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FIKANI 2023: Environmental Preservation with Hydrogen Innovation



Whale Shark Watching
at Oslob, Philippines

Four Seasons Hotel
Istanbul at Bosphorus

Sigiriya: Majestic
Fortress

Urban Elegance:
City Centre Sharjah

Christmas in Dubai:
A Glittering Celebration

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FIKANI 2023: International Tourism Fair Advocates for Environmental Preservation with Hydrogen Innovation

The recently concluded FIKANI the 9th Edition of the International Tourism exhibition was continuity and held at Maputo the capital of Mozambique was inaugurated by the country's Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Adriano Maleiane, who presided over the opening ceremony alongside the Minister of Culture & Tourism H.E. Ms. Eldevina Materula, other national and international visitors, lends credence to the importance of this gathering on a global scale and highlights the event's relevance.



“FIKANI – For Sustainable Tourism”, this event was a resounding cry for more environmentally responsible business practices in the tourism industry. The selection of this topic underlines the worldwide imperative to address

environmental problems and minimize the implications of climate change, with the inclusion of hydrogen (H₂) innovation standing out as particularly significant.



H.E. Eldevina Materula, the Minister of Culture and Tourism for the African nation of Mozambique, in her speech highlighted the wide variety of anticipated attendees for the event. These attendees included her representatives of tourism and cultural services, travel agencies, accommodation and catering establishments, and public and private institutions.



It is anticipated that participants from other countries, such as those from the Kingdom of Eswatini, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates, and Zimbabwe, have contributed and will continue their contribution of the global discussion on sustainable tourism practices, including incorporating hydrogen technology.



H.E. Minister Materula emphasized that the critical goal of FIKANI 2023 is to build partnerships and attract investments to capitalize on the country's tourist industry. In addition to this goal, the event highlighted Mozambique's current potential in the hopes of enticing local and international players to contribute to expanding the tourism industry.



“We hope to see partnerships established between exhibitors and visitors, as well as to reinforce the country’s position as a favored destination for tourism and investment”, the Minister told reporters. The event aimed to increase the private sector’s capacity to strengthen customer loyalty, boost domestic tourism, and heighten public interest in Mozambique as a vacation destination.



As a government-sponsored platform, FIKANI made it easier for those working in the hospitality, tourism, and culture industries to come together. The event gave a one-of-a-kind opportunity to highlight investment opportunities, promote corporate endeavors, and bring attention to potential leisure options.



