

Public Transportation in Dubai

Transportation in Dubai is a harmonious existence of tradition and modernity. People use various modes of transportation here. On the one side there are people still using traditional modes of transportation like the camels and abras (small motorboats) for getting across places like Bur Dubai to Deira, while on the other, there are the taxis and the Metro.

Bus

The Public Bus Transport system in Dubai System is large and advanced, and is operated and managed by the Roads & Transport Authority (RTA). Dubai's RTA regulates transportation within the city, and is the main municipal Traffic solution provider. Any transportation information, or any RTA related information, can be obtained by visiting www.rta.ae

The bus system has more than 193 routes on weekdays and transports about 30million people on weekly basis. The public bus system has 59 unique routes and transports more than 200,000 people every week. The bus network, however, is largely used by the lower income groups, and there is not much being done to attract the higher income earners. Therefore, the traffic congestion continues in Dubai, which has now grown to be a major problem.

Taxi

Dubai's taxi system is one of the most frequently used and most popular means of public transport. Taxis are one of the fastest ways of getting around the city, especially to places that are not well-connected by the metro. There are both government-operated and private cab companies. The Dubai Transport Corporation operates cream-colored taxis. Among the private cab companies are the Cars Taxi, Metro Taxi, and National Taxis. Taxis are available at all public places in Dubai, or you may book in advance for a taxi.

The taxi service can be availed on the telephone No. 04-2080808 (both enquiry and reservation). There is also the online booking and reservation facility available, and women who feel unsafe or uncomfortable with male drivers can book the pink taxis which has female drivers. Deira is the most popular taxi stand.

Registered taxis have a standard Taxi sign on the roof and an easy to read meter on the dash board.

Apart from RTA Taxi, There are other service providers and all world class Taxi Apps are working in UAE.

- CAREEM
- UBER UAE
- S'HAIL

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The Metro

The Metro is considered to be the modern and comfortable way of commutation in Dubai. The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has been operating two different metro lines in Dubai, the green line and the red line. These lines take very different routes and stop at various destinations, offering people a better alternative to car. The Green line runs from Rashidiya to the main city Centre, and the Red Line from the airport to Jebel Ali.

There are special cabins meant for women and children, apart from a gold class and silver class. The passengers are required to pay and purchase a ticket, the Nol card. The Nol card comes in four categories – red for single journey, blue for personalized use, apart from silver and gold. The website <http://wojhati.rta.ae/> helps in planning your route/journey, by taking not only the Dubai Metro, but also other options of public transport into the system.

Dubai Tram

The Dubai Tram is the city's latest mode of public transport. It opened to the public on November 12 2014. Trams loop around Dubai Marina and Jumeirah Beach Residence and then head off down Al Sufouh Road into Al Sufouh passing Dubai Media City, the Palm Jumeirah, the Dubai Pearl, and Dubai Knowledge Village.

Water Taxis and Abras

Abras: Abras, the traditional wooden boats with motors, are used to travel on water or to cross the creek. Abras are one of the traditional and oldest means of transportation in the UAE. Abra Service is quite common in Dubai, and is a favourite among tourists. Apart from enabling to cross the fascinating Dubai Creek, it is also an indication of the past of Dubai. There are at least 150 abras, crossing the Creek's water in one day. The major routes are between Abra stations of Deira Old Souk and Bur Dubai, and Dubai Old Souk and Sabakha.

Water Taxis: Dubai launched its water taxi service, a marine transit mode featuring luxury and privacy, in July 2010. Water Taxis can transport nearly 11 passengers and are equipped with access to ramp, LCD screens, air-conditioned cabins, and such other luxuries. However, unlike the abras and water buses, they can leave the creek and move along the waters of the gulf.

Water taxis connect several locations, including Deira Old Souq, and Jebel Ali Hotel and Spa. They are operational from 10am to 10pm for fares ranging from Dh.50 to Dh.570. Passengers are required to make advance booking to ride with the water taxi, by calling RTA, or through their hotel service staff.