EXPAND your HORIZONS

YOUNG ALUMNI TRIP
8 DAYS
Dubai, UAE

MAY 5 - 11, 2018
From $1695

DESTINATION: DUBAI

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Dear Young Alumni and Friends!

Can you think of a better way to travel than with fellow University of Maryland Young Alumni?

The UMD young alumni travel program offers you this opportunity by bringing you together with individuals in the same age range, with similar backgrounds and experiences, while enriching you on well-designed hassle-free tours of the world.

Choose from four exciting destinations, travel with young alumni and friends of peer institutions, ages 20 – 35. These programs provide social, cultural, and recreational activities and many opportunities for learning enrichment and allow a connection back to the University of Maryland. They are of great quality and value, operated by a travel company with over 40 years of experience in the young professional travel market. In this brochure you will find detailed itineraries, travel dates, pricing and how to book.

If you have any questions about our young alumni travel program, please contact us by emailing Angela Dimopoulos at adimop@umd.edu or call 301-405-7938 or 800-336-8627.

Sincerely,

Amy Eichhorst
Executive Director
University of Maryland Alumni Association

8-day base land package: $1,695
Rates are based on two people sharing on room. Single room supplement $695.
*Special Alumni Land price per person. Airfare priced separately for greater flexibility. Please call AESU Alumni World Travel for great low airfares from most U.S. cities. Airport/Departure taxes are additional and subject to change.

WWW.ALMUNIWORLDTRAVEL.COM/2018/UMD.HTML
WHAT DO I GET?

**COVERAGE**

When you book your Young Alumni trip the necessities of travel are taken care of. These include:

- **S SUPERIOR TOURIST CLASS HOTELS**
- **ALL LAND TRANSPORTATION**
- **DAILY BREAKFAST**
- **SPECIAL CULTURAL DINNERS**
- **KNOWLEDGABLE TOUR DIRECTOR**
- **DESERT SAFARI & CAMEL RIDE**

(See more in the inclusions on page 4)

**EDUCATION & ADVENTURE**

Whether you can’t wait to immerse yourself in the vibrant culture of Dubai and taste all the local delicacies, or you’re more inclined to enjoy the adventure of a safari and relaxation of subathing on Jumeirah Beach, this trip provides a beautiful balance of historical education and complete sensory and cultural immersion into the vivacious life of this city.

THE VERDICT?

Don’t miss out on the opportunity of a lifetime to explore the places you have been dreaming of or reading about in books. Make new best friends from around the world and create memories that will keep this journey alive forever.

It’s not rocket science. Group travel is a safer way to explore the world. This trip provides you with an exciting approach to learning and taking in all the history and culture around you. Open your mind, see the world and have the most fun you’ve ever had.

GO-EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS
DESTINATION DUBAI
8 DAYS

ABOUT THE TRIP:
Dubai conjures up images of gleaming skyscrapers set against the back drop of the vast Arabian Desert and glistening sea. See Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world, set alongside ancient mosques. Bargain for gold, spices and handicrafts at the atmospheric “suqs” markets. Our Arabian adventure continues when we ride nature’s roller coaster—jeeps across the dunes. Overnight in the desert, ride camels, go sand surfing, then feast under the stars accompanied by traditional belly dancing. Find out for yourself why Dubai is one of the world’s most intriguing destinations.

HIGHLIGHTS:
Welcome orientation * Arabian welcome dinner cruise * Local guide city tour * Burj Khalifa * Al Fahidi Fort - Dubai Museum * Abra water taxi * Camel ride * Desert safari & camping * BBQ dinner * Jumeirah Beach * Farewell dinner . . . AND MUCH MORE!

