Living in Ras Al Khaimah

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# LIVING IN RAS AL KHAIMAH

# A GUIDE TO THE CITY & EMIRATE

Arabic for the "top of the tent," Ras Al Khaimah is the northernmost emirate in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Ras Al Khaimah shares its border with four other emirates (Sharjah, Fujairah, Umm Al Quwain, and Dubai) and the Omani enclave of Musandam. A network of highways connects Ras Al Khaimah to other emirates, and the city center is only an hour's drive from Dubai and three hours' from Abu Dhabi.

His Highness Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi has been the ruler of Ras Al Khaimah since 2010 and is dedicated to making Ras Al Khaimah a vibrant home for both Emiratis and expatriates from around the world. As a testament to the emirate's evolving economic, social, and cultural opportunities, Ras Al Khaimah has enjoyed an increase in its population over the past few decades.

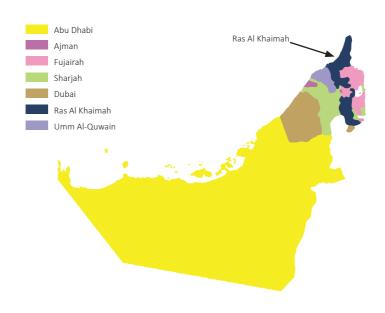
The Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research created this guidebook as a catalogue of the emirate's offerings as a tourist destination, industrial and business center, and family-friendly community. It is our hope that this resource enables all Ras Al Khaimah residents to fully engage with the local community.

# **About Ras Al Khaimah**

Previously known as Julfar, Ras Al Khaimah covers an area of 2,478 square kilometers, making it the fourth largest emirate in the UAE. Ras Al Khaimah has been consistently inhabited for over 7,000 years. Historically, Ras Al Khaimah supported fishing, pearl diving, and copper smelting communities.

Today, His Highness Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi and the government have fostered a diverse and expanding economy. Notable sectors include industry, tourism, trade, real estate, cement, and ceramics.

Ras Al Khaimah has a moderate climate for roughly eight months of the year, usually between October and May. The other four months are hot and humid. It is generally between 40-47° in summer, while winters are pleasant, with temperatures averaging 18-26° during the day. Winters generally see irregular rainfall, which can be accompanied by minor street flooding.



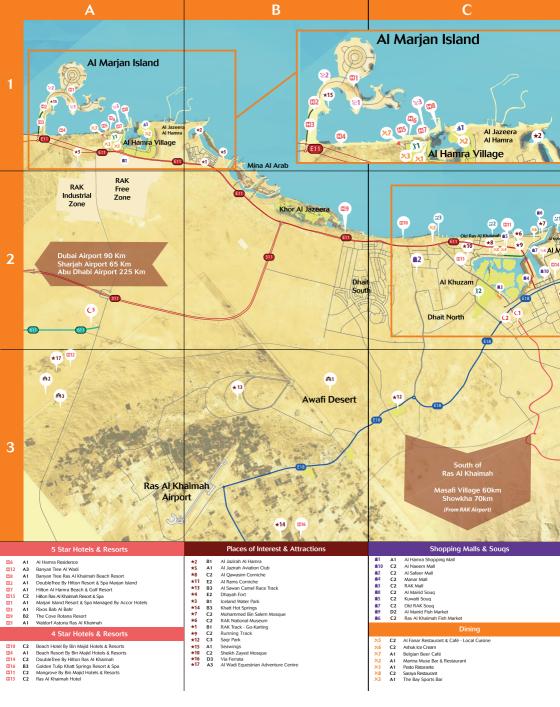
# **CULTURAL TIPS**

- When having a conversation with someone, it is usually good to build rapport by asking how the person and his or her family doing before getting straight to business (especially during formal meetings).
- Emirati culture places a high value on relationships and hospitality. Wherever you go, try to get to know people. If they offer you Arabic coffee, it is usually respectful to have some. Hosts may keep refilling your cup until you wiggle your empty cup while holding it. This gesture implies that you do not need any more coffee. Also, when having Emiratis over, it is good to offer them some tea or coffee before starting the conversation.
- If you are invited to a majlis, remove your shoes at the entrance. Males and females are usually seated in different places, so don't be surprised if you are moved to a section different from your friend, colleague, or family member.
- It is considered common courtesy to stand when a new guest enters into your office or home. For men, it is important to stand when a woman enters the room.

- When greeting a Muslim of the opposite sex, do not extend your hand unless the other person does so first. Some people (particularly women), may prefer not to shake hands with men for religious reasons. While not as common, some men also like to show respect for a woman, who is not their spouse or family member, by abstaining from a handshake.
- When sharing a meal with an Emirati family, it's good to try to eat as much as you can but leave a little bit on the plate as this shows that the host has been generous (otherwise, the host may continue to refill your plate).
- When admiring something that someone else has, it's good to say "Mashallah," which literally means "in God's will," but within this context means "may you be protected." Also refrain from admiring too much, as it may raise suspicion or the person may feel pressured to give you what you are admiring. This is an old tradition in the Arab culture.
- In some places, like banks, women have their own sections in which to conduct business.
   Women may also be given priority in queues.

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- In some places, like banks, women have their own sections in which to conduct business.
   Women may also be given priority in queues.
- It's important to dress modestly, particularly in conservative areas and public places. For men, shorts and t-shirts are suitable in many public places like parks and malls, but when visiting mosques, businesses, religious

- sites, or older parts of the city, it is recommended that men wear clothes that cover their legs and shoulders. For women, it is most appropriate to dress in attire that covers the shoulders and legs up to the knee in most places, although in older parts of the city, it is preferable to dress in loose-fitting long clothing. Pants, dresses, and skirts are acceptable.
- Enjoy your time in the United Arab Emirates, as Emiratis are some of the most generous and hospitable people you will get to meet!



Source: rasalkhaimah.ae





# MATT'S PICKS

Matthew MacLean is an avid foodie who appreciates authentic Arab cuisine and local hot spots. A former visiting scholar with the Al Qasimi Foundation, Matt has lived and worked in the UAE and Ras al Khaimah for over four years. While with the Foundation, he studied how to preserve and promote Ras Al Khaimah's cultural heritage, focusing on the Old Town. He continues to do consulting with the Ras Al Khaimah Tourism and Development Authority and the National Museum of Ras Al Khaimah.

#### GETTING AROUND

Wear good walking shoes and have cash (many places in Ras Al Khaimah do not take cards). If the weather is too hot, taxis are plentiful, knowledgeable, cheap, and all have meters.

#### THINGS TO DO IN THE EVENING

Walk along Corniche al-Qawasim opposite the Mangrove Hotel — it's very family friendly and has a variety of "international" (i.e. more expensive) restaurants and coffee shops. If you want to go jogging in the morning there is a track here.

# **Kuwaiti Street Souq**

The main shopping street of Old Ras Al Khaimah. Best seen at nights (totally dead in the afternoon) - it reminds some Emiratis of the old central souq in Abu Dhabi. It extends for a long way - keep your eye out for the large "Traditional Bakery" on a corner on your left. This area was also part of the set for Brad Pitt's 2017 movie "War Machine." One of my favorite things to do is explore the souq and the surrounding streets and get slightly lost.

# Old Corniche (Gulf Side)

The main cruising spot for cars before and after sunset prayer, when it's at its most beautiful. Wear good walking shoes to go out onto one of the rock jetties (daylight only). There are several small restaurants and cafeterias.

### **Old City and Souk**

You can walk the markets and random stores selling everything known to humanity. You'll see Calicut, one of the oldest restaurants in the UAE. One highlight is the antique stores, selling only genuine items (unlike what you'll find in Dubai or Abu Dhabi). The <code>jirz/yirz</code>, the small ax, is the ultimate RAK souvenir and you may see them being made in these shops (note that while you may be tempted to buy one, they are very long and do not usually fit in checked baggage).

#### HANGOUTS AND OUICK SNACKS

#### Al Comodor

Across from Al-Dahab and Dubai Library (which is actually a big bookstore), it has great falafel and Lebanese food for cheap prices (mains AED 2-10). It doesn't look like much and service is not always with a smile but it's great.

Location: Sheikh Muhammad bin Salem Road, close to the Ship roundabout

Phone: 07 233 7929

#### Al Dahab

Amazing juices (get the "special" sometimes referred to as "mix" or "cocktail").

Location: Sheikh Muhammad bin Salem Road, close to the Ship roundabout

Phone: 07 233 6227

#### Al Dar Café

A sheesha cafe on the Old Corniche (like most other sheesha cafes in RAK, the food is merely okay at best and the extensive menu is mostly a suggestion of possibilities) but the atmosphere is great. There are many other sheesha cafes on the New Corniche near the Mangrove Hotel, as well as on the Old Corniche.

Location: Old Corniche Phone: 07 233 3994

#### Ashuk Ice Cream

RAK's oldest fresh milk ice cream place, with two locations in Old RAK — one on the Old Corniche near al-Dar and one on the corniche just south of the Fish Market.

Location: Old Corniche Phone: 0 56 785 8000

#### **Blue Sea Cafeteria**

This is the home of the Chips Oman Sandwich. One sandwich is AED 2.5 and is made of cheese, potato chips, and chili sauce on paratha bread.

Location: Al Qasimi Corniche Road

Phone: 07 233 7756

# **Bottega Café**



A very new and more upscale independent coffee shop just south of the Fish Market, on the Corniche in the Old City and Souk.

Location: Old Corniche Phone: 07 221 2220

### Cafeteria Falafel Abu Naeem

A drive-up-and-honk place with incredibly cheap prices (mains AED 2-10), this is RAK's most popular falafel and hummus joint.

