



Abu Dhabi and Dubai Andy Bowe Visits the Emirates: 2011



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# Abu Dhabi and Dubai

## Andy Bowe Visits the Emirates in 2011

In February 2011, Andy and Bill Bowe flew from Chicago to Abu Dhabi, capital of the United Arab Emirates. The next day they departed by car for Dubai, an 87-mile drive northeast through the desert along the southern Persian Gulf coast.

Dubai, the fastest growing of the Emirates, is a stunning venue of modern architecture, including the 163-story Burj Khalifa, designed by Chicago's Skidmore, Owings & Merrill and the world's tallest building. Serviced by a new elevated, rapid transit spine, hundreds of office and residential skyscrapers have been built in the last decade alone.

The oddly named "The Address Downtown" Hotel, where Andy and Bill stayed in Dubai, had fine views of Burj Khalifa and the Dubai Mall (the largest in the Middle East). The room also overlooked a 30-acre artificial lake with a computer-controlled, musical fountain. It was modeled after the dancing waters of the Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas, (but bigger of course).

Before departing from Dubai for New Delhi, India to continue their trip, we took time in Dubai to see the Marina District with its architectural wonders, and The Palm Jumeirah Island, an artificial island jutting into the Gulf, with high-end residential and hotel structures.

Jumeirah Beach afforded great views of the sailboat-like Burj Al Arab Hotel, with its rooms priced prohibitively for us at \$1,500 a night.

As we drove from the Beach north to see Dubai Creek, the spice market and the gold souk, we went past mansions, mosques, transplanted U.S. fast food outposts and palaces of the local sheiks.

Having now been to two of the Emirates, I think it's fair to say Las Vegas is no longer the only desert oddity on the planet.

Bill Bowe  
Northbrook, IL  
May, 2011





**Above:** Andy Bowe in the Park Arjaan Hotel by the Sheikh Zayed Bridge in Abu Dhabi, capital of the UAE **Right:** Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque







**Above:** Aldar headquarters building in Abu Dhabi

**Left:** 200 year-old Al Maqtaa Fort, Abu Dhabi



Khalifa bin Zayed, UAE President



Mosque on the 90 minute drive northeast from Abu Dhabi to Dubai



A large billboard with a white background and a desert landscape at the bottom. On the left, it says "حكومة دبي" (Government of Dubai) in Arabic and "GOVERNMENT OF DUBAI" in English. The main text in large red letters reads "SPEED KILLS". Below this, it states "Goal : Zero fatality per 100 thousands of population by 2020". On the right, it says "Sponsored By" followed by the logo and name of "Bin Haider" (Isa Bin Haider). The logo features a scale of justice and a sword. The bottom of the billboard shows a desert scene with a fence and sparse vegetation.

A billboard with a green and white design. The main text reads "Reduce Carbon footprint" in large, bold letters. Below it is the website "www.mecsd.com". The background shows a globe and a green field. To the right, another part of the billboard says "Middle East for Sustainable Development".

A billboard for Microsoft and Windows Phone. The Microsoft logo is on the left. The main part of the billboard features a large image of a Windows Phone with the text "Windows Phone" and a large number "7" on a red background. The billboard is mounted on a modern building with a curved facade and large windows.





Za'beet (شمال) رصيف (North) الشارقة  
Al Sharjah (North) Al Sharjah

شارع الميدان  
شارع الحديثة  
Al Meydan St  
Al Hadiqa St

47  
69  
700



**Above:** Burj Khalifa; Andy Bowe at the Burj Khalifa and Lake Dubai; Address Downtown Hotel and Lake Dubai

**Left:** Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building, at 2716.5 feet, 160 stories, seen from the road into Dubai from Abu Dhabi



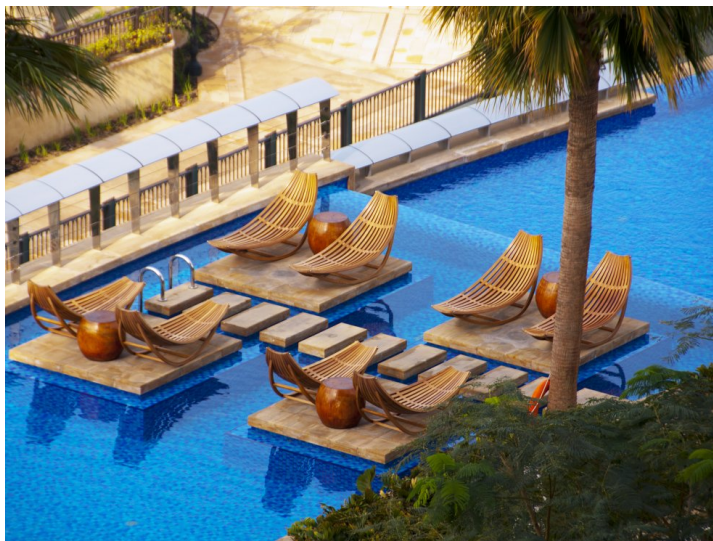
**Left:** Lake Dubai and Burj Khalifa

**Below:** Address Downtown Hotel infinity pool











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**Left:** The Palm Island

**Below:** Atlantis the Palm Dubai Hotel









Andy Bowe on Jumeirah Beach by the Burj Al Arab Hotel



















Palace of  
Dubai's Sheik  
Mohammed  
Bin Rashid Al  
Maktoum



Left:  
Jumeirah Road  
Mosque, Dubai







Clockwise: Dubai government buildings; air conditioned bus stop; and Rodeo Drive Factory Outlet sign



Spice Market



THE GOLD CENTER

Jewel Plaza جیوئل پلازا

روزنی راج  
rosyblue

Su-Raj  
Enter Gold

کانوار  
kanwar





Andy Bowe entering the gold souk





Andy Bowe cools off at a Baskin Robins in the gold souk before departing for New Delhi, India