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:
(Not included in package price)

Harbor Cruise
Board a luxurious motor-yacht and enjoy the unique skyline and sandy beaches of Dubai. Stretch out on the roomy sundeck and soak up the sun, dive into the blue water or simply unwind. We will stop along the way at the Burj Al Arab and will have a swimming stop in front of Dubai’s impressive skyline. Our way will take us around “the Pals,” the world’s biggest artificial island. Snacks and non-alcoholic drinks are provided on board and free of charge. Excursion includes 4 hour sailing trip (approx. time: 4 - 8 pm) around the island, snacks, non-alcoholic beverages and round-trip transfers to/from hotel/harbor.

Tour to Abu Dhabi
On this private city sightseeing tour you will discover the wonders of Abu Dhabi, capital of the Emirates, known as the Arabian Jewel. Jebel Ali Port, the biggest man-made port in the world is one of the landmarks that we pass by on the way to Abu Dhabi. The cost includes a private English-speaking guide, round-trip transportation by air-conditioned motor coach, and lunch en route.
Tour starts at 8 am, approx. return to Dubai at 4 pm.
Dress Code: Men and women should ensure shoulders and knees are covered when in public, especially in souks, shops and villages. Tight or figure hugging attire is not permitted. Also, no transparent or see through clothing is allowed.
Photography: Normal tourist photography is acceptable, but it is considered offensive to photograph Arab women. It is also courteous to ask permission before photographing men. Photographs of government buildings or military installations are not allowed.

WHAT’S INCLUDED:
• 2 nights at the 5-star hotel Al Bustan (or similar) located in Dubai city, 2-share rooms with private bath/shower
• 1 night camp in the desert, accommodations in tents and sleeping bags*
• 3 nights at the 5-star hotel Le Royal Meridien Jumeirah beach (or similar), 2-share rooms with private bath/shower
• Airport transfers with purchase of AESU group airfare
• Daily breakfast as per itinerary
• 3 dinners & 1 lunch
• Half-day Dubai city tour with local English-speaking guide
• Half-day shopping tour
• Observation deck at Burj Khalifa, tallest building in the world
• Overnight desert safari* including:
  o transfer by land cruisers
  o camel ride
  o dune surfing
  o belly dancing
  o beverages (unlimited soft drinks, tea, coffee, water)
  o Henna painting
  o Arabic coffee and fresh Arabic dates
  o Traditional costumes (Qandora)
  o 5-star buffet dinner with BBQ meats
  o Dhow dinner cruise
• Overnight safari subject to weather conditions and heat index, alternate additional overnight at Dubai city hotel

PLUS:
• Private tour director for the entire duration of the land tour
• All scheduled sightseeing
• All ground transportation by air-conditioned motor coach, as per itinerary
• All service charges and local taxes
• Luggage tag and travel guides

WWW.ALUMNIWORLDTRAVEL.COM/2018/UMD.HTML
DAY 1 TRAVEL TO DUBAI
Embark on your overnight flight to begin your Dubai experience. Meals: In-flight

DAY 2 ARRIVE DUBAI * Welcome cocktail and orientation
Travelers, who booked a flight with AESU, will be met and transferred to the hotel. Tonight, meet in the hotel lobby for a welcome cocktail and orientation with your tour director and fellow travelers. Meals: In-flight, Welcome cocktail

DAY 3 DUBAI * Half-day city tour * Arabian Dhow dinner cruise
Our local guide introduces us to both the new and the old Dubai on our city tour. On this scenic route we will make photo stops at Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world and a magnificent centerpiece of downtown Dubai. We pass the Sheikh’s stunning palace, travel along Dubai Creek, the lifeline and pulse of the city, before taking a stroll through the narrow lanes of Al Bastakiya, the old Dubai. We continue to the Al Fahidi Fort, housing the Dubai Museum. Board a water taxi, called ‘Abra’ to cross the lagoon to see the spice market and visit one of Dubai’s famous landmarks, the Gold Souk. Tonight, join a traditional Arabian Dhow for an evening cruise. Enjoy a sumptuous welcome feast of Arabic and International cuisine while gently gliding past illuminated souks and palaces. Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner cruise

