



13th INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF YOUNG BEEKEEPERS – IMYB

Dubai, UAE, 18th – 21st December 2024

Dear Beekeeping Friends,

The Beekeepers Foundation is pleased to invite you to the International Meeting of Young Beekeepers IMYB 2024 in Dubai, UAE. This marks the first time this international competition will take place outside of Europe, promising a unique opportunity to explore the world of beekeeping in a new light.

The event combines a competition for participants aged 12 to 18 with a diverse cultural and social program, celebrating unity, camaraderie and passion that unites the global beekeeping community.

Under the theme of "Beekeeping in Arid Lands," this year's gathering promises a deep dive into the characteristics of beekeeping within desert environments and the ecological importance of bees for this unique ecosystem.

We cordially invite you to join us in this enriching experience, to contribute your voice, share your expertise, and together, forge pathways toward a sustainable future for beekeeping.

Please complete this application [FORM](#) by 1st June 2024 to secure your participation in this milestone event. You will find all the participation & registration guidelines in the enclosed presentation.

We look forward to welcoming you to Dubai for an unforgettable experience.

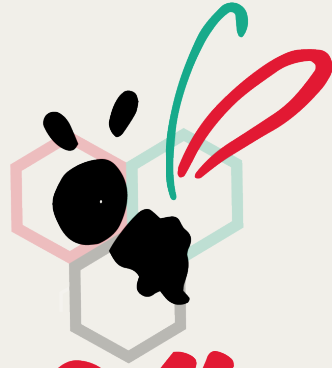
Warm regards,

Zahira Nedjraoui

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Zahira Nedjraoui', located to the right of the printed name.

Founder & President of the Beekeepers Foundation, UAE

IMYB
UAE 2024



**BEEKEEPING
IN ARID LANDS**



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01

YOUR HOST

- Who We Are
- What We Do
- The Local Organizing Team



Who We Are

The Beekeepers Foundation is a non-profit organization that focuses on education and sustainable beekeeping.

Established in 2017, it is governed by the Community Development Authority (CDA) and is proudly located in The Sustainable City.

Our Mission

- To educate the UAE public on the vital role of bees
- To gain 'protected status' for the native honeybee *Apis mellifera jemenitica*
- To promote sustainable beekeeping best practices in the UAE
- To provide educational support for UAE based beekeepers and encourage new beekeepers into the field
- To promote the excellence of UAE honey to the global market
- To contribute to the objectives of the UAE National Food Security Strategy 2051



What We Do



Schools Outreach



Beekeeping Courses



Public Workshops



Community Development



Policy Advocacy



Beekeeping Events



Innovation & Development



Apiary Management



The Local Organizing Team



Eng. Zahira Nedjraoui
President

- President, Beekeepers Foundation UAE
- Vice-president of Apimondia Asian Regional Commission
- Beekeeping Educator
- Architect, Construction Manager



Manali Soparkar
Coordinator

- Sustainable Freelancer
- Mentor at IMYB 2023 Slovenia (Team UAE)
- Educator on Green Living workshops
- Senior volunteer at the Beekeepers Foundation UAE



Dr. Oumaima Khouildi
Lead Educator

- Outreach Manager and Educator at the Beekeepers Foundation UAE
- Doctoral Researcher, Biological Science
- Felha Ambassador, USAID Beekeeping program for rural women
- Beekeeper



Aanya Soparkar
Coordinator

- High-school student
- Participant at IMYB 2023 Slovenia (Team UAE)
- Novice beekeeper
- Volunteer at the Beekeepers Foundation UAE



Eng. Moncef Salhi
Lead Beekeeper

- Beekeeping Program Director at the Beekeepers Foundation UAE
- Master Beekeeper and Queen Breeder
- Bsc. in Aeronautical Engineering



Marita Peters
Educator

- Executive Director, Surge for Water Middle East
- Beekeeper, educator, and Board Member of the Beekeepers Foundation UAE
- Bachelor of Commerce, Accounting and Management



02

IMYB UAE 2024

- What is IMYB
- IMYB UAE 2024
- Participation & Registration Guidelines





WHAT IS IMYB

IMYB (International Meeting of Young Beekeepers®) is the world's largest gathering of young beekeepers. This annual competition serves as a unique platform for young beekeeping enthusiasts worldwide to exhibit their skills, foster global networks, and share best practices.