Location: Al Nakheel Road, near

LULU Center

Phone: 07 233 7929

#### **Emirates Sea**

Excellent seafood. You get a booth with a bell to call the waiters. You will have to take a taxi to get there as it's in Al-Dhait. I recommend the grilled hammour and grilled supreme. Mains AFD 50-80.

Phone: 07 222 2977

#### **Grand Restaurant**

Right next to Lebanese House, another old faded place with \*great\* biryani among other things. Look for the specials on the white board by the counter. Mains AED 15-20.

Location: Al Nakheel Road, opposite to the Hilton DoubleTree Hotel

Phone: 07 228 4250

#### **Lebanese House**

A stodgy old RAK institution popular with locals. Great food, maybe AED 20-30 per person.

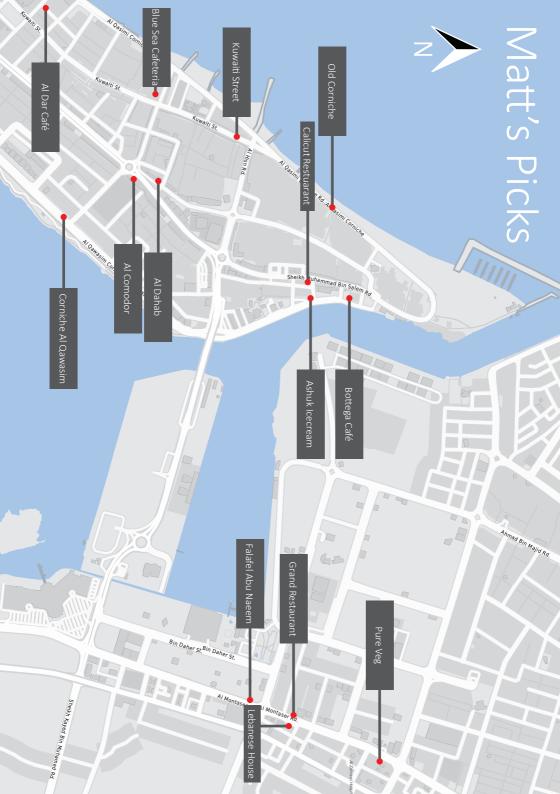
Location: Al Jazah Road Phone: 07 228 9992

# **Pure Veg**

Just up the street from Grand and Lebanese House, all Indian vegetarian. Mains AED 10. I'm a fan of the thali, gobi 65, and idly chili.

Location: Al Muntasir Road

Phone: 07 227 3266



# **DINING**

# CAFÉS -

Cafés in Ras Al Khaimah are great places to meet with friends, do work, or enjoy a relaxing afternoon. Many offer a great food menu in addition to a variety of drinks that will cater to all tastes. Many also offer complementary WiFi coverage with any purchase.

- \*\* Recommended
- A Alcohol Available
- W Wi-Fi Available

#### Amor Caffé<sup>w</sup>



Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 266 3661

# Arcadia Coffee Shopw

Location: Bin Majid Beach Hotel

Phone: 07 235 2233

#### Bloomsbury'sw



This is a nationwide chain that serves beverages and food. Cupcakes are their specialty.

Location: RAK Mall Phone: 07 226 4019

#### Caffé Nerow

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 4382

#### Costa Coffee<sup>w</sup>

# COSTA

Costa Coffees in Ras Al Khaimah serves items similar to what you would find in the same chain in Europe. The Costa Coffees in Julphar Towers and on Al Qawasim Corniche Road are particularly charming with outdoor seating.

Locations: Manar Mall, Julphur Tower, and Al Qawasim Corniche

Road

Phone: 07 226 4543

#### **Dunkin' Donuts**

Dunkin' Donuts shops found in the UAE are similar to those found in the United States (US) except local branches usually don't have breakfast sandwiches.

Locations: Bowling Center Al Nakheel, RAK Mall, and Al Naeem

City Center

Phone: 07 228 8613, 07 233 8489,

and 07 235 4224

#### **Icons Coffee Couture**<sup>w</sup>



Location: Julphar Towers and Al

Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 222 0255 and 07 233 4674

### **Krispy Kreme**

Location: Al Qawasim Corniche

Road and Safeer Mall Phone: 07 222 2240

# Mojito Mamaw\*\*



Location: Sheikh Muhammad bin

Salem Road

Phone: 07 233 9668

#### **New RAK Refreshment**

"The best Nescafé in RAK." This shop is a favorite drive-by spot with locals. Wait in your car for a waiter to come and take your order. Both the Nescafé and karak (milk tea) are sweetened with condensed milk, and one cup likely meets your daily sugar quota. Be prepared to wait, as cars often line up here to order drinks before starting the drive to Dubai.

Location: Petrol station near the

Clock roundabout

# Pappa Roti

Location: Manar Mall Phone: 07 221 1704

### Second Cupw



Location: RAK Mall

Phone: 07 233 9668

#### **Starbucksw**



Locations: Al Hamra Mall and Manar

Mall

Phone: 07 243 4772 and

07 227 2121

#### **Tim Hortons**

# Tim Hortons.

Locations: Al Naeem Mall and Al Oawasim Corniche Road

Phone: 056 404 1901

### Tucano Caféw\*\*



Tucano Café opened in 2014 and is located next to La Luna. This café has a tranquil feel to it, with seating available next to the water (Al Hamra) and free Wi-Fi. The teas, fusion coffees, deserts, and breakfast menu are all worth trying.

Location: Al Hamra and Naeem Mall

Phone: 07 243 8572 and

0562854961

# — RESTAURANTS —

There are plenty of excellent restaurants to pick from in the emirate. In the winter, it's nice to eat at outdoor restaurants. It's customary to tip 10-15% for the service and is best to leave the tip in cash. As you drive around, you'll notice a number of shops are called "cafeterias." These cafeterias typically sell fresh juice and snacks. Because of the lack of addresses, if you would like to have food delivered, you will need to describe the nearby landmarks.

# Al Daya'a Shawerma

Cuisine: Arabic

Location: RAK Mall Phone: 07 236 4782

#### Al Fanar

Cuisine: Emirati

Location: Sheikh Muhammad bin

Salem Road

Phone: 07 222 2240

#### Al Sahari

Cuisine: Lebanese

Al Shari is a busy place and is extremely popular with the Arab

community.

Location: E11 (Ras Al Khaimah's main road), near RAK Municipality

Phone: 07 233 3966

#### Al Waha

Cuisine: International fine dining

Location: Al Wadi Desert

Phone: 07 206 7777

# Al Yaqoot Al Afghani

Cuisine: Afghani Location: Al Dhait Phone: 07 235 1480

#### **Awtar**

Cuisine: Lebanese

Location: Tower Links Golf Club

Phone: 07 227 8552

#### Bait Al Mahashi\*\*



Cuisine: Egyptian and Syrian

This very affordable, filling, and delicious takeaway spot sells only three dishes but have mastered them all. We recommend their Koshary dish

Location: Near Kentucky Fried Chicken, a few doors down from the

Two Dirham Plaza.

Phone: 07 235 2533

#### Basilico\*\*

Cuisine: Italian and Mediterranean

This restaurant offers a mix of traditional and modern Italian dishes.

Location: Cove Rotana Resort

Phone: 07 206 6000

# Belgian Beer Café<sup>A</sup>



Cuisine: Pub food

Location: Vienna Street, Al Hamra

Phone: 07 243 8489

#### **Bella Venezia**

Cuisine: Italian

Location: RAK Mall Phone: 07 228 6688

### **Breakers**

Cuisine: Pub food

Location: Cove Rotana Resort

Phone: 07 206 6000

#### **Bundoo Khan**

Cuisine: Indian and Pakistani

Location: Ramada Hotel and Suites

Phone: 07 205 8888 www.ramada.com

#### Caesar's

Cuisine: Indian, Chinese, Persian,

Continental

This chain has been in the UAE for

over 20 years.

Location: Al Qawasim Corniche Road, near Mangrove Hotel

Phone: 07 233 6044

#### Café Bateel



Cuisine: Arabic Fusion Location: Naeem Mall Phone: 07 226 1082

#### Canadain Pizza\*\*



Cuisine: Italian and Canadian

Location: Al Nakheel, next to the RAK Gas building opposite to the

Hilton DoubleTree hotel

Phone: 07 244 0101

# Casa Maghrib

Cuisine: Moroccan

Location: Marjan Island Resort and

Spa

Phone: 07 203 6603

#### Chili's

Cuisine: American

Chili's offers a wide range of American dishes, serves mocktails, and will also

deliver.

Locations: Manar Mall and Al

Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 228 8838 www.chilisuae.com

# **Chinese Dragon**

Cuisine: Chinese

Location: Al Hamra Mall Phone: 055 443 8961

#### Cinnamon<sup>A</sup>

Cuisine: International

Cinnamon offers a nice international buffet, which is particularly good during Ramadan. On Fridays, they

have a Dubai-style brunch.

Location: Cove Rotana Resort

Phone: 07 206 6000

#### **Doner Kebab**

Cuisine: Turkish

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 8838

#### FI Chico

Cuisine: Mexican

Location: Naeem Mall Phone: 07 705 9683

# **Golden Crown**

Cuisine: Indian

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 4878

### **Golden Fork**

Cuisine: International and Seafood

Location: Al Juwais Phone: 07 222 5226

#### Hatam

Cuisine: Persian

Location: Al Hamra Mall and RAK

Mall

Phone: 055 402 5459

#### **IHOP**

Cuisine: American

Location: Al Hamra Mall Phone: 07 246 5004

#### India Palace

Cuisine: Indian

Location: RAK Mall Phone: 07 226 0171 www.indiapalace.ae

# **Johnny Rockets**

Cuisine: American

This American chain is themed like a 1950s diner and offers tasty

hamburgers and french fries.

