

Background Information – Ras Al Khaimah and Al Hamra Village

At the northernmost tip of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Ras Al Khaimah has a charm of its own mixing the old with the new to create something unique. The emirate boasts a clear skyline, miles of unspoiled beaches and majestic mountains. All of which make it the ideal place to escape the daily hustle and bustle of everyday life.

Al Hamra Village leaves its residents with the option of choosing their own lifestyle with an assurance that they are convened in a safe and secure community that offers excellent amenities and that make living there an experience to relish.

Al Hamra Village offers you enjoyable activities such as golf and sailing while watching the charming sunset as you sit on the shore of the sea, as well as high-end restaurants, superb spa facilities, shopping in hand, all you have to do is just choose.

In a location that can only be described as breath taking, Al Marjan Island is set on the coastline of Ras Al Khaimah in the shimmering Arabian Gulf.

There's never been anything quite like it: a collection of four manmade islands that will become home to luxurious waterfront homes, hotels, resorts, sporting facilities, recreational and amusement park and leading international retail brands.

A magnificent feat of engineering envisioned by His Highness Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi, opportunities like this come along only once in a lifetime.

Extending 4.5km out into the sea and covering an area of 2.7 million square metres, Al Marjan Island is a celebration for the senses, combining a world-class resort development with environmental and cultural sensitivity.

With a perfect tranquil setting away from buzzing Dubai, which is only a 45 minute commute, you'll find everything you're looking for at Al Marjan Island, including a hint of the unexpected.

An amazing destination for extraordinary people, Al Marjan Island presents an opportunity for investors to enjoy returns only previously possible in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, with buyers from around the world taking advantage of the fact that the land is 100% freehold and there is no corporate, income, sales or export tax in Ras Al Khaimah.

Al Marjan Island is already home to Bab Al Bahr Residences that are being enjoyed by residents. RIXOS hotels are also completing a 600 room 5 star

resort at the entrance of Al Marjan Island. Hilton Double Tree and the first Crowne Plaza in the Emirate have also selected Al Marjan Island for their latest locations in the UAE.

The world renowned Real Madrid Football Club has lent its name to the first ever Real Madrid Resort Island encompassing over 400,000 square meters of pristine beachfront location at this magnificent site.

This eighteen-hole golf course, designed by Peter Harradine, meanders around four inter-connected open water lagoons merging seamless with the water of the Arabian Gulf. A fully fledged Golf Academy operates in the same locality.

Designed by renowned golf course architect, Peter Harradine, the course incorporates both open water lagoons and desert landscapes resulting in a stunning par 72 championship course measuring 7,325 yards at full length with five varying tee options providing a fun and enjoyable test of golf for the seasoned professional or fledgling enthusiast.

The Al Hamra Marina is an extension of the Al Hamra Village, Ras Al Khaimah. The Marina and Yachting Club were designed and installed by Europe's leading pontoon supplier Poralu Marine and is the last significant fuelling stop for vessels and guests in the Arabian Gulf.

The Al Hamra Marina comprises of 200 wet berths and caters to motor boats, yachts and inflatable's measuring 10 feet to 100 feet in length. The marina offers secure berths with a modern and sophisticated gate pass entry. All water pontoons provide power supply and fresh water hoses. The marina's all tide access is operated by yacht masters and offers a shelter of ease for manoeuvring at the dock. Facilities include offering chandlery, maintenance, training, charter boats and water sport facilities.

The Al Hamra Marina's Clubhouse was built to suit the mood and occasions for visitors and water sport enthusiasts. It is the perfect combination of dining facilities and management offices for the Royal Yacht Club.

Al Hamra Mall is a 41,000 m² two-storey shopping center set amidst the stunning residential development of Al Hamra Village in Ras Al Khaimah, A getaway for the whole family, Al Hamra Mall offers a perfect blend of shopping, entertainment, dining and recreational options. Al Hamra Mall houses a wide range of stores and services catering to its international customers, synchronizing perfectly with the demands and wishes of the multi cultural population in the UAE.

Al Hamra Mall, the ultimate shopper's haven with a complete shopping experience where excitement, service and fun are met.

Ras Al Khaimah is a unique destination for visitors of all ages, thanks to its diverse landscapes and distinctive excursions that have enticed guests over the years. This rising emirate boasts of beautiful mountains, red sandy deserts and lush green plains indented by a series of creeks and lagoons. It has a rich heritage, dating back 7,000 years, which manifests in numerous historical sites, forts and abandoned villages.