DAY 4 DUBAI * Overnight Desert Safari
Land cruisers pick us up at the hotel for an excursion across the desert of Dubai. There are several photo stops during this exciting drive across the dunes. Upon arrival at the campsite, experience the beauty of the Arabian Desert as it was meant to be seen - on the back of a camel! For adrenaline junkies, no trip to Dubai is complete without at least one slide down a sand dune. Take advantage of the opportunity to experience the exhilaration of one of the most popular sports in the desert - sand boarding! If you prefer a more relaxing activity, try Arabic coffee and dates, have your hands or feet painted with henna or try a typical shisha while watching belly dancers perform by starlight after witnessing a magnificent desert sunset. Settle down for the night in tents and sleeping bags under the stars. Take the opportunity to enjoy the tranquility of the desert by night. Dubai Desert camping is a unique experience specially designed for nature lovers. Admire the beauty and magic of the Arabian Desert AND discover a variety of flora and fauna. Tents with sleeping pads/mattresses are set up for the night under the Arabian sky. Suggestion: Pack a flash-light, a change of clothes and a sweater for the night. Meals: Breakfast, BBQ Dinner
*Overnight camp subject to weather conditions – heat index.

DAY 5 DUBAI * Dubai Shopping * Dubai Beach
Upon return to Dubai, enjoy some of the best, biggest, most luxurious, elegant, yet affordable malls in the world. Dubai Mall offers more than 1,200 shops and a multitude of restaurants and cafes. Dubai is land of sun and sand, so beaches form the most attractive part of its beauty. We check into our hotel this afternoon. The hotel is located at one of the world's best and certainly Dubai’s most famous beach, Jumeirah Beach Park. Enjoy the remainder of the day exploring your hotel, laze on the beach, or partake in optional water sports activities. Meals: Breakfast

DAY 6 DUBAI * Dubai Beach - Optional excursion to Abu Dhabi and optional cruise
Enjoy idleness and the gentle breeze from the sea at your hotel’s swimming pool or Jacuzzi. The magnificent beach directly in front of your resort offers many watersports facilities. Consider an optional excursion to Abu Dhabi. We leave from the hotel at approx. 9 am in the morning and return around 2.30 pm. The capital of the United Arab Emirates is a fascinating mix of tradition and progression, from the majestic Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque and the traditional Heritage Village to the magnificent Emirates Palace Hotel. See both faces of Abu Dhabi in this introduction city tour. Later on relax and enjoy an optional cruise onboard a luxurious motor boat. Take in spectacular views of Dubai’s coastline as you sail around Palm Jumeirah, the world’s largest man-made island which has doubled the coastline of Dubai. Meals: Breakfast

DAY 7 DUBAI * Dubai Beach
Take in the sun for another day. At tonight’s farewell dinner, watch the chefs prepare your favorite dish with a new twist while you sample a variety of sumptuous international dishes. Finish your exciting culinary journey with heavenly international desserts. Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 8 TRAVEL HOME
Today we transfer to the Dubai International Airport for our return flight home. Most flights to the US leave Dubai just after midnight. After check-out, your luggage can be stored with the hotel and you have access to all public hotel facilities until we depart for the airport. Travelers, registered for a transfer, meet in the hotel lobby and transfer to Dubai International Airport. We board our flight home with memories of one of the world’s most intriguing destinations and plans for our next alumni journey! Meals: Breakfast, In-flight

**Important note: Please familiarize yourself with regards to dress code and acceptable behavior.**

Www.alumniworldtravel.com/2018/umd.html
So - what is all the fuss about? Dubai’s bold architecture, mighty skylines and its obsession with ‘over-the-top’ attractions like the tallest building in the world or an indoor ski slope should be enough to convince you – not to mention the fact that the city has a rich culture, rooted in Bedouin heritage and traditions, performances and falconry.
There is so much to learn, see and experience!

LUXURY
Feel pampered during your stay at four and five star hotels with amazing lobbies, pools, bars restaurants and accommodations.

