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A Quick Trip to Dubai, 3 Nights, \$1,299

Explore the glitzy modern city of Dubai with this three-night air/hotel package.

Tuesday, July 24, 2007;

The Real Deal: Round-trip airfare, three nights' accommodations, and sightseeing in Dubai, from \$1,299 per person--plus taxes of about \$95 per person.

When: Depart Sept. 19, 26, 2007; add \$100 for Oct. 10; \$200 for Nov. 21; \$600 for Dec. 12; additional departures available in 2008.

Gateways: New York City.

The Fine Print: Airport taxes and fees of up to \$95 are additional. Hotel taxes, fuel surcharges, airport-hotel transfers, breakfast daily, and a one-day sightseeing tour are included. Based on double occupancy; single supplement is \$330. A tourism visa is required and is free for stays under 60 days; Friendly Planet handles the paperwork for your visa application at no additional fee. Read these [guidelines](#) before you book any Real Deal.

Book By: Aug. 3, 2007; afterwards the rate increases by \$400 per person.

Contact: Friendly Planet, 800/555-5765, friendlyplanet.com.

Why It's a Deal: A recent search on kayak.com yielded a lowest round-trip fare of \$1,042 for travel between New York and Dubai in mid-September (KLM Airlines). For about \$250 more, Friendly Planet provides the international airfare as well as the three nights' accommodations with daily buffet-style breakfasts, plus a day-long guided tour of this captivating city.

Trip Details: The Dazzling Dubai air/hotel [package](#) includes round-trip airfare from New York City to Dubai (Emirates Airlines), plus a three-night stay at either the [Al Manzil](#) or [Qamardeen](#) hotels, just minutes away from the spectacular Burj Dubai tower, a beacon of Middle Eastern prosperity that recently became the world's tallest building and is set to open for business in 2009. Both hotels blend traditional Arabic architecture with modern comforts and amenities, including high-speed Internet access, health clubs, and outdoor swimming pools.

Your flight's morning arrival in Dubai will be met by company tour guides, who will lead you on a one-day guided sightseeing tour of the city by coach. You'll visit the picturesque creek that divides the city into two parts--Diera on the northern side and Bur Dubai to the south--and see the magnificent panorama of the city's futuristic skyline.

Afterwards, you'll walk among traditional courtyard houses in the Bastakiya district, learn about the city's local history and culture at the Dubai Museum, and visit the bustling souks, where you'll find bargain-priced textiles, gold, and exotic

spices for sale.

Dubai is a quickly transforming itself into the leisure capital of the Middle East, where visitors can indulge their every fantasy in Vegas-style luxury. Explore this spectacular playground on your own, with off-the-wall activities that include indoor skiing in the enormous Mall of the Emirates and a romantic dinner cruise down Dubai Creek on a [dhow](#).

You can also visit the Sky Bar atop the famed Burj Al Arab hotel for a stunning view of The World, an archipelago of nearly 300 manmade islands made to look like a map of the earth.

To learn about issues affecting travelers to Dubai and the United Arab Emirates, including safety and health information, visit the U.S. State Department's [website](#).

Anyone wishing to stay longer in Dubai may choose to tack on extra nights at either the Al Manzil or Qamardeen hotels at a starting rate of \$250 per night for a double room or \$230 per night for a single. For more information about what to see and do in Dubai, visit the city's official tourism board's [website](#).

For the adventure-inclined, Friendly Planet is also offering a guided four-night Kenya wildlife safari extension at a starting rate of \$1,099 per person, or a three-night extension to Cairo for \$599 per person that includes sightseeing and a guided Pyramid tour. Visit the Friendly Planet [website](#) for more information about these trip offers.

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