



MEMBER TALK WITH HIND GALADARI

HEAD – CENTRAL SERVICES & ATTRACTIONS, EDUCATION & CULTURE, EXPO CITY DUBAI

A CITY OF THE FUTURE

Could you tell us a bit about Expo City Dubai and its vision?

Hind Galadari: Expo City Dubai is an innovation-driven, people-centric city of the future that carries forward the legacy of Expo 2020 Dubai, extending across education, social progress and sustainable thinking. It is one of five hubs in the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan, and designed as a blueprint for sustainable urban planning, galvanising action on its decarbonisation journey.





The city is packed with educational, cultural and entertainment offerings and is establishing itself as a go-to destination for globally significant events. As a commercial hub, its ecosystem supports cross-sector collaboration and provides a springboard for businesses of all sizes to scale and grow. Meanwhile, its residential communities, including the recently launched Expo Valley and Mangrove Residences, redefine urban living, exemplifying best practice in innovative, environment-friendly design with a focus on wellbeing and happiness.

As our city grows and flourishes, we will continue to connect businesses, government, organisations, educational establishments, residents and visitors to work together in order to create a more healthy, balanced and prosperous world.



An immersive nature experience awaits at the Terra Pavilion









Hind Galadari: Expo City's leisure and entertainment offerings bring people from all walks of life together. Across three districts – Opportunity, Mobility and Sustainability – the city offers 45,000 sqm of parks and gardens, running and cycling tracks and children's playgrounds. At the centre, Al Wasl is the beating heart of the site – a plaza enclosed by a dome that acts as an immersive 360-degree projection surface and serves as a hub for celebrations and entertainment.

The districts are car-free, separated by concourses with shaded walkways lined with retail and dining options through which visitors can access a variety of attractions and experiences. These include Terra, The Sustainability Pavilion, where an emotional, transformative experience empowers visitors to make more sustainable choices in their lives and Alif, The Mobility Pavilion, which explores how mobility has driven human progress throughout history, with a spotlight on the contributions of the Arab and Islamic world.

At the Vision Pavilion, visitors are inspired by the dedication and work of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, in shaping the Emirate of Dubai. Meanwhile, reflecting the UAE's prioritisation of gender balance, the Women's Pavilion highlights women's achievements and successes, existing challenges and explores opportunities to create a more equal world. Three 'Stories of Nations' exhibitions – one each in every district – bring to life the event-time experiences of those districts and pay tribute to the 192 countries that participated in our World Expo.

The iconic Surreal water feature continues to welcome visitors, and the Garden in the Sky observation tower is the ideal viewpoint to take in Expo City in its entirety and witness its growth and evolution.





How is the legacy of Expo 2020 Dubai being continued in the development's new phase as Expo City Dubai?



Hind Galadari: The spirit of connecting minds to shape a brighter future, lives on at Expo City, which is a model of urban sustainability committed to driving human progress.

Many of Expo 2020 Dubai's impactful initiatives continue to thrive, enabling individuals and groups of all ages and backgrounds to join us. For example, the Expo Live Innovation Programme is supporting projects from around the world that offer solutions to improve people's lives or preserve the planet. While the Expo School Programme continues to foster a spirit of discovery and learning and inspire future generations.

Sustainability cuts across every aspect of our city, and our comprehensive sustainability strategy maintains and expands on many of the programmes implemented during Expo 2020, from our food rescue programme to waste management and our decarbonisation strategy, among others.

Furthermore, as a growing commercial hub, we welcome businesses who align with our values, creating avenues for meaningful and impactful collaboration.



Find exploration and education at Expo City Dubai

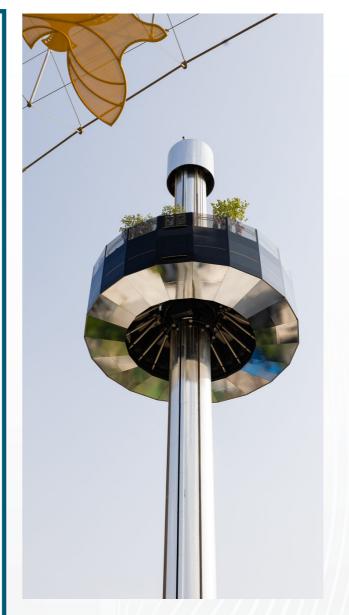




How does Expo City plan to contribute to as well as stand out from the already thriving leisure and entertainment industry in Dubai?

Hind Galadari: The Expo City already stands out as a contributor to the UAE's leisure and entertainment industry having hosted and delivered an exceptional Expo 2020. The first World Expo to be held in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia region, it was also the most international and most inclusive, welcoming 192 nations, each with their own pavilion – a true celebration of culture, human dignity, solidarity and progress.

Now the site that hosted our World Expo is transforming into the UAE's first 15minute and smart city – a community complete with homes, offices, museums, attractions, educational experiences for youth, wellness facilities, amenities and dining options all connected by pedestrian walkways and autonomous vehicles. We maintain the spirit of Expo 2020 as we continue to offer awe-inspiring leisure, entertainment, educational and cultural experiences for all ages.



Touch the clouds in the 'flying park'





Expo City Dubai has been the new go-to destination for events. Please tell us more about your goals as a venue for celebrating festivities and sports along with any upcoming events planned.

Hind Galadari: Since its official opening in October 2022, Expo City has welcomed hundreds of thousands of visitors to a range of events and experiences, including the Hai Ramadan festivities, Winter City, Fan City and Chinese New Year celebrations, holiday camps and movie nights, alongside the Dubai Fitness Challenge, Dubai Marathon, the Dubai UAE Tour road cycle race and many more.

Home to the world-class Dubai Exhibition Centre and the iconic Al Wasl Plaza as well as a wide range of other venues, we have the space and expertise to host a variety of events of all sizes from local, community gatherings to major international events, such as the COP28 climate conference later this year and UNTOLD, one of Europe's biggest music festivals, in February 2024.



Hind Galadari

Head – Central Services & Attractions, Education & Culture, Expo City Dubai

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