

# Umm Al Emarat Press Kit

## **Background About Umm Al Emarat Park**

A Park for the people of Abu Dhabi.

Umm Al Emarat Park is Abu Dhabi's favorite green destination, bringing together friends and families for relaxation, exercise and play in the heart of the city. Inspired by the legacy of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan (may he rest in peace) and his vision of preserving the UAE's cultural and natural history, Umm Al Emarat Park is the lungs of the nation's capital and one of the oldest and largest urban parks in Abu Dhabi.

Since its establishment in 1982, Umm Al Emarat Park has collaborated with local and international organizations to host events for hundreds of thousands of guests. The Park supports 'education through recreation' for various age groups, promoting an active lifestyle through an exciting year-round calendar of events and experiences.

## **Factsheet**

Umm Al Emarat Park is the largest green space in the center of Abu Dhabi, bringing people together in a family-friendly environment. A unique destination, the Park offers guests vibrant community and wellness events, explorative learning through play, diverse dining experiences, and an opportunity to connect with nature.

## **About Umm Al Emarat Park**

- Umm Al Emarat Park is a leading community destination that serves Abu Dhabi's locals, residents and visitors of all ages by providing state-of-the-art facilities that are both community-focused recreational and educational experiences. It also invests in spreading greenery, conserving the environment and preserving the gift of nature.
- Umm Al Emarat Park is centrally located on 15th Street between Airport Road and Karama Street, and covers a site of 14.5 hectares spanning over 690m long by 205m wide.
- During redevelopment, the Park led an extensive community engagement program with over 25 key community groups and government agencies, along with over 70 schools.

- The new park features a variety of facilities including a Shade House, Animal Barn, Amphitheatre, Great Lawn, Botanic Garden, Children's Garden, Evening Garden, Green Jogging Track, and Peak Fitness gym.
- The Park has extensive flora and fauna with broadleaf, palm trees and indigenous and naturalized species.

### Umm Al Emarat Park Timeline

- Umm Al Emarat Park is one of the oldest and largest urban parks in Abu Dhabi.
- The Park, originally known as Mushrif Park, first opened its doors in 1982, and was exclusive to ladies and children.
- In 2013, the Park underwent a 24 months redevelopment period to execute a new park with exciting facilities for Abu Dhabi residents to enjoy.
- In 2016, the Park was renamed Umm Al Emarat Park in honor of H.H. Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, Chairwoman of the General Women's Union (GWU), Supreme Chairwoman of the Family Development Foundation (FDF) and President of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood.

### Fun Facts

- More than 50 events per year
- More than 700,000 visitors yearly
- Total space of 179,000 m<sup>2</sup>
- 8 dine-in restaurants, cafés, and grab-and-go eateries
- 250 different species of trees and plants
- More than 20,000 students from 250 schools visiting the Park yearly
- 3 Guinness World Records:
  - 1,467 people signed the large plaque designed by the Ministry of Tolerance in cooperation with Etihad Airways at the Umm Al Emarat Park;
  - 2,586 sweet treats were served at the World of Food Abu Dhabi food festival, part of the Department of Culture and Tourism's Abu Dhabi Culinary Season, held at Umm Al Emarat Park, which broke the record of 'Most Varieties of Dessert on Display'
  - 1,817 people from different segments of the UAE community came together to set the new record of the world's longest handshake at Umm Al Emarat Park. The initiative was launched by the Abu Dhabi Police's Youth Council.

## Education through recreation

Umm Al Emarat Park offers tailored packages for Primary, Middle and Senior school curriculums. Students get the opportunity to learn about and explore the animals, plants and ecosystem of the Park. \*

## Dining

Umm Al Emarat Park is home to a wide variety of F&B outlets for guests to enjoy, ranging from dine-in restaurants and cafés, as well as grab-and-go eateries such as Mövenpick Ice Cream, Green for Life, Mira's Creamery, Parkers, Home Bakery, Sugar Art, Island Coco and SALT.

## Awards

Green Flag Award: Meeting extensive criteria, including sustainability, community involvement, cleanliness, safety, conservation and heritage, Umm Al Emarat Park has been awarded the prestigious Green Flag, which sets the best standards for parks and green spaces across the world and distinguishes the space as a prime destination for residents and tourists

2015 Merit Design Award by the American Society of Landscape Architects

## Attractions

Umm Al Emarat Park has an array of exciting, family friendly attractions

- **Evening Garden**  
Set in a tranquil area of the Park, the Evening Garden Pavilion is a haven of serenity in the heart of Abu Dhabi. Visitors can relax in a green blossoming sanctuary that has undoubtedly become a favorite destination for many who wish to enjoy a moment of calm or spend time reading or even working.
- **Children's Garden**  
The Children's Garden is a modern and interactive play area with a cooling and fun wadi, and an outdoor cinema.
- **Amphitheatre**  
The Amphitheatre is a large outdoor performing arts venue which can accommodate more than 2000 people. This outdoor facility is great for

outdoor concerts and other public events.

