

aGuide2

November 2008



ABU DHABI, BAHRAIN, DUBAI & QATAR

Introduction:

Welcome to our free newsletter.

In this month's newsletter we have news of a number of concerts and shows in Abu Dhabi, Qatar and Dubai.

Jazz fans in Abu Dhabi have a double treat, with both the Rotana Beach hotel and the Emirates Palace hotel featuring world class acts this November.

News of conferences in two key regional business sectors also feature in this edition. Bahrain is

hosting the 15th World Islamic Banking Conference and the 17th annual Jewellery Arabia exhibition.

Abu Dhabi is hosting the an International Motor Show in December And several new car models will be on display.

Plus there is some interesting news on carbon dioxide absorbing rocks in the UAE.

In Qatar, the eagerly anticipated Museum of Islamic Art is opening in November.

We trust you enjoy this issue.

Best Wishes,
David Durham,
Website Manager.

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Charity News:

Dubai Autism Center:

Founded in 2001, Dubai Autism Center is the largest, most innovative and comprehensive nonprofit organization in the United Arab Emirates serving children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Your generous support is appreciated.

www.dubaiautismcenter.ae/



Abu Dhabi Jazz Festival (November 20 - 22)

The Beach Rotana Hotel will be hosting this year's Abu Dhabi International Jazz Festival.

This event takes place on the 20th, 21st and 22nd of November.

This is the 5th edition of the Abu Dhabi Jazz Festival and these three days of live performances include some of 12 internationally recognized bands.

It is being organized by Chillout Productions, and for more details on the line-up, tickets, performance times etc. go to the following link:

www.abudhabijazzfest.com

For the Beach Rotana Hotel:
www.rotana.com/property-4.htm

Abu Dhabi Classics

The Emirates Palace hotel is hosting two events in November in this popular classics programme.

The South African jazz musician Abdullah Ibrahim features in a concert called African Landscapes.

The concert takes place on Friday 21st of November 2008, at 8 pm Emirates Palace, Terrace.

The following evening, there is an exciting concert entitled The Romantic Revolution, featuring the world famous mezzo-soprano Cecilia Bartoli.

This event is on Saturday the 22nd of November 2008, at 8 pm in the Emirates Palace, Auditorium.

Web Links:
www.abudhabi-classics.com

Hotel:
www.emiratespalace.com

International Motor Show

The Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre is hosting the 2008 international motor show.

Launched over 20 years ago, The Abu Dhabi International Motor Show is one of the most established automobile exhibitions in the Middle East.

The show will take place from the 17th of December, through to the 21st of December 2008.

It will feature the debut in the UAE of the Hummer H3T. The H3T at the Abu Dhabi show will have a 3.7-liter in-line five-cylinder engine with 255 bhp and 327 Nm of torque.

With a new state-of-the-art venue and a new brand identity, the 2008 exhibition is the largest and most comprehensive motor show in the Middle East this year.

www.admotorshow.com

For the Exhibition Centre:
www.adnec.ae

BUSINESS & TRAVEL NEWS

UAE Culture Week

The Ministry of Culture, Youth and Community Development, will hold a UAE Culture Week in Syria from November 13 to 19.

The event is part of the activities marking the choosing of Damascus as the Arab Capital of Culture for the year 2008.

(Source: UAE Interact)

CO2 Absorbing Rock

Rock formations found in eastern parts of the UAE and Oman could help reduce carbon dioxide emissions by soaking up the harmful gas, a team of scientists believe.

Peridotite, a rare rock which has been forced up from the earth's mantle, is being tested as a "carbon capture" material by researchers at Columbia University in New York.

Contact between carbon dioxide and peridotite causes a chemical reaction which, over time, converts them into minerals such as calcite. The scientists hope that pumping carbon dioxide captured from power stations into the rock can significantly cut amounts released into the air.

(Source: UAE Interact)



Bahrain National Museum

Architecture Exhibition

A special exhibition is being held at the La Fontaine Centre in Manama.

Syncretic. The act of combining seemingly opposing ideas into a single, unified concept; consequences bring about something new

This approach has here, at La Fontaine, been used to unite particular interests within art, architecture, design, as well as other fields

The exhibition at La Fontaine will include pieces especially made for this occasion

Where:
La Fontaine Centre for Contemporary Art,
92, Hooraa Avenue, Ras Romman, Manama.

