

# TDEYESSEE

Louvre Abu Dhabi  
History in the Making

UAE National Day  
Celebrating 41 Years

شركة التطوير والاستثمار السياحي

TDC

Issue 14



# Message from our Managing Director

Welcome to a new issue of TDEYESEE and the start of an exciting year ahead.

I am proud of the achievements that were witnessed over the course of 2012. We saw Saadiyat spring to life as the island's first residents made their way into their new homes with much enthusiasm. This started with people moving into The Residences at The St. Regis Saadiyat Island Resort, while we further expanded our residential offerings on the island by delivering more villas and apartments such as the Saadiyat Beach Villas and Saadiyat Beach Residences.

We announced new projects which will be adding great value to Saadiyat as well as Abu Dhabi's communities. On a residential front, we gave potential homeowners an exclusive opportunity to build their dream homes through the launch of Saadiyat Beach Golf Views situated in the heart of the island's championship golf course with limited land plots for sale. We introduced education into our portfolio as we partnered with Cranleigh School, a leading UK independent school founded in 1865, to open an elite campus. This school, along with New York University Abu Dhabi and a nursery, will open on Saadiyat in 2014. All these added together will offer the crucial education stages – from pre-school up to university level.

On a retail level, we unveiled the first-of-its-kind retail district on Saadiyat – our joint venture partnership with L Real Estate (LRE), a global real estate development and investment fund sponsored by LVMH specialising in creating luxury shopping destinations. This world-class retail destination, named 'The District', will feature indoor-outdoor shopping and dining venues situated in the heart of the Saadiyat Cultural District (*Look out for our next TDEYESEE issue which will feature a detailed report*).

These accomplishments have all added to Saadiyat rapidly transforming into a significant Abu Dhabi landmark as residents and tourists are making the most of the island's vibrant, cosmopolitan lifestyle and modern, integrated residential communities.

In Abu Dhabi city, we opened the Eastern Mangroves Hotel and Spa by Anantara, as well as Eastern Mangroves Residences, which attracted so much public interest from potential residents from the first days of launching. Farther west, newly opened conference centre and stables on Sir Bani Yas Island proved to be equally very popular among corporate as well as leisure guests.

Maintaining the momentum of our success, the start of 2013 kicked off with the awarding of construction of the Louvre Abu Dhabi which received a lot of public and media interest from around the world. Read all about the museum's latest developments in this issue's cover story.

We look forward to a great year ahead with more deliveries of our world-class projects and additional developments scheduled to be unveiled. I commend you all for great teamwork and diligent efforts that are clearly reflected into these wonderful achievements - all of which have added to the charm of Abu Dhabi.

Enjoy the issue!

**Mubarak Hamad Al Muhairi**  
Managing Director

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Insider

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# Louvre Abu Dhabi

## History in the Making

TDIC appoints contractor for Louvre Abu Dhabi museum and commences construction

TDIC kicked off the New Year with groundbreaking news about awarding the construction of the Louvre Abu Dhabi to Arabtec-led joint venture with Constructora San Jose SA and Oger Abu Dhabi LLC. This world-class museum, set to open in the Saadiyat Cultural District in 2015, has already celebrated completion of the infrastructure and construction is now underway.

The contract, valued at AED 2.4 billion, signifies a major milestone in the progress of the Louvre Abu Dhabi that has already launched a robust programme marking major achievements during the various upcoming stages of development.

“The announcement reflects Abu Dhabi’s commitment to deliver the iconic museums on Saadiyat as a major world cultural exchange platform. Furthermore, this step signifies a major milestone for our company and the progress of the Louvre Abu Dhabi. This is the first museum set to open in the Saadiyat Cultural District in 2015 and will mark significant progress in cross-cultural

dialogue through its universal themes and diverse exhibits,” stated HE Sheikh Sultan bin Tahnoon Al Nahyan, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Tourism & Culture Authority (TCA Abu Dhabi) and TDIC.

With a built up area of 64,000 square metres, Louvre Abu Dhabi is conceived as a complex of pavilions, plazas, alleyways and canals, evoking the image of a city floating on the sea.

Hovering over the complex will be a form inspired by traditional Arabic architecture: a vast, shallow dome – some 180 metres in diameter – perforated with interlaced patterns so that a magical, diffused light will filter through.

“The construction phase of the Louvre Abu Dhabi is an important milestone in the museum’s life as it celebrates the significant work that has been achieved in the development of the cultural programme of the Louvre Abu Dhabi and its art collection,” said Mubarak Hamad Al Muhairi, Director General of TCA Abu Dhabi and Managing Director of TDIC.

“This new landmark project will earn international appreciation for its distinctive design and collection with artworks of historical and sociological significance.”



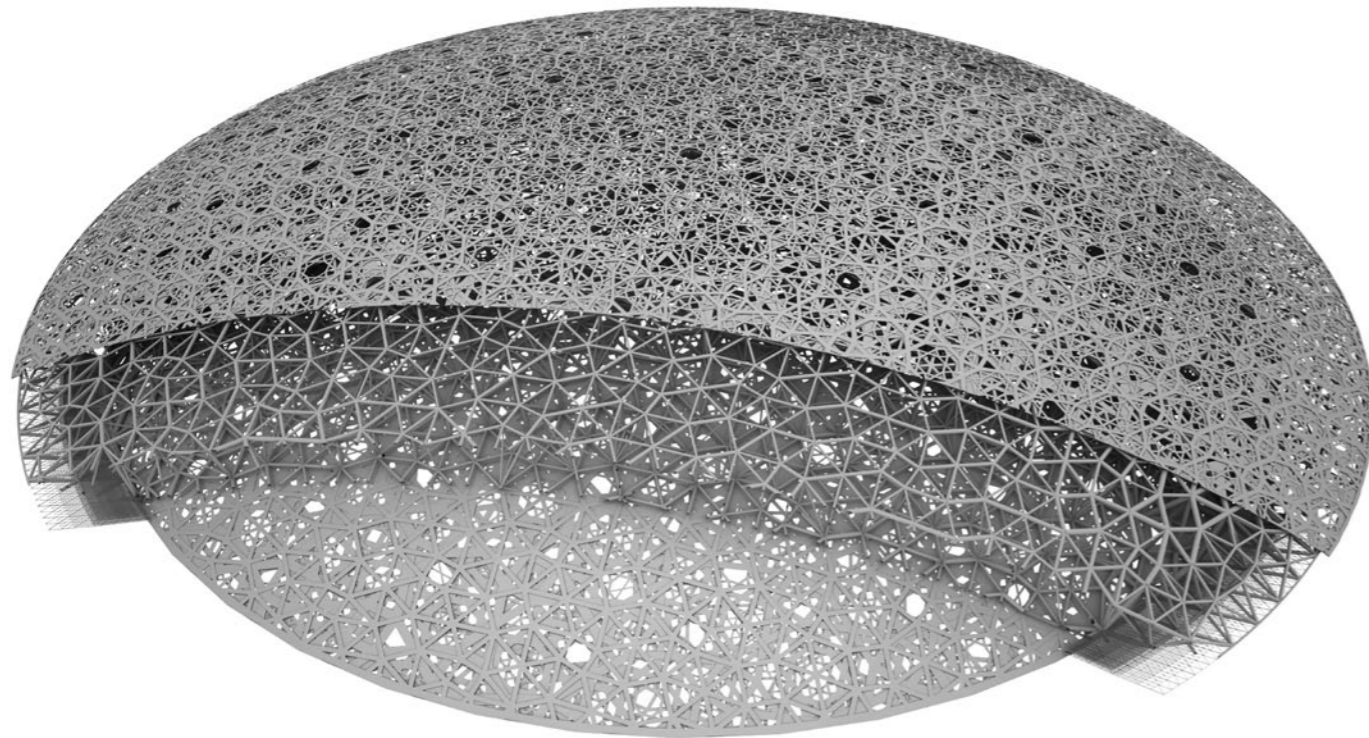
## Construction progress

The Louvre Abu Dhabi has so far achieved major developmental milestones with the finishing of the building's detailed design and the completion of the infrastructure, which encompassed marine, excavation, piling and substructure works.