Ras Al Khaimah offers a variety of entertainment and relaxation facilities including exclusive Hotels & Resorts, international cuisines' restaurants and selective spas, all at great value for money. Located on the beaches, mountains as well as the desert, these luxurious Resorts do full justice to the natural beauty of Ras Al Khaimah. The Emirate is also a haven for exceptional spas that are prominent in resorts like the Banyan Tree Al Wadi, Hilton Resort & Spa and Golden Tulip Khatt Springs. The cherry on the cake is the natural hot springs in Khatt, the only one in the UAE, where guests can take a relaxing therapeutic bath.

With a wide range of adventure and sports activities covering mountain adventures, desert camps, golf courses and watersports, the emirate of Ras Al Khaimah presents an ultimate outdoor experience for tourists. Whether shopping in the welcoming old Souq (market), soaking up the sun on one of the beaches or taking a ride on the world's tallest water slides, Ras Al Khaimah has something for everyone. A special excursion worth mentioning is the Land of Pearls, which takes guests through the journey of a Pearl from the operation room to the mouth of the oyster itself!

This rising emirate, with its rich history and culture, offers a number of historical sites and ancient ruins dating back to the 13th century AD. The forts and the museums display the proud heritage of the Emiratis here, who are still renowned for their warm hospitality.

Located just 45 minutes from the Dubai International Airport and 30 minutes from Oman as well as being well connected by Airport, ports and the national highway, Ras Al Khaimah enables easy stopovers for guests. With its splendid natural treasure and recreational choices, Ras Al Khaimah is a picture-perfect leisure destination that is a "must" for travellers looking to be smitten by the real essence of Arabia.

United Arab Emirates enjoys a diverse and multicultural heritage. Emiratis have a rich tradition in welcoming all other nationalities since the early 1900's. Today's UAE is home to diverse nationalities. And people from across

the globe can be found in all seven Emirates that make up the United Arab Emirates.

Today, the native values, heritage and culture which have evolved over centuries, continue to thrive notwithstanding the modern look, infrastructure, facilities and the moderately liberal lifestyle.

Islam being the predominant religion in UAE the local customs and traditions of UAE is influenced to a great extent by this religion. However it does not make UAE a closed society. It seeks to promote the best in its traditions and customs so that the nation becomes vibrant and attractive to all the people. Although 96% of the population follow Islam it is tolerant to other religious communities.

Politeness and courteous behaviour are very much visible while dealing with guests of any kind.

As part of the local UAE custom the men wear the dishdasha or khandura, a white full-length shirt-dress. It is worn with a white or red-checked headdress known as a gutra. Women in UAE wear the black abaya, a long black robe that covers their normal clothes and they also wear a headscarf in the public. However the tourists and foreigners living in the UAE and followers of other religions can wear any cloth that they like including bikinis in the beach. But in public places they are expected to respect the local custom and tradition of UAE and maintain modesty in public appearance.

The UAE in general and Ras Al Khaimah in particular is well known for its folklore, folk music, folk dance and other traditional and popular art forms which embody and reflect the social, ethical and aesthetic values of the community. Traditional dances for example are meaningful movements played rhythmically to symbolize the common ideas and likes of a certain community.

Although Arabic is the official language of the country communicating in English is not a problem in UAE. Even sign board of business establishments and restaurants appear in both the language. Thus the tolerant culture of UAE is reflected in all the local customs and tradition of UAE.

Offering a diverse landscape, rich heritage and a temperate climate, Ras Al Khaimah is an ideal getaway for quality-value leisure and adventure as well as business travel. The Emirate presents an extensive selection of exclusive outdoor activities from mountain climbing and biking, kayaking, fishing and golfing as well as premium accommodation, an eclectic selection of international gourmet experiences and world-class spas.

Water Adventures

Fishing

Mountain Adventures

Golf

Desert Safari

Bedouin Oasis Desert Camp

Falcon Show

Camel Race

Khatt Springs

Iceland Water Park

National Museum of Ras Al Khaimah

The Land of Pearls – Pearl Excursion and Museum

Dhayah Fort

Sailing Academy

The academy opened in December 2012 by Italy's well known Malingri di Bagnolo family. Overseen by experienced sailors, Captain John Curran, Eduardo Callegari and Matteo Bassan the RAK Sailing Academy LLC is equipped with dinghy, catamaran, and fix keel sailing boats for juniors and seniors. The academy will also receive constant guidance from Enrico and Franco Malingri di Bagnolo and Antonio Fresco.

Sailing programs are divided into two main categories namely dinghy and keel boats. Each category has a different set of progressive courses, which aims to help increase student experience over time. Sailing classes are divided into different ages and skill sets. The Academy will utilise the sailing cruiser boat facility where off-shore courses will be held. At the facility people will be able to rent different types of sailing boats for training courses or relaxation. The Marina is also set up with a day charter facility where by sailing boats will be used for daily excursions and crew for tourists of Al Hamra Village. The school follows ISAF (International Sailing Federation) rules regarding sailing instructors.

