

COVID-19 Update – United Arab Emirates

Tuesday April 28, 2020

Category	Recent Developments
Economic Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The '10 million meals' campaign exceeds target with over 11 million meals in the first week. (Link) Ethad Airways will distribute Ramadan boxes to those affected by the coronavirus. The airline has partnered with Zomato to deliver the meals. (Link) The Dubai Airport Free zone Authority has launched a set of economic incentive packages to support companies based in the free zone in order to ensure business continuity across various sectors. The incentive package includes postponed lease payments for up to 3 months and facilitating financial payments into easier monthly installments. (Link) The Dubai International Financial Center has announced on Sunday a new Presidential Directive which seeks to help limit the impact on the new coronavirus. The new directive provides greater flexibility to DIFC-based employers and increased protection to employees. (Link)
Health & Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On April 27, the UAE saw 490 new cases (-8.58% from the previous day) of the coronavirus, bringing the total to 10,839 total confirmed cases. (Link) Dubai Economy has shut down 21 shops, issued warnings to 65, and imposed penalties on seven others for not complying with the precautionary measures to be adopted during the market re-opening phase. (Link) Amana Healthcare has freed up more than 100 beds at Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi and other acute-care hospitals to increase the Emirate's critical-care capacity. (Link) In an effort to further reinforce the response to the coronavirus outbreak the Abu Dhabi's Department of Health has announced the urgent release of two solutions that will provide extended access to a health exchange platform so that coronavirus testing results can be tracked by health professionals in real-time. (Link) The Central Testing Laboratory of Abu Dhabi Quality and Conformity Council has developed and released an Emirati hand sanitizer brand and plans to distribute the product free of cost to low-income families and workers in Abu Dhabi. (Link) Commercial centers and shopping malls must administer coronavirus testing for their in-store employees in order to be allowed to re-open in Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and Al Dhafra. (Link)
Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emirates SkyCargo dials up focus on safety for employees and operations. As Emirates SkyCargo scales up its operations, it is also taking additional measures to ensure the safety of its employees and operations during the coronavirus pandemic. (Link) Ethad Airways is planning to gradually resume passenger flights on May 16. (Link) Emirates Airlines has announced a limited number of flights to Frankfurt, Jakarta, Johannesburg, Lagos, London, Madrid, Manila and Tunis starting next week. (Link)
Daily Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ajman eases restrictions on malls, restaurants and other businesses for Ramadan. (Link)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="311 181 1356 246">• Restrictions on movement in Naif and Al Ras areas in Dubai have been eased. Public movement in these areas will return to normal between 6 am and 10 pm. (Link)<li data-bbox="311 264 1372 353">• Nakheel Mall, Ibn Battuta Mall and Dragon Mart prepare for reopening. Their reopening strategy includes coronavirus tests for all staff, a 30 percent increase in security and an extensive pre-opening disinfection program. (Link)