

ICRP first “Radiation Protection Week” in the United Arab Emirates Social Activities’ Programme

Cultural Activity one: Abu Dhabi desert		
Friday 09 th November 2018		
<p>Note: this activity is free of charge for all international Guests (both ICRP and RPW international Participants). A contribution of 280 AED (adults) or 180 AED (children) is requested from UAE Residents who wish to join. Sponsorship is possible, please inquire at the Reception Desk.</p>		
14.00-15.30	Transportation of all Guests to the desert resort. Departure at 14.00 from Dusit Thani Hotel.	All registered Participants are transported by coach to the Desert Resort “Arabian Nights”
15.30-22.00	Organized activities in the desert resort 	Participants can enjoy walking in the desert, riding camels, being driven to a camel farm, henna painting, dune bashing, swimming pool, etc. Buffet dinner with ‘oud musical entertainment http://arabiannightsvillage.com/
<p>“Nestled among stunning dunes, Arabian Nights Village harnesses the soul and essence of old Arabia. Conceived to let visitors experience the mythical and timeless beauty of the desert and aspects of traditional Emirati life. The desert journey begins as experienced guides transport guests over towering dunes. As they approach the village – which emerges surprisingly from a gigantic dune valley – guests enter a picturesque courtyard overlooked by two traditional-styled watchtowers - Zakher and Al Manhal - each named after residences of the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, The Father of the Nation. Although internet is available for emergencies, there are no TVs on-site, so guests enjoy sheer tranquility. Serving a mix of Arabic and international Cuisine, the Al Maqam restaurant (meaning ‘The Gathering Place’), is where visitors meet and eat together, while listening to traditional Arabic music. There’s also an idyllic 200m² swimming pool to cool down in.” (from: https://visitabudhabi.ae/en/explore/desert/arabian.nights.heritage.village.aspx)</p>		
22.00-23.30	Transportation to Dusit Thani Hotel.	All registered Participants are transported by coach back to Abu Dhabi

Cultural Activity two:

Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque

Saturday 10th November 2018

Note: this activity is free of charge for all registered Participants.

Bus transportation is provided only for ICRP Guests.

All the Participants should convene at the meeting point for guided tours at the Main Gate, before 12.00.

10.30	Bus departure from Dusit Thani	Bus transportation is provided for ICRP Guests
11.00-11.30	Access to Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque	Appropriate dress is required
11.30-12.00	Free visit to the Mosque surroundings	Participants can enjoy a free visit to the premises of the Mosque
12.00-13.00	<p>Visit to Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi</p> 	<p>Guided visit to Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi</p> <p>https://www.szgmc.gov.ae/en/</p> <p>All Participants should meet at the Main Gate for guided tours, before 12.00.</p>
<p>“The Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque stands out as one of the world’s largest mosques, and the only one that captures unique interactions between Islam and world cultures. Sheikh Zayed’s vision for the Grand Mosque was to incorporate architectural styles from different Muslim civilizations and celebrate cultural diversity by creating a haven that is truly diverse and inspirational in its foundation.</p> <p>The mosque’s architects were British, Italian and Emirati, and design inspiration was borrowed parts of Turkey, Morocco, Pakistan, and Egypt among other Islamic countries, revealing a glistening architectural marvel with an astonishing capacity of 40,000 worshippers and visitors. The open-door policy invites tourists and celebrants from all around the world who can witness the spectacular onion-top domes, the reflective pools that engulf the courtyard and the iconic prayer hall, which not only overflows with blissful sunlight, but also houses the world’s biggest chandelier and carpet, both meticulously handmade. Be sure to spot the calligraphy encircling the hollows of the domes, etched with verses from the Quran and painted with gold leaves in An-Naskh lettering.”</p> <p>https://visitabudhabi.ae/en/see.and.do/attractions.and.landmarks/iconic.landmarks/sheikh.zayed.grand.mosque.aspx</p>		
13.30	Bus departure from the Grand Mosque to “Galleria Mall”	Bus transportation is provided only for ICRP Guests
14.00-15.30	<p>Galleria Mall, Rosewood Hotel and Four Seasons Hotel:</p> <p>Various restaurants, coffee shops and shopping opportunities in the three adjacent locations, at a walking distance</p>	Free time for lunch, sightseeing and shopping

Cultural Activity three:

Louvre Abu Dhabi Museum

Saturday 10th November 2018

Note: this activity is free of charge for all registered Participants.

Bus transportation is provided only for ICRP Guests.

All the Participants should convene at the entrance of the Louvre Abu Dhabi museum, before 16.00.