CUISINE
Indian spices, Levantine specialties, Persian ingredients and the Bedouin lifestyle have all combined to influence the cuisine of Dubai. It’s gastronomy is as cosmopolitan as the city’s culture. It will be difficult to find a bad meal.

THE MARKETS
Vintage finds or emerging designer pieces, Dubai’s markets have it all. From organic produce to vintage pop-ups, to artisan finds and nighttime browsing, Dubai is experiencing a market boom. A number of meeting places have popped up all over the city, showcasing local produce and fabulous wares. Here are some of the most popular markets: Ripe Market (various beach locations across Dubai), The Market (The Beach at JBR), ARTE, The Makers Market (Time Square Centre, Mercato Mall, Oasis Mall), Dubai Flea Market (various locations), Reform Night Market (The Lakes), So Chic Pop-up Vintage Market (Alkeraiah Avenue), Farmer’s Market on The Terrace (Bay Avenue, Business Bay). You may also enjoy haggling for gold, incense or spices in the bustling souk markets or visit some of Dubai’s posh shopping malls.

HISTORY
Looking at the expansive desert city packed with glistening high-rise towers, it is hard to imagine that the city started out as a tiny fishing village. It is thought that Bronze Age nomadic cattle herders were the first to settle here and by the fifth century CE the area we now know as Jumeirah had become a caravan station along the trade route linking Oman to what is now Iraq. The livelihood of the local people was mainly based on fishing, pearl diving, boat building, and providing accommodation and sustenance for the traders who would pass through on their way to sell gold, spices and textiles - the very goods that can be found in the souks today. In 1820, Britain negotiated a maritime truce with local rulers, and the trade routes were opened again. Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum began the development of Dubai transforming the city from a small cluster of settlements near the Dubai Creek to a modern port city and commercial hub.

CULTURE
Dubai is a modern city that welcomes visitors from around the world. Religion plays a significant role in the culture of Dubai. Mosques can be found throughout the city and at sunset the call to prayer can be heard across the rooftops. Courtesy and hospitality are important virtues in the Arab world, and visitors will enjoy the friendliness and warm welcome provided by locals. Visitors should remember that, as Dubai is a Muslim city, a more modest code of behavior is required.
ARCHITECTURE

Anyone visiting Dubai for the first time can't help but be impressed by the city's skyline. There is Burj Khalifa, standing at just under 830 meters tall; it is not only the tallest building in Dubai, but the tallest on the planet. The rocket ship-like design makes this striking skyscraper look as if it's going to take off any minute. Tom Wright, a British architect, designed the incredible Burj Al Arab, the fourth tallest hotel in the world. The city’s most iconic hotel soars skywards like a huge sail from its private island. The Cayan Tower is standing at an impressive 306m tall and because of the 73-story building’s twist of 90 degrees it is a truly remarkable sight. Dubai is also filled with historical treasures. During a visit to Heritage Village, and Dubai Museum in the historic Al Fahidi Fort, one can find out about century-old buildings and Dubai’s Bedouin and pearl-trading past. At the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding (SMCCU) one can gain a better understanding of Emirati culture and heritage. The Sheikh Saeed Al-Maktoum’s House served as residence of the ruling family and Dubai’s visionary founder.

ENTERTAINMENT

Dubai sets the stage for world-class events and festivals year-round, from Dubai Music Week to the Emirates Airline Festival of Literature. For a night out on the town, the chic lounges, theatres and live music spaces live up to everyone's expectations. Desert safaris offer endless options from henna painting to dune surfing. A night under the Arabian sky may just be a once-in-a-lifetime experience never to be forgotten.
BEFORE YOU GO

HOW DO I BOOK?
Booking your trip is easy! To make your reservation, click the “CHECK AVAILABILITY” button on any trip page to book your trip online, or you can call us at 1-800-638-7640 if you have any questions.

DO I NEED A PASSPORT? A VISA?
Check on Visa requirements (incl American or Canadian citizens) with the respective consulate or embassy. Some countries may charge for a tourist visa on entry or a departure tax on leaving the country.