A temporary platform in the sea, where the entire building will be constructed on, was built in 2009 to allow all works to take place in a dry environment.

Upon completion of the building, including the marine works, the 40-metre high concrete walls currently built in the sand will be removed to allow seawater to flow in gradually. More than 4,000 steel and reinforced concrete piles – a total volume of 21,000 cubic metres of concrete – were driven into the ground to serve as a base for the Louvre Abu Dhabi building.

Now that construction has commenced, the museum's concrete frame is to be completed by the first quarter of 2014. Work on the geometric lace dome, will be completed by the end of 2014 and result in an enchanting 'rain of light'. The final stage includes marine works and removal of temporary land platforms which will be completed in 2015 when this world-class building transforms into an island of its own.



## Museum culture

Designed by Pritzker-prize winning architect Jean Nouvel, the Louvre Abu Dhabi will encompass 9,200 square metres of art galleries. The 6,000-square-metre Permanent Gallery will house the museum's permanent collection taking the visitor through a universal journey from the most ancient to contemporary through art works from different civilisations. The Temporary Gallery will be a dedicated space of 2,000 square meters presenting temporary exhibitions of international standards.

The Louvre Abu Dhabi will showcase the interrelationships among artistic

achievements from different cultures around the world - from the most immemorial to the very latest, across borders of technique and geography.

Louvre Abu Dhabi is developing its own permanent collection, which will be enriched by loans from 12 French museums including Musée du Louvre, Musée d'Orsay, Musée du Quai Branly, and Centre Pompidou. Louvre Abu Dhabi is being developed with the expertise of the Agence France-Muséums and in partnership with the Musée du Louvre, renowned for its museological excellence since its foundation in 1793.

## Who's Arabtec?

Since 1975, Arabtec Holding PJSC has completed a number of iconic projects within the residential and commercial space. Projects include hotels, airports, higher education developments, residential buildings and distribution facilities, amongst others. The company, which is listed on the Dubai Financial Market, is also renowned for its expertise in industrial and infrastructure works including oil and gas, pipeline construction, power generation, marine works and general manufacturing facilities.

## Location, location, location

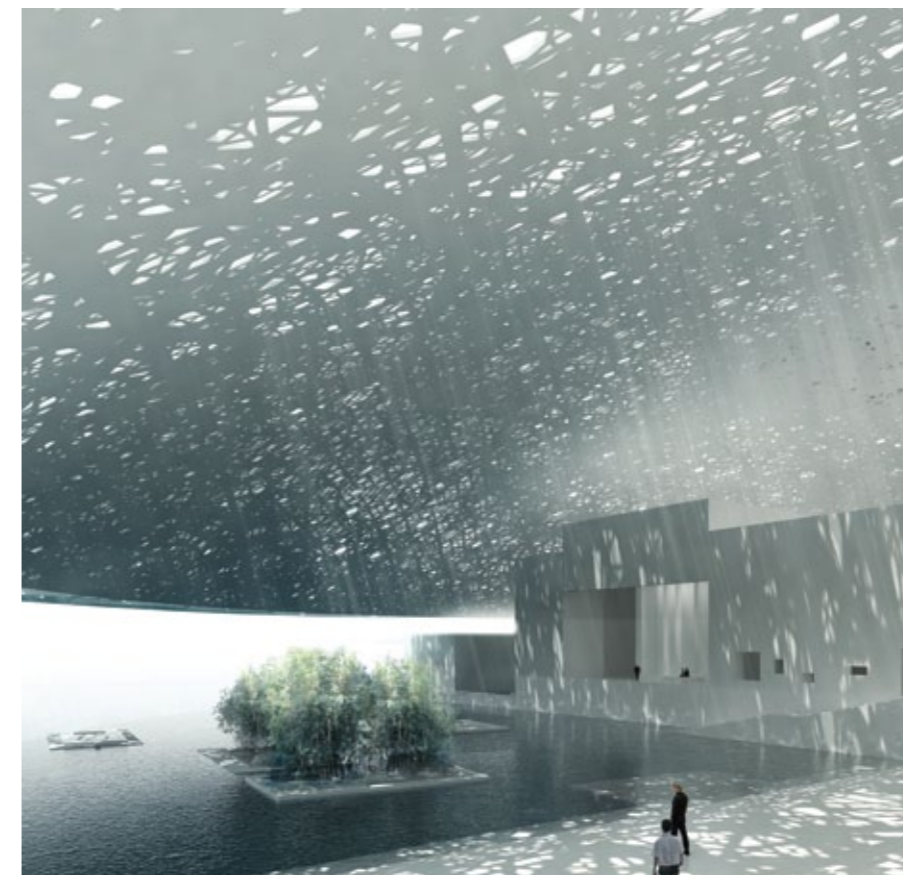
The Louvre Abu Dhabi will be one of the premier cultural institutions located in the heart of the Saadiyat Cultural District that are unprecedented in scale and scope. These feature Zayed National Museum, which will open in 2016, and Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, which opens in 2017 - both also designed by world-renowned Pritzker-prize winning architects. All this adds to the appeal of Saadiyat which exudes an exclusive lifestyle through the island's high-end residential, leisure, cultural and tourism facilities.



## Making of a museum city

The 'museum city' of Louvre Abu Dhabi will be housed in a building designed by Pritzker Prize winning architect Jean Nouvel. Ever aware of context, Nouvel's museum design was based on two key principles. The first key principle is the creation of the museum city as a metaphor of the traditional Arabic souk, with small shaded passages

where individual volumes become houses of artwork. The Second key principle is the protection of this museum city, where the pedestrian areas and the nested artworks are roofed by a large dome. The dome is considered an interpretation of the traditional key element of Islamic and Arabic architecture yet a modern proposition.



“ The architecture puts together sets of large rooms. The sum of these sets, punctuated by patios, thresholds, transparent spaces and tilt-ups, creates a piece of the city that's sheltered by the dome, shot through with rays of sunshine. What it makes you feel, here, in Abu Dhabi, is the permanence of ephemeral emotions flooding in from different horizons. ”

Jean Nouvel  
Louvre Abu Dhabi Architect

# Now, that's what we call show business!



HH Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum at the TDIC stand

## TDIC made great impact exhibiting its diverse residential portfolio at Cityscape Global 2012 in Dubai

TDIC showcased its diverse portfolio of high-end residential communities in Abu Dhabi at Cityscape Global 2012 which took place in Dubai on October 2-4, 2012. Visitors flocked to the TDIC stand to learn more about our projects such as those located on Saadiyat which is becoming an increasingly appealing hotspot for residents, visitors and tourists with its prestigious residences, cultural attractions, high-class sport and leisure venues, vibrant beach lifestyle, and world-renowned hospitality brands such as the St. Regis, Monte-Carlo Beach Club and Park Hyatt.

