



Marriage in the United Arab Emirates

The following information is provided to assist Australian citizens intending to marry in the United Arab Emirates and to help them comply with local government requirements. The procedures and information outlined below are intended as a guide only and may be subject to change. You may be required to obtain a Certificate of No Impediment to Marriage from the Australian Embassy in Abu Dhabi or the Australian Consulate-General in Dubai. Fees for overseas notarial services are legislated under the Consular Fees Act 1955. For more information on getting married overseas, visit the Smartraveller website: Going overseas to get married? | Smartraveller.

Civil Marriages

- Abu Dhabi Civil Family Court
Tel: 600 599 799, +971 2 651 3257
Website: <https://www.adjd.gov.ae/en/Pages/CivilFamilyCourt.aspx>
Email: civilfamilycourt@adjd.gov.ae
- Dubai Civil Family Court
Tel: +971 4 334 7777
Website: <https://www.dc.gov.ae/PublicServices>
Email: info@dc.gov.ae

Muslim Marriages

- The Sharia Court Abu Dhabi
Tel: +971 2 651 2222
Email: info@adjd.gov.ae
- The Sharia Court Dubai
Tel: +971 4 334 7777
Email: info@dc.gov.ae

The above information is provided for guidance of Australian citizens intending to marry in the United Arab Emirates. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained herein, the Australian Embassy Abu Dhabi does not accept any liability for any injury, loss, or damage incurred by the use of or reliance on the information provided and makes no representation concerning its completeness, truth, accuracy, or its suitability for any particular purpose. Updated January 2026

The following documents may be required (please check with the person or authority performing the marriage):

- The marriage ceremony may take place in the Sharia Court.
- If the bride's father is not present, a letter of consent is required, stating he gives permission for the marriage to take place, and a certified copy of his passport must be included to verify his signature.
- If the father is deceased, a death certificate is required, along with the consent of the bride's brother. If she has no brothers, an uncle from the father's side must give consent. If there are no male relatives to give consent, you must provide a document to prove this.
- Passports of both bride and groom.
- The groom must be Muslim; the bride can be of any religion.
- A letter from the parties' employer(s), stating that there are no objections to the marriage.
- A letter from the Police Directorate stating that the parties do not have a criminal record.
- Two witnesses may be required to attend the ceremony.
- The dowry may be specified and paid directly to the bride, or the parties may agree that no dowry will be paid.
- All English documents must be translated into Arabic by a legal translator.
- Once the marriage certificate is signed, the document should be attested by the United Arab Emirates Ministry of Justice and the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Christian Marriages

- St Joseph's Cathedral – Abu Dhabi (Catholic)
Tel: +971 2 446 1929
Email: abuparish@yahoo.com
- St. Francis Church – Abu Dhabi (Abrahamic Family House, Catholic)
Tel: +971 2 446 1929
Email: abuparish@yahoo.com

The above information is provided for guidance of Australian citizens intending to marry in the United Arab Emirates. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained herein, the Australian Embassy Abu Dhabi does not accept any liability for any injury, loss, or damage incurred by the use of or reliance on the information provided and makes no representation concerning its completeness, truth, accuracy, or its suitability for any particular purpose. Updated January 2026

- St Andrew's Church – Abu Dhabi (Anglican)
Tel: +971 2 446 1631
Enquiries: <https://standrewauh.org/contact.html>
- St. George Orthodox Cathedral – Abu Dhabi (Orthodox)
Tel: +971 2 446 4564/65
Enquiries: <https://www.sgocad.com/reach-us#>
- St Mary's Catholic Church – Dubai
Tel: +971 4 337 0087, +971 4 335 8504
Email: office@saintmarysdubai.org
- Holy Trinity Anglican Church – Dubai
Tel: +971 4 337 0247
Email: chaplain@holytrinity.ae
- Church of Christ – Dubai
Email: dubaichurchofchrist@yahoo.com
- Christ Church (Anglican) – Dubai
Tel: +971 4 884 5436
Email: weddings@christchurchjebelali.org
- United Christian Evangelical Church – Dubai
Tel: +971 4 808 9999
Email: admin@dubaievangelical.org
- The marriage ceremony may take place either in a church (if you are a member of the congregation) or at an alternative venue, e.g., a private home (this option is available only for certain religious denominations—please consult the relevant minister).
- A Certificate of No Impediment is generally required. Australian citizens can obtain this from the Australian Embassy in Abu Dhabi or the Australian Consulate-General in Dubai, or from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Australia.
- Couples must complete a form issued by the church.
- If either party is divorced, a Decree Absolute (divorce certificate) is required.
- Passports of both bride and groom.
- Two witnesses may be required to attend the ceremony.
- Fees may vary—please consult your celebrant.
- Once the marriage certificate is signed, the document should be attested by the United Arab Emirates Ministry of Justice and the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The above information is provided for guidance of Australian citizens intending to marry in the United Arab Emirates. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained herein, the Australian Embassy Abu Dhabi does not accept any liability for any injury, loss, or damage incurred by the use of or reliance on the information provided and makes no representation concerning its completeness, truth, accuracy, or its suitability for any particular purpose. Updated January 2026

Hindu Marriages

- BAPS Hindu Mandir – Abu Dhabi
Tel: +971 2556 1982
Enquiries: <https://www.mandir.ae/celebrate>
- The Hindu Temple – Dubai
Tel: +971 5458 42951
Enquiries: <https://hindutempledubai.com/>

The above information is provided for guidance of Australian citizens intending to marry in the United Arab Emirates. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained herein, the Australian Embassy Abu Dhabi does not accept any liability for any injury, loss, or damage incurred by the use of or reliance on the information provided and makes no representation concerning its completeness, truth, accuracy, or its suitability for any particular purpose. Updated January 2026