

Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Where soaring white minarets meet a futuristic skyline — Abu Dhabi packs desert grandeur, world-class museums, and an 8 km waterfront promenade into one opulent shore day.

Docked (Zayed Port pier)

Typical call: 8-10 hrs

UAE Dirham (AED); cards widely accepted

Arabic (English universally spoken)

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Docked at Zayed Port Cruise Terminal — no tender required

Best For: Architecture, culture, desert adventure, theme parks

Walk to center: ~5 km to Corniche; taxi/shuttle recommended

Don't Miss: Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque (free entry, book ahead)

 Getting around: **Taxi** AED 27-40 (~\$7-11) · **Rideshare** Uber, Careem · **Hop-on hop-off** Hop-on hop-off

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque** — The UAE's largest mosque holds 40,000 worshippers and features 82 domes, 1,000 columns, and the world's largest hand-knotted carpet.
- Louvre Abu Dhabi** — Jean Nouvel's iconic 'rain of light' dome shelters a permanent collection spanning 5,000 years of global art and civilisation on Saadiyat Island.
- Qasr Al Watan Presidential Palace** — One of the few royal palaces in the Gulf open to the public — ornate Arabian architecture, a vast library, and a dazzling light-and-sound show at...
- Desert Safari & Dune Bashing** — Drive into the Liwa or Al Khatim desert for dune bashing in 4WDs, sandboarding, and a traditional Bedouin camp dinner with camel rides under the...
- Mangrove Kayaking** — Paddle through Abu Dhabi's Eastern Mangroves National Park, a protected reserve sheltering herons, flamingos, and sea turtles just minutes from the...

BEST WALKS

- Corniche Waterfront Promenade** 3-4 km one way | Flat | 1-1.5 hrs — Abu Dhabi's 8-kilometre Corniche runs along the Arabian Gulf with manicured parks, public beaches, and views of the skyline.
- Downtown & Emirates Palace Stroll** 2 km loop | Flat | 1 hr — Walk from the Corniche past the landmark Emirates Palace hotel to the nearby Qasr Al Watan palace entrance.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		91°	74°	0d
Jun		101°	85°	0d
Aug		105°	88°	0d
Sep		102°	85°	0d
Oct		95°	80°	0d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:00AM–6:44PM · Jun 5:33AM–7:12PM · Aug 5:57AM–6:56PM · Sep 6:08AM–6:26PM · Oct 6:20AM–5:55PM