"We were really excited about our participation in Cityscape Global as we witnessed great interest from regional and international markets towards our diverse portfolio of residential products that appeal to a wide spectrum of the population – like some who may be

searching for a luxury home to buy or a sophisticated apartment to rent or lease-to-own," said Ahmed Al Fahim, Executive Director of Marketing, Communications, Sales and Leasing at TDIC. "We have witnessed a positive shift in the real estate market lately, while there has been great demand for our products which present excellent residential and investment opportunities due to their distinctive offerings, exclusive lifestyle and flexible financing schemes."

TDIC's exclusive projects encompass a wide range of residential offerings for sale, lease or lease-to-own which include luxury beach villas, elite townhouses, ultra-chic branded apartments and land plots situated on a prized beachfront golf course.

Much of TDIC's residential success is attributed to the unique and flexible investment opportunities that the company is offering the market with properties for sale, rent, or lease-to-own. Furthering demonstrating the company's attractive opportunities as well as the progress made in Abu Dhabi's real estate market, TDIC has partnered with several banks for mortgage financing including National Bank of Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi

Islamic Bank, Abu Dhabi Finance, Mashreq Bank and Standard Chartered Bank, at a rate starting from 4.5 percent. "Our aim is to support Abu Dhabi's growing real estate sector by strategically identifying the market's needs; therefore, each of the company's residential projects is positioned to appeal to a wide range of discerning homeowners and tenants," Al Fahim added.



# For a greener, brighter future

## Eco Future exhibition exposes great environmental insights at Manarat Al Saadiyat gallery

Eco Future Exhibition is an interactive and educational year-long exhibition which aims to educate younger generations on key factors for a sustainable future. The exhibition opened in September 2012 at Manarat Al Saadiyat with an entertaining evening which included hands-on craft-making workshops using recycled materials, interactive experiments to inspire the imagination, and live performances that brought to life ecological themes.

Organised by Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority, Eco Future promotes engagement with environmental and health issues with a learning experience that is interactive, educational and fun. The exhibition is divided into six sections, including drinking, eating, enjoying, moving, building and future city, all of which closely examine how changing climates and resource depletion could affect people's lives.



# Dream home on a real island

## TDIC offers limited land plots for sale on Saadiyat

TDIC has announced a limited number of 29 land plots for sale on the most prized location of Saadiyat island, giving potential homeowners an exclusive opportunity to build their dream home in this world-class destination.

The land plots, which make up the

Saadiyat Beach Golf Views, are situated in the heart of the Saadiyat Beach Golf Course. These are surrounded by Saadiyat's high-end residential community, in a tranquil, lush green environment that are walking distance from the azure Arabian Gulf waters - making this Abu Dhabi's most prestigious and elitist address for future residents.

The land plots vary in sizes, ranging between 2,100 square metres and 5,100 square metres, while pricing starts

from approximately AED 8 million. Buyers will have the freedom to design and build their villas according to their architectural wishes.

TDIC has set specific guidelines for potential homeowners to abide by, such as a three-year duration to complete the construction of the property from the initial date of purchase. Buyers have the option to choose their own architectural firms and interior designers, or assign TDIC to develop their properties.



# Living on the waterfront

## Eastern Mangroves Residences have been attracting high interest from Abu Dhabi's residential market

TDIC successfully leased more than 70 percent of the first phase of Eastern Mangroves Residences in less than a month of launching this luxury waterfront development in Abu Dhabi in September 2012. The residences are receiving increased interest from visitors who have experienced the property's luxury lifestyle through the fully furnished show apartment available for viewing.

Phase One of this luxurious Eastern Mangroves Residences consist of a limited number of 50 residences including 48 three-bedroom apartments and two four-bedroom penthouses, offering the exclusivity of resort-style living in the convenience of a prime city location - only 15 minutes from Abu Dhabi International Airport. Set across six low-rise buildings with only two apartments per floor, residents can enjoy high levels of privacy. TDIC has been offering a special launch period annual leasing price starting from AED 260,000.

These exclusive residences form part of the Eastern Mangroves complex which also features the 222-room five-star Eastern Mangroves Hotel & Spa by Anantara, opened in June 2012.

The second residential phase, named the Eastern Mangroves Promenade Apartments, and the Eastern Mangroves Promenade retail complex are both scheduled to open in the first quarter of 2013.

Residents can enjoy a number of private facilities, including a swimming pool area, gymnasium and extensive parking spaces. A number of numerous other privileges and benefits are offered through the Eastern Mangroves Hotel & Spa by Anantara, including the hotel's à la carte services and restaurant offerings, in-residence housekeeping, and special discounted rates on Anantara Spa treatments and products, laundry and dry cleaning, hotel limousine services, and bookings of any Anantara Hotels & Resorts in the Middle East. Residents also receive complimentary dinner and spa vouchers upon moving into the Eastern Mangroves Residences, as well as an additional 3-month free membership at the Lifestyle Membership Club upon booking a 12-month subscription. Special packages on cleaning, botanical, butler and room services are offered, as well as discounts for membership at the highly-exclusive Monte-Carlo Beach Club, Saadiyat.



## Coming soon

As part of the second residential phase, the Eastern Mangroves Promenade Apartments offer a selection of 170 sleek and spacious apartments set across two buildings and that are available in studios and, one-, two- and three bedrooms, as well as in one-, two- and three-bedroom penthouses. The apartments feature two swimming pools and two gymnasiums, as well as extensive car parking facilities with sizes ranging from 57sqm for studios to 170sqm for the three-bedroom. Phase Two is soon to be launched for leasing and the first tenants will be able to start moving in the first quarter of 2013. Residents of the apartments, as well as visitors, will also enjoy the convenience of having a vibrant retail complex right at their doorstep. The Promenade will feature an eclectic variety of outlets, including six restaurants to suit a range of tastes and price points, with a supermarket and ladies beauty salon. The Promenade features a souk-type avenue with its arch-fronted open colonnade providing a pedestrian zone specifically for the retail areas, where residents can enjoy jogging, biking and various social activities. The location of the retail area will also provide an inviting, enjoyable and open-air environment for customers and visitors who can benefit from extensive parking facilities including 370 parking spaces and a dedicated valet parking service.



## Sun, sand and seafood

Get your taste buds warmed up to Saadiyat's hot new restaurant

The St. Regis Saadiyat Island Resort recently unveiled its new seafood restaurant Turquoiz. This vibrant beach restaurant and lounge serves a selection of seafood, light meals and creative cocktails by the beach.

With a name inspired by the colour of Saadiyat's blue sea, the venue has an

indoor lounge as well as an outdoor sunset terrace totalling a capacity for around 300 people.

From 7pm every evening, DJ Masako entertains guests by spinning the coolest records, starting with serene lounge music at sunset and upping the tempo as the evening progresses.

Turquoiz opens daily from 12:00pm to 2:30am. For reservations, call +971 2 498 8008 or email [reservations.saadiyat@stregis.com](mailto:reservations.saadiyat@stregis.com)

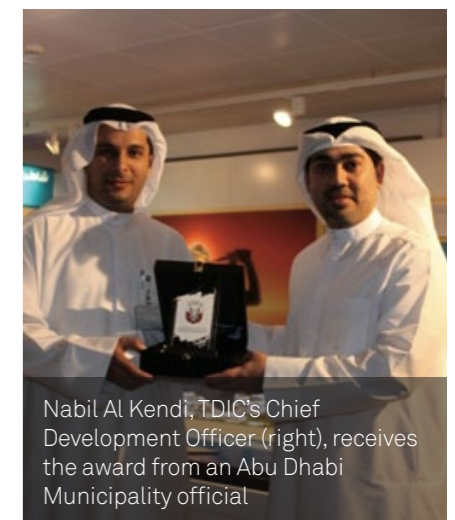


## Appreciation award

Abu Dhabi Municipality praises TDIC for Saadiyat Beach Villas health and safety record

TDIC has been awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by Municipality of Abu Dhabi City's Health and Safety Division for its remarkable

safety achievements demonstrated on Saadiyat and its dedication to best working practices. TDIC recently marked a record of 10 million working hours in the construction of Saadiyat Beach Villas with no injuries, a feat it had proudly achieved along with its partners. This luxury development, which enjoys a prime location on the island, recently witnessed its first phase of 264 villas near completion – and residents have already started moving in.



