

Where is the best place in Abu Dhabi for Friday brunch? A question dear to our hearts. So what are the current options?



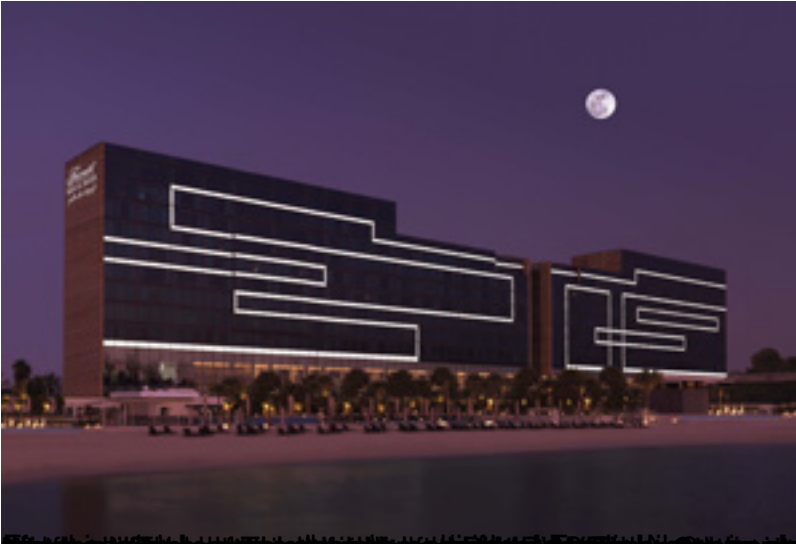
For elegance, style and gourmet dining – how about Le Vendome at Emirates Palace? For a view, it's hard to beat Al Fanar at Le Royal Meridien. The Sheraton is OK but noisy - but then again, kids are part of the essential brunch experience for many people. The Shangri La perhaps has the best value buffet selection of all; sitting outside facing the Mosque, it takes a lot of beating.

But now, there is a new kid on the block. Forget gold-plating, forget the marble and chandeliers, forget traditional Arab. Think big, glass, high ceilings, colourful, trendy – then think bigger and more modern. You have the lobby of The Fairmont.

We were on a special offer package that included Friday brunch with as much as you can drink; dinner, a night's accommodation, and breakfast the next morning; and we had been upgraded to the Gold Package, which meant a separate check in on the 7th floor and rooms that were nothing short of luxurious. Floor to ceiling windows along the length of the room with a view of the Mosque across the water and a sunset to die for.

It included a private butler service, and the butler of course showed the way to brunch. The glass lift dropped to the lower ground floor.

Into Elements, the buffet restaurant. What to eat first? Seafood with oyster, prawns, lobster, salmon, salads, or traditional mezze or soup, foie gras. Little and often is my motto.



Includes breakfast, lunch, dinner, and accommodation. Includes brunch, dinner, accommodation