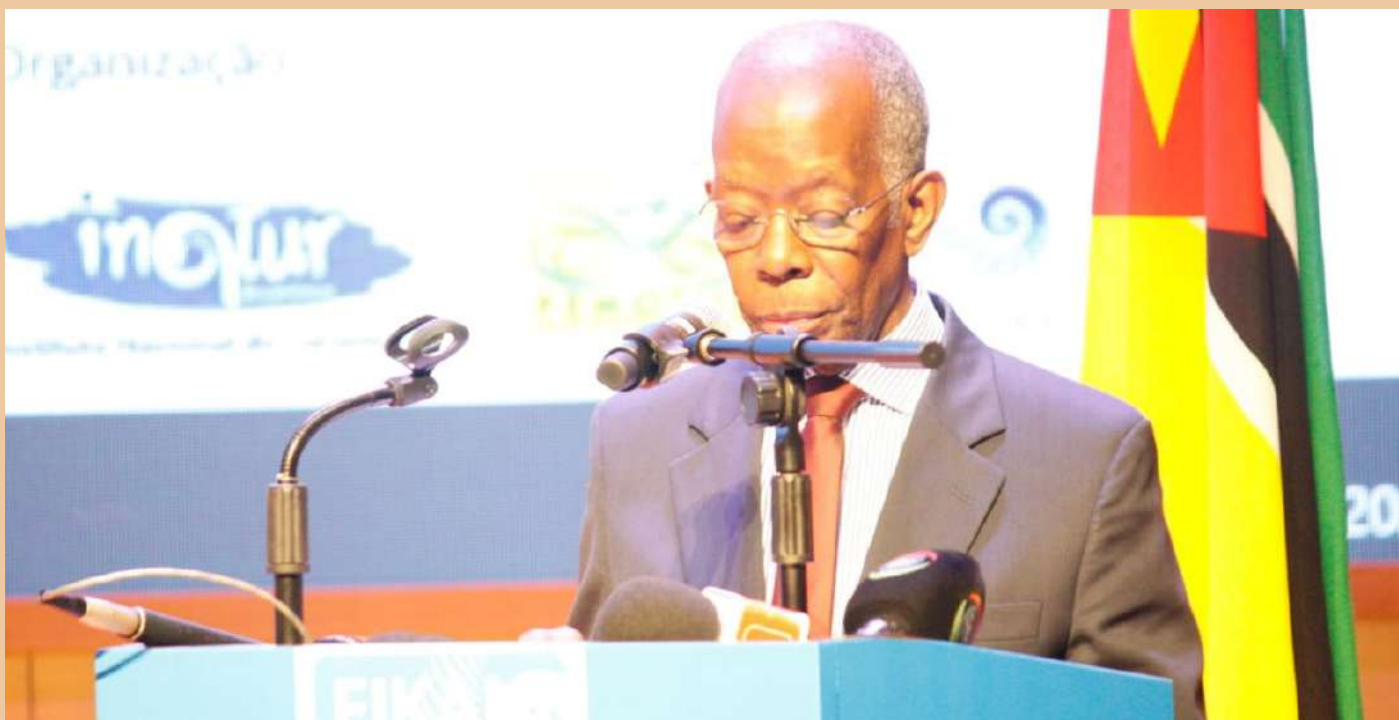
FIKANI 2023 offered itself as a platform for business and pleasure and for fostering responsible and eco-friendly tourism practices, including the research of hydrogen as a clean energy source, by centering its subject on sustainability. This allows FIKANI 2023 to establish itself as a platform that emphasizes on working towards sustainability.



FIKANI 2023 represents a significant step towards aligning the tourism industry with global sustainability targets. This is because the international community is becoming more aware of the significance of environmental preservation and is welcoming advances such as hydrogen technology. The expo is prepared to contribute to the evolution of Mozambique as an environmentally conscious and sought-after destination by highlighting the significance of responsible tourism and adopting innovative solutions such as hydrogen that benefit both the environment and local populations.



Opening ceremony of FIKANI 2023 PM of Mozambique H.E.Mr. Adriano Maleiane and culture & Tourism Minister H.E. Ms. Eldevina Materula and other the dignitaries at the opening ceremony.



His Excellency the PM of Mozambique Mr. Adriano Maleiane giving speech at the opening ceremony of 9th FIKANI at Maputo, Mozambique



Excellencies The PM & Minister of Culture & Tourism and other dignitaries at the opening ceremony of 9th FIKANI from 30th Nov till 3rd Dec 2023 at Maputo, Mozambique.

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MOZAMBIQUE

Whale Shark Watching and Other Tourist Activities in Oslob, Cebu, Philippines

The charming town of Oslob in Cebu, tucked away in the heart of the Philippines, is well-known worldwide for its breathtaking whale shark viewing, which attracts tourists worldwide to see these fantastic animals up close. In addition to the whale shark encounter, Oslob has many other tourism offerings highlighting the area's stunning natural surroundings and rich cultural legacy.

Whale Shark Watching:

The word "Oslob" has come to mean whale shark viewing, an exceptional and surreal experience that lets tourists see the most significant living fish in their natural environment. Visitors can snorkel next to these gentle giants on organized boat tours led by local fishermen who have transitioned into environmental stewards.



An annual attraction, whale sharks, often called “butanding,” migrate to the warm seas of Oslob to feed on plankton. Strict regulations are in place to guarantee the guests’ safety and well-being, as well as the protection of the whale sharks. Trained guides accompany every boat to teach tourists how to engage responsibly.



Other Tourist Activities in Oslob:

1- Tumalog Falls:

Tumalog Falls, set amid lush flora and a falling water curtain, attracts visitors just a short distance from the town center. Here is a hidden gem where guests can marvel at the natural beauty or enjoy a relaxing dip in the calm waters.