Nabil Al Kendi, TDIC's Chief Development Officer (right), receives the award from an Abu Dhabi Municipality official

# The game is on!

It's capture season on Sir Bani Yas and our dedicated Conservation Team is on a mission to relocate over 6,000 animals

The Conservation Team on Sir Bani Yas Island started their game capture season after long summer preparations. During the hot and humid summer months a limited amount of hands-on work can be done with the wildlife, since handling or capturing can harm or stress the animals in such weather conditions.

Now that the game capture season, which runs from September to May, is

on, the team has a very large job ahead. The animal populations on Sir Bani Yas are expanding and the numbers are becoming too great for the area. The sexes are therefore going to be separated into different areas and enclosures to slow down breeding. For this to be entirely successful, over 6,000 animals need to be relocated to various areas on the island.

Due to the large numbers that need to be moved, the team uses passive capture techniques to catch the animals. This usually involves animals being fed in a certain fenced area so they can become habituated to feeding on that particular location. This feed area will be part of a system of gates, passages and smaller rooms. The animals are then closed into the feed area and filtered through the passage system and divided

into males and females, and according to their species. Animals that are captured are checked for injuries and illnesses, or their level of fitness related to certain good husbandry practices such as hoof trimming of wild sheep and wild goat species.

This is a very large, time-consuming project which will take the team several years to complete fully. The end of 2012 witnessed the release of a number of Barbary Sheep (*Ammotragus lervia*), one more male giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis reticulata*) and some Urial Sheep (*Ovis orientalis*) into the Arabian Wildlife Park to add to the animal diversity. All this adds an enriching experience for visitors embarking on the nature and wildlife drives.

# Animal of the month

## Greater Rhea (*Rhea americana*)

There are several different species and subspecies of rhea which all originate from South America. The Greater Rhea is found specifically in central and eastern Brazil and lives in bush land habitat near to rivers. The rhea feeds on plants, leaves, roots, seeds, lizards, insects and some carrion. In the wild, they can sometimes live in flocks of up to 100 birds.

Sir Bani Yas currently has 34 rheas and two chicks. The chicks are born striped to aid their camouflage and make it easier for them to hide from predators. Rheas are polygamous with males breeding between two and twelve females. The male builds a nest in the form of a simple scrape in the ground and lines the bottom with grass or leaves. Each of the females lays her eggs in the same nest; the male then incubates all the eggs.

All the chicks in the nest will hatch within 36 hours of each other. The females

may mate with more than one male and therefore lay several clutches of eggs in different nests. The males are in charge of caring and protecting the young chicks and will charge at any predators that approach their chicks. The yellow and black striped chicks slowly grow feathers and reach full adult size at six months old. Rheas, however, do not breed until they reach two years old.



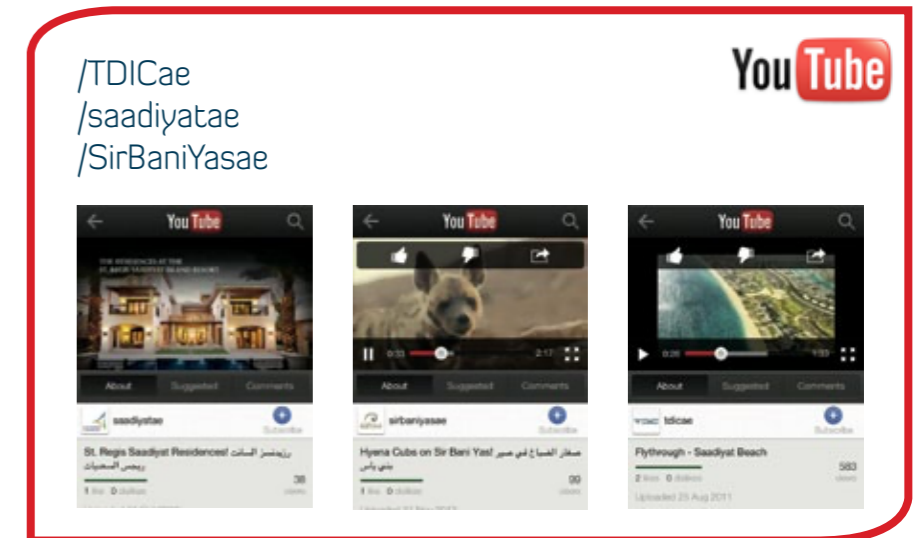
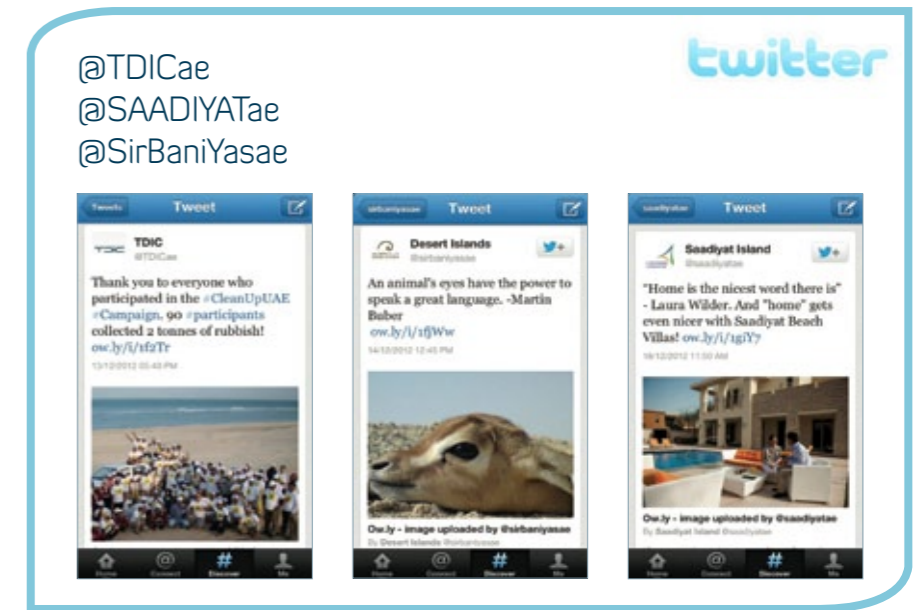
The numbers of Greater rhea in the wild are dwindling due to loss of habitat and so preservation efforts, such as on Sir Bani Yas, are highly important to save them from nearing extinction.



# How's the world tweetin' you?

TDIC launches more social media platforms

TDIC has expanded its social media presence by launching onto more platforms. We have always been aware of how this source of information has become increasingly influential in this fast-paced age of globalisation, and therefore have engaged with the public on various platforms over the years such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. We have widened our outreach in local and international markets by being present on the following social media platforms with dedicated accounts of our company and its developments: We encourage all of you to engage on our social media platforms and appreciate your support of our initiatives. Tweet, tweet and enjoy!