Location: Al Hamra Mall and Al

Hamra Marina

Phone: 07 243 6017 and 07 243 4036

#### Juice World\*\*

Cuisine: International

Opened in 2013, as the name suggests, this neon lit shop offers every kind of fresh juice concoction imaginable. If you're hungry, a wide variety of food is also available. The shawarmas are decent. Delivery is also possible.

Location: Al Muntasir Road, Al Nakheel, near the Centrepoint

Phone: 07 227 7441

#### La Luna\*\*A

Cuisine: Italian and Thai

With seating next to the water, this restaurant has friendly staff and delicious food.

Location: Al Hamra Marina and

Mina Al Arab

Phone: 07 234 4600 and 07 243 3083

### Lagoons Sports Bar<sup>A</sup>

Cuisine: Pub food

Location: Al Hamra Golf Club

Phone: 07 244 7474 (ext. 4)

### Lexington Grill<sup>A\*\*</sup>

Cuisine: Grill

This luxury restaurant serves flavorful steak and seafood. If you order a steak, be prepared to know what kind of knife you would like to use, as the waiter will come with a plate of different knives from which you can choose.

Location: Waldorf Astoria Hotel

Phone: 07 203 5555

# Maharaja

Cuisine: Indian Location: RAK Mall

Phone: 07 222 5622

# Maison Mathis<sup>A</sup>

Cuisine: International

In addition to the lovely atmosphere, Maison Mathis also has a fantastic brunch

brunch.

Location: Al Hamra Golf Club

Phone: 07 243 8633

# Mandilicious

Cuisine: Saudi

Location: Al Hamra Mall Phone: 800 81 8181

### **Marjan<sup>A</sup>**

Cuisine: Moroccan and Lebanese

An upscale dining experience, highly recommended for large groups.

Location: Waldorf Astoria Hotel

Phone: 07 203 5555

waldorfastoria3.hilton.com

# Masaya\*\*

Cuisine: Lebanese

Masaya is a consistently delicious Lebanese restaurant that does delivery and catering.

Location: Manar Mall

Phone: 07 227 7500

#### Nando's

Cuisine: Portuguese

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 8848

# Noodles Corner\*\*

Cuisine: Chinese

Set in a lovely, pleasant atmosphere overlooking the Corniche, Noodles Corner serves some of the best Chinese food in Ras Al Khaimah.

Location: Mangrove Hotel on Al

Qawasim Corniche Road

Phone: 07 233 7733

# **Omar Al Khayyam**

Cuisine: Persian

Serving Persian fare since the 1990s, this restaurant has a long history in

the emirate.

Location: Kuwaiti Street

Phone: 07 233 2824 or 07 233 3745

### Passage to Asia

Cuisine: Asian

Tucked away in the back of the Hilton Resort and Spa, this restaurant offers a wide selection of quality Asian food. The restaurant also accomodates larger groups.

Location: Hilton Resort & Spa

Phone: 07 228 8888

#### **Pasta Mania**

Cuisine: Italian

Location: Manar Mall Phone: 07 227 7640

#### Pesto\*\*A

Cuisine: Italian

Pesto serves fresh Italian food at reasonable prices. Both restaurants have indoor and outdoor seating. Pesto is a nice place to take guests.

Cuisine: Italian

Locations: Al Hamra Golf Club

Phone: 07 244 7474

# **Pizza Express**

Cuisine: Italian

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 221 1175

#### Pizza Inn

Cuisine: Italian

Location: Dafan Al Khor Phone: 07 233 4040

#### **Pura Vida Restaurant**

Cuisine: Brazilian

Location: Hilton Beach Resort, next

to Passage to Asia

Phone: 07 228 8844

# Pure Veg\*\*

Cuisine: Vegetarian Indian

Location: Al Nakheel, opposite Al

Manama Hypermarket

Phone: 07 227 3266

### **Qasr Al Bahr**

Cuisine: International buffet (open for breakfast and dinner only)

Location: Waldorf Astoria Hotel

Phone: 07 203 5555

#### Reem Al Bawadi

Cuisine: Levant

Location: Naeem Mall Phone: 07 233 0940

#### Saffron\*\*

Cuisine: Thai

A twenty-minute drive out of Ras Al Khaimah city is worth it for the best Thai food in town. The upscale restaurant is set near the resort's nature reserve, and, if you're lucky, you'll get to see some wildlife.

Location: Al Wadi Desert

Phone: 07 206 7777

# Shakespeare & Co.

Cuisine: International

Shakespeare & Co. has a westernstyle brunch menu served most of

the day.

Location: Al Hamra Mall and Al

Naeem Mall

Phone: 07 243 4660 and 07 233 0406

# **Shanab Burger**

Cuisine: American

Location: Sheikh Muhammad bin

Salem Road

Phone: 07 222 2260

#### Siam Palace

Cuisine: Thai, Filipino, and Chinese

Location: RAK Mall Phone: 07 226 4458

#### Sumo Sushi & Bento

Cuisine: Japanese

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 8898

# Taj Spice

Cuisine: Indian

Location: Behind Al Naeem City

Center

Phone: 07 235 2070

#### The Grand Restaurant

Cuisine: Indian

Location: Al Salha General Trading Building, opposite Dubai Islamic Bank and near Nakheel Hotel

Phone: 07 228 7685

# The Noodle Room Express

Cuisine: Chinese

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 4330

# The Village Restaurant

Cuisine: Buffet

Location: Al Hamra Village Golf &

Beach Resort

Phone: 07 206 7222

#### Thunder Road Pizza & Grill\*\*

Cuisine: Italian

With raving reviews all around, this little hidden gem has people driving all the way from other emirates just for a taste.

Location: Sheikh Muhammad bin Salem road, opposite Mina Al Arab

Phone: 052 994 9056

#### Trader Vic's\*\*



Cuisine: Polynesian

Opened in 2014, Trader Vic's has vibrant outdoor and indoor seating, often with live music. The venue also offers Dubai-style Friday brunches.

Location: Hilton Al Hamra Beach

and Golf Resort

Phone: 07 244 6666

#### **UMI**<sup>A</sup>

Cuisine: Japanese

UMI is one of the only Japanese and teppanyaki restaurant in Ras Al Khaimah. The restaurant also has a limited sushi menu. The prices are relatively high, but so is the quality of the food.

Location: Waldorf Astoria Hotel

Phone: 07 203 5555

#### Venus\*\*

Cuisine: Vegetarian Indian

The thali, chapatti, rice, and curries are all delicious here. Prices are also reasonable

Location: Al Nakheel, near Safeer Market, behind Al Orabni Hospital

Phone: 07 221 2164

# Vespa

Cuisine: Italian

Location: DoubleTree by Hilton, Al

Marjan Island

Phone: 07 203 0000

# **Voltage Burger**

Cuisine: American

Location: Sheikh Muhammad bin

Salem Road

Phone: 07 233 4000

#### **WAGA Sushi**



Cusine: Japanese

Location: Al Dhait North Phone: 07 226 4441

# **Wow Burger**

Cuisine: American

Location: Al Dhait North, near Ashok

Icecream

Phone: 050 181 2179

#### Hatam

Cuisine: Persian

Location: Al Hamra Mall and RAK

Mall

Phone: 055 402 5459

# Maharaja

Cuisine: Indian

Location: RAK Mall Phone: 07 222 5622

### FAST FOOD -

If you're not watching what you eat and don't feel like leaving home, most fast food chains offer delivery. talabat.com offers online ordering.

### **Burger King**

Cuisine: American

Locations: Multiple locations

Phone: 600 5 22224

# **Chow King**

Cuisine: Chinese, Fillipino,

Indonesian

Location: Al Naeem City Center

Phone: 600 5 60031

# **Dairy Queen**

Cuisine: American

Location: Naeem Mall Phone: 600 5 69000

# Hardee's

Cuisine: American

Location: Manar Mall

Phone: 600 5 69000

# **Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC)**

Cuisine: American

Locations: Multiple locations

Phone: 600 5 22252

#### McDonald's

Cuisine: American

Locations: Multiple locations

Phone: 600 5 88885

## Papa John's

Papa John's sells takeaway and delivery pizza. They're known for their famous garlic sauce dip.

Cuisine: Pizza

Locations: Al Hamra Mall and RAK

Mall

Phone: 600 5 20001

#### Pizza Hut

Cuisine: Pizza

Location: Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Road, Al Dhait, Ras Al Khaimah, near

Zaed Health Centre Phone: 600 5 69999

# Subway

Cuisine: American

Location: Al Hisn Road Adnoc Petrol

Station

Phone: 600 5 69000

# **BEAUTY SALONS**

Salons in Ras Al Khaimah are generally segregated by gender, so if you're a man, make sure you are going to one designated for males.

# ---- MEN'S SALONS

# **Bassam Salon**

Location: Al Hisn Road Phone: 07 227 7746

#### Khuzam Hairdresser

Location: Khuzam Road Phone: 07 236 4281

### **Modern Hair Salon**

Location: Al Qawasim Corniche

Road

Phone: 07 233 7233

### **Prestige Gents Salon**

Location: E11 (Ras Al Khaimah's main road), near post office

Phone: 07 233 6800

Toni & Guy\*\*



Location: Waldorf Astoria

Phone: 07 243 0001

### — WOMFN'S SALONS —

There is no shortage of women's salons offering services at a variety of price points. Hairdressers for women are typically Moroccan and are often not familiar with western hair types; however, Tips and Toes is an exception.

Salons tend to offer haircuts, color, manicures and pedicures, Moroccan baths, massages, waxing, and much more.

