Al Ain is an irresistible choice. The mystique of an Arabian adventure combines with all types of visitors – whether seeking the adventure of a cultural experience, an action-packed holiday or simply a relaxing escape. The temperate climate and the facilities for leisure and recreation. The temperate climate and the tourism hub offering a range of attractions, hotels and resorts, and proven natural gas reserves, is now also a bustling business and commercial hub.

**Culture**

Archaeological discoveries suggest that fishing communities were living on the coast in this region thousands of years ago. Once a leading exporter of pearls, Abu Dhabi gradually turned into a major trading centre and, by the end of the 19th century, it gained a reputation for its souks on the coast. The discovery of oil in 1958 had a dramatic effect on the economy of the region, bringing the prosperity evident today. Modern Abu Dhabi brings together old world charm and cosmopolitan chic in a clean and safe environment. It offers a distinctive blend of east and west that appeals to all types of visitors – whether seeking the adventure of a cultural experience, an action-packed holiday or simply a relaxing escape.

**Dress**

Lightweight clothing is suitable most of the year, while in winter something slightly warmer may be needed, especially in the evenings. Air conditioning in hotels, shopping centres and cinemas can be extreme, so take a sweater or jacket. Good quality sunglasses and a hat or other protection for the sun are also strongly advised. Although the attitude towards dress is fairly liberal in the UAE, Al Ain is a little more conservative than the bigger cities, especially in the rural areas outside the city being even more so. It is especially recommended to dress more conservatively during Ramadan.

**Estimated Oil Reserves**

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) comprises seven emirates: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm Al Quwain, Ras Al Khaimah and Fujairah. The country is a member of the Arab Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), an economic grouping that also includes Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, South Arabia and Qatar. Spread over 87,340 square kilometres, Abu Dhabi is the largest of the emirates, accounting for more than 85% of the country’s total landmass. The city of Abu Dhabi is the capital both of the emirate and of the country. It is the federal seat of government and home to most of the ministries and institutions, embassies, state broadcasting facilities and oil companies. The second city is Al Ain and, as the birth place of the late Sheikh Zayed, has special status. The population of Abu Dhabi is currently around 1.6 million and as well as having an estimated 9% of the world’s proven oil reserves and 4% of its total proven natural gas reserves, it is now also a bustling business and tourism hub offering a range of attractions, hotels and resorts, and facilities for leisure and recreation. The temperate climate and the mystique of an Arabian adventure combine to make a visit to Abu Dhabi an irresistible choice.