

PERFECTSTAY AND PLAYCATION al hamra golf club, ras al khaimah

UST under an hour's drive from Dubai International Airport, and away from the hustle and bustle of the UAE's busiest emirate, is one the country's hidden gems in the form of Al Hamra Golf Club and it is proving to be an increasingly popular destination for a golf staycation for those in the know.

Nestled on the shores of the serene Arabian Gulf with the spectacular backdrop of the majestic Hajar Mountains, the pristine Peter Harradine designed course is flanked by three world class hotels – the Hilton Al Hamra Beach & Resort, Waldorf Astoria and Al Hamra Village & Residences.

The course itself, which was upgraded along with the clubhouse ahead of hosting the 2018 Challenge Tour Grand Final, measures 7,325 yards and incorporates two open water lagoons and stunning desert landscapes. With five varying tee options, it's a track which provides a fun and enjoyable test of golf for both seasoned professionals and enthusiastic amateurs and beginners.

And the fun doesn't stop when the sun goes down. The course features floodlights on a selection of holes creating a composite 9-hole course meaning local residents or players from around the emirates can enjoy a round after work or in more bearable temperatures during the summer months.

An 18-hole round can be booked for as low as AED 475 or AED 375 for Troon Executive Card members with nine holes of night golf just AED 250, which can be booked and paid for online on the club's website.

Al Hamra, which has joined with fellow Troon Golf facility, Dubai's The Track Meydan, in leading the way for other clubs in the region in going 'plastic free', is very much a venue which is 'open to all' and has some of the best 'intro to golf' programmes around.

The Al Hamra Golf Academy offers the perfect setting and facilities for those looking to learn the game or for the advanced golfer aiming to enhance their performance. The Academy also features a fully equipped gym so players can work on their golf fitness.

Outside, the large two-tiered grass driving range allows individual golfers to practice with varying shot options catered for on the multipurpose range, combined with dedicated short game practice and putting greens, as well as those tricky bunker shots. PGA Professional coaches are available to provide tuition to those players who may require it.

The Academy Par-3 course also offers golfers the chance to improve their game on holes ranging from 60 to 127 yards or it can even be used for a fun and fast alternative to the championship course. As a nice addition non-golfers can also enjoy a round of footgolf on the Academy Course.

There are also regular family days with bouncy castles and a range of fun activities on offer for the kids while the parents enjoy some top-notch food and beverages on the terrace overlooking the 18th green.



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