It is organized by the ICYB (International Centre of Young Beekeepers), a non-profit organization from the Czech Republic, dedicated to supporting young beekeepers worldwide.

Since 2010, over 1,000 young beekeepers, from more than 43 different countries, have participated and represented their national colors.



IMYB UAE 2024

The Beekeepers Foundation, in collaboration with ICYB, is excited to announce that we are hosting the IMYB event outside of Europe for the very first time, extending its reach to beekeeping enthusiasts in the Asian and African regions.

This event is an important platform for young beekeepers to connect internationally and exchange their knowledge.



International Beekeeping competition



3 young beekeepers per country



Date: 18 to 22 of Dec 2024



12 – 18 years old



Venue: Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club



2 accompanying adult per delegation



100 participants (target)



Social & cultural program



20 participating countries (target)



Technical excursions



Participation fee: €1,000 per country



Application deadline: 01-Jun-2024

Timeline

Day 1
18-Dec

- Organizers Meeting
- Guests' Arrivals
- Registration

Day 2
19-Dec

- Opening Ceremony
- Competition (Part I)
- Meetings & Workshops

Day 3
20-Dec

- Competition (Parts II & III)
- Meetings & Workshops
- Social & Cultural Program

Day 4
21-Dec

- Leisure Excursion
- Awards Ceremony

Day 5
22-Dec

- Organizers Meeting
- Guests' departures



Participation & Registration Guidelines

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

- Timely country application by **1st June 2024**.
- Priority will be given to:
 - 1) Previous and future host countries
 - 2) New participating countries
 - 3) Countries running a national selection process
 - 4) Complete delegations (3 youth + 2 adults)
- Approved countries will be contacted by **10th June 2024**.
- Approved countries must complete the €1,000 participation fee by **1st July 2024**.
- Failure to pay on time will result in the spot being offered to the next country on the waiting list.

Please ensure compliance with these deadlines to secure your participation in IMYB UAE 2024.

PARTICIPANTS

- Spaces are limited to 20 participating country.
- Each team comprises three young individuals aged 12 to 18. Team members must not turn 18 during the event

- Each team must comprise of one or two adult supervisors responsible for the team members throughout their stay.

COMMUNICATION

English will serve as the official language of the event.

For any enquiry, please contact:

Ms. Oumaima Khouildi

M: +971 (58) 539 7074

E: admin@beekeepersassociation.ae

VISA & TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Participants are responsible to get their own visas.

Visas are easy to obtain through travel agencies, accommodation or Emirates Airlines.

- Travel agency:
Al Bahdja Tours
T: +971 (4) 228 4888
E: contact@albahjatours.com
- Airline Discount Code:
Upon approval of your application and payment of the fee, you will receive a discount code for **Emirates Airlines** or **flydubai** flights.

PAYMENT

- Participants are responsible for their travel and visa costs
- Room & board and program-related expenses for participants and accompanying persons are covered by the host
- Bank commission costs are to be borne by the participants and should not be deducted from registration fee