# **Diva Beauty Salon**

Location: Khuzam Road Phone: 07 236 1116

# **Esmat Beauty Salon**

Location: Khuzam Road

Phone: 07 233 3701 or 07 236 4322

### **France Coiffure Beauty Salon**

Location: Al Hamra Village

Phone: 07 244 7917

# House of Beauty\*\*

House of Beauty has good quality manicures and pedicures, with lovely staff.

Location: Khuzam Road, Al Dhait

North, Al Dhait South Phone: 07 236 2624

# House of Style Beauty Center Salon

Location: Al Dhait South and

Al Jazeera Al Hamra

Phone: 07 235 5266 and

07 243 1333

### **Nail Touch Spa**

Nail Touch Spa is local hotspot for manicures and pedicures.

Location: RAK Mall, Khuzam Road,

Al Qorm

Phone: 07 226 4403

#### Riviera Centre\*\*

Riviera offers nice manicures and pedicures, in addition to other services.

Location: Khuzam Road, near the Clock roundabout going east, the first street on the right.

Phone: 07 236 3335

# Tips and Toes\*\*



Tips and Toes is a UAE chain that takes reservations (not something all salons do). Their services include hair coloring, manicures and pedicures, massages, and more. The salon's staff are efficient and friendly.

Location: Al Hamra Mall and Manar

Mall

Phone: 07 243 3770 and 07 233 7719

# HOTEL SPAS -

# The Ritz-Carlton Ras Al Khaimah, Al Wadi Desert



Location: Exit 119 off E11 (Ras Al Khaimah's main road), Al Dhait, near Sheikh Khalifa Specialist Hospital

Phone: 07 206 7777

### Anjana Spa

Location: Rixos Bab Al Bahr, Al Marjan

Island

Phone: 07 202 0000

# **Cove Rotana Resort Spa**

Location: E11 (Ras Al Khaimah's main road), Al Dhait South, opposite Danube Buildmart

Phone: 07 206 6000

# Eforea Spa and Eforea Ladies Only Spa

Location: DoubleTree by Hilton Resort & Spa, Al Marjan Island

Phone: 07 203 0000

# Golden Tulip Khatt Springs Resort & Spa

Please note that there are multiple Golden Tulips and one is in Oman, so make sure you're going to the right place.

Location: Khatt Street District

Phone: 07 244 7917

### **Hilton Resort & Spa**

Location: Al Maarid, Ras Al Khaimah

Phone: 07 228 8888

### La'mar Spa

Location: Al Marjan Island Resort

Phone: 07 203 6666

### **Waldorf Astoria Spa**

Location: Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Al

Hamra

Phone: 07 203 5555

# **SHOPPING & RETAIL**

#### — SHOPPING MALLS -

You'll likely find yourself going to malls more than you ever have before. Malls in Ras Al Khaimah are hotspots for grocery shopping, paying Etisalat bills, going to the movies, eating out, picking up takeaway, and meeting friends.

#### Al Hamra Mall



The first shopping complex in the growing Al Jazeera Al Hamra area, Al Hamra Mall has a selection of stores, cafés, and restaurants' such as Spinney's, Adidas, Starbucks, Johnny Rockets, Areej, Caffé Nero, Tips and Toes, and Esprit. There is also a VOX movie theatre if you want to catch a movie.

Location: Al Hamra

www.alhamramall.com

### **Al Naeem City Center**

Al Naeem City Center features a Carrefour hypermarket as its flagship store. It also has restaurants and cafés such as McDonald's, Starbucks, Chow King and the great Jungle Bungle entertainment center for kids.

Location: Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed

Road, Al Dhait

Phone: 07 235 6569

#### Al Naeem Mall

Al Naeem mall offers an excellent dining experience with beautiful water front views in addition to housing world-renowned fashion brands.

Location: Al Nakheel Road

Phone: 07 227 5000 www.alnaeemmall.com

# Centrepoint

This is a mini-mall that contains affordable clothing, shoes, and home accessories. Brands include Splash, Lifestyle, Babyshop, and Shoemart.

Location: Bin Dhaher Centre, Al Dhait showroom area, off E11, near Al Muntasir Road, opposite Manar Mall

Phone: 07 228 3460, 07 235 9992

www.centrepointstores.com

#### **Manar Mall**

This well-established mall has a large Carrefour at one end and a lively food court and the Grand Manar Cinema at the other end. In between you will find branches of well-known international brands, as well as a wide selection of smaller shops.

Location: Al Muntasir Road

www.manarmall.com

#### **RAK Mall**

RAK Mall is home to the best LuLu hypermarket in the emirate. Additionally, RAK Mall has coffee shops (Dunkin' Donuts, Bloomsbury, etc.), a nice nail salon, a store specializing in dates, and a mini ice rink on the top floor.

Location: Khuzam Road www.rak-mall.com

# — GROCERY & RETAIL —

A wide variety of items are available in and around Ras Al Khaimah's grocery and retail chains.

# **Aysha Supermarket**

Aysha does home deliveries within the Khuzam neighborhood. It's particularly useful for water or milk in the morning. If you're a good customer, Aysha might open a tab for you.

Location: Khuzam Road

Phone: 07 235 4540

#### Carrefour\*\*

Carrefour is a French hypermarket franchise. In addition to grocery items, the store sells electronics, clothing, home goods, and much more.

Locations: Al Naeem City Center and Manar Mall

Phone: 07 207 0777 and

07 202 7888

www.carrefouruae.com

#### **Choithrams**

Choithrams offers a solid variety of higher-end international foods, including pork products.

Locations: Mina Al Arab and Julphar Towers

Phone: 07 243 8249 and 07 226 4157

### **Jumbo Electronics**

Jumbo Electronics sells a wide array of electronics. They even sell Apple products. This is the shop to come to if you need a hard-to-find item.

Location: Al Nakheel, Oman Road

Phone: 07 227 1991

# LuLu Hypermarket\*\*

LuLu (which means "Pearl" in Arabic) was started in the UAE by expat Indians and is a two story hypermarket that sells imported food from around the globe. If you need more than food, the second floor of the shop has everything from televisions to toys.

Location: RAK Mall Phone: 07 207 0400

# **Sevan Bakery**

Sells great pastries (e.g., cheese and parsley, egg and cheese, and a variety of sweets). Eat-in or take away. Opens at 6:00 AM

Location: Sheikh Mohammed bin Salem Road, Sidroh, next to Al Sahara restaurant

Phone: 07 233 3350

# Spinneys\*\*

Spinneys is a Middle Eastern grocery store chain that imports most of its food from the United Kingdom (you will find the Waitrose brand here). If you're looking for organic food, pork products or any other imported items you can't find at Carrefour or LuLu, it's worth checking out Spinneys.

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 4010

#### **Sharaf DG**

One of the leading electronics retail stores in the UAE. They also offer delivery for all purchaces, including large home appliances.

Location: Al Naeem Mall

Phone: 800 344357

#### — HOME & GARDEN -

There are many nice home stores in the emirate. If you can't find a particular item that you're looking for, don't forget that IKEA and Pottery Barn are just an hour's drive away in Dubai. If you spend over a certain amount in IKEA, the store will deliver to Ras Al Khaimah and assemble your items for free.

#### Home Centre\*\*

Home Centre is a regional brand that sells furniture, bedding, and home accessories.

Locations: Al Muntasir Road, Al Nakheel, opposite Manar Mall, and

Al Naeem City Center

Phone: 07 227 1555 and 07 235 9016

### Homes-R-Us

Location: RAK Mall

Phone: 07 233 9695

www.homesrusgroup.com

#### **IKEA**

Located in Dubai, this Swedish chain is popular with many new residents in the UAE. They deliver to Ras Al Khaimah.

Location: Al Rebat Road, Festival

City Mall

Phone: 04 203 7555

#### Maison Chic\*\*

Maison Chic sells a wide array of arts and crafts and teak furniture. They also have regular sales.

Location: E11, has a big wooden chair outside and it's on the left on the way out of town.

Phone: 07 235 3626

www.maisonchicdubai.com

#### **PAN Emirates**

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 8383

www.panemirates.com

# **Pottery Barn**

With multiple locations in Dubai, this upscale American home store has a wide variety of home goods.

Locations: Mirdif City Centre and

Dubai Mall

Phone: 04 419 0313

### **Royal Palace Furniture**

Location: Sheikh Salem Road, near Phone: 07 235 3308

# Turathyat Ajdade Antiques & Traditional Handicrafts\*\*

While not a market, this shop has a wonderful assortment of antiques for sale, many originally from the emirate.

Location: Between Pearl roundabout and the National Museum of Ras Al Khaimah

Phone: 07 233 3396

#### – MARKETS -

#### Kuwaiti Street\*\*

Kuwaiti Souq is considered the oldest market in Ras Al Khaimah. It has more than 50 shops and a variety of shops that sell various goods such as food, clothes, perfumes, cloaks, and jewellery.

Location: Old Ras Al Khaimah

# Mairid Fish and Vegetable Market\*\*

This fish and vegetable market is open in the evenings. Freshly caught seafood can be bargained for and, once purchased, cleaned in the back area for a small additional fee.

Location: Al Mairid, near Hilton Beach Club, Corniche Road

Phone: 07 233 7705

#### Masafi Market

This outdoor market located outside of the city has all kinds of offerings, including furniture, fresh juice, wooden art, and all kinds of carpets. Visiting Masafi market, also known as Friday Market, is a good weekend activity.

Location: Al Dhaid Masafi road, close to the Emirati-Omani border near Fujairah, roughly an hour drive from Ras Al Khaimah City.