HOW MUCH MONEY WILL I NEED?
We recommend $50-$80 per day, depending on your spending habits. That money covers items of a personal nature, laundry, beverages with meals (except for coffee/tea at breakfast, water at dinner, and occasionally a glass of wine), meals not included on tour, and expenses for free-time activities (metro tickets, taxis, entrance fees). This amount does not include money for souvenir/gift shopping. We strongly recommend bringing a credit card (Visa, American Express, and Mastercard are the most widely accepted) as well as an ATM card. Check with your bank prior to departure to ensure your ATM card is usable overseas.

SHOULD I PURCHASE TRAVEL INSURANCE?
We highly recommend travel insurance. (Some schools or alumni associations may offer travel insurance to you.) If not, AESU also offers group travel insurance. Ask our reservations agent for details or click on this link: https://www.tripassure.com/main/?welcome=AESU3922MD

WHAT ARE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS LIKE?
European trips: We stay in superior tourist class hotels, 3-star or 4-star, all with private bath/shower. Our hotels have been especially selected for their European atmosphere, friendly hospitality, cleanliness and location. TOUR ROOMING POLICY: All rates based on per/person 2-share basis. Two persons booking together as roommates receive a 2-share room. If you are traveling alone and do not want a single room, we will attempt to arrange for a 2-share room. If this is not possible, we will make arrangements for a single room and charge the applicable single supplement. You’ll be furnished a complete hotel address list with your final documents. Properties are subject to change and any substitutions would be the equivalent of those listed. Independent hotel reservations such as pre/post nights, etc. and certain special tours always apply a single supplement. Please check your itinerary.

I DON’T HAVE A ROOMMATE, WHAT DO I DO?
Going solo is not a problem with AESU. Many of our participants don’t have a travel companion when booking a trip. If you’re traveling alone, we will attempt to arrange for you to share a room (same gender) at NO EXTRA COST. Please read our rooming policy above. Our hotels are luxury hotels with private bath/shower, overnight camp in tents, limited bathroom facilities available. If you book a single room, our reservations agent can make arrangements for a single at the applicable single supplement rate.

I KNOW SOME MEALS ARE INCLUDED, BUT WHAT ABOUT SPECIAL DIETARY needs?
Tours include breakfast daily, lunches & dinner as per itinerary. If you are a vegetarian, or have special dietary needs, please inform your tour director as soon as you arrive. All included meals are pre-paid, so a substitute meal is always up to the goodwill of the establishment. We cannot guarantee that all special requests will be granted, but, in the past, most restaurants have been cooperative. Please keep in mind that substitute meals may not be as varied as they are at home.

DO I NEED ANY VACCINATIONS?
Check with your doctor or the CDC (wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/) to find out if vaccinations are required. If you suffer from any form of illness, be sure to have an adequate supply of medicines before departing on your trip. You must advise us of any important medical conditions you may have before departure.

DOES AESU SUPPORT ECO TRAVEL?
Every traveler shares a common responsibility to preserve our planet’s environment and respect its people. AESU enthusiastically endorses ASTA’s 10 Commandments, which effectively reaffirm that responsibility. Let’s live by these Commandments, to ensure our world’s beauty is preserved for our generation and for generations to come. Thank you for the opportunity to travel together and to discover our remarkable world in a responsible manner. Over a decade ago AESU founded “TRAVEL FOR GOOD” — many years before large travel companies became active in environmental travel.

Link to US State Department Travel Website
http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/english.html
EXCLUSIONS: These prices do not include passport and, if applicable, visa fees (Depending on your nationality, you may require visas in addition to a passport to enter certain countries. You must contact appropriate consulates for details on how to obtain on your own); airport and government taxes; tipping of tour guide and driver (suggested $5 per day for tour director, $3 per day for driver); beverages with meals unless indicated otherwise; laundry; personal insurance; room service; telephone charges; all items of a personal nature; airport transfers when a participant deviates from scheduled flights or travel dates; private transportation; and all items not specifically stated in the itinerary.