... Super Hotels in the Village

The Waldorf Astoria Hotel (7* hotel)

The Waldorf Astoria is now open since 1 August 2013!

Inspired by the palaces of the Arabian Peninsula, Waldorf Astoria Ras Al Khaimah, ideally located 45 minutes from Dubai International Airport, will bring the legendary true Waldorf service to one of the most alluring beach front locations in the Middle East.

An 18 hole championship golf course and a 350 metre private beach are set against the blue water of the Arabian Sea. This new Waldorf Astoria jewel opened its doors on the 1st August 2013.

The Waldorf Astoria Ras Al Khaimah, is a true luxury resort. The setting of this magnificent hotel is matched by the unparalleled facilities with its stylish dining and entertainment venues, sophisticated conference and event facilities and its luxurious spa experiences available to guests.

The 346 deluxe rooms and suites reflect the palatial surroundings and offer the luxuries of space and tranquillity. Each room extends over at least 72 square metres and offers panoramic views of the Arabian Sea, championship golf course and the impressive Al Hajjar Mountains on the horizon.

Waldorf Astoria Ras Al Khaimah is home to ten bespoke restaurants and bars, offering an exclusive range of dining and entertainment experiences to suit every mood and flavour. From signature restaurants with succulent steaks and grills at the US steakhouse Lexington Grill, Japanese cuisine with sushi and teppanyaki at UMI, Middle Eastern flavours at Marjan and international dining experiences at Qasr Al Bahar to open air pool and beach side restaurants, elegant tea and coffee lounges serving light meals and traditional high tea and the vibrant night club, 17squared, on the 17th floor.

A place of relaxation and restoration; the hotel's spa offers signature treatments combined with exceptional care to create a place where guests can surrender and restore personal well-being. The gymnasium features an extensive range of Technogym equipment as well as a whirlpool and a sauna. Guests can relax in the two outdoor chilled pools and on the 350 meter white sandy beach.

Waldorf Astoria Ras Al Khaimah offers a unique and timeless setting for gatherings and events of all descriptions. With the personalized service by a dedicated events team this luxury property is the perfect location to host spectacular private celebrations, corporate conferences, team building activities, intimate beach weddings, cocktail parties, product launches and executive meetings. The hotel features a VIP arrival hall and multiple pre-

function spaces, making it a spectacular venue for weddings, galas and high end corporate events.

Banyan Tree Ras Al Khaimah Beach Resort and Banyan Tree Al Wadi Resort

Banyan Tree Ras Al Khaimah Beach sits just 20 minutes from Banyan Tree Al Wadi, its sister desert resort, and one hour from Dubai International Airport. The dramatic check in at the hotel sees guests sailing on a private boat from the main shoreline to the 32 tented- pool villa resort, situated on a private sandy peninsula surrounded by the ocean.

Each of the 170sqm villas emulates the nomadic tents of the Bedouin tribe with arched tented roofs and wooden support poles. This contrasts comfortably with the contemporary neutral interiors and floor-to-ceiling windows that flood each villa with light. A personal plunge pool accompanies every villa along with a decking area and beach cabana with a day bed for the ultimate in relaxation and for basking in the sunshine.

Guests can choose to embark on a short romantic cruise and spend the late afternoon relaxing in a traditional ABRA boat that sails around the bay. A bottle of bubbly and strawberries and cream are just two of the many culinary indulgences on offer during this romantic sunset cruise. Guests also have access to a dedicated Banyan Tree Spa with six treatment pavilions, a beach restaurant, Sands, featuring International and Mexican cuisine and an expansive infinity-edged swimming pool and sundeck to soak up the chic desert ambience. A water sports centre with various activities is also on offer for those seeking marina adventures

Al Hamra Palace Beach Resort

Unwind and relax at Al Hamra Palace Beach Resort, located on the pristine shores of the Arabian Gulf. Previously known as Al Hamra Residences, Al Hamra Palace Beach Resort takes full advantage of its scenic location with enthralling rooms and a vast array of recreational activities.

Al Hamra Palace Beach Resort features 117 stunning suites, all boasting relaxed ambience and exceptional views. Evoking the area's rich culture, rooms feature traditional and stylish Arabic design with a modern twist.

With the white sand beach just a stroll away and its close vicinity to the various tourism attractions of Ras Al Khaimah, Al Hamra Palace Beach Resort gives you every reason to extend your stay and relax.