE SOUQ
END AFGHAN KHORASAN KEBAB HOUSE
LENGTH 2KM; THREE HOURS

As soon as you step off the *abra* (water taxi) at Deira Old Souq Abra Station, heady scents will lure you across to the **1 Spice Souq** (p53). Take some time to explore. Turn right as you exit on Al Abra St, then left on Al Ras St and right again on Al Hadd St. At the end of Al Hadd St turn right and follow Al Ahmadiya St to the beautifully restored **2 Heritage House** (p53) for intriguing insights into Dubai's history and culture.

Behind Heritage House is Dubai's first school. **3 Al Ahmadiya School** (p53). Look around, then continue along Al Ahmadiya St, turning right into Old Baladiya St, where you'll find wholesalers trading in *gutrās* (men's white headcloths), sandals and Chinese products.

Ahead, to the left, is the wooden latticed archway entrance to Dubai's famous **4 Gold Souq** (p52). Pop into the small

shops to look at over-the-top gold pieces created for brides' dowries and duck into the narrow lanes to suss out tiny teashops, simple cafeterias, busy tailors and barber shops.

Exit the Gold Souq, follow Sikkat al Khail St to Al Soor St and turn left. This is the heart of the **5 Perfume Souq** (p54), a string of shops selling pungent Arabian *attars* (perfumes) and *oud* (fragrant wood). Backtrack and continue straight on what is now 107th St, with hawkers selling cut-price clothes, Chinese-made shoes and kitschy souvenirs.

Tucked east of 107th St are the tiny alleys of the **6 Covered Souq** (p54), a warren of little shops selling everything from textiles to *sheesha* pipes. Cross Al Sabkha Rd, head into Naif South St and turn right into 9A St. Keep going until you arrive at the **7 New Naif Market** (p54), which has risen from the ashes of the historic Naif Souq.

If you've worked up an appetite, a carnivorous feast at **8 Afghan Khorasan Kabab** (p57) will keep you satiated for ages. Find it by turning right into a little alley about half a block past the Naif Mosque.