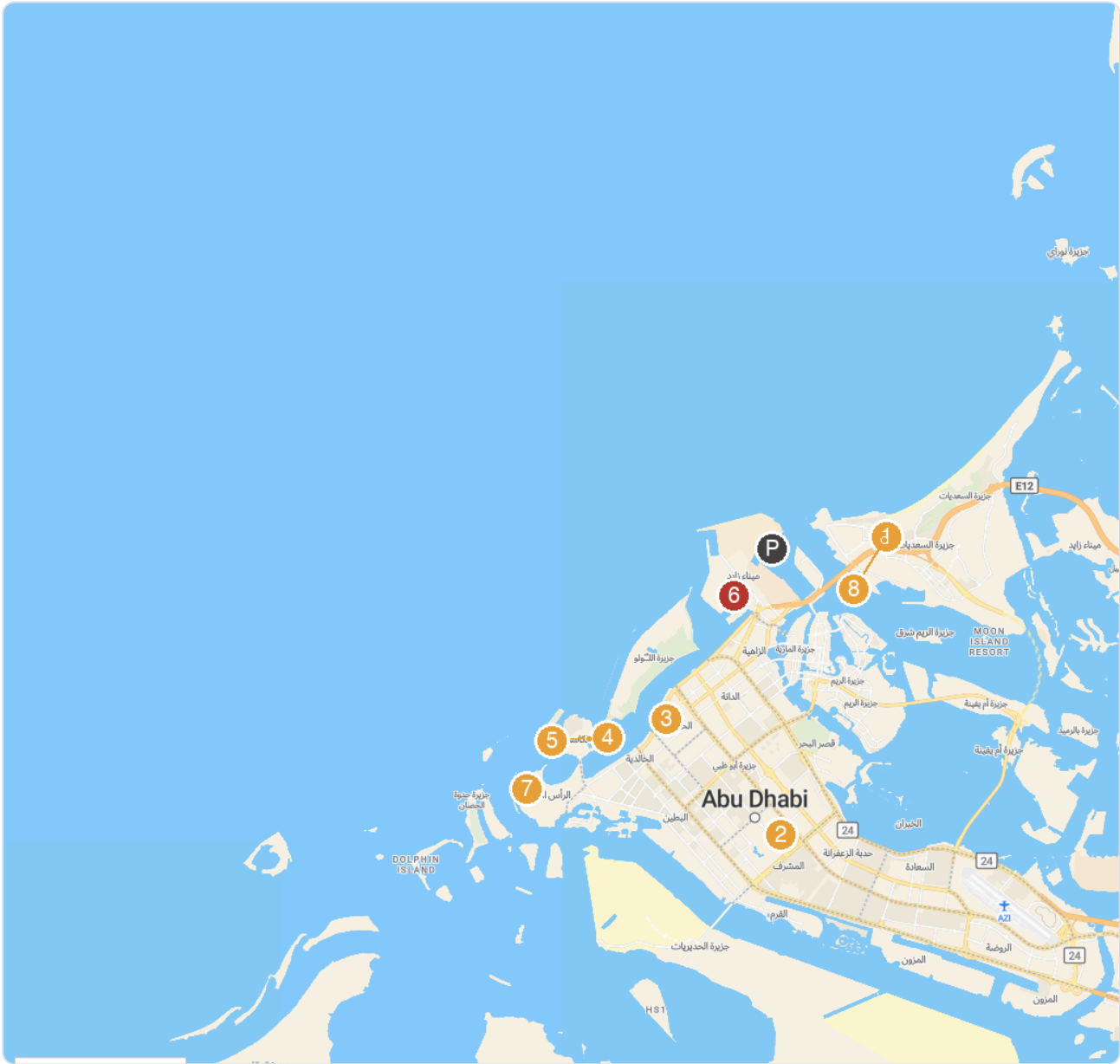
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Cover up for religious sites. Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque requires shoulders, knees, and hair (women) covered. Free abayas are loaned at the entrance, but bringing a scarf saves time.
- Heat is serious May–October. Abu Dhabi's cruise season peaks November–March when temperatures are pleasant (20-28°C). Summer visits require constant hydration and shade strategies.
- Taxis are cheap and metered. Expect AED 15-40 for most sightseeing trips. Uber and Careem also operate and are often faster to book than hailing a cab.
- Cards are accepted everywhere. Carry a small amount of AED for street food or markets, but every restaurant, museum, and mall accepts Visa/Mastercard.
- Book the mosque in advance. Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque requires a free timed-entry reservation online during busy season — walk-ins can face long waits.
- Friday mornings are quiet. Many attractions open later on Fridays (the Islamic holy day). Verify opening hours before building your plan around a Friday call.

Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi, UAE — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



1	Manarat Al Saadiyat	Manarat Al Saadiyat is an arts and culture exhibition center.	2	St. Joseph's Cathedral	St. Joseph's Cathedral is a prominent Roman Catholic church.
3	Abu Dhabi Desert Safari	Abu Dhabi Desert Safari offers thrilling desert adventure tours.	4	Emirates Heritage Village	Emirates Heritage Village showcases traditional Emirati life and crafts.
5	The Yellow Boats Abu Dhabi	The Yellow Boats offer thrilling sightseeing boat tours.	6	421 Arts Campus	421 Arts Campus is a contemporary art and design hub.
7	UAE Presidential Palace	UAE Presidential Palace is the nation's majestic working palace.	8	UAE Pavilion	UAE Pavilion is a distinctive national exhibition and event venue.
P	Cruise port / terminal				