

## Twenty Design-Inspiring Destinations to Visit in Dubai

1. **Burj Khalifa:** As the world's tallest building, the Burj Khalifa epitomises Dubai's penchant for the extraordinary, with its sleek, needle-like silhouette dominating the skyline. The observation decks offer panoramic views of the emirate's architectural tapestry and desert dunes beyond.
2. **Museum of the Future:** This architectural marvel is a visionary platform that exhibits cutting-edge and futuristic concepts. Its torus shape, adorned with Arabic poetic calligraphy, symbolises Dubai's progressive spirit and commitment to innovation.
3. **Dubai Opera:** With its dhow-shaped design, Dubai Opera is a masterpiece of contemporary design, serving as a cultural beacon in the heart of the city. It hosts a range of performances, from opera to ballet to classical music, and its transforming stage area can accommodate various event formats.
4. **Tashkeel:** is a commercial consultancy with studio incubators for visual art & design rooted in the United Arab Emirates. Established in Dubai in 2008 by Sheikha Lateefa bint Maktoum bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Tashkeel's facilities enable production, experimentation and discourse. Its annual programme of training, residencies, workshops, talks, exhibitions, international collaborations and publications aims to further practitioner development, public engagement and lifelong learning. And its commercial services seek to embed UAE-made art and design in the very fabric of society and the economy. By nurturing the growth of contemporary art and design, Tashkeel seeks to empower the country's ever growing creative and cultural industries.
5. **Kulture:** Kulture House Dubai, located in a historic 1980s villa on Jumeirah Beach Road, is a vibrant cultural hub envisioned by co-owner Sheikha Jawahir Bint Butti Al Maktoum and her partner. Discovered in 2017, this "diamond in the rough" was transformed into a melting pot of lifestyles, cultures, and traditions, reflecting the diverse spirit of the Emirates. It offers an eclectic cafe, a versatile event space, and an artisanal shop, providing a communal environment for people to connect, explore, and enjoy a fusion of global influences.
6. **Alserkal Avenue:** A former industrial area transformed into Dubai's contemporary art district, this Al Quoz enclave is home to galleries, creative spaces, and artisanal cafes. The

Avenue's design promotes an urban cultural experience where art and architecture coalesce.

7. **Burj Al Arab:** Recognized worldwide for its sail-shaped silhouette, this luxury hotel is a pinnacle of modern architectural design. Its opulent interior, suspended helipad, and underwater restaurant push the boundaries of conventional hotel design and is an earlier symbol of the postcard-worthy city.
8. **The Mohammed bin Rashid Library:** Dubai's commitment to cultural enrichment and accessible education is exemplified in its public libraries. The Mohammed bin Rashid Library, an architectural wonder shaped like an open book, houses vast collections and state-of-the-art facilities, offering a sanctuary for readers and researchers alike.
9. **Al Safa Art & Design Library,** meanwhile, merges artistic spaces with literary collections around its subject matter, creating a hub for creative minds. Alongside these iconic, uniquely designed establishments, a host of community and private libraries are dotted throughout the emirate.
10. **Etihad Museum:** Located at the historic Union House site, the museum is architecturally inspired by the shape of a manuscript with seven columns depicting the pens used to sign the declaration of the union. Inside, it offers interactive pavilions where visitors can explore the country's political history and social progress, making it a profound reflection of the UAE's journey and heritage.
11. **The Dubai Mall:** Beyond being one of the largest malls in the world, this destination integrates retail with design through its luxury boutiques like Bloomingdale's, Symphony, and Fashion Avenue. Its vast atriums and luxury wings exemplify design that serves both aesthetic and functional purposes, showcasing high-end brands and exclusive shopping experiences.
12. **Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood:** With its wind towers and sandy-coloured buildings, this area offers a glimpse into the Dubai of yesteryear. It's also a creative space for artists and hosts cultural events that celebrate the city's heritage.
13. **The Opus by OMNIYAT:** Designed by the late Zaha Hadid, The Opus combines a strikingly futuristic exterior with an interior that challenges spatial concepts. At night, its illuminated void offers a glimpse into the avant-garde design principles that Dubai embraces.

14. **Al Shindagha Museum:** The UAE's largest heritage museum, telling the story of the city's maritime heritage, tribal customs, pearl-diving trade and culture & heritage. Its interactive exhibits and carefully preserved buildings are a celebration of Dubai's roots, offering a journey through time in the very place where Dubai began its transformation into the global metropolis it is today.
15. **ICD Brookfield Place :** features state-of-the-art office spaces, the luxurious Sky Suites, diverse dining and retail options, and wellness facilities including a gym and personal training. Additionally, the venue hosts various events and cultural programs, providing a dynamic environment for business, leisure, and community engagement. has committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030. The building has joined the Net Zero Carbon Buildings initiative led by the World Green Building Council. This ambitious goal involves reducing energy demand, implementing energy efficiency measures, and addressing scope 3 carbon emissions.
16. **COLLECTIONAL:** is a lifestyle brand devoted to the world of interiors. It serves as a platform for architects, designers, and private clients, showcasing unique design pieces that blend art and design. Collectional features an extensive range of curated furniture, lighting, and decor items from renowned global brands and designers, offering a sophisticated and inspiring shopping experience that enhances contemporary living. Constantly curious, we scour the globe to source and commission the most compelling design pieces to bring to Dubai.
17. **Deira Gold Souk:** One of the region's oldest and most fascinating traditional markets, located in the historic area of Deira. The market's narrow lanes display a massive range of jewelry, gemstones, and precious metals. The design of the souk, with its wooden lattice arcades and small traditional shops, evokes a bygone era of trade in the region, and wandering through it offers a sensory experience of sights, sounds, and scents that are quintessentially Arab.
18. **L'ÉCOLE:** Dedicated to fostering a deep appreciation for the art and craft of jewelry, L'ÉCOLE Middle East invites individuals of all backgrounds – from novices to connoisseurs, collectors, and the simply curious – to embark on an enriching journey into the world of jewelry culture.

19. **Dubai Design District (d3):** A hub for the region's design and fashion industries, Dubai Design District (d3) offers a dynamic environment where creativity and business thrive. The district features state-of-the-art workspaces, innovative showrooms, and hosts numerous events like Dubai Design Week and Downtown Design, making it a focal point for design inspiration.
20. **Dubai Frame:** An architectural landmark that offers a unique perspective on Dubai's past, present, and future. Standing 150 meters tall, the Dubai Frame provides panoramic views of both old and new Dubai, symbolising the city's blend of tradition and modernity. The design, resembling a giant picture frame, encapsulates the essence of Dubai's visionary spirit.