2- Oslob Church (Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Parish Church):

Take a tour of the centuries-old Oslob Church, a reminder of



the town's Spanish colonial past, and immerse yourself in the rich history of Oslob. The church is a great place to reflect and take pictures because of its beautiful architecture and calm environment.

3. Sumilon Island:

Sumilon Island, a tropical paradise with immaculate white sand beaches and crystal-clear waters, is reachable by boat from Oslob. The island provides chances for beach lounging, diving, and snorkeling.



4 - Cuartel and Baluarte:

Discover the historical side of Oslob by going to the nearby Baluarte watchtower, which was used as a lookout for pirate raids, and the Cuartel, an incomplete building constructed during the Spanish colonial era. These locations offer a window into the town's colorful history.



5. Whale Shark Museum:

Go to the Whale Shark Museum in Oslob to learn about whale sharks and marine conservation. The museum offers informative displays on the history of





whale-shark interactions in the region, the significance of conservation efforts, and the marine ecosystem.

In conclusion, Oslob, Cebu, entices those seeking adventure, those who love the outdoors, and those who are interested in history. This location offers the ideal fusion of natural wonders and cultural diversity, from the breathtaking whale shark viewing to the tranquil beauty of Tumulog Falls and the ancient charm of Oslob Church. As tourists partake in these adventures, they leave with priceless memories and support sustainable tourism initiatives that protect Oslob's natural beauty for future generations.



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Credit By: Heart of Sharjah

Heart of Sharjah City: Discovering Urban Elegance, City Centre Sharjah

The City Centre of Sharjah is a major shopping and leisure destination in the heart of the emirate. It blends retail therapy, entertainment, and dining in a way that makes it a hub for both residents of Sharjah and tourists to the Emirates. Majid Al Futtaim owns and operates this expansive complex, which features a wide variety of activities, amenities, and shops. This complex is ideal for individuals who are looking for an urban environment that offers a variety of different kinds of experiences.

Shopping:

1- Retail Outlets:

The City Centre of Sharjah is home to many local and international companies, including those in fashion, electronics, beauty, and lifestyle products. Shoppers can discover various options to fit every taste and inclination, ranging from high-end luxury labels to famous names seen on high-street retail chains.

Credit By: Bayut



2- Hypermarket:

The hypermarket within the City Centre of Sharjah provides a simple one-stop shopping experience, offering a broad assortment of food, fresh produce, household supplies, and more. This makes shopping at the hypermarket ideal for those looking to save time. It is

designed to meet the day-to-day requirements of both the locals and the guests.

Entertainment:

1- VOX Cinemas:

At VOX Cinemas, moviegoers can enjoy the most recent box office hits in an environment that features state-of-the-art screening technologies and a variety of cinematic experiences. City Centre Sharjah accommodates a wide variety of movie choices, from regular showings to VIP and IMAX experiences and basic screenings.



2- Magic Planet:

An indoor entertainment complex ideal for families, Magic Planet features a wide selection of arcade games, rides, and other attractions that are enjoyable for children and adults of all ages. It's the place perfect for spending a day of laughs and good times with your nearest and dearest.



Dining:

1- Diverse Cuisine Options:

The City Centre of Sharjah has many dining options, ranging from cozy cafes to elegant restaurants. Visitors can sample cuisines from around the world, including

those from Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and more. The varied culinary options are suited to satisfy various taste preferences.

2- Food Court:

The food court is a lively location where customers may grab a bite to eat on the go or take their time eating a full-course meal. It offers a selection of quick-service restaurants and restaurants that serve more relaxed fare, making it a practical alternative for customers taking a break from their shopping.



Credit By: Bayut

Facilities:

1- Prayer Rooms:

Visitors who desire to observe their religious practices in a tranquil and devoted environment can use the prayer rooms provided by the City Centre, which reflects the rich cultural diversity found in Sharjah.



Credit By: The National

2- Customer Service and Amenities:

The shopping center is dedicated to offering excellent customer service and has information desks and staff members eager to assist guests. Additionally, amenities like baby changing rooms and pram services improve the quality of the shopping experience as a whole.



