**Alserkal Avenue**

# **Info**

Once an industrial area in the very centre of Dubai, Alserkal Avenue now comprises around 40 warehouses, converted into galleries, dance studios, artisanal cafés and more. The neighbourhood has nurtured a culture of creativity and is now one of the region’s leading art hubs.  
  
Since its humble beginnings as a standalone gallery in 2008, word soon caught on and other galleries moved into the area. Alserkal Avenue soon grew and became a popular parade of gallery exhibits and displays of contemporary artwork, as well as seasonal events and open-air community days.  
  
It’s the first such precinct to exist in the UAE and comes under the guidance of Pritzker Architecture Prize Laureate-winner Rem Koolhaas. Even if you’re not typically a fan of the arts, it’s worth making time to visit Alserkal Avenue’s contemporary galleries and creative community spaces.

# **What to do**

### Explore Art

This is the perfect place for art connoisseurs who like to explore modern and contemporary artworks, installations, and graffiti. You will find works of established as well as new emerging artists from Europe, North Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East.  
  
Shop for Antique Furniture

Pick up kitschy and one of a kind furniture, furnishings, and antiques from the newly opened The Odd Piece. These pieces have been created and restored by the famous Saudi artist Arwa Hafiz.  
  
See Watches like Never Before

See the best timepieces on display by Swiss Watch company MB&F at M.A.D Gallery. Not only this, but it also houses quirky installations made from different parts of a watch.

Learn to Paint

There is no better place than Alserkal Avenue to learn a spot of painting and art creation yourself. You can participate in do-it-yourself painting classes and art workshops at The Jam Jar. Visit the Wisdom Warehouse, which is a creative hub for children to learn, explore, and create art.  
  
Visit Gulf Photo Plus

It is the only dedicated centre for photography in Dubai. Not only can you see thought-provoking work from around the world, but can also take photography lessons from the in-house experts.  
  
Test your fitness levels

Test your endurance while on a visit to Alserkal Avenue. Crank, the luxury fitness and wellness space, has professional and inspiring trainers who will challenge you to try high interval training and teach you dynamic stretching techniques. You will especially love the state-of-the-art lighting and fast-paced music.   
  
Taste Delicious Food

The Avenue is a haven for food connoisseurs with its amazing range of cafes. Indulge in fresh juices, organic sodas, and teas at the eco-café Appetite. Taste some real bean to bar chocolates at Mirzam Chocolate Makers. Have a delicious Chai experience with its huge variety of teas and street foods at the Project Chaiwala.

# **Timings**

10 AM to 7 PM on Saturday to Thursday