- **Great Lawn**

A commanding open space of 18,000 m<sup>2</sup>, the Great Lawn can be used for an array of activities, from a game of football to outdoor yoga classes or simply relaxing on the lush greenery. Children can enjoy the choice of two different playgrounds, with cubes to climb on, exercise stations and fun sensorial activities.

- **Shade House**

The Shade House is an iconic structure towering over the Park that houses 40 species of plants in a moisture-controlled environment. The structure has two upper-level decks offering a picturesque view of the Park and the surrounding landscape.

- **The Wisdom Garden**

The Wisdom Garden honors the legacy of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan (May he rest in peace), Founding Father of the Nation and first President of the UAE and his profound efforts in environmental conservation. This peaceful and exquisitely designed area invites visitors to reflect on Sheikh Zayed's timeless and unforgettable quotes about the UAE and protection of the country's heritage and natural history.

- **Botanic Garden**

The Botanic Garden is planted with over 200 regional plant species, as well as a calming natural pond. Pools have been created with natural stone and provide a habitat for exotic plants. The pools connect with small rivers that enable water to cascade down from pool to pool.

- **Animal Barn**

The Animal Barn is operated in partnership with Al Ain Zoo and houses 15 animals including ponies, rabbits, tortoises, pygmy goats, camels, and emu birds. Youngsters can also feed the animals and enjoy pony rides.

- **Green Jogging Track**

The Green Jogging Track is a 1.2KM track for runners and joggers to enjoy.

## Other destinations at the Park

- **Peak Fitness**

One of the most famous fitness centers in the UAE, Peak Fitness is located in Umm Al Emarat Park and can be accessed only from gate 2. The gym offers a complete multi-discipline, cross-training approach to fitness and wellbeing.

## Design

- The overall design of the park honors the legacy of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan and his vision of preserving the United Arab Emirates' cultural and natural history.
- The design vision was to create an environment that honors regional traditions while capturing the dynamic nature of Abu Dhabi and the United Arab Emirates.
- Design approaches blend styles found in traditional Islamic gardens with contemporary movements in landscape and architectural design.
- The five elements of Islamic design used in the master plan include: Quadripartite Pattern/Walls/Gates, Wind/Water, Vegetation, Shade and Pavilions. The master plan design was derived from these elements.

## Sustainability

- Meeting extensive criteria, including sustainability, community involvement, cleanliness, safety, conservation and heritage, Umm Al Emarat Park has been awarded the prestigious Green Flag, which sets the best standards for parks and green spaces across the world and distinguishes the space as a prime destination for residents and tourists
- In keeping with the Park's history and heritage, over 200 existing mature trees over 20 years old (some of the oldest in Abu Dhabi city) have been salvaged and positioned in their original spaces throughout the Park and 150,000 new shrubs and 1,200 new trees were planted to provide canopied shade alongside the Botanic Garden and Shade House.
- The Park uses an environment-friendly irrigation system that reclaims grey water. In this way, the Park saves up to 40% of overall landscape irrigation water consumption.
- The Park produces its own compost from recycled green waste.
- The park is a smoke free environment

## Things visitors need to know before they visit Umm Al Emarat Park

- The Umm Al Emarat Park entrance fee is AED 10.
- There are two loyalty cards available to receive more value for your money. The Silver Card is priced at AED200 and provides the cardholder alone 25 entry tickets amounting to a 20% discount. The Fitness Loyalty Card is priced at AED499 and gives the cardholder alone unlimited entry tickets over a 12 months period in addition to discounts at Green for Life, Bounce & Peak Fitness.
- Cinema in the Park takes places yearly from October to April and features fun back-to-back movie marathons in the Children's Garden every weekend between 5:30 – 7:30 pm with one additional fan-picked film on Tuesday

Outside food is not permitted inside Umm Al Emarat Park; only water bottles, food for small children, and the list below can be brought inside:

- 1- Hot and cold drinks
  - 2- Cake or cupcakes
  - 3- Fruits
  - 4- Biscuits
  - 5- Crackers/ crisps
  - 6- Popcorn
- Umm Al Emarat Park is a smoke-free Park.
  - Animals and pets are not allowed in the Park, except for assistance dogs.
  - Umm Al Emarat Park provides more than 500 free parking slots

*\*temporarily closed due to COVID-19*

### **Contact us!**

If you would like to talk to us and know more about our facilities, kindly find our contact below:

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