3- Parking Facilities:

Visitors arriving in the City Centre of Sharjah by automobile can expect a pleasant and stress-free experience thanks to the considerable parking space provided for them. The availability of valet parking services further enhances the convenience.

City Centre Sharjah is a bustling urban attraction that provides visitors with an extensive selection of retail, entertainment, and food options. This dynamic complex caters to a wide range of interests, making it a vital hub for leisure and recreation in Sharjah. Whether visitors are looking for the newest fashion trends, indulging in a cinematic adventure, enjoying a family-friendly outing, or savoring varied cuisines, this complex has something for everyone, which is why it is such a popular destination.

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Experiencing Luxury and Elegance: Four Seasons Hotel Istanbul at Bosphorus

The Four Seasons Hotel Istanbul at the Bosphorus, perched on the banks of the famous Bosphorus Strait, is a symbol of luxury that skillfully combines contemporary elegance with the city's rich cultural legacy. This five-star hotel provides guests with luxurious lodging, fine dining options, soothing spa services, and stunning views of the Bosphorus, making it an unmatched experience.

Accommodations:

An array of luxurious lodging options is available at the Four Seasons Hotel Istanbul at the Bosphorus, from elegant rooms to opulent suites. The carefully considered design of each room creates a comfortable and sleek ambiance by harmonizing modern and traditional Turkish elements. Choose from rooms with views of the Bosphorus, garden terraces, or private balconies to guarantee a unique and opulent stay.



Dining:

1 - AQUA Restaurant:

AQUA Restaurant, which has a view of the Bosphorus, provides a classy dining experience with a Mediterranean and

seafood-focused menu. Savoring freshly caught fish prepared to perfection by the hotel's famous culinary experts, guests may take in the peaceful atmosphere of the Bosphorus.



2. Lounge

Light snacks, afternoon tea, and signature cocktails are served in the elegant Lounge at Four Seasons Istanbul at the Bosphorus. The lounge's patio, which offers expansive views of the Bosphorus and the old city skyline, is the ideal place to unwind.



3. YALI Lounge

Named after the waterfront palaces along the Bosphorus, the YALI Lounge is a classy establishment that offers Ottoman and Turkish cuisine. Enjoy a sophisticated and cozy culinary adventure with other guests through the tastes of Istanbul.

Credit By: Four Season



Facilities:

1. Wellness and Spa:

The hotel's spa provides a variety of treatments and therapies and is modeled after the classic Turkish hammam. Relax in the peaceful setting while indulging in health rituals, massages, and facials that blend cutting-edge methods with time-honored customs.

Credit By: Pierreblake



2- Fitness Center:

The hotel has a cutting-edge fitness center with the newest equipment for workout fans and a committed staff of personal trainers. For those who would rather work out outside, the jogging trail with a view of the Bosphorus is ideal.



Credit By: Savour BlackBookAsia

3- Swimming Pool:

Surrounded by lush grounds, the outdoor swimming pool provides a tranquil haven with breathtaking views of the Bosphorus. For a genuinely opulent experience, guests can take a refreshing dip, unwind on the loungers by the pool, or order poolside service.

Credit By: Trivapdvisor



4- Business and Event Spaces:

With its adaptable meeting and event facilities, the Four Seasons Hotel Istanbul at the Bosphorus is great for social events, conferences, and business meetings. The hotel's skilled event staff guarantees flawless implementation and an unforgettable experience for every guest.

Offering visitors an unmatched experience in one of the most dynamic and ancient cities on earth, the Four Seasons Hotel Istanbul at the Bosphorus is a monument to elegance and sophistication. Every element of this hotel, from the opulent lodging and mouthwatering food options to the revitalizing spa treatments and cutting-edge amenities, is intended to deliver a luxurious and unforgettable stay on the Bosphorus coastline.





