



LIVING IN ABU DHABI

Welcome to Abu Dhabi!

This guide contains basic information for getting settled and living in Abu Dhabi compiled by fellow ACS families. We hope it's helpful! This is a parent-to-parent created list of products and services.

The American School is not responsible for any of the recommendations, links, products or services listed.

■ HELPFUL WEBSITES, APPS AND FORUMS

FACEBOOK FORUMS

ACS PTA

The ACS PTA is an organization that works in support of the ACS community of members: the students, their families, and the faculty and staff

ACS PTA Community News & Marketplace

A page created by the PTA of the American Community School of Abu Dhabi to post information about local events in and around Abu Dhabi, and items for sale that might be of interest to members of the ACS community

ACS Moms Uniform Exchange

Buy, sell, exchange uniforms

Abu Dhabi Women's Group

Our main goal is to create a place to socialize and help other ladies figure out Abu Dhabi

American Moms in Abu Dhabi

A forum for American moms who live in Abu Dhabi. This is a place to network and meet new friends, ask questions, share information, and offer support

Best Bites Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi Food experiences, access to promotions and discounts

Abu Dhabi Q&A

All kinds of random questions about life in AD

timeoutabudhabi.com

Abu Dhabi City Guide, arts & culture, things to do, restaurants, bars, hotels and where to go

Visitabudhabi.ae

Official tourism site

Whatson.ae

Further city information and things to do

Real Estate Sites

dubizzle.com, propertyfinder.ae

Newspapers

Gulf News, The National, Khaleej Times, NY Times International Edition

General Online Shopping

Amazon.ae, Noon.com, Desertcart.ae

Used Stuff for sale online

abudhabi.dubizzle.com (can be sketchy but mostly good - furniture, cars, appliances, etc.)

Food Delivery Apps

Zomato, Talabat, Deliveroo

Coupon App

The Entertainer- 2 for1 Discount Offers throughout the city based on an annual membership (really useful) theentertainerme.com

Online Grocery Delivery

kibsons.com, carrefour.com, instacart (app)

MAWAQif

Electronically pay for city parking
- text 3009 to your phone with your
username OR download the app

FURNISHED APARTMENTS

■ HOSPITALS AND CLINICS

(Note: kids over age 14 are considered adults)

Al Noor Hospital

Tel: 02 444 6655

SKMC (Sheikh Khalifa Hospital Medical City)

Public hospital - good for Emergency
Visits, Tel: 02 610 2000

Harley Street Medical Center

Tel: 02 613 3999

Cure Clinic

Tel: 02 667 5050

Health Point

Tel: 02 492 9000

Gulf Diagnostic Hospital

Tel: 02 665 8090

Cleveland Clinic

02 659 0200 (will see kids in
Emergency room)

SEHA Clinic behind ACS

Tel: 02 711 4719

■ DENTISTS

**American Dental
Whitefield Dentists
Smilerite**

**Sno Dental
ICDE
Dr. Firas Dental Center**

■ SETTING UP YOUR HOME

Conrad Abu Dhabi Etihad Towers

hilton.com/en/hotels/auhetc-conrad-abu-dhabi-etihad-towers

Grand Hyatt

hyatt.com

Edition

editionhotels.com

Beach Rotana Beach Rotana Residences

rotana.com

Sofitel

sofitelabudhabicorniche.com

Rosewood

rosewoodhotels.com

RELOCATION/MOVING COMPANIES

Emovers

emoversuae.com

Delight

the-relocator.com

Crown Relocations

crownrelo.com/uae/intl-relocation

FURNITURE STORES

The ONE

Next to Cafe Arabia, across from Um Al Emarat Park

Marina Home

marinahomeinteriors.com - Abu Dhabi Mall

2XL

Marina Mall

Pottery Barn/West Elm

Located in Galleria Mall and Yas Mall

Home Center

Various locations, Marina Mall

Homes r Us

Khalidiya Mall

ZARA HOME

Marina Mall and Yas Mall

IKEA

Next to Yas Mall on Yas Island (new branch opening soon in Mushrif Mall)

