



Fact Sheet

Dubai: Superfacts!

- The Dubai World Cup is the **world's richest horse race** with some US\$10 million at stake (increased from US\$6 million in 2009). Held annually at the Nad Al Sheba Racecourse, the race is recognised as the centrepiece of international racing and hailed as the thoroughbred "World Championship".
- At any given time over **25 tonnes of gold is on display** in jewellery shop windows in Dubai.
- Burj Khalifa is the **world's tallest building** and is due to be opened at the end of 2009.
- The Palm islands are three artificial islands and are the **world's biggest man-made islands**. Each is built from a staggering one billion cubic metres of dredged sand and stone, taken from Dubai's sea bed and configured into individual islands and surrounding breakwaters. The complexes will house a variety of hotels, tourist attractions, ranging from spas and diving sites to apartments and theatres. Each of the 'trilogy' of islands is designed to resemble a date palm tree when seen from above.
- The World is a group of some 300 man-made islands that was designed to resemble the entire world when seen from above. The islands, which range from 250,000 to 900,000 square feet, can be bought by individual developers or private owners - starting at £4.2 million. The only way to get between each island is by boat or yacht / helicopter. A notable engineering feat: the project incorporates two protective breakwaters to protect the islands from waves, consisting of one submerged reef (the outer breakwater) and an above-water structure (the inner breakwater).
- The Dubai Mall opened in November 2008 as the world's largest shopping mall. It is the size of 50 football pitches, adjoins Burj Khalifa - the world's tallest tower - and offers more than 850,000 square feet of fashion retail space, a gold souk, cinema complex and Olympic size ice rink, and the region's first SEGA indoor theme park. Outside is The Dubai Fountain – the largest in the world.
- Emirates Al Maha Desert Resort & Spa was **the first ecotourism resort built in the United Arab Emirates**. It is home to indigenous species such as the Arabian Oryx and Gazelles which have been reintroduced and wander freely.
- Dubailand will be the **world's biggest theme/amusement park**. It will be twice the size of Walt Disney World Resort in Florida and will contain 45 megaprojects across three billion square feet. It is opening in phases with some projects such as Dubai Outlet Mall, Global Village and Dubai Sports City already open.



- Dubai is the **world's fastest growing city**.
- Ski Dubai is home to the **world's third largest indoor snow park** after Germany and Holland, and offers 9,842 square feet for skiing, snowboarding, sledding or bobsledding.
- Burj Al Arab is one of **the world's most recognised hotels**. It has a helicopter pad (Andre Agassi had a tennis game with Roger Federer here), a restaurant located 200 metres above sea level with amazing views, an "underwater" seafood restaurant, an exclusive fleet of limousines and elegant Rolls-Royce Phantoms. It also has a Guinness World Record for the most expensive cocktail at US\$7,450.
- The Dubai Shopping Festival is an annual shopping, entertainment, and cultural extravaganza that draws in more than two million visitors from around the world each year. Shoppers typically spend in excess of £1.02 billion over month-long event.
- Dubai is building **the world's biggest airport**, Al Maktoum International Airport as part of the development at Dubai World Central.
- Dubai is now **fourth in the world for Rolls-Royce sales** after Beverly Hills, London and Tokyo.
- Dubai Sports City (a section of Dubailand) offers a staggering variety of athletic venues, from gigantic stadia to state-of-the-art participatory parks for skateboarding, indoor rock climbing, and other activities. Not to mention facilities for polo, car racing, golf, and extreme sports. Upon completion, the stadia will host top tournaments and accommodate up to 10,000 spectators.
- The world's tallest hotel tower, Rose Reyhaan by Rotana, opens on Sheikh Zayed Road in December 2009 with 72 storeys at a height of 333 metres.

