



# DUBAI

TRAVEL GUIDE





# DIVAS DO DUBAI

## Hey, girlfriend!

It's Roxie here. I just got back from the most incredible vacation in the most luxurious place I've ever been to...

Dubai.

And, I'm still reeling from watching them sprinkle gold flakes in my dessert and catching my breath from seeing the tallest building in the world, the Burj Khalifa, in person.

Now, I know you've been working so hard, but it's time to treat yourself. And there's no better place to do it than in Dubai with us! If abundance, opulence, luxury and wealth were a city ... then it's definitely Dubai.

Don't worry if your girlfriends can't make it, because, as always, Travel Divas will match you with a fabulous roommate who'll become your next travel buddy.

Besides, when you get to Dubai, we promise you'll forget all about back home with the decadent food, the sky lounges, revolving restaurants, 7-star hotels (yes, 7!), grand landmarks, all-gold-everywhere souks, massive shopping malls and glam high tea.

Of course, the all-white yacht parties and the beach day brunches make traveling to Dubai with us an unforgettable experience. You'll eat, sip, dance, cry, get your breath taken away and have more fun than ever while dune bashing, gazing at world-class flower sculptures and eating lunch like a bawse at the Emirates Palace.

I'm so excited I can't stop talking about it - so I made you a PDF with everything there is to know about Dubai, from my favorite restaurants and hotels to must-do excursions.

If there's one place you have to go in your entire life, make it Dubai!



*xoxo, Roxie*

# LUXE FLYING

NO MATTER WHAT CLASS YOU'RE IN

So, I'm sure as lovers of luxury and fine experiences, you've heard all about flying Emirates Airlines.

Now, I've jet-setted worldwide, but there truly is no other onboard experience like Emirates. I'd even go as far as to say it's like the Travel Divas of flying!

- Indulge in champagne and cake and celebrate your newly minted Travel Diva status as you sip on a glass of Moët et Chandon or Rosé while you dig into a decadent chocolate cake
- Watch the Diva-esque flight attendants with their red and beige outfits serve you delicious, award-winning inflight meals that actually make you look forward to airplane food
- Catch up on all your favorite shows with over 4,500 channels (yes! THAT many!) on some of the largest screens you'll ever see in the air
- If you're flying first class, lay up in a private suite or lay down in a flat bed in business class
- Lounge with your fellow Divas in the Emirates airport lounges
- Rest assured you're in safe hands with the utmost, cleanest service

Now, I don't know about you, but this makes the long journey to sprinkle your Black girl magic in Dubai that much more magical.

So, what do you once you get there? Turn the page for a list of my top Dubai tips.

No matter if you've hit the jackpot and are flying first-class or if you're crossing the seven seas with your girlfriends in economy, trust me when I say getting to Dubai with Emirates will be just as glamorous and fun as when you get there.

**Step onboard and peek inside the experience:**





# ROXIE'S SIXTEEN MUST-KNOW TIPS

FOR A DECADENT TIME IN DUBAI

Hey girlfriend! I know you're going to have the most unforgettable time in Dubai, but I wanted to pop in and give you some tips on how to live it up in Dubai ... of course, like a Diva.

One thing to remember is that Dubai is located in the United Arab Emirates and is a Muslim country, so be mindful of the customs.

Here are 16 other top things you need to know:



- 01** Just like you, Dubai's smoking hot! Pack cool, airy and comfortable clothing that lets you breathe.
- 02** While the drinks flow at restaurants, Dubai doesn't have liquor stores. Purchase your Diva-esque Dubai liquor bottles at a duty-free store in the airport near the baggage claim before you jet set outta Dubai!
- 03** Don't forget your electrical adapter!
- 04** Visiting the Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi? Cover yourself from head to toe and take your shoes off before entering to show respect.
- 05** Divas don't just jet set; we train travel, too! Use the metro's 2 lines to travel between Dubai's 45 stations.
- 06** Plan ahead for a day trip if you're heading to Abu Dhabi - it's a 90-minute drive from Dubai. Girls' trip!