Date: 20th of November to 31st of December, 2008
Open: 7pm

Website:
www.lafontaineartcentre.com

Banking Conference

The 15th annual World Islamic Banking Conference in the Kingdom of Bahrain this November.

The event aims to bring together over a 1,000 industry leaders from over 40 countries.

Recent instability in the world's financial markets will no doubt be a feature of their agenda.

For full details:
www.megaevents.net/wibc/home.html

When:
23rd, 24th & 25th of November

Where: Gulf Hotel, Manama.

Badminton Tournament

Bahrain will host one of the biggest badminton tournaments in the region called Bahrain International Badminton Challenge.

More than 100-top level international players from over 20 countries will compete for a grand prize of \$15,000 (BD5, 655). Competition will be held in men's singles, ladies' singles, men's doubles, ladies' doubles and mixed doubles.

When: December 1st to 6th

Where: Indian Club, Manama.

BUSINESS & TRAVEL NEWS

Giant Diamond in Dubai

A giant rough diamond mined from South Africa, and expected to be snapped up by a local buyer, was named in Dubai.

The diamond, a 478-carat white gem, measuring more than five centimetres long and worth upwards of Dh36.7 million (US\$10m) was named after the Lesotho mine where it was uncovered in December: the Leseli La Letseng, or Light of Letseng.

It is the 20th largest diamond in the world. "The naming of what could become the largest-ever polished round diamond is another success story for Dubai," said Ahmed bin Sulayam, executive chairman of the Dubai Multi Commodities Centre (DMCC).

(Source: UAE Interact)

Dubai - Milan Flights

Emirates Airline will be flying direct from Dubai to the fashion capital of Italy, Milano, from January 2009.

These will be twice daily flights.

(Source: Emirates Airline)



Dubai Shopping

Raffles Dubai: Wine, Food & Arts Experience

Raffles Dubai's first gastronomic event, an epicurean extravaganza, which will combine the refined elegance and impeccable hospitality that Raffles is renowned for.

Raffles Wine, Food & Arts Experience was initially launched at the iconic Raffles Singapore 13 years ago, and has ran as a culinary institution ever since, with Michelin Star-studded chefs, prestigious vintners and artists traveling from across the world to participate in this annual event, a spectacular platform to showcase exquisite cuisine, fine wines and living 'par excellence'.

The event in Dubai will be held from the 18th to the 21st of November 2008, coinciding with the celebration of Raffles Dubai's first year anniversary, which opened last year on the 21st November 2007.

Promising a veritable feast for the senses, the highly-anticipated gastronomic event will feature three of Europe's most renowned chefs, Chef Nicolas le Bec, Chef Philip Howard and Chef Atul Kochhar.

Website:
www.raffles.com/en_ra/property/rdb

Tennis Legends in Dubai

Some of the world's top tennis players will feature in a tournament at the Aviation Club in Dubai.

The event will run from 19th to the 22nd of November, and tickets are now on sale.

The tournament features Champion players such as: former world number one Jim Courier, the former Wimbledon Champion Goran Ivanisevic, two time French Open Champion Sergi Bruguera and former doubles world number one and 2007 The Legends "Rock" Dubai Champion, Paul Haarhuis.

Also joining the field this year will be Olympic silver medalist Wayne Ferreira of South Africa, former world number one doubles player Anders Jarryd of Sweden, and his ex doubles partner John Fitzgerald of Australia as well as Iranian tennis genius, Mansour Bahrami, who will be joining the doubles exhibition matches.

Website:
www.thelegendsrockdubai.com

BUSINESS & TRAVEL NEWS

Abu Dhabi - Australia

Etihad Airways has increased from 7 to 11 the number of services from its home base in Abu Dhabi to Sydney.

The increase is part of the airline's ambitious growth plans for Australia with new services from Melbourne launching in March 2009 to add to its existing Sydney and Brisbane routes.

(Source: Etihad Airline)

Jewellery Arabia 2008

The Bahrain International Exhibition Centre will host the 17th Middle East International Jewellery & Watch Exhibition.

