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for Solo
Travelers

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up to 90 days prior to departure!
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for details

United Arab Emirates

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NC State Alumni Association
March 14-23, 2023
Other dates available upon request



A World of Discovery

Your next adventure begins in the United Arab Emirates, where old and new have coalesced in a magical alchemy that both fascinates and surprises. Whether it's your first visit or a return to explore more deeply, enjoy a multifaceted immersion into Emirati history and culture amid desert grandeur and warm gulf breezes!

What sets this travel adventure apart from others is AHI's unwavering commitment to connecting you to the world's people, places and cultures. By weaving together discovery, education and authentic local experiences, we deliver new insights and fresh perspectives to enrich your life.

The incomparable value of our journeys is rooted in the personalized care you receive from AHI's Travel Directors. These outstanding professionals create a welcoming atmosphere and handle every last detail so you can focus on the wonder of the world before you. We also partner with the most knowledgeable guides and lecturers, whose regional expertise shines.

We invite you to turn the page on a remarkable new chapter with this AHI Journey for the curious traveler!

Inspiring Moments

- Learn about the UAE's history, culture and religion during an open discussion with a scholar at the **Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding**.
- Relish Emirati cuisine over **lunch at a private home** in Abu Dhabi.
- Delight in a **magical night at a desert resort** with food, music and belly dancing.
- Marvel at **traditional and modern Dubai**.
- Delve into the heritage of **glittering Abu Dhabi**.
- Tour the magnificent **Louvre Abu Dhabi**.
- Visit a **hospital** dedicated to the UAE's revered bird, **the falcon**.



Dear Alumni and Friends,

Embark with us on an eight-night WolfTreks journey to the United Arab Emirates and discover a tantalizing fusion of ancient and modern, framed by golden desert dunes and sparkling gulf waters! It's an outstanding opportunity to explore this intriguing country, perfect for those with an interest in the modern Middle East visiting for the first time or those who've stayed briefly looking to return for a more in-depth experience.

In the care of a dedicated Travel Director and in the company of curious travelers like yourself, you'll marvel at the forward-looking cities of Dubai and Abu Dhabi, chat with Emiratis during enriching cultural exchanges and head into the Arabian Desert for an unforgettable stay at a desert resort!

This thoughtfully crafted, culturally immersive program features a wonderful mix of engaging guided excursions and lectures, first-class and deluxe hotels, plus the security and camaraderie of group travel. Make plans today to delve more deeply into the United Arab Emirates! Space is limited to 24 travelers and interest is high, so guarantee your place by reserving now.

Sincerely,

Kathy Hart

WolfTreks Travel Coordinator

NC State Alumni Association

919-515-0508 <http://www.alumni.ncsu.edu/engagement/wolftreks-travel>

Barjeel architecture in Al Fahidi, Dubai





Abra water taxis, Dubai

Day 1 | In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Dubai, United Arab Emirates.🌐

Day 2 | Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Upon arrival, transfer🔄 to the Canopy by Hilton Dubai Al Seef.

Day 3 | Dubai

Discovery: Traditional Dubai. The capital of the Emirate of Dubai, Dubai began as a fishing village and later prospered due to its pearl diving industry and trading. Examine this rich history at the Al Shindagha Museum. Next, stroll with your guide through the Al Fahidi Historic Neighborhood to see the well-preserved homes with *barjeels*, or wind towers, an ancient ventilation method.

🌐**AHI Connects: UAE Cultural Exchange.** Gain insights at a talk by a scholar at the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding, which seeks to spread tolerance with the motto, “Open Doors, Open Minds.” Afterward, engage in an expansive discussion about Emirati traditions, values and religion, where no question is off limits and dialogue is encouraged. Then sit down to share a delicious meal of classic Emirati dishes.

Later, cross Dubai Creek on an abra water taxi and explore the Gold and Spice Souks, bustling bazaars packed with glittering jewelry and the fragrant aromas of ginger, chili and cinnamon. Tonight, get better acquainted with your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception and Dinner.

Day 4 | Dubai

Discovery: Modern Dubai. In the 1960s, the discovery of oil triggered explosive growth in the region, and by 1972, seven Gulf sheikdoms had joined in federation as the United Arab Emirates. Today, discover modern Dubai, a cosmopolitan, international center of commerce and finance dominated by soaring skyscrapers. See the grand Zabeel Palace and take in spectacular views from the skydeck of the iconic Dubai Frame. Admire the sleek Burj Al Arab and visit Palm Jumeirah, a man-made archipelago. After lunch in the Dubai Marina, spend some time at the Dubai Mall, famous for its retail shops and the Dubai Aquarium and Underwater Zoo. While in the area, crane your neck for a look at nearby Burj Khalifa, the world’s tallest building!



Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding



Burj Khalifa, Dubai skyline

Day 5 | Dubai

Free Time: Craft your own agenda for the day. Maybe you'll return to the Dubai Mall or ride up to the Burj Khalifa's observation deck on the 124th floor for amazing views! You can also choose to join this morning's Elective Activity in the Arabian Desert and enjoy the afternoon at leisure in Dubai later.