# Morning Fish Market\*\*

The morning fish market is located in old Ras Al Khaimah. Be sure to arrive early for the freshest crabs, shrimp, and fish

Location: Old Ras Al Khaimah, near the Lantern roundabout

# Ras Al Khaimah Fruit and Vegetable Market

If you need to buy large quantities of fruit and vegetables, consider visiting this market.

Location: Under the Bridge Road, Rose Cottage, Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Road, Al Dhait, opposite Al Naeem City Center

Phone: 07 235 0056

### - CHOCOLATE -----

Gifts are very popular in the emirate. If you find yourself going to a last minute event, it might be appropriate to bring chocolate or flowers.

#### Chocolala\*\*



In addition to friendly service, this chocolate shop sells high-quality chocolates at reasonable prices. They can also do custom boxes for large orders.

Location: Al Musheer Bldg.,

Corniche Road

Phone: 07 236 1330

#### **Fuala Chocolates**



Location: Corniche Road

Phone: 07 233 6644

#### **Patchi Chocolates**

Patchi is a luxury, high-end chocolate chain that originated in Lebanon.

Locations: Manar Mall and Al Hamra

Mall

Phone: 07 228 3111 and 07 243

4338

www.patchi.com

# — FLOWERS ——

Looking to get something special for someone special? Some of these flower shops will deliver.

#### **Gardenia Flowers**

Location: Al Mamourah Street

Phone: 07 228 7202

#### **Insta Flower**

Location: Sheikh Mohamed bin

Salem Road

Phone: 07 236 1161

# Lotus Flower\*\*

Location: Al Dhait, opposite to

Kentucky Fried Chicken Phone: 07 235 3673

www.lotusflowersrak.com

# Rose Cottage\*\*

Location: Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed

Road

Phone: 07 235 0056

# ENTERTAINMENT/ LEISURE

There is no shortage of things to do on the weekend in Ras Al Khaimah. In addition to shopping at some of the major malls, residents and visitors can go sailing, grab a movie, picnic in the desert, visit Ice Land Water Park, and much more.

Ras Al Khaimah's major annual events include the Fine Arts Festival, and the annual RAK Half Marathon, which are not listed below.

# — HISTORY & CULTURE

#### Awafi Area



Many tourists visit Awafi during school vacations in the winter. Camping in the desert is a great opportunity to play football or volleyball in the sand or go quadbiking. Alternatively you can simply sit under the stars and enjoy a barbecue with friends. There is also a special annual Awafi Festival, typically in December and January.

Location: Almost opposite to Saqr Park, Al Digdaga

#### Camel Races\*\*

The racing season starts in October and ends by March, with races taking place on Fridays and Saturdays, from as early as 6:00 until around 9:30 in the morning, when the temperature is still low and pleasant. On any other day you can see camels training and warming up. Join in the fun with some locals and their quad-bikes early on Friday mornings. If you want to ride a camel, you can take part in an organized desert safari.

Location: Head towards Ras Al Khaimah Airport and turn right by the egg farm signs, after Awafi

# Desert Safari with Travco Travel L.L.C.

If you prefer not to wander into the desert alone, you can always book a tour.

Phone: 055 334 1526

Location: Travco Travel L.L.C.

# Falcon Show\*\*

Falconry is a traditional part of Emirati culture. Call in advance to find out when shows are taking place.

Location: Al Wadi Desert

Phone: 07 206 7777

# National Museum of Ras Al Khaimah\*\*

The National Museum, although not large, provides an interesting look into life in Ras Al Khaimah in the past. The museum is housed in a former fort and royal residence. \The museum has a nice collection of archaeological treasures, jewelry, weapons, costumes, and seashells.

Location: Old Ras Al Khaimah

Phone: 07 233 3411

#### The Desert\*\*

The desert is a great spot for camping, barbecues, fires, dancing, dog walking, and general merriment. Just make sure the camels don't smell your breakfast.

Location: No need to go far or deep, just turn off the 311 or even the 611 providing you're in a 4x4.

# --- PARKS & ACTIVITIES -

# Absolute Adventure- Jebel Jais Via Ferrata Zipline

Professional instructors will guide you along our spectacular route. Enjoy 3 thrilling zip lines as you traverse more than 1km along the mountain route. With morning and afternoon start times available.

Location: Jebel Jais

www.jebeljais.ae/via-ferrata/

#### Al Hamra Marina & Yacht Club

If you're interested in boating, give the Yacht Club a call.

Address: Al Hamra Village

Phone: 07 243 2274

# Al Jazeera Flying Club\*\*

With advanced booking, Al Jazeera offers 2-seater plane rides for breathtaking views of Ras Al Khaimah. They also offer flying lessons approved by the General Civil Aviation Authority of UAE.

Location: Al Jazeera Al Hamra

Phone: 07 244 6416

#### Al Wadi Equestrian Adventure Centre

Offers horseback and camel riding as well as activities such as archery to people of all levels and abilities.

Location: Al Wadi Desert

Phone: 07 243 5422

### **Archery**

A fun afternoon activity. Call in advance.

Address: Al Wadi Desert

Phone: 07 206 7777

# **Bike Riding**

Feel like going for a bike ride but don't own one? Rent one on the Corniche.

Location: Corniche Road

# **Challenging Adventure**



Offers a wide variety of professional outdoor adventure activities and camping for the entire famaliy at Jebel Jais. Activites include, but are not limited to, wilderness survival skills, archery, and abseiling.

Location: Jebel Jais Mountain

Phone: 600 59 9905

#### Dibba\*\*

The Dibba region has one of the best sunrise and sunset views in the UAE. Swim, barbecue, and watch the fishermen haul in their huge catch each evening. Use the beach hotel nearby for a bathroom break.

Location: Drive through the Hajar Mountains for beach camping in Dibba. It is a 45-minute drive with clear signs posted. Take your passport.

# **Fun City**

This indoor children's amusement center provides video games, train rides, animal rides, and gaming.

Location: Manar Mall Phone: 07 227 0000

#### Ice Land Water Park\*\*



For adventure seekers, Ice Land Waterpark is a great place to enjoy thrilling water rides in the UAE heat. It also offers ladies-only nights, and it is especially nice to go there in September and October.

Location: Before Al Hamra Village and after Mina Al Arab, easy to spot due to the large artificial snowcapped mountain

Phone: 07 244 7547

www.icelandwaterpark.com

# **Jungle Bungle**

Jungle Bungle has rides, play areas, video games, bumper boats, a train, and puppet shows. It's best for younger children.

Location: Al Naeem City Center

Phone: 07 244 6533

#### **RAK Track**



Looking for that intense desire for competitiveness and rivalry? This is your chance to bring your friends along with you to settle things on RAK Track's Go Kart circuit!

Location: Sheikh Muhammad bin Salem Road, opposite Ice Land Water Park.

Phone: 07 222 2128

## Ras Al Khaimah Sailing Association (RAKSA)

We recommend requesting access to the Facebook group www.facebook. com/groups/raksa.sailing/

Location: RAKSA is close to the

Hilton Beach Resort

Phone: 07 223 7376 or raksa.sailing@gmail.com

#### Ras Al Khaimah Water Ski Club

Location: Corniche Road

Phone: 07 236 4444

#### WATER SPORTS ——

Water sports are popular in the emirate. Consider comparing prices and options.

#### **Freedom Catamaran Sailing Yacht**

Kayaking, jet ski rental, sailing, and parachutes at International Water Sports Club. Call in advance to book.

Location: Al Qawasim Corniche Road

Phone: 050 735 4096

### - CINEMAS —

For a taste of Emirati filmmaking talent, be sure to attend the Ras Al Khaimah Fine Arts Festival held each February. For regular films throughout the year, there are a number of local cinema options.

#### **Cinemax Cinemas**

Location: Al Naeem Mall

Phone: 07 244 0222

#### **Gulf Cinema**

This cinema tends to play a number of Bollywood movies.

Location: Al Nakheel, Sheikh Saqr

bin Mohammed Road

Phone: 07 222 3313

#### **Novo Cinemas**

Renovated in 2014, this cinema typically plays a mix of Hollywood, Bollywood, and Arabic movies.

Location: Manar Mall Phone: 07 227 0000

#### **VOX Cinemas**

Opened in 2013, VOX cinema typically plays Hollywood, Bollywood, and Arabic blockbuster movies. For an extra fee, viewers can sit in "VIP" seats.

Location: Al Hamra Mall uae.voxcinemas.com

#### FITNESS —

Bodybuilding gyms for men are popular in Ras Al Khaimah. There are also a number of other fitness gyms and resort memberships to pick from if you're not interested in bodybuilding. It's worth noting that sometimes gyms are separated by gender, although this is typically not the case at hotels and resorts.

## **Al Qwaa Body Building**

Location: Near E11 (Ras Al Khaimah's main road), behind Kentucky Fried Chicken

Phone: 07 235 2678

#### Al Reem Fitness Center

Location: Office #104 Muhammad Abdul Karim Bldg., near Sheikh

Zayed Mosque

Phone: 07 236 4229

#### **Alekhlas Ladies Fitness**

Location: Concord Bldg., Al Nakheel, behind Dubai Islamic Bank

Phone: 07 228 8337

#### **Barrej Health Club**

A gym for hardcore bodybuilders.

Location: 7 Al Bagidady Street,

Khuzam Road

Phone: 07 236 3000

### Cove Rotana Resort Gym\*\*

Memberships at the Cove Rotana gym are competitively priced and include access to the gym, sauna, pools, and beach. The gym is clean, and you rarely have to wait to access equipment. The Cove is an exceptional place to spend a weekend, and the view is especially breathtaking.

Location: E11 (Ras Al Khaimah's

main road)

Phone: 07 206 6000

#### Fitness 360

Ladies-only gym franchise with state of the art equipment.