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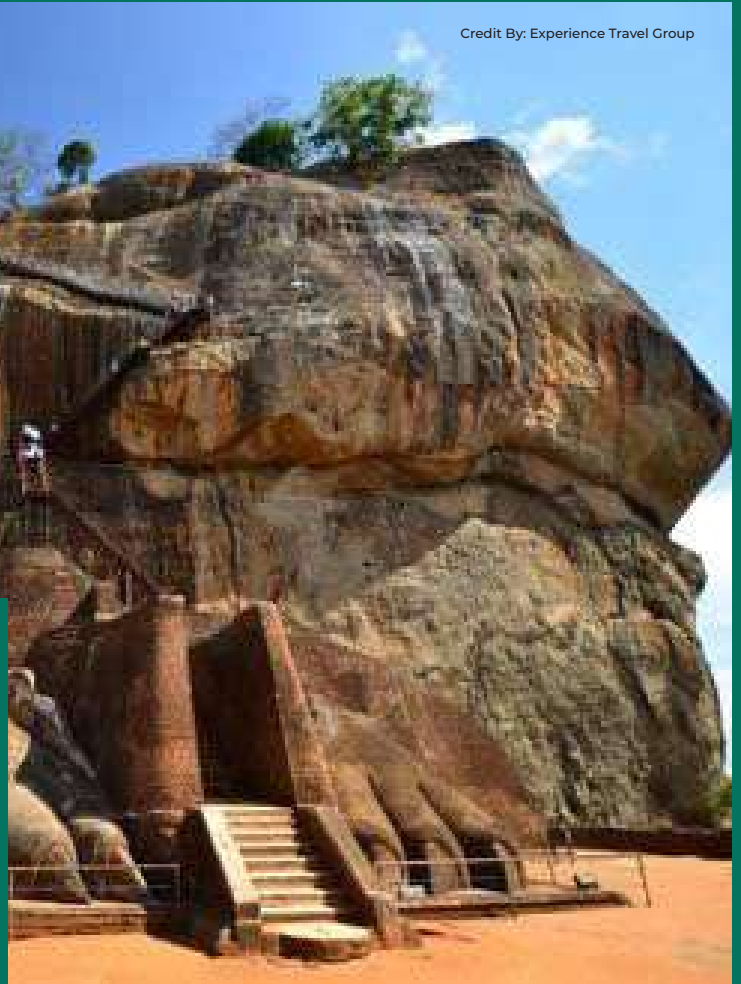
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Sigiriya: The Majestic Fortress and Artistic Haven of Sri Lanka



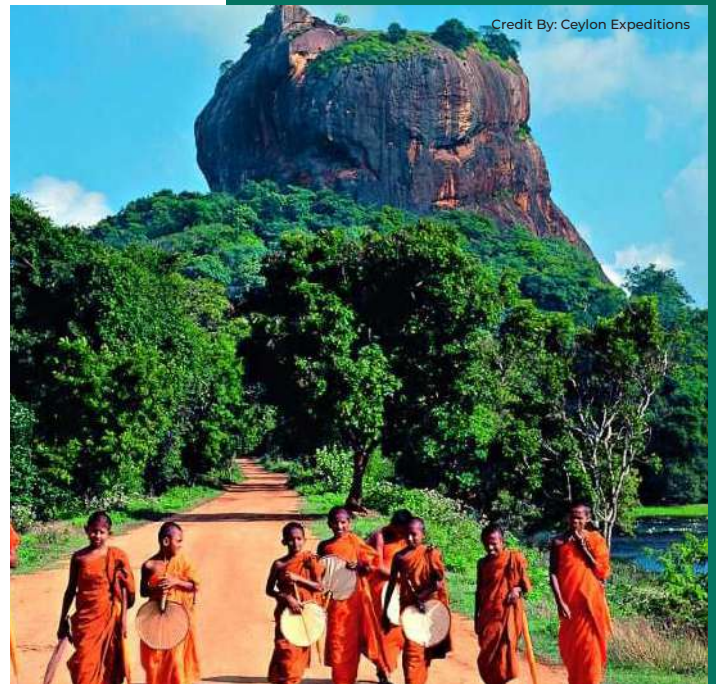
The ancient city of Sigiriya, which can be found in the center of Sri Lanka's Cultural Triangle, is a living witness to the island nation's illustrious past and remarkable architectural achievements. Sigiriya, located in Sri Lanka and recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is frequently referred to as

the **"Eighth Wonder of the World,"** it draws tourists from all over the world. This archaeological and historical treasure trove fuses flawlessly the splendour of nature, the importance of culture, and the artistic genius of its inhabitants.