 **Elective | Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve.** Head into the Arabian Desert for a guided drive within this protected desert habitat to see indigenous plants and wildlife like the recently reintroduced Arabian Oryx.

Enrichment: The Emirates. A local expert discusses the factors that prompted the seven individual Emirates to form their union.

Join your group for dinner tonight at a restaurant.

Day 6 | Abu Dhabi

Check out of the hotel and depart for Abu Dhabi.

Discovery: Abu Dhabi Falcon Hospital & Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque. Falcons were used for centuries by the Bedouins for hunting in the desert and are revered throughout the Middle East for their beauty and speed. Learn more about these majestic creatures and see them up close at a hospital dedicated to the UAE's national bird. After lunch on your own at the World Trade Center Souk, travel to the stunning Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, one of the world's largest with room for 55,000 worshippers, which welcomes people of all faiths. Marvel at the brilliant marble courtyard adorned with elaborate mosaics, columns inlaid with amethyst and jasper, the world's largest hand-woven carpet, reflective pools and more on a guided tour.

Check in to the Le Royal Méridien Abu Dhabi.



Spice Souk, Dubai



Falcon, UAE's national bird



Day 7 | Abu Dhabi

Discovery: Abu Dhabi. Settled in 1761 by the Bedouins of the Bani Yas tribe, Abu Dhabi has matured into one of the world's richest cities and is both the capital of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and the UAE. Relish picturesque views along the gulf and see well-known landmarks including the Emirates Palace, Etihad Towers and the lovely Corniche waterfront area on your way to the Qasr al Watan, or Palace of the Nation. Take a guided tour of the UAE's impressive, modern presidential palace, exquisitely decorated in homage to traditional Arabian artistry.

 **AHI Connects: Local Emirati House.** Savor a home-cooked lunch, fellowship and conversation with an Emirati family.

After lunch, visit Abu Dhabi's oldest heritage site, the gleaming Qasr al Hosn, a former fortress and palace, and see the 18th-century watchtower that protected coastal trade routes.

Day 8 | Abu Dhabi

Discovery: Louvre Abu Dhabi. Visit this breathtaking museum designed by architect Jean Nouvel with a remarkable silver dome that appears to float over the complex and creates an enchanting, dappled light below. On a guided tour through the galleries, view sculptures, paintings and decorative artifacts from around the world. Wander on the outer walkways to appreciate how the architecture is connected to the surrounding water.





Free Time: Make your own plans for lunch and sightseeing this afternoon.

Enrichment: *Arabian Desert Life.* An expert shares more about desert life past and present.

Day 9 | Arabian Desert

Depart for the Arabian Desert and check in to the Bab Al Shams Desert Resort & Spa.

Free Time: Spend your day relaxing by the pool or enjoying the resort's optional activities, including spa treatments, falconry, camel rides and desert drives over the pristine sand dunes.

Discovery: *Arabian Nights.* Celebrate your unforgettable exploration of the UAE with your fellow travelers tonight! The festivities kick off with a Farewell Reception at the rooftop lounge. Then gather for a Farewell Dinner beneath starry desert skies featuring delectable cuisine, live music and belly dancing!

Day 10 | In Transit

Transfer to the airport in Dubai for the return flight to your gateway city.

Note: *Itinerary may change due to local conditions.*

✈️ *Flights and 🔄 transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.*

🕒 *Elective experiences available at an additional cost.*

A Note About Activity Levels

We want you to have a comfortable and enjoyable experience. That's why we have rated all of our excursions with activity levels to help you assess this program's physical expectations. Depending on the excursion, more leisurely alternatives may be available. Please call or visit our website to review the itinerary for full details about our activity levels.

Excursions on this program require:

- ▶ walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths or uneven surfaces
- ▶ getting on/off motor coaches and boats

ACCOMMODATIONS

Our travel experts have carefully selected these deluxe and first-class properties for their prime locations. They are ideally situated for exploring the UAE's renowned landmarks while providing opportunities to immerse yourself in local life. Of utmost importance is the superior quality of the services, amenities and accommodations, allowing you to enjoy your stay fully.



Canopy by Hilton Dubai Al Seef | Dubai



Le Royal Méridien Abu Dhabi | Abu Dhabi



Bab Al Shams Desert Resort & Spa | Arabian Desert



United Arab Emirates

Trip #:11-27586W

Contact Kathy Hart, WolfTreks Travel, at **919-515-0508** or **hart@ncsu.edu** with questions regarding this trip or to make a reservation. For reservations, have the information outlined below ready to share with WolfTreks or provide it online at **go.ncsu.edu/wolftreksreservation**.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Request and submit it to the Alumni Association. Once this request is received and transferred to AHI, an AHI Travel Expert will contact you within one business day to discuss deposit payment. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed.

Send to NC State Alumni Association
Box 7503
NC State University
Raleigh, NC 27695-7503

I/we would like to request _____ place(s).

Deposit amount is \$600 per person.