Location: Al Qawasem Corniche

Corniche

Phone: 07 233 6484

#### **Fitness First**

Location: Julphar Towers

Phone: 07 226 3020

#### **Fitness Time**

A men's only facility with state of the art equipment, including a swimming pool.

Location: Al Naeem Mall

Phone: 07 226 7829

## Gold's Gym



Part of an international chain, this gym is popular among locals and expatriates.

Location: Mina Al Arab, Al Jazeera Al

Hamra

Phone: 07 243 3533

### Hilton Ras Al Khaimah Resort Gym

Location: Al Maareedh Street

Phone: 07 228 8844

#### Nefertiti Ladies Fitness Club\*\*

A favorite ladies-only gym in Ras Al Khaimah for all women looking to stay fit. It offers an array of group classes ranging from Zumba to circuit training, along with personalized gym training in a fun, supportive environment. Be warned, though, you do get called if you miss your training!

Location: Gulf Tower, near RAK Mall,

Chocolala Building

Phone number: 07 233 9740

### Swiss Fit 'n' Slim

Ladies-only gym.

Location: Corniche Al Qawasem,

near Boat roundabout

Phone: 07 233 6484

## **HEALTH CARE**

#### — HOSPITALS & CLINICS —

There are a variety of hospitals and clinics in Ras Al Khaimah that cover a broad spectrum of treatments from health-realted symptoms to beauty treatments.

#### Al Zahrawi Hospital

This is a good spot to go if you don't have insurance and are on a budget. Al Zahrawi is known for its free vaccines for children.

Location: Al Rams Road

Phone: 07 228 8544 or 07 228 8141

www.alzahrawihospital.com

### Dr. Ahlam Kareem Jassim, Gynecology & Obstetric Clinic

Location: Oman Road, opposite Ibn Al Betar Medical Centre, Salmin Bldg., Immigration Road, Al Mamourah, near Mary's roundabout

Phone: 07 227 7666

### Kaya Skin Clinic

This clinic offers laser hair removal, Botox, dermatology, and more.

Location: Khuzam Road, Street 12A,

Villa 13

Phone: 07 236 3708 www.kayaskinclinic.me

### Ras Al Khaimah Hospital\*\*



If you have decent insurance and need to visit a doctor in Ras Al Khaimah, RAK Hospital is a good choice. The hospital has doctors from all over the world and markets itself as a medical tourism destination.

Location: Al Juwais, near Lantern

roundabout

Phone: 07 207 4444 www.rakhospital.com

## Saif bin Ghubash Hospital

Location: Al Uraibi Street, Al

Nakheel

Phone: 07 222 3555

## **Saqr Hospital**

Sagr is the main public hospital serving the emirate. You will need to show your insurance card here.

Location: Oman Road, next to RAK Hospital, near Lantern roundabout

Phone: 07 222 3666

#### **Shaam Hospital**

Shaam is another public hospital. If you find yourself near the border of Oman and need a doctor, this would be the place to go.

Location: General Street, near

Cement Company

Phone: 07 266 6465

## Sheikh Khalifa Specialty **Hospital**

Location: Al Shohadaa road

Phone: 07 244 4444

## **Thumbay Clinic RAK**

Location: Near the DoubleTree Hilton Hotel, Al Nakheel Road

Phone: 07 226 7464

#### **VLCC Slimming Beauty Fitness**



Location: Emirates Bank Building, Al

Nakheel Road

Phone: 07 226 0656

#### – DENTISTS –

#### Al Huda Medical Centre

Location: NS Tower 1501, Corniche

Road

Phone: 07 226 0240

#### Al Shehab Dental Surgery & Orthodontic Centre

Location: Sheikh Abdul Aziz Bldg., Al

Nakheel

Phone: 07 222 1606

#### Azhar Dental Clinic

Phone: 07 233 4446

### **Balsam Clinic, Dr. Sumit Gupta**

Location: Oman Road Phone: 07 222 6111

### **Bright Dental Clinic**

Location: Near Lulu Centre

Phone: 07 228 2228

#### RAK Hospital Dental Clinic\*\*

Location: Al Juwais, near Lantern

roundabout

Phone: 07 207 4444 www.rakhospital.com

#### Riyad Diab Al Amassi

Location: Oman Road, near Al

Nakheel Pharmacv

Phone: 07 222 8328

#### Smile Care Dental Clinic\*\*

Location: Al Jazah Road, Behind RAK

Insurance

Phone: 07 228 2080

## \_ OPTICIANS & OPTICAL \_ STORES

#### **Al Jaber Optical Centre**

Location: Manar Mall Phone: 07 227 6761

## Al Khaleej Optical

Location: Oman Road Phone: 07 222 2145

## **Al Noor Optical**

Location: Al Nakheel, Ras Al Khaimah, near Pearl roundabout

Phone: 07 233 0010

### **Euro Optic**

Location: Conrniche Al Qawasim

Road

Phone: 07 233 4811

## EyeZone Sunglasses & Optical Store

Location: Al Naeem Mall

Phone: 07 233 9184

## **Julphar Optician**

Location: Ras Al Khaimah, near Pearl

roundabout

Phone: 07 233 1734

### **Magrabi Optical**

Location: Shop #24, Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 4064

www.magrabioptical.com

### **Samir Optical**

Location: Manar Mall Phone: 07 228 8891

#### **The Optical Store**

Location: RAK Mall Phone: 07 226 4545

### - PHARMACIFS ----

Many people get their prescriptions filled right at the hospital. However, if you're out and need to pick something up, small pharmacies are everywhere.

#### **Al Manar Pharmacy**

Location: Manar Mall, Al Muntasir Road, opposite Al Ansari Exchange

Phone: 07 227 4848

### **Bin Sina Pharmacy**

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 4488

#### **Boots**

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 227 4848

## **RAK Hospital Pharmacy**

Location: Khuzam Road Phone: 07 207 4245

#### **Thumbay Pharmacy**

Location: Next to Golden Crown Restuarant, Al Jazah Road, This pharmacy oprates 24 a day.

Phone: 07 226 7190

#### **SERVICES**

#### WATER

Residents in this region tend to drink bottled water. If you don't live in an apartment complex with water delivery, you'll likely want to know who to call when yours runs out. Large water bottles are typically returned and reused, with discounts given on refills.

### Awafi Water

Phone: 07 246 1222

www.awafiwater.com

#### Masafi Water

Location: Al Qusaidat, behind Old

Ras Al Khaimah Cinema

Phone: 07 228 6030

www.masafi.com

## — LAUNDRY & TAILORS —

#### Lena's Tailor Shop\*\*

A wide variety of clothing alterations

can be made here

Location: Opposite Kerala supermarket in Nakheel, behind

Gulf Cinema

Phone: 055 946 3964

## Modern Laundry\*\*

Modern Laundry has a number of branches throughout Ras Al Khaimah. Service is friendly and dependable.

Location: Khuzam Road, near Hot

Breads

Phone: 07 236 1468

#### Riza's Tailor Shop\*\*

Riza can help you alter, fix, or make copies of your clothes.

Location: Opposite Kerala supermarket in Nakheel, behind Gulf Cinema

Phone: 055 879 0987

#### — PHONE PROVIDERS -

To purchase a new SIM card, be sure to have a copy of your passport with your visa or residency permit. Du and Etisalat are the major phone providers. Etisalat also offers home internet called eLife that comes bundled with a landline number and a set top box. If you need a phone fixed or something similar, there are numerous small telephone shops throughout the city.

#### Du

Location: Manar Mall

Phone: 800 188

www.du.ae

#### **Etisalat**

Location: Directory Inquiry Services

Phone: 700 017 000 or 181 or 101

www.etisalat.ae

### **SWYP**

www.swyp.ae

## Virgin Mobile

www.virginmobile.ae

#### — HOUSE CLEANING

#### **Abu Sultan**

Location: Dafan Al Khor, near Lantern roundabout

Phone: 07 236 1813

## Home Service Cleaning and Maintenance Solution



Location: Al Hamra Free Zone Business Center 5, opposite the

Acacia Hotel

Phone: 07 244 4208

#### COURIER SERVICES —

Addresses in Ras Al Khaimah are a bit inexact, and you will likely find yourself describing your location many times over the course of your stay in the country. It will make your life easier if you learn the recognizable landmarks near your home and office quickly. Couriers such as Aramex and DHL will come to you and pick up your items for mailing from wherever you are.

#### **Aramex**

Aramex is the main local courier service and will find you anywhere in the emirate.

Location: Ras Al Khaimah's main road, opposite Ras Al Khaimah

Municipality

Phone: 07 228 2044 www.aramex.com

#### DHL

Phone: 07 227 7580

#### **Empost**

Main post office for all regular mail.

Location: Behind Ras Al Khaimah Central Post Office

Phone: 07 233 5190

www.empostuae.com

#### **UPS**

Location: GAC Building

Phone: 800 4774

www.ups.com

# TRAVEL & TRANSPORTATION

#### TAXIS ——

It's quite easy to catch taxis from major spots like malls. However, if you're in a less busy area and need a trip within Ras Al Khaimah, call a local taxi company. To book a taxi from anywhere in Ras Al Khaimah, simply dial 800 1700.

### - RENTAL CARS —

These are just two of many rental car companies operating in Ras Al Khaimah. Companies usually require a credit card for renting a car.

#### Al Yamama Rent-A-Car



Location: Al Muntasir Road, Al Nakheel, opposite Centrepoint

Phone: 07 227 8882

#### Hertz\*\*



Hertz offers daily, weekly, and monthly rentals.

