



15 WONDERFUL WI-FI HOTSPOTS

We ditch the office in favour of some of the city's best Wi-Fi cafés and venues

Little More Café

Following news that Dubai's overcrowded bus shelters may soon be replaced with free wireless internet, we thought we'd celebrate the city's increasing connectivity by rounding up 15 great cafes, restaurants and bars where you can browse the web to your heart's content on a strong internet connection, while dining on great food. We've rated each venue on the vibe, the people and the food served, as well as its unique selling points. So we suggest you leave the office behind and set up shop with a view of Dubai's coastline, in a lush green garden terrace, or within some other wonderful free Wi-Fi zones.

Baker & Spice

The vibe The bright, light-filled terrace is lined with handsome oak-wood furniture, and tempts the taste buds with beautifully displayed salads, cakes and preserves.
The people It's populated by the tanned, toned, amazingly healthy Marina set.
What to order with your Wi-Fi When to start? Why log into the broadband, so you'll recommend the blueberry pancake and banana shake/banana.
Why go? If you live in or around the Marina, this is as good a spot as any to come for breakfast and/or a light lunch.
Dubai Marina (04 362 4090)

Bo House Café

The vibe A busy, busy terrace, with a lush, open-air, happy atmosphere. Even the pavement for the free Wi-Fi fits in with

the theme, though you'll have to pay a visit to find out what it is.
The people A multicultural melting pot.
What to order with your Wi-Fi Grab a sandwich – or the grilled salmon or steak options are real treats – or go for a full meal.
Why go? It's a great place to relax, have a bite to eat and browse the web, and the atmosphere is as surprisingly quiet if you have serious work to do.
The Walk, Jumeirah Beach Residence, www.bohousecafe.com (04 429 9653)

Bunkers

The vibe There's an old school feel to this popular golf clubhouse, but not the restaurant.
The people Expect loose talk, well-heeled golfers and friendly happy drinkers.
What to eat with your Wi-Fi Stick to the club sandwiches and burger options. The

venue also holds themed food nights – look out for the Sri Lankan night on Wednesday.
Why go? It's the perfect opportunity to catch up on your computer against a backdrop of rolling, maintained green lawns and the striking Marina skyline.
The Address Downtown Dubai, Falcon City, JBR (04 300 3630)

Caribou Coffee, JBR

The vibe A cosy family-friendly cafe (this is Dubai) with a warm, friendly atmosphere.
The people Pro-work, remote, local residents of all ages, and occasional business types talking shop.
What to order with your Wi-Fi There are a range of pastries and sweet treats, though the draw is the decent coffee.
Why go? The JBR branch is surprisingly cosy, featuring comfortable leather chairs, where you can relax for some privacy.
Jumeirah Beach Residence (04 427 0543)

Dubai Garden Centre

The vibe Lush, leafy and slightly surreal, the garden centre is a surprisingly popular destination for Dubaiians. It might have something to do with the occasional live music and live wildlife interest.
What to eat with your Wi-Fi Stick to the club sandwiches and burger options. The centre's main cafe serves a selection of

straight, simple dishes such as jacket potatoes and beans on toast.
Why go? As you expect, Dubai Garden Centre is thick with foliage, making it a nice lush, leafy venue in which to lose yourself in your work or catch up with your relatives online.
Sheikh Zayed Road, Al Qudra, www.dubaijardencentre.com (04 331 0000)

Elements Café

The vibe Tucked away in JBR's mall, Elements is a quiet, low-key, intimate lounge tucked into one.
The people You'll find plenty of locals chilling away the time reading, browsing the web or smoking shisha with friends.
What to order with your Wi-Fi We'd recommend the hot starters.
Why go? Well, if you're a shisha-smoking internet user, why wouldn't you go? Well, One Marina (04 204 4202)

McGettigan's

The vibe A casual, sometimes rowdy Irish-themed pub.
The people The bar draws a broad range, from young professionals to weathered expats.
What to order with your Wi-Fi McGettigan's serves great pub grub, including hearty servings of locally sourced such as fish and chips or burgers and mash.

Why go? This isn't the place to finish that all-important presentation – it can get rather boisterous. However, there are few better places to chat to your friends online with a drink in hand.

Bonnington Tower, Jumeirah Lakes Towers, www.mcgettigansdubai.com (04 356 0560).

Make Business Hub

The vibe Sleek and professional, with many a MacBook in sight.

The people Think skinny jeans and thick-rimmed glasses.

What to order with your Wi-Fi Try the all-day breakfast (chicken sausages, scrambled eggs and baked beans), confit duck flatbread or Angus beef flatbread. The coffee is particularly good.

Why go? The whole point of Make is to give freelancers and entrepreneurs a place to meet, brainstorm and, ultimately, work. There are also plenty of power points, so your laptop won't be in danger of running out of juice.

Al Fattan House, Dubai Marina, www.makebusinesshub.com (04 392 9216).

Little More Café

The vibe In spite of the 'Little' prefix, this place has quite a spacious, relaxed vibe.

The people The folks that frequent this new venue are a mixed bunch, from the

coffee-morning crew to dishevelled shoppers and those wanting a pre-cinema snack.

What to eat with your Wi-Fi The menu is extensive considering the purported smallness of the venue. We enjoyed the Thai mango salad, teriyaki salmon and poffertjes (mini pancakes) on our last visit.

Why go? The food is very good and, considering More's proximity to the shops and cinema, it's a perfect place to catch up on your emails before embarking on some fun extra-curricular activities.

Dubai Marina Mall (04 432 4608).

Pascal Tepper French Bakery

The vibe A spacious, eclectic café setup.

The people Its location in Media City ensures this venue is populated by media types – from journalists to sales execs.

What to order with your Wi-Fi The bakery does a great coffee-and-croissant deal for Dhs16, which can be consumed as you browse the newswires. We'd also recommend the 'power smoothie': banana, strawberry, peaches, blueberry, fresh mint and honey.

Why go? Admittedly, it's taken us a while to warm to Pascal Tepper, which suffered a few teething problems when it first opened in 2011. However, the service has found its feet and the food is much better than it used to be. The pièce de