Full Legal Name (*exactly as it appears on passport*)

1) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email Name you would like on your name badge

2) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email Name you would like on your name badge

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home (_____) Cell (_____) _____

Sharing with _____
Name (Reservation Request sent separately)

Single Accommodations

☐ I prefer single accommodations (supplement waived, limited availability).

Flights

☐ Yes, I/we are requesting the round-trip AHI FlexAir to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, to depart from:

Departure City

I/we are interested in upgrading my/our international flight to the following:

☐ First Class ☐ Business Class ☐ Premium Economy

☐ No thanks! I/we will book my/our own air travel and transfers.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by **December 29, 2022** (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

Please note: Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://norcas.ahitravel.com/destinations/1698A?schooId=115>. You can also request a copy from our travel experts.

Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out therein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

PROGRAM DATES

Air Program dates: March 14-23, 2023
Land Program dates: March 15-23, 2023

LAND PROGRAM

Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price*
\$4,045	\$250	\$3,795

*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.
VAT is an additional \$395 per person.
All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy
and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Single supplement waived for solo travelers! This offer is limited, capacity-controlled and tends to sell out quickly.

Let us arrange your flights!

AHI FlexAir | Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase.
- arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates.
- **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservations without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights.
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays.

Travel stress-free with AHI FlexAir.

TRAVEL WITH CONFIDENCE

For more than half a century, our dedicated team has helped travelers explore the world safely and securely.

To offer you added peace of mind, we've fine-tuned all facets of your travel experience:

- ✓ **Included AHI Travel Assurance** covers travel- and health-related contingencies. Available for U.S. residents only.
- ✓ Increased booking flexibility and relaxed cancellation penalties.
- ✓ **Home support staff and ground team** communicating 24/7 to ensure a seamless and safe journey.
- ✓ Travel Directors specially trained to the highest standard in accordance with AHI's health and safety protocols.
- ✓ A global network of partners rigorously following new procedures and protocols.
- ✓ **Enhanced sanitization practices** for river ships, hotels, trains and motor coaches.
- ✓ Tour operations modified for smaller groups and greater physical distancing.
- ✓ Hand sanitizer available for guest use.



Traditional clay storage pots



Musicians

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations {with baggage handling}

- **4 nights** in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, at the first-class Canopy by Hilton Dubai Al Seef.
- **3 nights** in Abu Dhabi at the deluxe Le Royal Méridien Abu Dhabi.
- **1 night** in the Arabian Desert at the first-class Bab Al Shams Desert Resort & Spa.

Transfers {with baggage handling}

- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program.

Extensive Meal Program

- 8 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 4 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Opportunities to sample authentic cuisine and local flavors.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **AHI Travel Assurance** plan that covers Accident and Sickness Medical Expense, Trip Delay and Emergency Evacuation for U.S. residents.
- Expert-led **Enrichment programs** enhance your insight into the region.
- **Discovery excursions** highlight the local culture, heritage and history:
 - Expand your understanding of the UAE at a fascinating, informative cultural exchange.
 - Tour historic Dubai and visit the lively souks.
 - See Dubai's modern, glamorous landmarks.
 - Be awed by a resplendent mosque.
 - Learn about falcons at a unique hospital.
 - Visit the presidential palace and the Qasr al Hosn in Abu Dhabi and enjoy lunch at a local home.
 - Delight in the beauty of the Louvre Abu Dhabi and view its artistic treasures.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive, purposeful impact in the communities we visit.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your own interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

AHI Travel Expertise

From your reservation to your return home, we're here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

Before you go:

- ▶ **Travel Consultants** | These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they guide you through the reservation process.
- ▶ **Passenger Service Representative** | After reserving your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who helps with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.
- ▶ **Travel Information** | Before your journey, our team closely monitors travel conditions, shares pre-departure details and provides information and enrichment about your destination.

Once you arrive:

- Our top-notch, dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level! Share a laugh, learn where to find the best café and enjoy their unique perspectives on the local scene.
- ▶ **Travel Director** | Our multilingual Travel Director manages all the details so that you can simply relax and soak up the ambience. In the care of this seasoned travel professional who is attuned to your personal safety, you'll enjoy a seamless, unforgettable travel experience.
 - ▶ **Expert Guides** | Who better to show you around than the people who live there? We've specially selected informed, enthusiastic local guides who understand the needs of our educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they're ready to share their passion for their country with you.
 - ▶ **Lecturers** | Coming from all walks of life, our entertaining local lecturers open your eyes to history, culture and current events. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.

Palm Jumeirah, Dubai





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<http://www.alumni.ncsu.edu/engagement/wolftreks-travel>



Qasr al Watan, Palace of the Nation, Abu Dhabi

**SMALL GROUP
MAXIMUM OF
24 TRAVELERS**

Discover vibrant Emirati culture, remarkable history and dazzling modern wonders!

**Please call or refer to our
website for the most current
program information,
discounts and pricing.**

AHI Travel's mission is to deliver inspirational educational and cultural travel programs that delight travelers.

With AHI you can rely on:

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



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U.S. Postage
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