CANCELLATION POLICY: All cancellations must be received in writing. Date of receipt will determine penalties assessed. All cancellations, for any reason whatsoever, will be subject to a $500 per person cancellation fee. Cancellation between 99-60 days of departure will result in a forfeiture of 50% of tour cost. Cancellation within 59 days of departure or a “no-show” at the time of departure will result in forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. 100% AIRFARES are highly restrictive, NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-ENDORSABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE once ticketed. Once a reservation is booked and paid for AESU reserves the right to issue tickets. Once ticketed, airfare portion is non-refundable. Cancellation of airfare reservations is subject to restrictions, regulations and additional penalties of the airlines used. Reservation changes are also subject to penalties. Medical health and accident insurance is compulsory. PLEASE SEE WEBSITE FOR POSSIBLE ADDITIONS TO CANCELLATION POLICIES LISTED ABOVE DEPENDING ON TRIP DESTINATION. AIRPORT TRANSFERS & BAGGAGE: All participants using AESU flights on regular group departure days and flights receive airport transfers (between airport & tour hotel) overseas. Land-Only participants (providing own flight overseas) do NOT receive airport transfers and must meet group at the first hotel after 3:00 p.m. on program start date. FLIGHT DELAYS – ALL AIRPORTS: In the event that airline schedule changes or delays force you to miss your airport transfer, just make your way to the first hotel listed on your hotel list. Many shuttle services are available as well as taxi or train options. As airline delays are beyond the control of AESU, additional expenses, if incurred, will be borne by the tour participant. (Save receipts for possible reimbursement by airline.) AESU is not responsible if an airline cancels, reschedules, or delays a flight for any reason. If you miss your departure flight, it is your responsibility to work with the airline on which you are ticketed to reach your destination. AESU is not responsible for any additional expenses you may incur prior to joining your trip. AESU is not responsible for and will not provide any refund for portions of trips missed due to canceled, rescheduled, or delayed flights. If you purchase your own airfare, book your overnight flight from the USA one day earlier than the tour start date listed on our website. Participants should limit themselves to one checked bag per person and one carry-on per person. Check your airline’s website for any additional luggage restrictions. Liability is clearly stated on the passenger contract. RESPONSIBILITY: The responsibility of AESU as a tour operator, their agents, and any sponsoring association is limited. They act only in the capacity of agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to accommodations, sightseeing and transportation whether by railroad, motorboat, motorcar, steamship or plane, and as such they shall not be liable for any personal injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned, whether by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or in carrying out the arrangement of the tour. They can accept no responsibility for strike, war, quarantine, weather and any other natural or unnatural causes. Additional expenses, if incurred under any of these circumstances, will be borne by the tour participant. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers & accepts the terms of this contract. The right is reserved to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour or to cancel or alter the tour as required. If improvements in the itinerary can be made, or unforeseen conditions beyond AESU’s control make changes necessary, they reserve the right to alter itineraries without penalty. Trip cancellation insurance should be purchased by the individual traveler in the event cancellation of the tour is compelled by circumstances beyond our control. In the event of cancellation due to insufficient number of participants, AESU’s liability shall be limited to a FULL REFUND of all payments received from applicants, except non-refundable airfare and insurance. Baggage and personal injury are at owner’s risk entirely. The issuance or acceptance of vouchers or tickets shall be considered consent of the above conditions. AESU reserves the right to increase the program price in the event of cost increases due to changes in airfares, currency fluctuations or fuel surcharges. The airlines concerned and their affiliates and agents are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board the aircrafts. The passenger ticket in use by said airlines, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/or the passenger. All services are subject to the laws of the country in which these services are rendered. No refund or allowance will be made for absence during the tour, or for activities missed, even if for causes beyond the control of the participant. For complete terms & conditions, please refer to our web site at www.aesu.com.