APPLY HERE



03

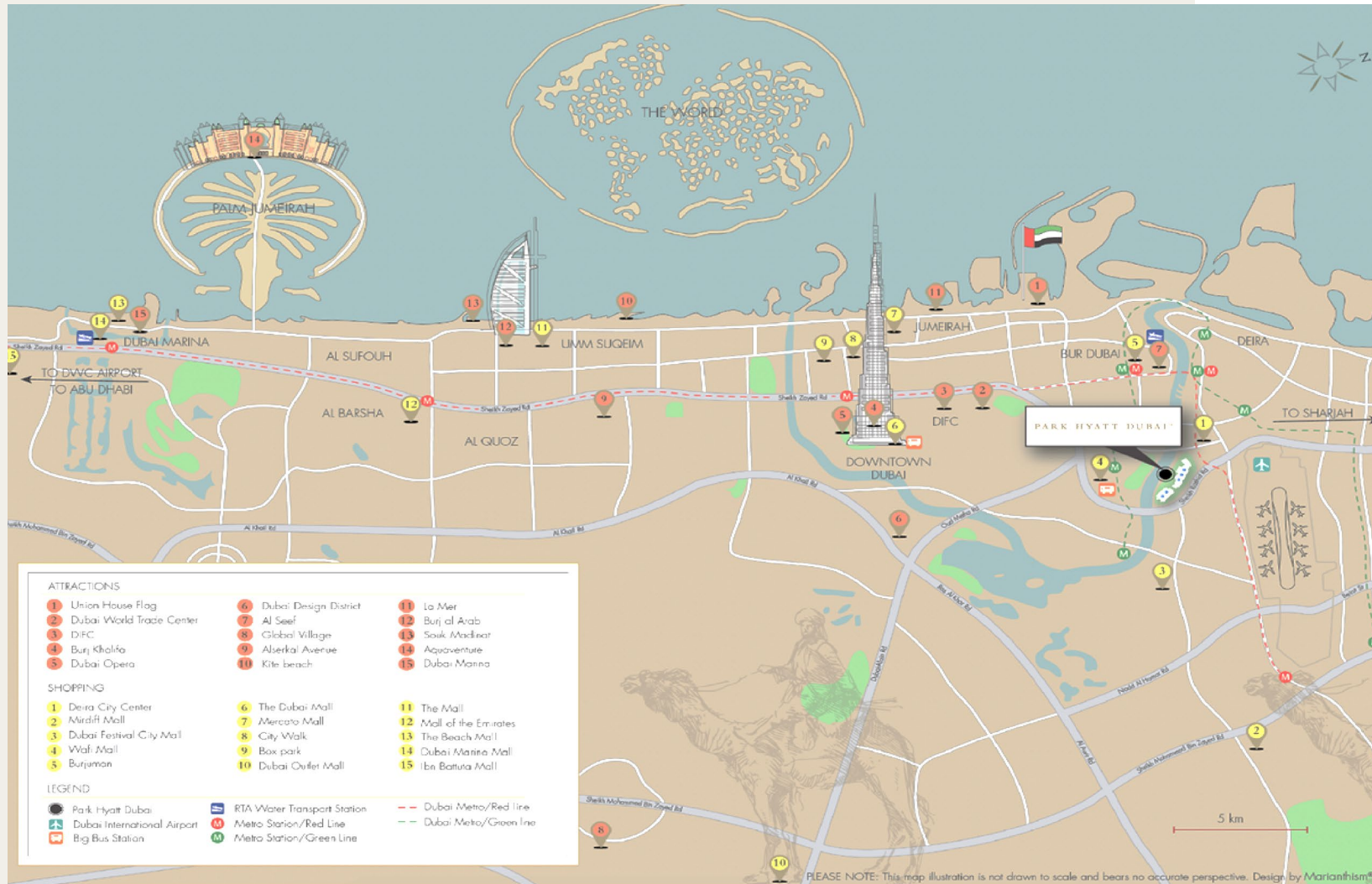
THE VENUE

- Location
- The Terrace
- The Rolls-Royce Apiary
- Accommodation



Location

The Park Hyatt Dubai Creek Club



The Park Hyatt Dubai Creek Club emerges as an idyllic venue for the IMYB event, thanks to the generous sponsorship of our partners Rolls-Royce and Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club. Its prime location combines the tranquility of the Dubai Creek with the sophistication of the Park Hyatt, offering a blend of serene natural beauty and luxurious amenities. The Club's proximity to the city's cultural hubs makes it easily accessible for participants, while its exclusive facilities provide an exceptional environment for both the theoretical and practical segments of the competition. This partnership not only enhances the stature of the event but also ensures a memorable experience for all attendees.



The Terrace



Scenic Clubhouse Terrace:

A prestigious outdoor venue spanning 642 square meters, graciously provided pro bono.

Flexible Layout:

Accommodates up to 700 in theater seating, 400 for banquets, and 700 for cocktail events, suitable for the competition, ceremonies, and dining.

Elegant Atmosphere:

The venue combines sophistication with the natural beauty of the Creek, ideal for opening and award ceremonies, team presentations, and meals.

Memorable Experience:

A prime location that embodies the spirit of Dubai, promising an unforgettable event for young international talents



The Rolls-Royce Apiary

Nestled within the lush greenery of the Creek Club, the Rolls-Royce Apiary, generously opened by our partner for the IMYB event, provides a practical and immersive setting for the hands-on segment of the competition.