15.30-16.00	Transportation from "Galleria Mall" to Louvre Museum Abu Dhabi	Bus transportation is provided only for ICRP Guests
16.00-18.30	<p>Visit to the Louvre Abu Dhabi Museum</p> 	<p>Guided visit to the Louvre Abu Dhabi Museum</p> <p>https://www.louvreabudhabi.ae/</p>
<p>"The iconic Louvre Abu Dhabi is the first universal museum in the Arab World that translates the spirit of openness of cultures. As one of the premier cultural institutions located in the heart of the Saadiyat Cultural District, the art-lovers dream displays the works of historical, cultural and sociological significance from ancient times to the contemporary era. Designed by Pritzker-prize winning architect Jean Nouvel, the Louvre Abu Dhabi encompasses 9,200 sq. m of galleries including the Permanent Gallery and a Temporary Gallery that is enriched by loans from many notable French museums including Musee du Louvre, Musee d'Orsay, and Centre Pompidou.</p> <p>Recreating parts of UAE's integral cultural elements, Nouvel designed a falaj-inspired water system running through the museum, inspired by ancient Arabian engineering whilst the orderly lace dome borrows inspiration from the interlaced palm leaves traditionally used as roofing material in many parts of the country that results in an enchanting play of light.</p> <p>The juxtaposition of different civilizations in the same spaces, the Louvre Abu Dhabi illustrates similarities and exchanges from the shared human experience going beyond geography, nationality, and history."</p> <p>(From: https://visitabudhabi.ae/en/see.and.do/attractions.and.landmarks/cultural.attractions/louvre.abu.dhabi.aspx)</p>		
17.38	Sunset time	All Participants can enjoy the beautiful sunset view from the Louvre Abu Dhabi
18.30	Transportation from Louvre to Dusit Thani Hotel	Bus transportation is provided only for ICRP Guests

CLIMATE & WHAT TO WEAR

<https://visitabudhabi.ae/en/travel/essential.info/climate.and.what.to.wear.aspx>

Abu Dhabi is a destination with almost year round sunshine, little rainfall and near perfect winter temperatures: it has a sub-tropical, arid climate.

Sunny blue skies and high temperatures can be expected most of the year. Rainfall is sporadic, falling mainly in winter (November to March) and averaging 12 cm per year in most of the emirate. Rain is more common in the 'Oasis City' of Al Ain, the emirate's second largest city, due to its proximity to the Hajar mountains.

Temperatures range from a low of around 13°C on a winter's night, to a high of around 42°C on a summer's day. The cooler months, November to April, are the most pleasant time to visit, when temperatures are around 24°C during the day and 13°C at night.

What To Wear

Lightweight summer clothing is suitable for most of the year, but something slightly warmer may be needed for the winter months. Be sure to take some sort of jacket or sweater when visiting hotels or the cinema, as the air conditioning can be fierce.

Although the attitude towards dress is fairly liberal throughout the Emirates, a healthy amount of respect for local customs doesn't go amiss, especially when shopping or sightseeing. Short or tight clothing may be worn, but it will attract attention - most of it unwelcome.

Malls, health clubs and resort facilities are generally more accepting of what's fashionable, but when visiting government offices it is best to cover your shoulders and legs. It is especially recommended that you dress more conservatively during Ramadan.

In the evenings, restaurants and clubs usually have a mix of western, Arabic and Asian styles. Again, ladies are advised to take a pashmina or jacket because of cold air conditioning.

CULTURE & LIFESTYLE

<https://visitabudhabi.ae/en/travel/essential.info/culture.and.lifestyle.aspx>

The combination of international influences and a strong commitment to local heritage has created an intriguing mix of new and old.

Abu Dhabi's culture is firmly rooted in Arabia's Islamic traditions. Islam is more than a religion; it is a way of life that governs everyday events from what to wear to what to eat and drink. The UAE's culture and heritage is inextricably linked to its religion, and it is a shining example of Islam's true commitment to tolerance and hospitality.

Foreigners are free to practise their own religion and the dress code is liberal. Women are able to drive and walk around unescorted. Among the most highly prized virtues are courtesy and hospitality, and visitors are sure to be charmed by the genuine friendliness of the people. Despite the speed of economic development over the last 30 years, Abu Dhabi continues to promote traditional cultural and sporting events, such as falconry, camel racing and traditional dhow sailing.

National Dress

UAE nationals usually wear traditional dress in public. For men, this is the kandura - a white full length shirt-like garment, which is worn with a white or red checkered headdress, known as a ghutra. This is secured with a black cord (agal).

Sheikhs and important businessmen may also wear a thin, gold-trimmed robe (bisht) over their kandura at important events.

In public, women wear a long, loose black robe (abaya) that covers their normal clothes - plus a headscarf (sheyla).

The abaya is often of very sheer, flowing fabric with intricate embroidery and beadwork along the wrists and hemline.

Sheylas are also becoming more elaborate and a statement of individuality, particularly among the young. Headwear varies with some women wearing a thin black veil covering their face and others, generally older women, wearing a leather veil (burka), which covers the nose, brow, cheekbones and lips.

Photography

While normal tourist photography is acceptable, it is polite to ask permission before taking photos of people, particularly women. Photographs of government buildings, military installations and ports and airports should not be taken. Also, cameras may be banned in public areas designated for women and children only.