Historical Significance:

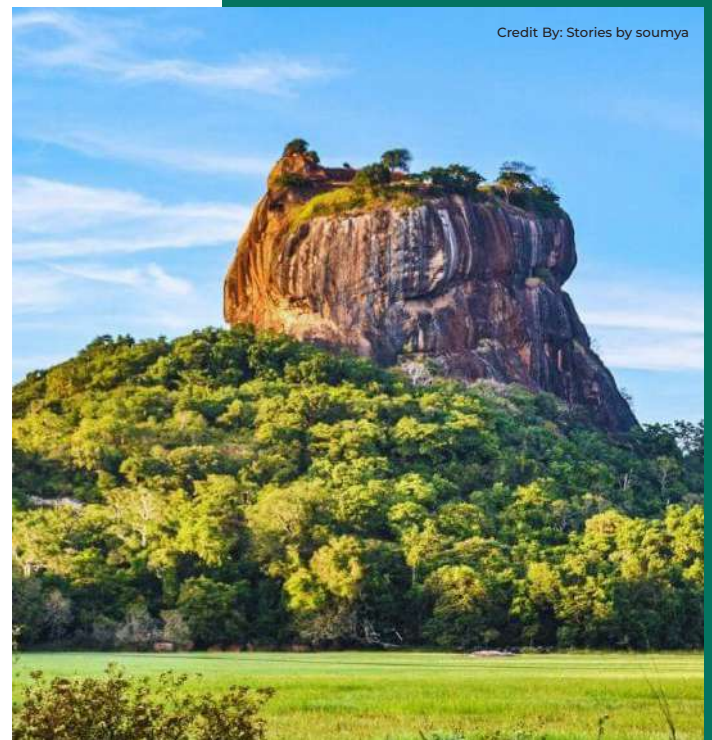
Sigiriya's history may be traced back to the 5th century when it was used as a religious retreat. However, the most well-known part of its history begins with King

Kasyapa I, who, in the fifth century A.D., decided to build his royal palace on a spectacular rock outcrop in the area. Sigiriya was developed into a sophisticated castle by the monarch so that he could achieve both grandeur and security in his realm. The fortress had moats, gardens, and various defensive buildings.



The Iconic Rock Fortress:

The sudden ascent of the Sigiriya Rock, a gigantic monolith used as the foundation for Kasyapa's palace, dominates the surrounding terrain. The climb to the top is an adventure in and of itself, as visitors make their way through carefully constructed gardens, staircases, and old frescoes on their way to the summit.



Frescoes:

The walls of Sigiriya are covered in vivid murals that depict heavenly maidens



Credit By: Adventure Geographic

known as “Apsaras.” These ancient murals, found in a nook protected from the elements, demonstrate the artistic prowess of the old Sri Lankan culture and provide a glimpse into the regal courts of days gone by.

The Lion’s Paw Entrance:

The Lion’s Paw entryway, which a gigantic brick lion previously guarded, is one of the most recognizable aspects of Sigiriya. It is at the top of the last staircase leading up to the palace. Visitors are nevertheless captivated by the vast paws, which set the stage for the magnificence that previously awaited them at the peak, even though the lion’s head has suffered significant erosion in recent years.