Accommodation

KSK HOMES

KSK Homes is the most reputable student living community headquartered in Dubai International Academic City.

It is located 20kms away from our venue and from the Dubai international airport

The accommodation provides a 24-hour front desk, airport transfers, room service and free WiFi throughout the property.

Students Rooms

- 130 – Standard Single
- 282 – Standard Twin
- 58 – Premium Double
- 30 – Twodio

F & B

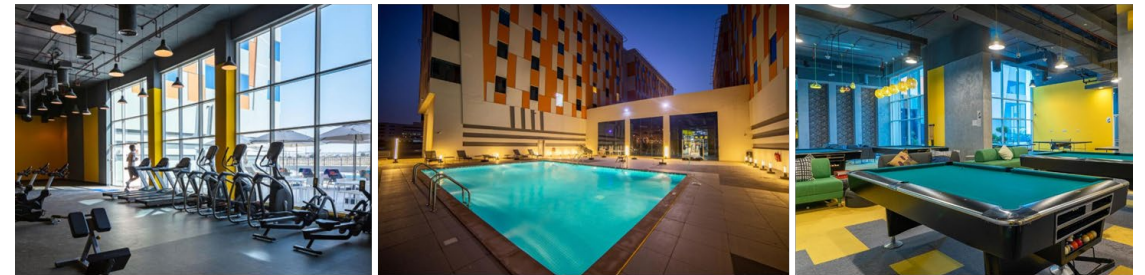
- All Day Dinning Restaurant: 100 covers
- In house Minimart

Study Rooms

- Study Rooms and Open Study Area
- Events Room
- Audio Visual upon request

Recreational Facilities

- Swimming pool
- Fully equipped Fitness Center
- Gaming Area
- PlayStation Room



04

APPENDICES

- Sponsors Pack
- Beekeeping in the UAE
- About Dubai



Sponsorship Opportunities

Bronze Sponsorship

\$10,000

- ✓ Tier 3 logo placement on event materials and website.
- ✓ VIP seating at the opening and closing ceremonies.

Silver Sponsorship

\$25,000

- ✓ Tier 2 logo placement on event materials and website.
- ✓ VIP seating at the opening and closing ceremonies.
- ✓ VIP access to the gala dinner.
- ✓ Recognition in event press releases.

Gold Sponsorship

\$50,000

- ✓ Tier 1 logo placement on event materials and website.
- ✓ Gold seating at the opening and closing ceremonies.
- ✓ VIP access to the gala dinner.
- ✓ Recognition in press releases and media coverage.
- ✓ Branding opportunities at select event activities.

Platinum Sponsorship

\$100,000

- ✓ Prime logo placement on event materials and website.
- ✓ Platinum seating at the opening and closing ceremonies.
- ✓ VIP access to all event activities, including the gala dinner.
- ✓ Featured recognition in press releases and media coverage.
- ✓ Exclusive branding opportunities at the opening and closing ceremonies.
- ✓ Opportunity to deliver a keynote speech at the event.

* **In-Kind Sponsorship:** Customized benefits based on the value of the in-kind contribution.



Beekeeping in the UAE

Beekeeping and honey hunting have been an integral part of the United Arab Emirates' (UAE) traditional way of life for centuries. The country's arid climate and unique geography provide ideal conditions for honey production, and the Bedouin people, in particular, have honed their skills in beekeeping and honey hunting over generations.

Traditional Emirati beekeeping practices involve the use of cylindrical clay hives called "mazari," and palm tree logs, which are placed in the desert or mountainous regions, where bees can feed on the nectar of local plants. Honey hunting, on the other hand, involves finding wild beehives in the mountains, using smoke to subdue the bees, and collecting honey from the hive. Today, while modern beekeeping techniques have largely replaced traditional practices in the UAE, some Emirati families continue to practice traditional beekeeping and honey hunting as a way to preserve their cultural heritage.

It was the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan who took beekeeping to the next level. As the Ruler's Representative of Al Ain in the 1950s, Sheikh Zayed recognized the vital role that bees played as pollinators and sought to promote beekeeping in the region.

This vision of Sheikh Zayed's was not limited to his own country. As one of the world's greatest philanthropists with a US\$50 billion legacy, he championed the use of bees to improve lives across the developing world. Beginning in the 1970s, he became an apiculturist-president in order to underpin his extraordinary philanthropy.

