

## YAS ISLAND – THE DESTINATION Press Information

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## YAS ISLAND – THE DESTINATION

### Overview

Yas Island is strategically located off the city of Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates, and is within 30 minutes driving distance to Abu Dhabi's city centre and 50 minutes to Dubai. With construction well on its way since 2007, the entertainment destination of Yas Island will eventually occupy a total land area of 25km<sup>2</sup> with approximately 17km<sup>2</sup> used for development.

The island will play host to numerous attractions, such as a world-class racing circuit, signature hotels, theme parks, marinas, golf courses and much more. Yas Island will cater to the local resident population as well as international tourists.

### Access

Connected to the mainland by road, Yas Island will have a detailed and sophisticated public transport system. In addition, a new 10-lane highway connects Yas Island to both Abu Dhabi and Dubai and has reduced the drive time to Abu Dhabi City to approximately 15 minutes, and the drive time to Dubai Marina to approximately 50 minutes. Yas Island is also only a 10 minute drive from Abu Dhabi's International Airport.

### Yas Marina Circuit

The Yas Marina Circuit will wind its way around Yas Island's spectacular landscape, playing host to the inaugural 2009 Formula 1™ Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix in November 2009. The Yas Hotel is built over the track itself, offering an unrivalled view of the circuit.

The track will be unlike any seen in the world today and will be a challenge even to the most experienced driver. German architect Hermann Tilke, most notable for the Grand Prix circuit in Shanghai, has incorporated high speed passes, varying elevations, slow cornering and a marina which all compliment this spectator friendly track. The track also boasts the longest straight in Formula 1, and a tunnel joining the pit lane with the main circuit. For more information on Yas Marina Circuit and the Formula 1™ Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, visit [www.yasmarinacircuit.ae](http://www.yasmarinacircuit.ae).

### Marinas

Following the completion of two world class marinas, Yas Island will contain numerous berths for permanent and guest use. Overlooking the Yas Circuit, Yas Marina will be home to the iconic Yas Hotel and an exclusive yacht club on the marina's edge. The southern marina, a potential 2,000 berth marina and yacht haven, will be host to seasonal festivals and events.

### **Ferrari World Abu Dhabi**

Ferrari World Abu Dhabi will be the world's first Ferrari and the largest indoor theme park, set to open to the public in 2010. Ferrari World Abu Dhabi pays tribute to Ferrari's brand essence: excellence, performance, technical innovation and innate Italian heritage with attractions, facilities and food & beverage outlets that offer guests a unique sensory experience, bringing to life the Ferrari story in a way never seen before. Ferrari World Abu Dhabi is a must-visit destination for Ferrari fans and families from across the world.

### **Yas Mall**

Yas Mall will be a super regional shopping mall catering for residents as well as international visitors. At the heart of Yas Island, Aldar's brand new leisure and entertainment destination, the mall will showcase some of the world's leading brands, from volume retailers to high-end designer labels. With department stores, concept stores and fashion boulevards, Yas Mall will set a new world benchmark for retail in Abu Dhabi.

Located at the centre of a new growth area for Abu Dhabi, Yas Mall is easily accessible for shoppers via a convenient and well planned-road network that includes the new ten-lane Shahama-Saadiyat Highway, which passes through Yas Island. Al-Futtaim has already selected Yas Island as the site of the largest IKEA store in the MENA region.

### **Golf**

Yas Island will present the first Links Golf Course in the Middle East region, designed by Kyle Phillips, one of the world's leading golf course designers with a portfolio of work including The Kingsbarn Course at St Andrews, Scotland and The Grove in London. The championship course is located on the west shores of Yas Island, an area of immense ecological significance to Aldar and the Yas Island project, with an area of new mangrove plants bringing environmental regeneration. The Course will include 18 holes, a 4000 sqm luxurious clubhouse, floodlit practice ranges and a golf academy. This Links Course is scheduled to open in late 2009. There will be numerous hotels within close proximity and direct transport routes.

### **Aldar Hotels and Hospitality**

Aldar Hotels and Hospitality, established in 2007, has become an industry leader in Abu Dhabi with well established, strong working relationships with leading global and regional hospitality brands and management companies offering products and services which redefine hospitality in Abu Dhabi and the region. Aldar Hotels & Hospitality strives to develop innovative and sustainable assets which deliver new and exciting experiences to Abu Dhabi, through outstanding, motivated staff with bright futures.

### **Residential**

The island will offer a variety of modern low-rise and mixed-use residential apartments, including villas to rent, lease and own.

[www.TheYasHotel.com](http://www.TheYasHotel.com)

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[www.TheYasHotel.com](http://www.TheYasHotel.com)

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Operated by Aldar Hotels and Hospitality

**Notes to Editors:**

**The Yas Hotel**

*Opened in November 2009, The Yas Hotel, operated by Aldar Hotels & Hospitality, is the first hotel in the world to span a Grand Prix circuit, hosting the inaugural 2009 Formula 1 Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix. Offering 499 luxuriously appointed guest rooms, international cuisine in 8 restaurants and pioneering design and architecture, The Yas Hotel will host several illustrious events in its first year, ranging from fashion to sports on a global scale. Located on Yas Island, The Yas Hotel is 10 minutes drive from Abu Dhabi airport, 15 minutes from Abu Dhabi's National Exhibition Centre and 50 minutes from Dubai Marina.*

**Yas Island**

*The Yas Hotel is located on Yas Island, a natural island measuring 7.5km by 6.5km, which is currently being developed by Aldar Properties PJSC. As well as Yas Marina Circuit, the island will feature Ferrari World Abu Dhabi (the world's largest indoor theme park), Yas Links Abu Dhabi - an 18 hole Links Championship golf course - a VIP marina, Yas Marina, a water park and Yas Mall, a super-regional retail experience.*

**Aldar Properties PJSC**

*Aldar Properties PJSC is Abu Dhabi's leading property development, management and investment company. It listed on the Abu Dhabi Securities market in 2004. Aldar was established to support the region's infrastructure through the creation of high quality, attractive and sustainable communities equipped with residential, commercial, retail, leisure, hospitality, education and medical facilities.*

*Aldar's diverse property portfolio includes major developments and re-developments within Abu Dhabi including Yas Island, Al Raha Beach, Central Market and Noor Al Ain. The company owns over 50 million square metres of land in strategic locations throughout the Emirates.*