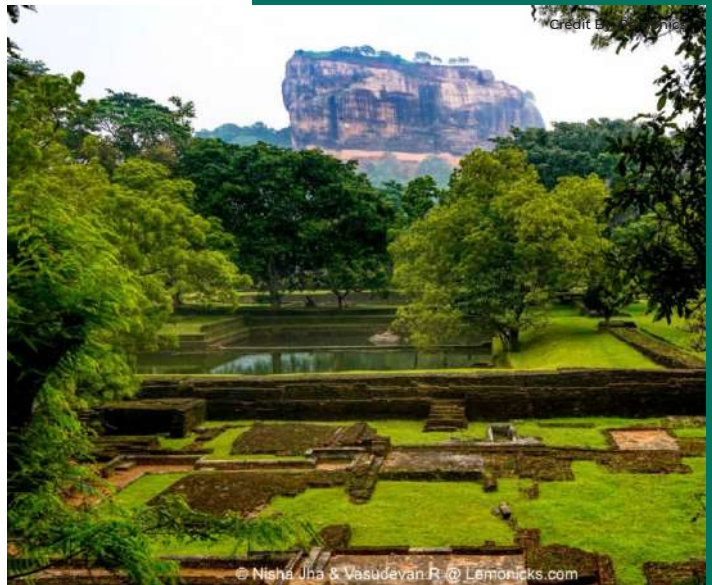


Credit By: Reddit

The Royal Gardens:

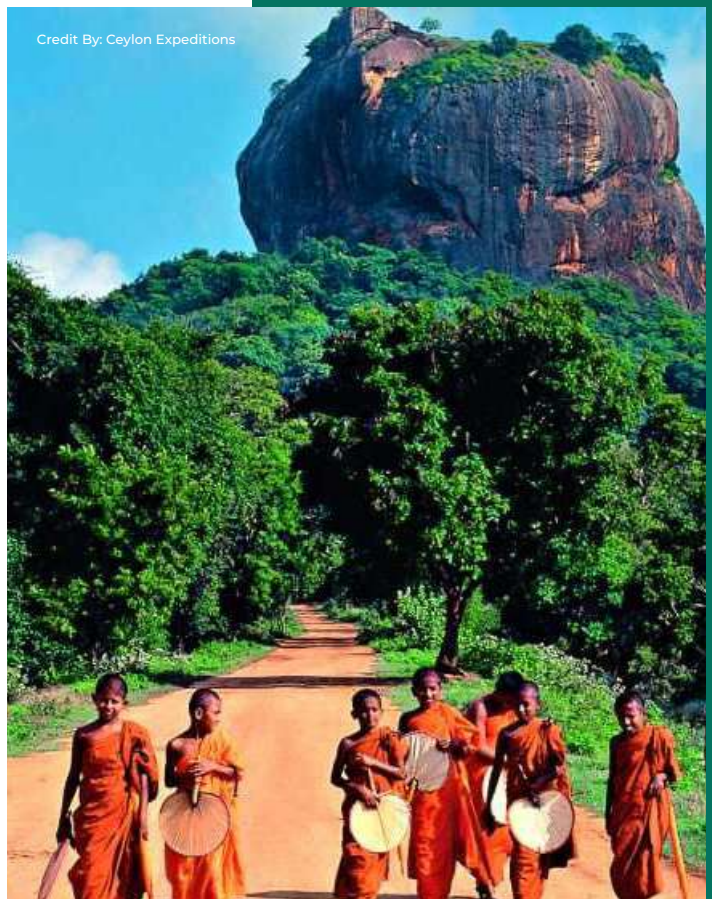
The terraced gardens surrounding Sigiriya are an excellent example of ancient landscaping design. These gardens are comprised of symmetrical water gardens,

boulder gardens, and terraced gardens, and they are spread across three separate levels. The ancient people who lived here had a sophisticated understanding of hydraulics, reflected in the engineering accuracy of these gardens, complete with fountains and ponds.



Cultural Heritage:

The ancient citadel of Sigiriya is more than just a fort; it is also a living witness to the cultural history of Sri Lanka. Visitors are given the impression of being transported back in time thanks to the brilliant combination of architectural design, creative expression, and the allure of natural beauty. The location, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, highlights its importance in the story of cultures worldwide.



Visitor Experience:

Sigiriya offers tourists of the modern era a unique experience that combines the area's natural beauty

Credit By: The Culture Map



with its rich historical past. The ascent to the top of the mountain provides a sensory voyage through time with breathtaking views of the landscapes that are located all around you. Visitors get a more well-rounded experience at Sigiriya because of the knowledgeable guides who are stationed there and relate the myths and traditions linked with the site.

