

Fantasy island

Leave the hustle and bustle of the city far behind and discover escapist luxury at its finest at Anantara The Palm Dubai Resort

Leaving Dubai's bustling mainland and driving onto Palm Jumeirah, with its holiday vibe, lends a strong sense that a stay at Anantara The Palm Dubai Resort will be something out of the ordinary. As you approach the resort, its distinctive Thai pagoda-style terracotta roofs peek their heads above the sentry line of palm trees as if to welcome you in. From the moment you set foot inside the cooling lobby, with its high vaulted ceiling, you're most definitely on Thai time.

Meandering walkways, lush tropical landscaping and a network of clear blue lagoons wind their way through the resort, creating an air of serenity – a refreshing counter to Dubai's warp-speed status.

The resort's signature one and two-bedroom Beach Pool Villas come with a private infinity pool and views of a golden stretch of perfectly manicured sand; but it's hard not to fall in love at first sight with a luxurious Over Water Villa. Suspended above the Arabian Gulf, the villas feature a glass viewing panel inset into the floor of the sea-facing living rooms, and expansive wooden decks. For a moment, it's easy to forget that Dubai is a desert city.

Here, water is the ribbon that binds the resort's exclusive facilities together from the 400-metre-long beach, tennis courts, gym, Tuk Tuk Kids' Club and trio of lagoons to the stunning shoreline infinity pool looking out toward the Palm Jumeirah fronds. Add a nod to the resort's Thai roots with floating market style boats a colourful sight on the lagoons, and brightly painted tuk-tuks to ferry guests between locations, and it's the best of both worlds.

Another hallmark of the Anantara experience is its spa. Cocooned in its own private two-storey wing, this is a destination all of its own with 24 individual treatment rooms and five in-demand couples' suites with a combination of Sterali steam baths, experience showers, 'fountain of youth' whirlpools and infinity solo pool baths alongside a dedicated Ayurveda suite, Thai massage and holistic experience room.

Ottoman design influences anchor the ambience in the opulent Turkish-styled hammam, which for any initiate into the world of spa indulgence promises a royal top-to-toe ritual. Thousands of years' tradition is infused into two hours, delivered by expert therapists who will steam, scrub and cleanse your body to silken perfection.

Indulgence of another kind is found within the resort's cross-continental collection of dining opportunities. Bushman's Australian Restaurant & Bar specialises in flame-grilled favourites with an Antipodean twist while Mai Bar is the perfect sundowner spot.

For an unforgettable experience, it's a coin toss between Asian speciality restaurant, Mekong, with its eye-catching tiger wall mural and red and gold temple bell wall art setting high expectations for your culinary journey across the famed delta, and Anantara's signature Dining by Design concept. Request a private tiki torch-lit table for two on the beach with a bespoke menu for a stand out supper.

Find out more at dubai-palm.anantara.com