# A is for Achievement



Our staff volunteer for a second literacy mission to teach English to Saadiyat construction workers

After the success of our first English Literacy Programme for construction workers residing at Saadiyat Construction Village, TDIC launched a second course which it concluded with a graduation ceremony in January 2013. The English classes, which were taught by TDIC staff

volunteers, reflect our company's continued commitment to social responsibility through enhancing and supporting workers' wellbeing. All 30 students who had enrolled in this second English Literacy programme, which kicked off in November 2012, achieved success throughout the course and attended the graduation in the presence of TDIC's senior management and staff held at our headquarters.

"We are very proud with all the various activities running in the Saadiyat Construction Village, be it recreational or educational, and we are delighted

to be able to enhance the welfare and lifestyle of the construction workers. We are also very proud of our colleagues at TDIC for volunteering their personal time and efforts to this humbling experience," said Sultan Al Mahmoud, our Executive Director of Strategic Performance. Thanks to our staff who volunteered - Bishnu Kumar Ippili, Brendan Law, Caroline Louca, Lorraine Adkins, Louise McMillan, Shahid Khan and Stephen Hafer - now these fresh graduates, who started the course barely speaking any English, now have a better knowledge to communicate in English.

# What's a green building?

Dr Nathalie Staelens spreads a green message at environmental conference



Dr Nathalie Staelens, TDIC's head of environmental services, recently participated at the annual "Building Sustainability into the Middle East 2012" conference that took place at the Westin Abu Dhabi Golf Resort & Spa.

Nathalie addressed the audience on topics related to sound environmental practices implemented on Saadiyat island and emphasised TDIC's sustainable efforts enforced throughout the construction phases of our developments. She also showcased the sustainability designs of Louvre Abu Dhabi.

Best practice principles for sustainable communities and built environment designs are implemented utilising green building guidelines for developments throughout Saadiyat Island.

TDIC utilises the Estidama Pearl Rating System Guidelines, as well as international green building standards. Estidama is Abu Dhabi's building design

methodology for constructing and operating buildings and communities more sustainably.

The event gathered 150 sustainability professionals from regional design, architecture, engineering and construction firms. Speakers from Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council, Aldar Properties, Six Construct, Woods Bagot and Mott MacDonald had also attended the conference.

## Good green guidelines

Through the adoption of green building guidelines, water and energy consumption will be minimised; renewable energy and materials sources sought; waste disposal and pollution significantly reduced; longevity built into design of both interior and exterior environments; ecological protection and enhancement through development of green spaces emphasised; and sustainable transportation facilities and access provided.

# Well done, Sir!

Workers on Sir Bani Yas Island embrace English learning course

Our educational opportunities on Desert Islands are further enriching the lives of workers who are participating in various exercises that are broadening their horizons and career prospects.

Over the past three years, over 50 students have graduated through the Sir Bani Yas Education and Training Centre. They were guided by our Workplace English Literacy Learning (WELL) course in the use of the English language with focus on specific work-related topics.

The programme, which is currently engaging the fifth batch of students, is being taught voluntarily by a qualified British teacher living on Sir Bani Yas providing spoken and written communication courses twice a week.

There is also a plan to offer computer courses which aims to contribute to the efficiency of the teams particularly as foremen can now write weekly reports to their management. This has only been possible through the support of TDIC which dedicated 15 computers to the learning centre.

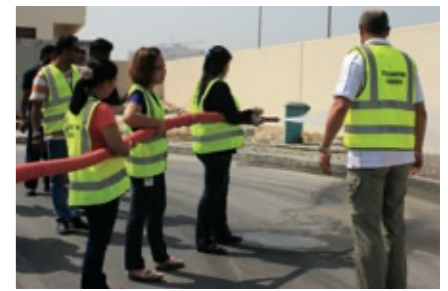


# In the line of fire

TDIC organised a second fire and evacuation training and graduated 10 wardens

TDIC recently organised a second Fire and Evacuation training, following the success of the first programme which had previously graduated 19 wardens for Sir Bani Yas Island. The one-day training, which took place at TDIC's headquarters and on Saadiyat, focussed on understanding the characteristics of fire and use of fire-fighting equipment. The 10 participants who passed the training were successfully designated as Fire and Evacuation Wardens.

"Our priority is to preserve lives. We are not fire fighters, but we train to lead you out to safety," says Wayne Taylor, Health and Safety Manager of TDIC's Operations team, who had presented to the group. The wardens also learned that using the wrong methods to combat fire can worsen situations. "Remove one element and a fire cannot start or sustain itself. That's why we have to deal with the source of the fire," said Taylor.



## Role of a fire warden

A fire warden's mission is to lead people to safety during fires. They become the point of contact with fire-fighters to inform them about the nature of the fire and if any people are in the building.

## What to do in case of a fire

- Do not block fire exits, call points or fire extinguishers.
- Adhere to the 'no smoking' policy.
- Don't store personal items close to hazardous spots such as under the table or near electrical sockets.
- Do not wedge fire doors open.
- Always place rubbish in waste bins.
- Make note of signage across TDIC to clarify evacuation points and the positions of fire wardens in the building.

# Clean-up act

Abu Dhabi residents, TDIC staff and contractors participate in a clean up on Saadiyat Beach

TDIC organised a clean-up initiative on Saadiyat Beach, which took place in December as part of the annual 'Clean Up UAE 2012' campaign organised by the Emirates Environment Group.

Scores of volunteers from the wider Abu Dhabi community took part in the event which occurred along the Saadiyat Beach dune protection zone, near the Monte-Carlo Beach Club, Saadiyat. This brought together Saadiyat residents and TDIC's staff and their families alongside Monte-Carlo Beach Club staff, conservationists, members of 1st Abu Dhabi Scout Group and TDIC's contractors - Al



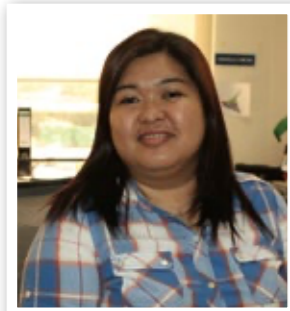
Futtaim Carillion, Proscap and Dhabi Contracting - who are involved in the construction of the island's world-class projects. The waste contracting company Veolia Environmental Services also took part by collecting the waste for recycling.

Meanwhile, TDIC also organised a clean-up initiative that took place on Sir Bani Yas Island. In total, nearly 200 people removed approximately 30 cubic metres of waste, amounting to around six tonnes, from over 10 kilometres of beaches and dunes on Saadiyat and Sir Bani Yas islands. Nearly all waste collected was marine debris that had washed up on the shorelines of the islands.



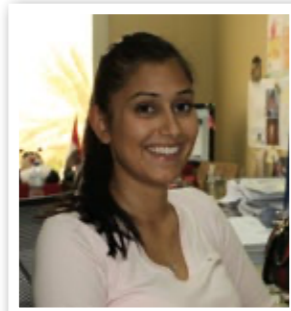
# What are your New Year's resolutions?

We went around asking our colleagues what they had in mind for 2013, and here's what they said...



