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Five Jumeirah Village

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

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8/10

Telegraph expert rating

" Pack pool party attire for this fun-focused hotel gift-wrapped in groundbreaking architecture. A towering rotunda in an up-and-coming area, it's set back from central Dubai, but you may not even notice thanks to its global street food, world-class spa and fitness centre, and free shuttle service to Palm Jumeirah. "

Location

6/10

Residential Jumeirah Village Circle, a 20-minute drive from the coast and closest commercial centres, isn't the first location tourists make a beeline for but as the neighbourhood's social epicentre, the hotel is always abuzz. Attractions within 10 minutes include Dubai Autodrome and Dubai Miracle Garden, abloom with millions of flowers in fanciful forms, from a giant Mickey Mouse to fairy tale houses. Dubai International Airport is just half an hour away.

8/10

Standing tall over its neighbours, Five is a striking white 59-storey rotunda with patent-pending architecture and a focus on outdoor living. A 30-degree rotation of each floor allows for double-height terraces in apartments called Sky Villas. Staggered like a spiral staircase, they form an airway around the building, drawing wind from the roof to create a cooler vertical microclimate. Clever and good-looking, these decks are glamorously furnished with private pools and sapling trees, fed by hidden water systems, giving the design a green edge.

Service and Facilities

9/10

The hotel garnered loyal regulars soon after opening, no doubt encouraged by the jovial and friendly staff. The facilities are also attractive. With an in-water bar, tables and stools, the main pool is built for socialising, while ReFive spa's beds are made for pure requiescence, with fleece blankets and deeply padded face recesses that don't pinch. Instabody fitness centre is fully loaded with high-tech kit, including skiing machines, a brutal stair climber, monkey bars and TRX frames; and the boxing, yoga and spin studios host regular classes. In-house guests are invited to Five's Palm Jumeirah beach property via a free shuttle service, which is a bus before 8pm and a nifty gull-wing Tesla Model X afterwards.

Rooms

8/10

Minimalist with just a hint of mid-century 'Mad Men' styling, accommodation features marble-effect tiles, wood veneer units and pale curved walls echoing the exterior. There are 247 rooms and 254 one-, two- and four-bedroom apartments. Basic rooms have kettles and coffee machines, balconies and en suites with separate tubs. Apartments are more suited to long stays, with fitted kitchens, vast terraces with pools or whirlpool tubs and master en suite bathrooms with tubs set in front of floor-to-ceiling windows.

8/10

Food and Drink

Bright and sunny Turn Up is all glass walls, wraparound terrace and buffets. Expect pork-free English, American and continental classics, vegetable dim sum, Sri Lankan sambar stew and warm Levantine-style broad beans at breakfast. For artisan coffee and Instagram-worthy cakes, swing by One for the Road. For pure indulgence, order room service. Hummus and avocado toast and Mexican-style tofu scramble with steamed greens are healthy highlights.

The Pool Bar is the hot spot in the afternoon, with DJs spinning tracks as quickly as bar staff mix cocktails. By night, Soul St is the hotel's beating heart, serving street food with a street art backdrop. Munch *pani puri* alongside Sanuj Birla's Mona Lisa in a sari and margherita *panzerotti* beneath PichiAvo's ancient gods spray-painted in technicolour.

9/10

Value for Money

Double rooms from AED 300 (£63), year-round. Breakfast from AED 80 (£17). Free Wi-Fi.

Access for guests with disabilities?

The hotel is wheelchair accessible.

Family-Friendly?

There are apartments with multiple bedrooms and fitted kitchens with washing machines; plus children's menus, a kids' pool and High Five Kids Club.

📍 District 14, Street 1, Jumeirah Village Circle, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

jumeirahvillage.fivehotelsandresorts.com