- 07** Dress like a conservative Diva in Dubai – no shorts, short clothing or see-through clothing. If you're heading to the club, cosmopolitan attire is OK.
- 08** Taking a taxi? Go for the metered ones only – private ones cost extra.
- 09** Bring prescription medicine in the original container – with your name, physician's details and type of medicine. Be sure your Rx isn't banned in Dubai by checking here: [www.dubai.ae](http://www.dubai.ae)
- 10** Friday brunch is non-negotiable in Dubai. Pick a place (I've got restaurants suggestions on the last page!) and make a reservation. Thank me later ;)
- 11** Bring out your bargaining skills at the Gold Souk. It's fast-paced and you'll need to bring your A1 negotiation skills. Oh, 18K gold is the norm here. Don't take the first price – bargain, girlfriend!
- 12** Block out 4 hours or more to wander around the Dubai Mall. It's extravagant, decadent, luxurious – it's EVERYTHING!
- 13** Stroll down the beach boardwalk near the Marina at night. People watch (we won't judge), dig your feet into the warm sand and invite a Diva to see it all with you.
- 14** Two words: Burj Khalifa. It's the tallest building in the world and as a Travel Diva, you must see it. Hold your breath because the sight might snatch it away. Go in the morning for fewer crowds and spend at least 2 hours there.
- 15** Dune bashing Diva? If you're going to put on your best safari outfit for an afternoon dune bashing but get motion sickness easy, take Dramamine with you at least 2 hours before you head out.
- 16** Bring Your Black Girl Magic! Don't be afraid to try new things and experiences. Dubai is known for its extravagance, so let the Diva inside of you come out to play.

**Got all that? Cool, now keep reading!**

# THESE DUBAI HOTELS ARE DIVA-APPROVED

Alright, so now that you're prepared to jet set across the world on one of the most coveted airlines ever ... and you've got all the insider times for having the most decadent time in Dubai, it's time for me to sprinkle some magic over your accommodations!

Depending on your trip, you'll be sprinkling

your Black Girl Magic with us in one or more of these 5-star, luxury hotels. Now, between you and me, I'd be fine spending my entire vacation in these spots. The views, the food, the service, the spas ... I could go on forever!

See where you'll be staying and how we'll pamper you the entire stay:



## + JW MARRIOTT MARQUIS DOWNTOWN DUBAI

When it comes to sprinkling your Black girl magic, there's no better place to do it than in the heart of Dubai at this luxury hotel getaway.

Not only is it one of the tallest hotels in the world, but there's also a view of the skyline or ocean no matter what room you're in.

Kick back after a long flight in your deluxe marble bathroom after a world-class relaxing massage at the SARAY Spa before going out to eat at one of the hotel's 10 restaurants.



## + SOFITEL DUBAI THE PALM

Beaches might not be your first thought when you think of Dubai but trust me when I say this beach resort might blow the Caribbean out of the water.

Think lush greenery, relaxation, elegance and French-inspired simplicity with light-filled rooms and a beach villa.



## + SHERATON AT THE MALL OF THE EMIRATES

Can paradise exist in a mall? At the Sheraton, it sure can. With infinity pools hundreds of feet in the air, hands free shopping, high tea and a signature rooftop restaurant you'll post on IG for years to come, you can trust the Sheraton to come through with luxury accommodations.



## + FOUR POINTS SHERATON SHEIKH ZAYED ROAD

Stay in the “heart of the city” and vacay like a true cosmopolitan woman. The Sky Lounge, 43 floors above ground level with 360-degree panoramic views is my favorite spot for a Diva talk with drinks.



# DINE LIKE A DIVA

## AT THESE DECADENT RESTAURANTS

Bring your Black girl magic, your best outfit and your fellow Divas because it's time to eat! Get your best pinky ring so you can sip high tea, clink away with mimosas at brunch or get whisked away to Europe and Asia with some of my favorite places to eat.

### + ADDRESS SKY VIEW POOLSIDE BRUNCH

This eatery is the PERFECT place to do a Friday brunch. Get your breath snatched away with towering views of the Burj Khalifa while you sip on hand-crafted cocktails and sway back and forth to a live DJ's poppin' playlist.

### + ZUMA

Tell Nobu to step aside because this bougie Japanese restaurant gives it a serious run for its money. You'll dine with the wealthy due to its prime location in the financial district while enjoying modern Japanese flavors inspired by travel.

### + BOCA

Have you ever wished you could go to one restaurant and get the best of Spain, Italy and France? Well, Boca does just that. The drinks flow, the conversation is even better, but the food? It's out of this world. Did we mention it's won several awards?