**"I want to spend less time overworking and use my after hours to relax and stay with my family."**

Nathali Tonacao,  
Accounts Receivables  
Supervisor (Finance)



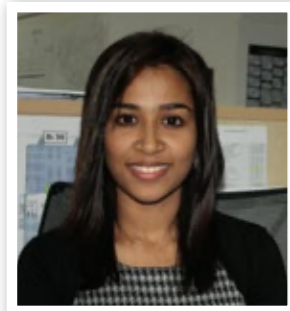
**"I want to make a conscious effort to focus on my photography."**

Sasha Mannini,  
Senior Administrator



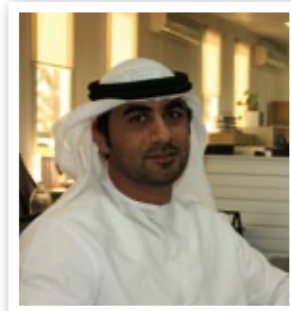
**"I want to develop myself and make more time with the family."**

Omar Al Mansouri,  
Customer Care Manager  
(Sales and Leasing)



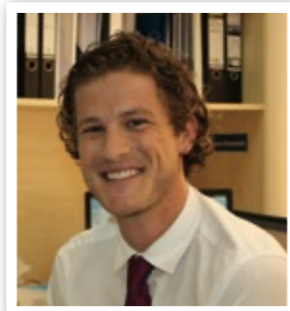
**"I want to spend more time on charity work, as I have been volunteering with Khalifa Medical city helping senior patients."**

Fahmida Shajahan,  
Administrator (F&B)



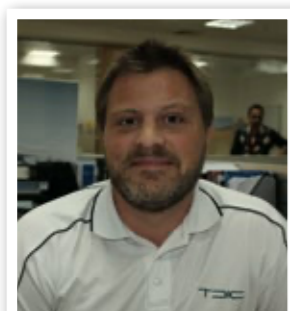
**"I want to finish my Master's degree and take a long vacation."**

Hasan Al Khanjari,  
Property Manager  
(Operations)



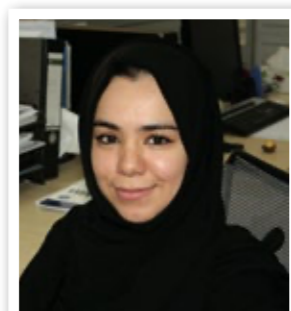
**"I want to run 2,013 kilometres, running 5.5 kilometres a day in preparations to run in the Dubai marathon."**

Andrew Staroske,  
Senior Owner's  
Representative (Delivery)



**"I want to achieve a Project Management Professional qualification, learn new Arabic phrases and start a family."**

Nick Reading,  
Training Officer (HR)



**"I want to focus on graduating from my Master's as an HR Specialist."**

Mariam Al Hosani,  
Learning & Development  
Officer (HR)



**"I want to lose weight, stop smoking and buy a new car."**

Mohamed Stouhi,  
Human Resources  
Coordinator (HR)

## Interview

# Samar Al Mansoori

Samar Al Mansoori is TDIC's Director of Procurement. After graduating from UAE University, Al Ain in 1999-2000 with a Bachelor of Management Information System, she got her first job at the Presidential Flight where she grew from being a buyer to a procurement manager. Meanwhile she was pursuing her MBA degree. Afterwards, she later joined Mubadala Development Company and was exposed to a wide array of investments.

**What do you like about TDIC?**  
TDIC is a small world, where different types of purchasing activities happen in the same company. For learning procurement or working for it, TDIC represents the best environment ever.

**Define procurement.**  
In simple terms, procurement is about acquiring goods and services for the best possible cost and at the best possible time to benefit the company. People don't usually differentiate between purchasing and procurement. Purchasing is a transaction within procurement activities, while procurement is the act of acquisition.

**What are your achievements at TDIC?**  
I received Middle East's Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply Award in the category of 'The Most

Improved Purchasing Operation – Step Change 2012' due to a big change that occurred in our department since 2010.

**Tell us about your personal achievements outside TDIC.**  
As a member of Abu Dhabi Sustainable Procurement Steering Committee, we are trying to create a sustainable procurement platform in Abu Dhabi through collaboration, the provision of guidance, training and advice through many initiatives. We launched the first and second quarterly meetings with our stakeholders which I believe is an achievement considering the short period of time since the inception of the committee in March 2012. On a personal level, I enjoy coaching young Emiratis on their career choices and career development. Also I have offered some sessions to school students on work-life skills.

**What activities do you like to do?**  
Exploring! I always like to keep myself up to date by being aware of what's going on around me, whether it's about business, technology or even personal development. I enjoy attending exhibitions, forums and conferences. Being a mother of three kids – and the fourth on the way – this can be a bit challenging.

**How is time management important to you?**  
It is indeed challenging to balance the different aspects of my life. There are four crucial elements: family, career, personal interest and social life. Family wise, I spend time with the kids visiting our family or doing some activities together – at least twice a week. Personal wise, I will be pursuing my Doctor of Business Administration degree beginning 2014. And last, I try my best to keep up with my social life.

**What's your secret for being a successful team leader?**  
I have the tendency to apply different skills, depending on the situation. I listen to others' ideas, respect their opinions and motivate my colleagues.



Samar Al Mansoori (centre) flanked by her Procurement team

# My side of the mountain

Stefan Hanekom recounts his expedition to Kilimanjaro, Africa's tallest mountain

Kilimanjaro is the highest summit in Africa and the tallest free standing mountain in the world. At 5,895 metres, it rises dramatically above the dusty East African plains with its impressive snow-capped summit. I was told Kilimanjaro means "difficult to conquer", and I agree.

You need to be physically and mentally prepared to climb Kilimanjaro and you certainly need determination and willpower. It was for these exact reasons that I made the conscious decision of taking up this challenge.

I reached Kilimanjaro Airport in Tanzania on an early mid-August morning as the tropical rainy season was coming to an end, and a fresh new adventure awaited me. The first night I stayed in the Sal Salinero Hotel which was in located in Moshi. I must have checked my gear more than ten times that evening

ensuring I had everything. The excitement was keeping me wide awake most of the night as I knew for the next six days, I will be challenged physically and mentally, and failure is not an option.

There were various routes to choose from to reach the summit. I chose the Machame Route, being the most popular and scenic route. It is also the second most difficult route to the summit, after the Umbwe Route. Here's a summary of my trip, covering an estimated distance travelled by foot of 100 kilometres to the summit and back.

## Join me this year...

I invite you to join me this year for another challenge, which may again include Kilimanjaro as well as a trip to South America to take on Aconcagua mountain, measuring a 1000 meters higher than Kilimanjaro, also one of the seven summits.



### Day 1

We were transported from the Sal Salinero Hotel to the Machame Gate (1828m) where we started the trek to Machame Camp (3020m). The jungle-like terrain was quite tiring, particularly the final two hours, as it was raining, and we were cold and wet for most of the day. We slept in single-man tents and ate the necessary proteins and carbs to restore lost energy.

### Day 2

Mostly every day we were woken up around 6am with hot ginger tea and basic breakfast consisting of porridge and omelettes. We proceeded with the trek to Shira Camp (3847m) on the southern edge of a plateau. The terrain was semi-desert like and very difficult to manoeuvre over the gravel and rocks.

### Day 3

We recommenced with the trek to Lava Tower (4600m) where we had lunch. We descended to Barranco Camp (3984m) where we camped for the night and acclimatized for the summit. Acclimatization is the process of the body adjusting to the decreasing availability of oxygen. It is a slow process, taking place over a period of days whilst being on the mountain. As the amount of oxygen in the lungs decreases, the blood becomes less

and less efficient at acquiring and transporting oxygen. This means that no matter how fast one breathes, attaining normal blood levels of oxygen is not possible at high altitude.

### Day 4

We trekked to Barafu Camp (4681m) via the 250-metre-high Breach Wall across the valley from Barranco. This was quite challenging and scary, we had no ropes and one false move could mean you will fall to the bottom. There were three rises and falls before we reached Karanga Camp (4040m), had lunch, and then departed to Barafu, which we reached around 6pm. The idea was to sleep as soon as possible since our summit attempt would start at midnight. It was good that we prepared our gear for the summit before going to sleep, as we felt disoriented when we woke up for the summit attempt.