ACE Hardware

Next to Yas Mall and at Mena port (some indoor and outdoor furniture)

Heritage Touch Furniture

heritage-touch.com - local and indian furniture and other products. At Mena Port, behind ACE Hardware

MATTRESSES

There are a variety of places to buy mattresses, including stand-alone mattress stores (e.g. in Khalidiya Mall), but also IKEA, Marina Home, and even Carrefour

CURTAINS/UPHOLSTERY/ PAINTING

(Note: for curtains and upholstery, ask a parent who's been here a while - we all have our "guy" and many of them are terrific and very affordable.)

Andona Interiors

andonainteriors.com (all of the above)

Odd Jobs

(painting only)

IKEA

(curtains only)

Best Furnishings

(for upholstery or curtains)

WHERE TO BUY APPLIANCES

Jumbo Electronics

Various malls

Carrefour

Marina Mall

Lulu

Khalidiya Mall, Al Wahda Mall and others

Sharaf DG

Various malls

Amazon.ae

Plug ins Electronics

Various malls

HANDY MAN AND CLEANING/MAID SERVICES

Odd Jobs UAE

(oddjobsuae.com; 02 582 6638)
good all around service, they do repairs, install lights and pictures, paint rooms, move furniture and also have cleaning/maid services

TELEPHONE, TV AND INTERNET

Etisalat

The Abu Dhabi telecom company. Will provide internet, cable TV, land line services and mobile phones: etisalat.ae (outlets at most malls as well)

Du

The Dubai telecom company

OSN

Local cable television company

ELECTRICITY/GAS

ADDC

www.addc.ae/en-US/residential/pages/Home.aspx

ROYAL GAS

www.royalgas.com

WATER DELIVERY

(Note: You can drink the tap water here, best with a filter, but often it's easier to get a water dispenser and bottle delivery service.)

Oasis Water

Tel: 02 558 2030

Nestle

Tel: 800 4404

Masafi

Tel: 800 5455

MALLS AND SOUKS

■ DAY TO DAY SHOPPING

IN ABU DHABI

Marina Mall

marinamall.ae

Nation Towers Mall

nationtowersmall.com

World Trade Center Mall

wtcad.ae

Khalidiya Mall

khalidiyahmall.com

Galleria Mall

thegalleria.ae

Abu Dhabi Mall
abudhabi-mall.com

Dalma Mall
dalmamall.ae

Yas Mall
yasmall.ae

The SOUKS at Mena Port
There is a Plant Souk (affordable plants, pots, and gardening supplies); a Fruit and Veg Souk (great and cheap - you can also use the InstaCart App to order for delivery); and an “Iranian Souk” with pots, pans, camping gear, outdoor seating, etc. You must bargain at these places!

WTC (World Trade Center) Mall and Souk

One side is a modern mall, the other is a touristy but fun Souk

MALLS IN DUBAI

Dubai Mall
HUGE mall near Burj Khalifa and Dancing Fountain

Mall of Emirates
Has indoor ski and snow park

Dubai Marina Mall

DragonMart
ENORMOUS mall of discount items and everything from crafting beads to plumbing supplies to arabic light fixtures.

■ GROCERY STORES

Spinneys Khalidiya (and other locations)
A British market - fresh produce, meat and other groceries (also their higher-end shops are called Waitrose in, e.g. Jumeirah Etihad towers)

Carrefour Marina Mall (and other locations)
A French hypermarket chain - groceries, electronics, home appliances, mattresses, paper goods, clothing

Lulu Hypermarket - Khalidiya Mall and Al Wahda Mall (and others)
Groceries, electronics, home appliances, toys, paper goods

Abelas Supermarket
Many American products can be found here

Abu Dhabi COOP
Mena Port, Downtown, Khalidiya (various locations)

SOUQ Planet
Khalifa City - fresh produce, meat and other groceries

Mina Fish Market
Fresh fish

ONLINE/DELIVERY OPTIONS:

InstaShop

Download this app from the App Store. Helpful way to order from a VARIETY of local supermarkets, pharmacies, fresh produce markets, butchers, pet shops, flower shops etc.