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 4386

www.hertz.ae

## Thrifty\*\*

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 8911 www.thriftyuae.com

## BUS SERVICES ——

If you don't have a car or don't feel like driving to Dubai, don't worry because the bus can get you there. The front seats in the buses are reserved for women traveling alone. Try to grab an express bus as some buses make more stops than others (up to 3 hours from Dubai to Ras Al Khaimah).

If you need to go to Abu Dhabi, there are no direct buses and you'll have to transfer in Dubai or Sharjah. If you're going to Abu Dhabi, try your best to get off in Sharjah. The Sharjah bus goes around Dubai and bypasses Dubai traffic.

#### Al Hamra Bus Services

Location: Opposite Cove Rotana

Resort

Phone: 800 1700

#### Al Jazeera Bus Rental\*\*

We recommend asking to speak to Shakeer, who offers competitive rates, is friendly, and is extremely reliable. This company is recommended for longer trips out of the emirate (e.g., airport drop-offs and pick-ups).

Location: Al Nakheel Phone: 055 723 9009

#### — AIR TRAVEL –

The Ras Al Khaimah International Airport offers flights on Air Arabia to nearby destinations such as Muscat, Jeddah, and Islamabad. Air Arabia is the main airline operator at the Ras Al Khaimah International Airport.

#### Air Arabia

Location: Ras Al Khaimah International Airport

Phone: 06 508 8977 www.airarabia.com

#### **Emirates Airlines**

One of the world's top airline operators. Emirates operates mainly from Dubai's Terminal 3, which is a little over an hour's drive from from Ras Al Khaimah. Emirates has one office in Ras Al Khaimah on Sheikh Muhammed bin Salem Road.

Phone: 600 555555 www.emirates.com

## Ras Al Khaimah International Airport

Location: Digdaga Road Phone: 07 207 5200 www.rakairport.com

## --- TRAVEL AGENTS -

#### **Dnata**

Location: Sony Building, Al Nakheel, near Gulf Cinema

Phone: 07 228 1427 www.dnatatravel.com

## Ras Al Khaimah National Travel Agency (RANTA)\*\*

RANTA staff are professional, helpful, and familiar with the Al Qasimi Foundation. They are also responsive to email and phone calls.

Location: Al Nakhla Bldg., Oman Road, Al Nakheel, Behind LuLu

Center

Phone: 07 228 1536

#### — CARGO & SHIPPING —

If you are moving to or leaving Ras Al Khaimah, the below shipping companies can help with the easy and smooth transition you are looking for.

## Crown Relocation (Dubaibased)\*\*

They will come to Ras Al Khaimah to help you move.

Location: Dutco House, Itihad Road,

Dubai

Phone: 04 230 5300

#### **Global Relocation**

Location: Dubai Investment Park- 1

- United Arab Emirates

Phone: 050 455 4011

### Ruby Cargo\*\*

Location: Dafan, Al Nakheel

Phone: 07 222 9088 www.rubycargo.com

## **EDUCATION**

#### SCHOOLS -

There are a number of private schools with multiple curricula being offered and designed to meet the educational needs of expatriate children.

#### **GEMS Westminster School**

Part of the GEMS school chain, the Westminster School in Ras Al Khaimah offers IGCSE courses and A Level Examinations.

Location: Seih Al Uraibi Phone: 07 203 5999

## **Indian Public High School**

Follows the Indian CBSE curriculum.

Location: Al Nakheel, opposite Ras Al Khaimah American Academy For Girls

GIIIS

Phone: 07 222 3124

#### **Indian School Ras Al Khaimah**

Follows the Indian CBSE curriculum.

Location: Al Mamourah, Al Nakheel

Phone: 07 228 8346

## International School of Choueifat

Part of the school chain that originated in Choueifat, Lebanon, in 1886, this school follows a SABIS curriculum

Location: North Al Dhait Phone: 07 228 8346

#### Ras Al Khaimah Academy\*\*

Inaugurated in 1975, this coeducation K-12 school offers both IB and IGCSE curricula.

Location: Khuzam Road Phone: 07 236 2441

## Ras Al Khaimah American Academy for Girls

This school offers American and UAE curricula.

Location: Al Nakheel Phone: 07 221 1462

#### Scholars Indian School

Founded in 1999, the Scholars Indian School follows the Indian CBSE curriculum.

Location: Al Seer, Al Nakheel

Phone: 07 222 7600

#### The WellSpring School

Founded in 2015, the Scholars Indian School follows the Indian CBSE curriculum.

Location: Dafan Al Khor, opposite RAK Academy Primary Schools

Phone: 07 236 2446

#### UNIVERSITIES

Ras Al Khaimah has a number of international branch campuses and local higher education institutions.

## American University of Ras Al Khaimah



Location: Sheikh Sagr bin Khalid

Road

Phone: 07 221 0900

www.aurak.ac.ae

### **Birla Institute of Technology**

Location: Al Dhait Phone: 07 235 9322

bitrak.ae

## Ras Al Khaimah Medical & Health Sciences University

Location: Near Ras Al Khaimah

Hospital

Phone: 07 226 9000 www.rakmhsu.com

## Ras Al Khaimah Men's College

Location: Sultan Al Kabeer Road

Phone: 07 221 2999

www.hct.ac.ae/colleges/rkmc/

## Ras Al Khaimah Women's College

Location: Sultan Al Kabeer Road, near Ras Al Khaimah American

Academy for Girls

Phone: 07 202 6600

www.hct.ac.ae/colleges/rkwc/

## **University of Bolton**



Location: Al Hudaiba-Barairat, opposite Higher Colleges of

Technology

Phone: 07 221 1221

www.bolton.ac.uk/UAECampus/

Home.aspx

## **FINANCIAL SERVICES**

### BANKS

Ensure your bank is able and willing to provide you with the appropriate forms you will need during tax season before opening an account. If you are an American citizen, we recommend banking with a large international bank, such as HSBC due to changes in the United States tax reporting system.

#### Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank

Location: Sabah Street Phone: 07 205 1713

www.adcb.com

#### Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank

Location: Al Muntasir Road

Phone: 07 228 4448

www.adib.ae

#### **Al Hilal Bank**

Location: Al Muntasir Road

Phone: 800 666 666 www.alhilalbank.ae

## **Dubai Islamic Bank**

Location: Al Muntasir Road

Phone: 07 228 4888

www.dib.ae

#### **Emirates Islamic Bank**

Location: Oman Road Phone: 07 226 0044

www.emiratesislamicbank.ae

#### **Emirates NBD Bank**

Location: Near Al Muntasir Road and Al Mamourah Road, Al Khor

Road

Phone: 600 540 000 www.emiratesnbd.com

#### **HSBC Middle East Bank\*\***

HSBC will provide Americans with the necessary forms during tax season.

Location: Al Qawasim Corniche

Road

Phone: 600 554 722

www.hsbc.ae

### **Mashreq Bank**

Location: Al Muntasir Road

Phone: 07 228 4748

www.mashreqbank.com

#### **National Bank of Abu Dhabi**

Location: Al Nakheel Phone: 07 205 6800

www.nbad.com

#### **RAK Bank\*\***



Ras Al Khaimah has its own national bank, RAK Bank, where the government of Ras Al Khaimah holds a majority share. The bank provides retail and corporate banking services and has branches in major cities across the UAE.

Location: Head office, Oman Road

Phone: 07 228 1127 www.rakbank.com

#### **United Arab Bank**

Location: Al Muntasir Road

Phone: 07 228 8437

www.uab.ae

#### - CURRENCY FXCHANGE -

Because of the large number of expatriates living in Ras Al Khaimah, currency exchange centers are quite easy to find. Additionally, these exchanges may provide you much better rates for transferring money to your home country than a wire transfer directly from your bank. It's worth taking the time to check.

#### Al Ansari Exchange

Locations: Manar Mall and Al Hamra

Mall

Phone: 07 227 7332, 07 243 4242

#### **Lulu International Exchange**

Locations: RAK Mall and Al Khuzam

Mall

Phone: 07 227 7332 and 07 243 4242

### **UAE Exchange\*\***



This is a reliable and competitive place to exchange money and has over 700 branches across the UAE and internationally, as far as Australia.

Locations: Oman Road, Al Jazeera Al Hamra, and Al Naeem City Center

Phone: 07 227 1066

www.uaeexchange.com

# GOVERNMENT OFFICES & SERVICES

# EMBASSIES & CONSULATES

Please register with your embassy on arrival. You can generally do this on the embassy's website. They will update you regarding security issues and keep your information on file in case of an emergency.

## Abu Dhabi, Foreign Embassies and Consulates

www.uaeinteract.com/travel/embassies.asp

#### **Dubai, Foreign Consulates**

www.uaeinteract.com/travel/con\_dubai.asp

## \_ GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES

#### **Chamber of Commerce**

Location: Al Jaz'ah Road Phone: 07 207 0222 www.rakchamber.ae

## **Department of Customs**

Location: Electricity Road Phone: 07 233 3733

www.rakcustoms.rak.ae

## Department of Economic Development

Location: Al Jazah Road

Phone: 800 7333, 07 227 1444

www.ded.rak.ae

## **Environment Protection and Development Authority**

Location: Al Nahdah Street

Phone: 07 233 3371 www.epda.rak.ae

## General Authority of Islamic Affairs and Endowments

Location: Al Qawasim Corniche

Road

Phone: 07 233 2329 www.awqaf.gov.ae

### **Lands Department**

Location: Sidroh

Phone: 07 233 2610 www landrak com

## Ministry of Public Works (Federal)

Phone: 07 205 2999 www.mopw.gov.ae

## Public Works Department (Ras Al Khaimah)

Location: Khuzam Road, Al Turfah,

near Tower Links Golf Club

Phone: 07 228 5688

## Ras Al Khaimah Investment Authority

Location: Sidroh

Phone: 07 206 8666

www.rak-ia.com/en

### Ras Al Khaimah Municipality Department

Location: Sidroh

Phone: 07 233 2422

www.rakmunicipality.ae

## Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority

Location: Marjan Island

Phone: 07 233 8998

www.rasalkhaimahtourism.com

## Ras Al Khaimah Transport Authority

Location: Sheikh Mouhammad bin Salem Road, opposite to Cove

Rotana

Phone: 800 1700, 07 235 6567

rak.ae/en/web/ rakportal/visitors-taxi

#### UTILITIES -

The list below includes the major providers for gas, electricity, water, and internet in the emirate.

