



### **CONSULAR NEWSLETTER : JUNE 2017**

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#### **Travel Advice**

The FCO travel advice for the UAE has recently been changed due to circumstances with Qatar. Please click [here](#) to see more. You can sign up for travel advice alerts [here](#).

#### **Changes to driving licence validity across the UAE**

New driving licences will now be issued for only 2 years and after that expatriates' licence renewal validity will be only five years and not 10 years as it has been. Expatriates are also required to have a valid residence permit to renew their licence. Click [here](#) for details.

#### **New traffic fines for the UAE**

From the 1<sup>st</sup> July the cost of traffic fines across the UAE are changing and getting stricter – click [here](#) to be aware.

In advance of these rules however, Abu Dhabi residents who have gained points despite being generally good drivers will have their points wiped before the new regime of fines is introduced. See more [here](#).

#### **Expatriates can now write and register their Wills in Abu Dhabi**

New rules governing Wills in Abu Dhabi mean that non-Muslim expatriates can now dictate where they want their assets to go when they die and these Wills can be registered for approximately Dh500. See more [here](#).

#### **Abu Dhabi Taxi Fares Increased from June 1<sup>st</sup>**

June the 1<sup>st</sup> marked the date for an increase in taxi fares for Abu Dhabi Residents. [Click](#) for more details. The daytime starting fare is now Dh5 (up from Dh3.5) and at night the starting fare is Dh5.50 (up from Dh4).

#### **Improved maternity leave for Women in Dubai**

A new Decree increases maternity leave for woman in Dubai and aims to promote a balance between career and family. Any permanent employee is now entitled to 90 days of maternity leave from the date of delivery. There are also regulations around Dubai Government entities establishing nurseries for employees' children in certain circumstances. Click [here](#) for more information.

#### **Smart phones are the new passports at Terminal 3 in Dubai!**

Thanks to the new UAE Wallet app, passengers flying from Terminal 3 at Dubai International Airport can now use their smart phones at smart gates instead of their passports. Find out more by clicking [here](#).



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### **Swimwear alert at new Dubai Beaches**

Two new beaches in Dubai have been designated for women and families only. Strict dress codes will apply and bathers have been asked to cover their bikinis and dress modestly. [Click](#) for more details.

### **Important information for pet owners!**

Pet owners in the UAE, including those who own any of the banned breeds of dogs, are required to obtain a licence and vaccination certificate before July 1<sup>st</sup>. See more [here](#). This follows news earlier in the year that 5 additional dog breeds were to be on the banned list, [click here](#) for more information.

### **Travelling with small babies this summer?**

Click [here](#) for Emirates Airline's top tips on travelling with infants.

### **Great news for UAE Residents!**

An online crime index has rated Abu Dhabi as the safest city in the world, coming in 288<sup>th</sup> place out of 288 cities for rates of crime! As if that isn't good enough Dubai is also up there as one of the world's safest cities in 279<sup>th</sup> place! Read more [here](#)

### **UK/UAE 2017: A Year of Creative Collaboration**

The cultural exchange programme between the United Kingdom and the United Arab Emirates, celebrates the long-standing relationship between the two countries and looks to strengthen existing cultural and economic ties.

The spring programme, marking the first half of UK/UAE 2017, is nearly at an end, having engaged with over 88 thousand members of the public across the UAE. For more information about UK/UAE 2017 and its upcoming programming, please [visit](#).

### **Contact Numbers**

British Embassy: Abu Dhabi Tel: 02 610 1100; Dubai Tel: 04 309 4444

### **Gov.uk Website**

The UK's worldwide pages and consular information have moved to the new government's single website Gov.uk. There is [useful information about the UAE](#) on there.

### **Social Media sites**

Click on the icons below to follow us on Facebook, Twitter & instagram forums. We would like to hear from you!