Preservation Efforts:

As a result of Sri Lanka's recognition of the significance of maintaining this cultural jewel, the island nation has taken steps to protect and conserve Sigiriya. Ongoing initiatives include:

- Protecting the authenticity of the rock paintings.
- Preserving the appearance of the historic structures.
- Fostering environmentally responsible tourism practices.

Credit By: Vietnam Times



Due to its imposing rock fortress, intricate gardens, and old frescoes, Sigiriya is an unrivaled destination for those passionate about history, cultural enthusiasts, and nature lovers alike. Sigiriya is still a symbol of the rich heritage of Sri Lanka, and it continues to captivate the imaginations of all who visit it. It extends an invitation to the rest of the world to investigate the mysteries and marvels of this ancient site.

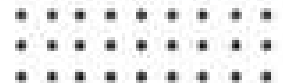


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Christmas in Dubai: A Glittering Celebration in the Desert Oasis

Known for its breathtaking skyline, abundant shopping, and vast cultural attractions, Dubai becomes a winter wonderland during the holiday season. Christmas may not be a traditional holiday in the United Arab Emirates, but Dubai celebrates the season with bright lights, joyous occasions, and a distinctive fusion of cultures.

Extravagant Decorations:

Dubai's skyline is illuminated with dazzling Christmas lights in December. The world's tallest building, the famed Burj Khalifa, frequently has seasonal light displays that reflect visuals with holiday themes onto its imposing exterior. Giant Christmas trees, twinkling lights, and festive

decorations abound in these enchanted winter wonderlands, which malls like The Dubai Mall and The Mall of the Emirates expertly construct.

Mall Celebrations:

The world-famous malls in Dubai elevate Christmas festivities to a new level. For example, the Mall of the Emirates organizes an annual “Festive Market” where guests may purchase unusual presents, indulge in festive fare, and engage in various activities. Santa Claus frequently appears to cheer up the crowd and pose for pictures with happy kids.



Winter Markets:

The diverse population of Dubai makes sure that Christmas is observed with a worldwide flair. Winter markets sprout up throughout the city, modeled after European Christmas markets. These markets have a warm ambiance reminiscent



of classic Christmas markets, with vendors offering handcrafted goods, seasonal drinks, and festive food.

Christmas Dinners and Brunches:

Dubai has a diverse food scene, which is even more alluring during the holiday season. Special Christmas brunches and dinners, with various international cuisines and traditional holiday foods, are available at many hotels and restaurants. Dubai offers many choices to satisfy every taste, from opulent buffets to exquisite dining experiences.



Holiday Services:

Christmas services are held in Dubai's churches for those who want a more spiritual experience. Christmas Day services and midnight masses are held by many churches, including St. Mary's Catholic Church, which offers a venue for locals and guests to join together in joy.



Outdoor Celebrations:

The excellent winter weather in Dubai encourages outdoor celebrations. Events like open-air movie evenings, live concerts, and carol singing occur in parks and public areas, fostering a joyful atmosphere that families and friends can enjoy together.



New Year's Eve Extravaganza:

Even though it's not exactly Christmas, Dubai's countdown to the New Year is a spectacle that eloquently continues the holiday festivities. The Burj Khalifa and other iconic sites host the city's famous fireworks display, which ushers in the new year with unmatched splendor.



Cultural Sensitivity:

Dubai is a diverse city that respects and allows for a wide

range of cultural and religious beliefs. No matter one's background, everyone may enjoy the joyous sense of camaraderie and joy that characterizes Christmas celebrations.

Dubai's Christmas traditions combine the coziness of holiday customs with the city's modernity to create a singular and captivating experience. Dubai encourages locals and guests to experience the season's magic, making enduring memories against the skyline of this desert oasis with lavish decorations and multicultural celebrations. Christmas in Dubai celebrates harmony, diversity, and the joy that unites people regardless of geography, whether it is spent dining at a festive feast or meandering around glistening malls.



Credit By: The National

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