### + FLAMINGO ROOM BY TASHAS

Come in your finest wear because this restaurant right here is ready for the 'gram. Step inside and experience velvet chairs, seafood and pink and gold everywhere. It's wild, it's fresh and it's fun.



## + SAL

Have you ever heard of a 7-star hotel? Well, the Burj Al-Arab is the world's first. That's why you'll have to prepare yourself for mouthwateringly delicious, fragrant and flavorful Mediterranean dishes.

Think tuna tartare, caviar, sea bass, coconut pudding and more.

## + NUSR-ET STEAKHOUSE

Salt Bae makes all the moves in this restaurant inside the Four Seasons Resort.

You might see a celebrity here – or you might feel like one – with the top-notch, bougie elevated steakhouse experience at Nusr-Et Steakhouse.

Listen, Dubai is calling you! So, come let us pamper you like the abundant, wealthy bougie Diva you are. Trust me, no one does Dubai like Travel Divas.

**Book your reservation here.**

## + IL BORRO TUSCAN BISTRO

Ciao, Bella! Take a trip to Italy while in Dubai with this quaint yet 1,000% authentic Italian restaurant.

Tuscan flavors will warm your mouth and delight your tastebuds, and you'll absolutely want to come back with the girls to sprinkle your Black girl magic all over a second plate.

## + ABD EL WAHAB

Girlfriend, there's no way you can go to Dubai without experiencing traditional Arabic flavors. Head to Pier 7 in Downtown Dubai and relish in kebabs, fresh hummus and flavorful lamb decorated with a Lebanese touch.

# MAGICAL BLACK GIRL EXPERIENCES YOU MUST TRY IN DUBAI

Girlfriend, the time has come for you to step outside your luxury hotel (don't worry, those world-famous foot massages and towering skylines will be there for you when you come back) and have some fun in Dubai!

The Travel Divas team and I have been scouting out the most magical experiences over the last decade (we even have a Dubai specialist!), and these 6 excursions are ones you will "kiki" about with your girlfriends ... for decades to come!

Let's get into it.

## + FRIDAY BRUNCH

Don't wait till Sunday; all the magic happens at Friday brunch. From Indian cuisine to fresh seafood by the water canal to brunch on the beach, you'll be back for more.



Open your suitcase and pull out your fanciest outfit because this will be an unforgettable event no matter which restaurant you choose. Need some recommendations? Try Riva Beach Club, AIZA, Seven Sisters or a revolving brunch at Al Dawaar.

## + YACHTING AROUND THE MARINA

Queen B & Jay-Z aren't the only ones who can lounge and yacht around. When you let Travel Divas show you Dubai how we do Dubai, you'll get whisked away on a yacht wearing all-white and sipping champagne.



Did we mention the breathtaking marina views?

## + DINNER IN THE SKY

When a restaurant experience can add Forbes to their resume, you know it's a spectacular and unusual experience unlike anything else. Dine with your fellow Divas in the literal sky suspended by a crane over 160 feet in the air.



Drink tea in the afternoon, pop champagne and indulge in tasty delights as you gaze at the entire Dubai skyline. It's definitely one of those bucket list goals!

## + DESERT SAFARI

Race across the dunes of Dubai in a once-in-a-lifetime desert safari. It'll be the most fun you and the girls have had since you were young and carefree! It's all thrills and heat as you dune bash like a Diva.







## + MIRACLE GARDEN

Bask in beauty with over 150 million flowers in full bloom in this gorgeous, straight-out-of-a-painting flower garden. Well, maybe I should say theme park because not even Oprah's gardens got anything on the carefully crafted flower sculptures here.



## + GRAND MOSQUE

Feel at peace when you visit the Grand Mosque, a religious landmark in Dubai with lighthouse-like architecture. All white and gold furnishings line this mosque's stunning interior and exterior that covers over 30 acres.



## + CLUB NIGHT AT THE ARMANI HOTEL

A trip to Dubai is incomplete without a no-holds-barred night out on the town. And the Armani Hotel makes no concessions when it comes to creating a magical experience, thanks to its unique design from famed Italian designer Giorgio Armani. Chill out, dance the night away and party like a celebrity.



All this running around Dubai can sure make a Diva hungry. And that's what's up next ... get ready as I share some of my favorite Dubai eats.





# DIVA

WILL YOU JOIN US IN DUBAI?

LET'S GO! ▶