Sheikh Zayed's ambitions were reflected in a 1977 letter produced by Britain's Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The letter showed a series of exports from Britain to Abu Dhabi, and how many of these found their way across the developing world. Millions of bees were re-exported from Abu Dhabi International Airport to support some of Sheikh Zayed's remarkable activities.

Through these programs, Sheikh Zayed sought to expand bee populations and increase honey and wax production by cooperating with existing master growers. Often working in tandem with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), cultivation of bee-attracting plant species was encouraged, and commercial honey production was promoted as a means of increasing income for rural communities.

Today, the legacy of Sheikh Zayed's beekeeping efforts can still be seen in the UAE and beyond. His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, has continued this legacy by supporting initiatives such as the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund (MBZ Fund), which has helped to conserve populations of rare bees in Europe.

Sheikh Zayed's vision of beekeeping as a means of improving lives and promoting sustainable development continues to inspire and influence beekeeping practices around the world. His legacy serves as a reminder of the important role that bees play in our global agricultural system and the need to protect and promote their well-being.



Modernization and Innovations in UAE's Beekeeping Industry

In recent years, beekeeping has emerged as a growing industry in the country. According to the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, it is estimated that there are over 900 beekeepers in the UAE, with around 22,000 bee colonies. These beekeepers produce an estimated 1,200 metric tons of honey each year, with an average yield of 50-60 kilograms of honey per colony, which are mainly consumed locally. With one of the highest per capita honey consumers in the world, with an estimated 1.2 kilograms of honey consumed per person per year, this demand has driven the growth of the commercial beekeeping industry, with many local and international companies investing in the sector.

The beekeeping industry is highly dependent on the country's unique climate and vegetation patterns. There are two primary honey seasons in the UAE, with the first season taking place from April to May and known as the Samr season (Acacia Tortilis). The second honey season in the UAE occurs from October to November and is known as the Sidr season (Ziziphus Spina-Christi). In addition to the Samr and Sidr honey seasons, there are a few other types of honey harvested, such as Mangroves, Ghaf, and wild-flowers.

With the support of government initiatives and educational entities, beekeeping in the UAE is becoming a thriving business, with both commercial and scientific interests.

The UAE government is also investing in the beekeeping industry, with initiatives such as the Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority's (ADAFSA) Bee Health Program. ADAFSA's initiatives

include the registration and licensing of beekeepers, the monitoring of honey quality, and the promotion of beekeeping as a sustainable agricultural practice. The program aims to improve the health and productivity of honeybees in the UAE by providing training and support to beekeepers, as well as conducting research on bee health and disease

In addition, the Fujairah Research Center for Agriculture and Fisheries (FRC) has a dedicated beekeeping section that conducts research on bee biology, honey production, and bee disease management. The center manages 20+ apiaries & honey park reserve, partnering with national and international groups to research and address beekeeping industry challenges. Areas of focus include best hive management practices, biodynamic properties of bee products, and identifying native plants for honey production. New technologies like Smart Hives and Bee Counters are also being explored to support beekeepers. Research results will be shared to promote sustainable development in the UAE's beekeeping industry.

In 2017, the first Beekeepers Foundation was founded in the UAE. This young and dynamic non-profit organization has ever since been on a mission to promote education and sustainable beekeeping practices in the country.

The Foundation has made significant contributions to the beekeeping landscape in the UAE and inspired others to follow their lead.