### Day 5

Around midnight, after being woken up with ginger tea and biscuits, we quit camp for the summit attempt via Stella Point (5752m) to the summit, Uhuru Peak. It was extremely windy, and with sub-zero temperatures I knew this would be challenging. The day turned out to be extremely difficult, particularly the final 500 metres to Uhuru Peak.

"Keep your thoughts positive, as your thoughts become your words.



Keep your words positive, as your words become your actions. Keep your actions positive, as your actions become your destiny - you can do it!" These words which our guide spoke during the final few 100 meters before the summit gave me the much needed motivation and strength to get myself to the top.

Seven hours after leaving Barafu camp and covering a distance of 4.5 kilometres, I reached Uhuru Peak, towering 5,895 metres over Africa. I only spent 15 minutes on the summit due to the lack of oxygen and also the minus 18 degrees temperature. We then descended back to Barafu where we rested for an hour or so before continuing down to Millennium Camp (3820m) where we had dinner and slept soundly.

### Day 6

The next morning we descended to Mweka Gate (1641m) where we received our certificate for having reached the summit and were transferred back to Sal Salinero Hotel for a long overdue hot shower.

## Glassy attraction

Karen Scott, Tenant Coordination Manager talks about the art of designing glass

I am a glass addict. I love bright colours and the reflective quality of glass and leaped at the chance to take a class in 'cutting glass, also known as stained glass, over 15 years ago.

Stained glass artists do not paint glass. We purchase coloured and textured glass that is blown and pressed. We cut it into shapes and solder it together into panels, windows, lamps and other objects.

Glass artists work in traditional lead cane as well as copper foil techniques. I prefer the copper foil technique because it allows me to be more creative.

I brought my tools with me to the UAE but it took a while to get set up because it was initially hard to find materials here. I met a fellow glass artist and we have been able to source enough glass and materials to be able to pursue our passion. We occasionally do art shows together and find that we spend a lot of time educating people about what we do.

Working with glass is challenging. You have to be careful and pay attention to what you are doing so that you do not waste materials. Different glasses have their own personalities and you have to make sure that it breaks the way you want. I actually find working with glass relaxing because it forces me to pay attention to what I am doing and I forget about what I might have been worrying about.

I have a studio in my home and usually put in a couple of hours over the weekend working on projects. I consider myself a qualified artisan. I have friends who are master craftsmen and they do amazing projects including major restoration work.

I believe inspiration comes from nature, and that reflects in the colours or textures of the glass or from patterns I see. I am also a photographer and occasionally create pieces based on my own work.

One of the things I love about living in Abu Dhabi is the colour of the tropical water here. I have found some beautiful teal and turquoise glass and recently completed a tropical sea life series inspired by Abu Dhabi.



## Taming the dragon



Our staff participate in soccer and Dragon Boat challenges at Abu Dhabi Corporate Games

We are very proud of our TDIC teams who performed with much enthusiasm in the Dragon Boat and Soccer competitions at the Abu Dhabi Corporate Games 2012. More than 2,400 amateur athletes took part in the games organised across various venues in Abu Dhabi last November.

TDIC's Dragon Boat team came in second place among 12 competitors

in the 200-metre race. "I am proud of our team which came together without having rowed before, and mostly without any previous dragon boating experience," said Stefan Hanekom, team leader of the Dragon Boat squad.

Although the initial races were quite a challenge, our TDIC team members managed to pull themselves together in the finals, producing impressive results in both the 200 metre and 300-metre races during the two-day event.

Matt Darling ensured consistent and uniform rowing of the 16-member team through his rhythmic yet frightening voice constantly yelling: "Stroke, stroke, stroke!" Scott Montell

and Walter Alonso displayed their great physical strength as they hit the water hard with their oars, while the ladies balanced the boat with the required power and weight ratios.

Stefan is confident the team is even more determined to reach the cup final next year at the Corporate Games. "This is within our reach. We will train much better starting at least months before the event with our already existing determination and sheer will to achieve excellence."

Now, that's the TDIC spirit. Well done guys!

## It's cool to kayak

Delivery and Development go kayaking at Eastern Mangroves

The Development and Delivery teams spent some quality time paddling across the tranquil waters off the Eastern Mangroves Hotel. The group, made

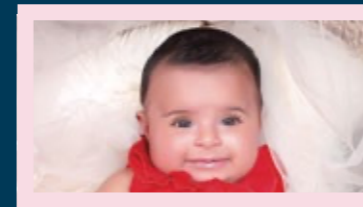
up of 25 people, headed out in kayaks around the enchanting stretches of mangroves. The teams were fortunate enough to spot some dolphins swimming by as well as flamingos wading in shallow waters. After a quick break, the group was informed about the mangrove's ecosystem and the importance of preserving Abu Dhabi's wildlife from guides working at the Eastern Mangroves.



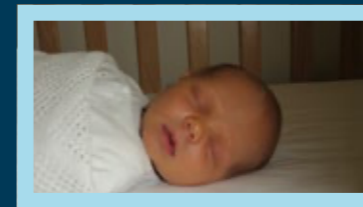
## Congrats!



**Ranya Elghazali**, Government Relations Officer, gave birth to baby boy on June 20, 2012. Adam, who weighed 3.3kgs, is her third child. Her daughter Lara is 7 years old, her son Bassam is 4 years of age.



**Abdulla al Mansoori**, Workout Room Manager, became a father as he witnessed the birth of his first child, Salama, who was born weighing 3.6kg at 11:00am on August 2, 2012. "No words can describe this amazing experience," says Abdulla. "Salama is my first baby; she is a gift from God. She has completely transformed my life. I can't wait to get back home every day after work so I can spend time with her."



**Stephen Maylin**, Facility Manager, welcomed the birth of his second son. Baby George was born on September 22, 2012 and he weighed 3.4kg. His brother Henry is nearly 4 years old. "Henry was very happy to have a baby brother and he helps out looking after George whenever he can," explains Stephen. "When I first saw my new son, I felt blessed by God and was overwhelmed with joy. He is now putting on weight and looks very healthy and has started smiling, too."

## Make a basboosa!



Recipe by: Nina Assad,  
Senior Events and  
Sponsorship Manager

*The basboosa, or nammoura, is Middle Eastern sweet dish made of semolina or farina soaked in syrup.*

### Ingredients

- 1 cup semolina (called sameed in Arabic)
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup coconut powder
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup melted butter
- 1/4 cup yoghurt

### Syrup

Equal parts sugar and water  
Few drops of rose water (optional)

### Preparation method.

Preheat oven to 170 degrees. Whip the egg with the vanilla extract. Mix all the ingredients together, then pour into a 40cm butter-sprayed shallow baking dish. Let this bake for 40 minutes or until it is golden brown. Meanwhile, heat on the oven equal parts sugar and water till slightly thickened into a syrup. You can add a few drops of rose water to the syrup for a better taste.

After the basboosa cools for to 2 to 3 minutes, pour the syrup on top of it. Now you are ready to enjoy this mouthwatering Arabic delight.

Basboosa is best served warm or room temperature.

## Feeling stressed?

Suffering from stress is inevitable these days with our fast-paced lifestyle. Here are some simple steps to help relief and avoid stress.

**A**void the stressor. Know your limits and stick to them. If someone consistently causes stress in your life, limit the time you spend with that person.