Kibsons

kibsons.com

Secret Fine Food

secretfinefood.com High-end european meats, cheeses, fish and baked goods (if you're missing your favourite stinky cheese or piece of cod - this is the place!)

■ RESTAURANTS

Third Place Cafe

Near Corniche (ACS parents receive 10% discount - show ACS ID)

Emirates Palace

For gold cappuccino or gold sprinkled ice cream

Tashas

Amazing food, outdoor space in al Marsa area (al Bateen Marina)

Cafe Arabia

Wonderful local independent cafe near Um al Emarat park and The One

CATCH

Seafood on the water near Nation Towers

Tarbouche

Turkish (ACS family-owned - in WTC mall and in khalidiya

Petek

Turkish - Marina Mall (excellent Turkish Delight)

Wafi Gourmet

Excellent Levant cuisine and market for spices, dates, sweets, etc.

Cafe Milano

High-end Italian (Four Seasons Hotel, al Maryah Island)

Butcher and Still

High-end Chicago Steak House (Four Seasons Hotel)

Dai Pai Dong

Chinese (great outdoor space and amazing bar called Dragon tooth)

Zuma

High-end Asian food (Near The Rosewood Hotel, al Maryah Island)

Villa al Afia

Emirati, Moroccan and Turkish Food (Al Khalidiya near Khalidiya Village)

Marmellata

ACS family-owned pre-order Pizza joint: choicebymarmellata.com

L'ARTE

Italian restaurant, lovely garden, at Manarat al Saadiyat

■ SCHOOL AND PARTY SUPPLIES

Jarir Bookstore

in Nation Towers - carries most of the school supplies required by ACS

All Prints

(Mezzanine Floor, Shaikh Saif Building, Al Nasr Street, Al Hosn) - school, art and craft supplies and nice selection of books in English and Arabic

Borders

(various locations throughout Abu Dhabi)

Magrudys

(various locations throughout Abu Dhabi)

Kinokuniya Bookstore

Galleria Mall uae.kinokuniya.com

PARTY SUPPLIES

Party Center

Al Wahda Mall

Daiso

Al Wahda and Khalidiya Malls

CUSTOM BIRTHDAY CAKES

La Cuisine de Manou

Tel: 02 552 6608

La Torta Cakes

Tel: 056 123 3312

Magnolia Cafe

Galleria Mall

Bloomsbury

Various malls

■ SCHOOL UNIFORMS

(Note: see ACS website for specific information)

Land's End

They are the primary source for ACS logo'd uniform elements, and they DO deliver to the UAE.

Pants/Shorts

Carrefour, Matalan, Zara, Marks & Spencer, Gap (in Dubai), Brands for Less, H&M

■ HAIR & NAIL SALONS

Tips and Toes

Various locations (Marina Mall, Khaleej al Arabi Street and others)

Glamour Salon

(in Al Ain Tower)

Sugar

(near Al Ain Tower)

Nail-a-holics

(near school on Al Bateen Street)

Beauty Spot

(for hair) - in Anantara Eastern Mangroves

NStyle Beauty Lounge

(nails) - (Galleria Mall, WTC Mall)

■ PHARMACIES

Boots

Marina Mall and other locations

Medicina

Online and local outlet
medicinaonline.ae

Instashop (app)

Includes pharmacies that deliver too

There are pharmacies at every medical facility

Carrefour and Lulu

Carry over-the-counter items, like pain medicine, first aid supplies, etc. but do not have pharmacies to dispense prescription medicine.

■ ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS AND ADULTS

GENERAL CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

American Women's Network

AWN Abu Dhabi awnabudhabi.com

American Chamber of Commerce

amchamabudhabi.org

SPORTS CLUBS, GYMS, DANCE, YOGA, FITNESS

(for Adults and Kids)

Rugby

Boys, girls, adults:
abudhabiquins.com

AD Tri Bells

Women's triathlon training group:
facebook.com/tribelles/

Body Tree Studio

ACS parent-owned - women only, yoga, pilates, barre classes - Khalidiya area: bodytreestudio.com

Yoga One

ACS parent-owned - yoga, pilates
Mangrove One compound:
yogaone.ae

Inspire Sports

ACS parent-owned - Women only fitness club, PLUS dance and fitness classes for kids; Khaleej al Arabi Street: inspiresports.ae

THE ROOM

Full service gym at Zayed Sport City

Haddins Fitness

A Crossfit box, co-ed, some classes for kids and teens at Zayed Sports City: [Haddins Fitnesshaddins.com](http://HaddinsFitnesshaddins.com)

Little Stars Gymnastics

Kids gymnastics
littlestarsabudhabi.com

Zayed Sports City

zsc.ae

COBRA Fitness

Near al Zeina - mostly martial arts,
Thai boxing, Crossfit

Jump Sports Gymnastics

jumpsports.ae

Abu Dhabi Country Club

Classes for various ages

The British Club

Tennis, sailing, squash

Royal Stables

Horseback riding for all ages - boy
only until age 11

Al Forsan Stable

Horseback riding for all ages

Tennis

Abu Dhabi Country Club, Zayed
Sports City, Emirates Palace

GOLF

Contact Abu Dhabi City Golf or
Saadiyat Golf Course for lessons;
Yas Links golf course

BEACH CLUBS

Saadiyat Beach Club

saadiyatbeachclub.ae

Nation Riviera Beach Club

nationrivierabeachclub.com

Emirates Palace Beach Membership

mandarinoriental.com

The Club

the-club.com; Also known as The
British Club - oldest in Abu Dhabi,
very family friendly with lots of
activities

Privilee

Membership with access to a variety
of beach/pool sites privilee.ae

PUBLIC BEACHES

Baked at Saadiyat Island (50 AED per
adult), Family Beach on the Corniche
(15 AED per person), All other
Corniche Beaches are free, Al Bateen
Beach

■ MUST-SEE CULTURAL SITES

Louvre Abu Dhabi

Amazing architecture, lovely
collection, sunset lounge

Manarat al Saadiyat

Cultural center, galleries, Art & Photo
studios, L'ARTE restaurant

Warehouse 421

Cultural center, galleries, classes

Al Ain

About an hour and a half drive from Abu Dhabi - amazing zoo, old presidential palace (now museum), various forts, Jebel Hafeet (mountain), and more.

Qasr al Hosn

Original fort and residence

Qasr al Watan

New presidential complex

The Mangroves

Either via Al Jubail Mangrove walk or kayaking at Eastern Mangroves

Grand Mosque

Falcon Hospital

Discover Abu Dhabi - Big Bus Tour

Camel Races

In Al Wathba and Al Dhafra in November and December

Sheikh Zayed Center for Culture and Education

Al Bateen near Al Bateen Marina

OTHER FUN STUFF TO DO

YAS waterworld

Water park

Warner Bros. Studios

Indoor amusement park

Tea at Observation 300

Jumeirah Etihad Towers

Ferrari World

Indoor amusement park with fastest roller coaster in world

Yas Marina Circuit

F1 racing, Go karts, ride along experiences, etc.

Arabian Nights Village

Desert adventure hotel

Qasr al Sarab

Very elegant Anantara Desert Hotel

Fireworks

During National Day weekend and New Year's Eve

Nurai Island

Resort accessible only by boat - great day pass idea

Ski Dubai in Mall of Emirates, Dubai

Dhow ride or boating to small island

Um al Emarat Park

Really lovely park with playgrounds, water features, food kiosks, and afternoon yoga and food and craft market on Saturdays in good weather

Produced by



FOSTERING COMMUNITY