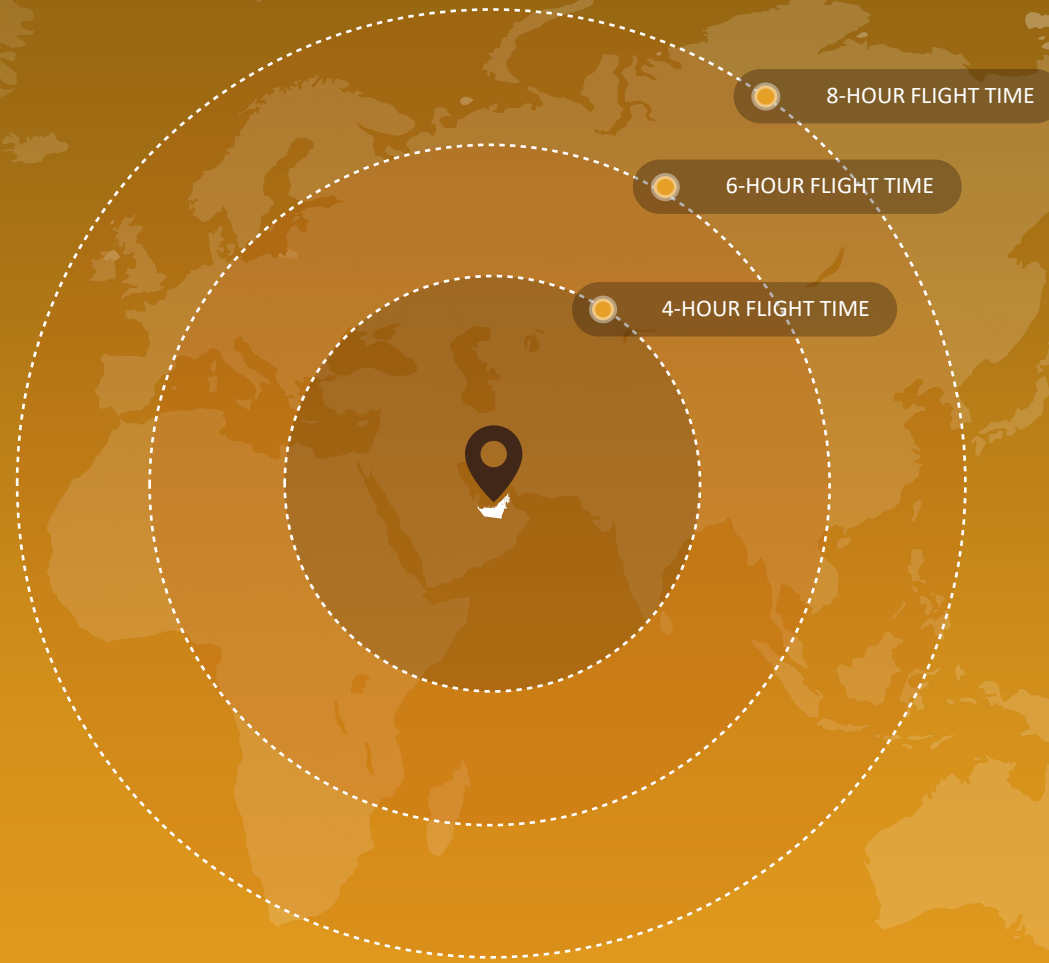


The Foundation's various educational initiatives aim to promote the growth and sustainability of the beekeeping industry in the UAE. They do this by raising awareness of the importance of honeybees, promoting sustainable beekeeping practices, and protecting native flora and indigenous bees

Beekeeping in the UAE is a growing industry with a rich history and promising future. With the government's support, commercial beekeepers, research centers, and educational entities are working together to ensure the health and productivity of honeybees, while meeting the growing demand for honey and other bee products in the UAE and beyond.



Dubai's Unique Location



TRAVELLING TO DUBAI



Global Accessibility

Dubai International Airport is connected to **257 destinations** across **104 countries** via **91 airlines**



Open Doors and Pro-business

Over **75 countries** enjoy visa-free stays of **30/90 days**



Strategic Location

Dubai's geographical location makes it **easily accessible** for Africa and Asia as well as Europe and Americas



Bringing Your Delegates to Dubai

Dubai offers a straightforward visa process, not requiring an invitation letter, and often handled by travel agents, airlines, or PCO – typically processed within **4 days**



HUGE ARRAY OF ACCOMODATION CHOICES



High quality and value for money



Mix of international and homegrown hospitality brands



814

Hotels and hotel apartments to suit every budget hosting



148,711

Number of total rooms



26,000

Hotel rooms located along Dubai metro



156

Hotels



189

Hotels



275

Hotels

DELUXE
/SUPERIOR

82

Hotels

STANDARD

111

Hotel apartments



THINGS TO SEE AND DO



Dubai Landmarks



Desert Safari



Shopping



Foodie Experience



Culture and Heritage



Adventure



Thank You!



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[Beekeepers_foundation_uae](#)