Alter the stressor. If you can't avoid a stressful situation, try to alter it. This may involve changing the way you communicate and operate in your daily life.

Adapt to the stressor. You can adapt to stressful situations and regain your sense of control by changing your expectations and attitude.

Accept the stressor. Many situations in life are beyond our control, particularly the behaviours of other people. Rather than stressing over them, focus on the

things you can control and look up to the upside.

Adopt a healthy lifestyle. After all, a healthy mind is in a healthy body. Give yourself a break. Make time for fun and relaxation. Do something you enjoy every day.

## Quote

“We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light.”

Plato (424 BC - 348 BC) – classical Greek philosopher, mathematician, writer and teacher

# Abu Dhabi Events

## March



March 2, 2013  
Abu Dhabi Corniche

### Abu Dhabi International Triathlon

The 223km main 'long course' boasts a gruelling 3km swim, a 200km cycle and 20km closing run. Another 'short course' is half the length.



March 2-31, 2013  
Several venues across Abu Dhabi

### Abu Dhabi Festival 2013

This spectacular programme features a performance by the legendary Mariinsky Ballet staging 'Homage to Fokine', a special production of Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet' by UK's Globe Theatre, an opera by Placido Domingo and concert by popular Lebanese artists Rahbani Brothers.

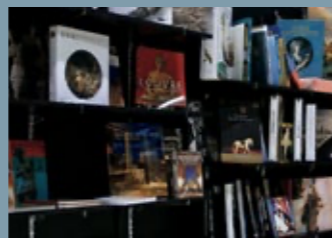
## April



### Abu Dhabi International Sports Exhibition

A display of the latest sports products, equipment and services that lures local and international sports enthusiasts.

April 8-11, 2013  
ADNEC



### Abu Dhabi International Book Fair

With aisles of books to choose from, this is a great way to get in touch with your intellectual side, and to mingle with the international publishing community.

April 24-29, 2013  
ADNEC

## I speak Japanese

by Aysha Al Humairi,  
Public Relations Coordinator

- Hello.....Konichiwa
- Good morning.....Ohaio onigaishmas
- Thank you.....Arigatuo onigaishmas
- You're welcome.....Iddatashimashta or domo
- How are you?.....Oh genki desu ka?
- Sorry.....Gomenasai
- Excuse me.....Seimasen
- I love you.....Aishteru

Japanese, or "Nihongo", is a language spoken by over 120 million people in Japan and among Japanese emigrant communities.

## Sudoku

		7	4					
	5			6			7	4
3			2				8	
4	7	6				8		
			1		6			
		2				3	6	5
	2				5			1
8	6			9			5	
				4	6			

## App

### Stereomood

For: iPhone, iPad and Android

This app is a free internet radio music service that offers users a unique way to choose what to listen to. Using mood instead of genre or artist, Stereomood lets users enjoy sounds that suit whatever they are feeling at the moment. The app provides a long list of potential mood themes to choose from on the homepage. Users can search for a different mood, which ranges from the standard happy and sad to more complex mood themes like 'it's raining', 'lost in thought', and 'candlelit dinner'. Users can also create a playlist based on activities or compile a library of their favourite songs.



## Restaurant

### Agadir

Westin Abu Dhabi Golf  
Resort & Spa

Cuisine: Moroccan  
Dress code: Smart casual  
Dinner: 7:00pm-12:00pm  
Lunch (Fridays & Saturdays):  
1:00pm-3.30pm

A Moroccan menu inspired by the mystery and allure of the Arabian Nights. Agadir blends Arabic and Mediterranean cooking styles, creating meals evoking flavours and fragrances of the Maghreb. Flickering lanterns illuminate the distinctive décor, providing an intimate ambiance to focus the senses. Sample fresh breads and traditional tagines,

## Book

### Blind Willow, Sleeping Woman

Author: Haruki Murakami

This book combines 24 separate narrative short stories that are sporadic waves of emotion, thrill and mystery. From the surreal to the mundane, these stories exhibit the author's ability to transform the full range of human experience in ways that are instructive, surprising, and relentlessly entertaining. Here are animated crows, a criminal monkey, and an iceman, as well as the dreams that shape us and the things we might wish for. Whether during a chance reunion in Italy, a romantic exile in Greece, a

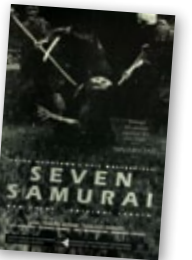


holiday in Hawaii, or in the grip of everyday life, Murakami's characters confront grievous loss, or the glow of a firefly, or the impossible distances between those who ought to be closest of all.

## Film

### Seven Samurai

Director: Akira Kurosawa  
Released: 1954  
Genre: classic adventure drama  
Language: Japanese



This film takes place in 1587 during the Warring States Period of Japan. It follows the story of a village of farmers that hire seven masterless samurai to combat bandits who will return after the harvest to steal their crops. The farmers are poor and can only offer food and lodging but they manage to succeed in recruiting seven samurai to properly guard the village. The samurai eventually teach the farmers basic self-defense and how to fortify their village. When the bandits attack, they are prepared but suffer many losses. This film is described as one of the greatest and most influential films ever made, and is one of a select few Japanese movies to become widely known in the West for an extended period of time.



to char-grilled meats and authentic couscous. All dishes are skillfully crafted to embody the heart of Marrakesh with every mouthful. In the cooler months enjoy al fresco dining on the terrace with

an extensive selection of shishas. The menu boasts a comprehensive selection of vegetarian items.

For bookings, dial +971 2 616 9999.

# National Day Celebrations

# احتفالات العيد الوطني



نشاطات خارجية متنوعة  
On the ground activities



معرض ومنطقة التصويت لمسابقة أفضل لوحة لليوم الوطني  
Display and voting station for the Best Painting competition



يستمتع موظفو الشركة بالقهوة التقليدية الإماراتية في الخيمة الشعبية  
TDIC staff enjoying a feast of traditional Emirati "fouala" in the Emirati tent



عرض ممتع من طلاب مدرسة المروة الابتدائية  
Delightful performance by the Al Marwah Primary School students



السيارات المشاركة في مسابقة أفضل سيارة مزينة لليوم الوطني  
National Day Car Competition line-up



فهد الحمادي، الموارد البشرية صاحب السيارة الفائزة في مسابقة أفضل سيارة مزينة لليوم الوطني  
Winner of the Best Decorative Car Competition, Fahad AlHamadi, Rewards Officer from HR

مسابقة أفضل سيارة مزينة  
Best Decorated Car

مسابقة أفضل قسم مزين لليوم الوطني  
Best Decorated Department



صورة جماعية لقسم تقنية المعلومات الفائز بمسابقة أفضل قسم إماراتي لإبداعهم المميز  
Group picture of the winning IT Department for their creativity



صورة جماعية لقسم الموارد البشرية في ركنهم الإماراتي المبهج  
Group picture of Business Support for their amazing cultural displays



صورة جماعية لقسم دعم الأعمال لتشكيلاتهم التراثية المبهجة  
Group picture of Business Support for their amazing cultural displays



صورة جماعية لقسم التصميم والتطوير لتقديمه فعاليات ممتعة لخلق تجربة فريدة لجميع زوارهم  
Group picture of Development and Design department for creating a unique experience to all their visitors



فرقة الشرطة تقدم أداءاً متميزاً يبهج الجميع  
The remarkable police band performance enjoyed by all



موظفو الشركة يستمتعون بالمشاركة في مختلف الأنشطة التراثية خلال احتفالات اليوم الوطني  
TDIC Staff enjoying the various activities during the national day celebrations