#### Al Barairat Gas

If you're living in a villa or apartment, you may need to contact the gas company when your stove starts to run low on gas.

Phone: 07 226 1316

#### Al Burairat

Location: Electricity (Federal Electricity & Water Authority)

Phone: 07 228 8444

#### **FEWA**

Location: Al Nakheel

Phone: 800 FEWA (3392)

www.fewa.gov.ae

## Utico Electricity Water Emergency

Phone: 050 270 0245

## **REAL ESTATE**

In contrast to many other places, renting a place in Ras Al Khaimah typically requires a year's rent to be paid up front.

#### Alif Holding, L.L.C.

Location: Office #2105, Julphar

Towers

Phone: 07 233 8337 or

056 696 1070

#### **Horizon Real Estate Services\*\***

Location: Ittihad Road, Amenity Center, Tower 2, Office 4F-3

Phone: 050 487 4600

#### **Hunt & Harris Real Estate**

Location: Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 4005

## Rainbow International Management\*\*

Location: Ras Al Khaimah

Phone: 07 236 5833 or

052 842 0188

#### **Ras Al Khaimah Properties**

This company can help you rent or buy a home.

Location: Corniche Road

Phone: 07 228 4777

www.rakproperties.net/en/

### **Sultan Property**

Location: Office #8, Al Hamra Village, Golf Building GH

Phone: 07 244 7672 or 050 392

6402

www.sultan-propertyre.com

## **PLACES OF WORSHIP**

The below are a few of the many religious centers actively running in Ras Al Khaimah.

#### Jesus the Savior (JTS)

Services are held every Friday. Jesus the Savior services are Full Gospel and welcoming.

Denomination: Full Gospel

Location: Saint Luke's Church; the church complex is just beside the

Guardian Glass Factory

Phone: 050 430 5120

stlukesrak.org

## Mohammed bin Rashed Mosque

Location: Kuwaiti Street

## Ras Al Khaimah Evangelical Church

Worship services take place on every Friday at 10:30 A.M.

Denomination: Evangelical

Location: Al Hamra Convention

Center

Email: admin@rakchurch.com

www.rakchurch.com

#### **Sheikh Zayed Masjid**

This is likely the most prominent mosque in Ras Al Khaimah.

Location: Corniche Road

#### St. Anthony of Padua Church

This church opened in 2013 and offers services in Tagalog, English, and Malayalam.

Denomination: Catholic

Location: RAKIA Free Trade Zone

Phone: 07 222 2377

# VETERINARIANS & PET SUPPLIES

Most of the big supermarkets in Ras AI Khaimah sell dry and wet food for dogs and cats. If you're looking to adopt, the RAK Animal Welfare Center has a well-respected cat and dog adoption center.

## **Al Siwan Veterinary**

Location: Digdaga Phone: 07 246 3038

### **Medical Veterinary Clinic**

Location: Al Dhait, Ras Al Khaimah, near Kentucky Fried Chicken

Phone: 07 246 3038

#### **Pets Oasis**

Location: Near Al Hamra Mall, opposite Majan Printing, free standing purple building

Phone: 050 716 8410

#### **RAK Animal Welfare Center\*\***



This center has a veterinary clinic, boarding facility, and an adoption agency.

Location: Al Hamra, near aviation

club

Phone: 050 487 3922

www.rakawc.com

## The Village Vet\*\*

Location: Behind Al Hamra Mall

Phone: 07 243 8080

## **OWNING A CAR**

If you're looking to buy a brand new car, there are many car dealerships in Ras Al Khaimah. You'll need to show proof of your salary and have a no objection letter from your company. There are also quite a number of used cars on sale at any given time on Dubizzle.com (watch out for scams, though). Once you've gotten a car, you'll likely need to refer to the information below.

#### Salik



If you plan on driving in Dubai, be sure to purchase a Salik tag for your car from any gas station. Salik is similar to a toll pass in other countries. If you do not have a Salik pass on your car, you will be fined after passing through a gate.

Phone: 800-SALIK (72545)

www.salik.ae

## **Shamil Car Registering**

Once you have purchased a car, you'll have to register it at Shamil Car Registering. Cars must pass an inspection, be insured, and have all the proper documentation.

Location: Sheikh Abdullah bin Mohamed Al Qasimi Road, near

Sagr Hospital

Phone: 07 221 0901

## Traffic & Licensing Department ("Muroor" in Arabic)



This is where you go to get your driver's license. Depending on your home country's driver's license, you may be able to pay a set fee here to have your license converted into an Emirati one. Otherwise, you will likely have to take the formal test. If this is your first time driving, you will need to sign up for classes. Driving academies are available across the emirate.

Location: Sheikh Muhammad bin

Salem Road / E11

### **INSURANCE**

There are numerous car insurers in Ras Al Khaimah. We recommend Oman Insurance.

#### Oman Insurance\*\*



Location: Sheikh Salim Al Khatery Building, M2 & M3 (98-99), Al Jisr

Road, near the bridge

Phone: 800 4746 www.tameen.ae

#### **RAK Insurance**



Location: Al Jazah Road

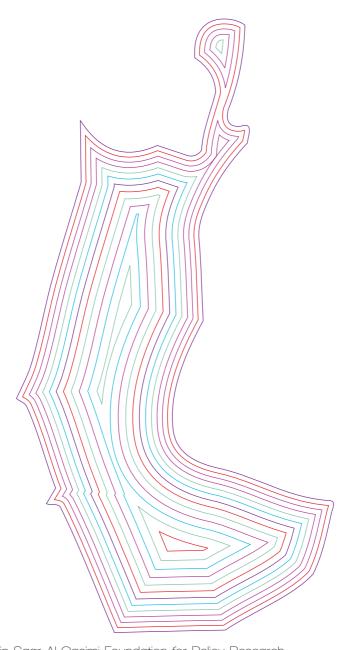
Phone: 800 7254

www.rakinsurance.com

## HELPFUL LOCAL PHRASES

| Greetings                       |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Hello, welcome.                 | Ahlan, marhaba.  |
| Hi.                             | Salam.   |
| Good morning.                   | Sabah al khayr.  |
| Response to good morning        | Sabah an noor.   |
| Good afternoon/evening.         | Masaa al khayr.  |
| Good night.                     | Tesbah ala khayr (male)/Tesbahi ala khayr (female).            |
| Good bye.                       | Ma'a salama.   |
| How are you?                    | Kayf halak? (male)/Kayf halik? (female)                        |
| I'm fine, and you?              | Ana bekhayr, wa enta? (male)/Ana bekhayr,<br>wa enti? (female) |
| Thank you (very much).          | Shukran (jazeelan).  |
| You're welcome.                 | Afwan.   |
| I missed you so much.           | Eshta'at elak (male)/elik (female) kateer.                     |
| ———— Personal Information ————— |  |
| Do you speak (English/Arabic)?  | Betitkalam (Engleezy/Arabiy)?                                  |
| Just a little.                  | Shwaya.  |
| Yes, very well.                 | Na'am, wayed.  |
| What's your name?               | Shu ismak? (male)/Shu ismik? (female)                          |
| My name is                      | Ismee  |
| Where are you from?             | Min wayn inta? (male)/inti? (female)                           |
| I'm from (the U.S/England).     | Ana min (Amreeka/Breetania).                                   |
| Where do you live?              | Wayn tiskun? (male)/tiskuni? (female)                          |
| I live in                       | Askun fi   |
| What do you do? (as a job)      | Shu tishtaghl? (male)/tishtaghli? (fem.)                       |
| I work as (a teacher).          | Ashtaghl (mudaaris/mudaarisa).                                 |
| How old are you?                | Kam 'omrak? (male)/'omrik? (female)                            |
|                                 |  |

| Can I help you? (Literally, "Welcome?")    | Tafadhal?                                 |
|--|---|
| Can you help me? (Literally, "Excuse me.") | Law samaht?                               |
| Is John here?                              | John mawjood?                             |
| One moment, please.                        | Sabbr shway./Lahdha shway.                |
| How much?                                  | Kam?                                      |
| Come with me. (Literally, "Welcome.")      | Tafadhal.                                 |
| ———— Expressions & Other Phrases —————     |   |
| Good/so-so                                 | Jayed/'adee                               |
| Big/small                                  | Kabeer/sagheer                            |
| Today/now                                  | Al yawm/al aan                            |
| Tomorrow/yesterday                         | Ghadan/umbareh                            |
| Yes/no                                     | Na'am/laa                                 |
| Of course                                  | Tab'an                                    |
| No problem                                 | Maafi mushkila                            |
| What? Where? How?                          | Shu? Wayn? Kayf?                          |
| Me/You/Him/Her                             | Ana/anta (male), anti (female)/huwa/hiya  |
| What is the time?                          | Kam assa'a?                               |
| I'm (Muslim/Christian).                    | Ana (muslim/maseehi, muslima/maseehi-ya). |
| Not yet                                    | Lissa                                     |
| Give me                                    | A'tenee                                   |
| Congratulations.                           | Mabrook.                                  |



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