The event will feature Antique jewellery; Clocks; Diamond and gem-set jewellery; Gemstones; Gold jewellery; Platinum jewellery; Jewellery manufacturing machinery and materials; Retail packaging and display material; Silver jewellery, Silverware; Watches.

Dates: 25 - 29 Nov 2008
 Location: Manama, Bahrain.

www.bahrainexhibitions.com

F1 Sponsorship

Gulf Air, the national carrier of the Kingdom of Bahrain, has signed a new five-year deal with the Formula One Association extending the existing sponsorship of the Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix.

(Source: Gulf Air)



Museum of Islamic Art

The much anticipated Museum of Islamic Art will officially open on the 22nd of November.

The Museum of Islamic Art is the flagship project of Qatar Museums Authority, under the leadership of Chairperson Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani.

The museum's opening celebrations will be a week-long affair, attracting a star-studded mix of celebrities and VIPs from around the world.

The museum opening is also highly anticipated in the international art scene, with a host of media expected to descend on Doha to experience first-hand one of the finest collections of Islamic art from and beyond the Arab world ever curated.

It's aim is to preserve, study, and exhibit masterpieces spanning three continents and thirteen centuries.

The 337,000 sq ft Museum of Islamic Art is designed by renowned architect I.M. Pei and is reportedly his last project at the age of 91.

Contact: (+974) 4859888

Tennis in Doha

The Sony Ericsson Championships in Doha 2008 have come to a successful conclusion, with Venus Williams winning her first

season-ending title, and Cara Black and Liezel Huber defending their doubles crown.

Website:
<http://www.qatartennis.org/>

Broadwalk Shows

The Pearl Qatar has organised a number of events from November through to January at its newly opened broadwalk.

For example:
 The Bazartuka ensemble play samba and urban rhythms with hand held percussion. November 23rd to December 5th, 4pm to 9pm.

Les Bataola represent the spirit of the real Brazilian carnival by playing Cuban and Caribbean inspired rhythms. December 6th to the 17th, 4pm to 9pm.

The Pearl-Qatar offers unique, true freehold investment opportunities in a safe, relaxed, friendly and exclusive environment.

This is one of the Middle East's most glamorous address where Pearlesque names, crafted from an intriguing mix of Italian, French, Spanish and Arabic, summon up the charm of the old world, and the spirit of the new.

Website:
www.thepearlqatar.com

ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

Abu Dhabi Concert

George Michael & Alicia Keys are performing at the Zayed Sports Stadium.

When: 01-Dec-08, 18:00

Tickets: www.livenation.ae

Dubai Concert

Maroon 5 are performing at the Dubai Festival City.

When: 10-Dec-08, 18:30

Tickets: www.livenation.ae

Smile ...

The Laughter Factory have regular shows in Qatar, Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

www.thelaughterfactory.com

Qatar Book Fair

The 19th international Doha book fair is happening this December.

It is been held at the Qatar International Exhibition Centre.

Dates:
 24-Dec-08 to 03-Jan-09

www.qiec.com.qa/events

Dubai Rugby 7's

This event takes place from November 27th to 29th at an all new purpose built venue.

www.dubairugby7s.com

www.aGuide2AbuDhabi.com

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www.aGuide2Qatar.com

Travel Photography

For those of you who enjoy snapping away while on your travels, you find the following web site of interest.

Travel Photographers Network (TPN) is the premiere web community for photographers who want to improve their skills and photographic knowledge.

If you're one of those people who still gets excited about the prospect of jumping on a plane, train, car,

bicycle, skates, or even sneakers (trainers if you're European) to go across the Equator or across the street, and if you can't conceive doing this without bringing your camera along, then you'll want to join Travel Photographers Network!

www.travelphotographers.net

Photography Exhibition

One of the most exciting and attended world photography exhibitions is called Ashes and Snow .

Its' creator Gregory Colbert work explores the intimate relationship between man and animals.

These stunning photographs and movies are available online, and the next exhibition is in Brazil, 2009.

www.ashesandsnow.org

Acknowledgments:

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- ★ AME Info
- ★ UAE Interact
- ★ The Pearl Qatar

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