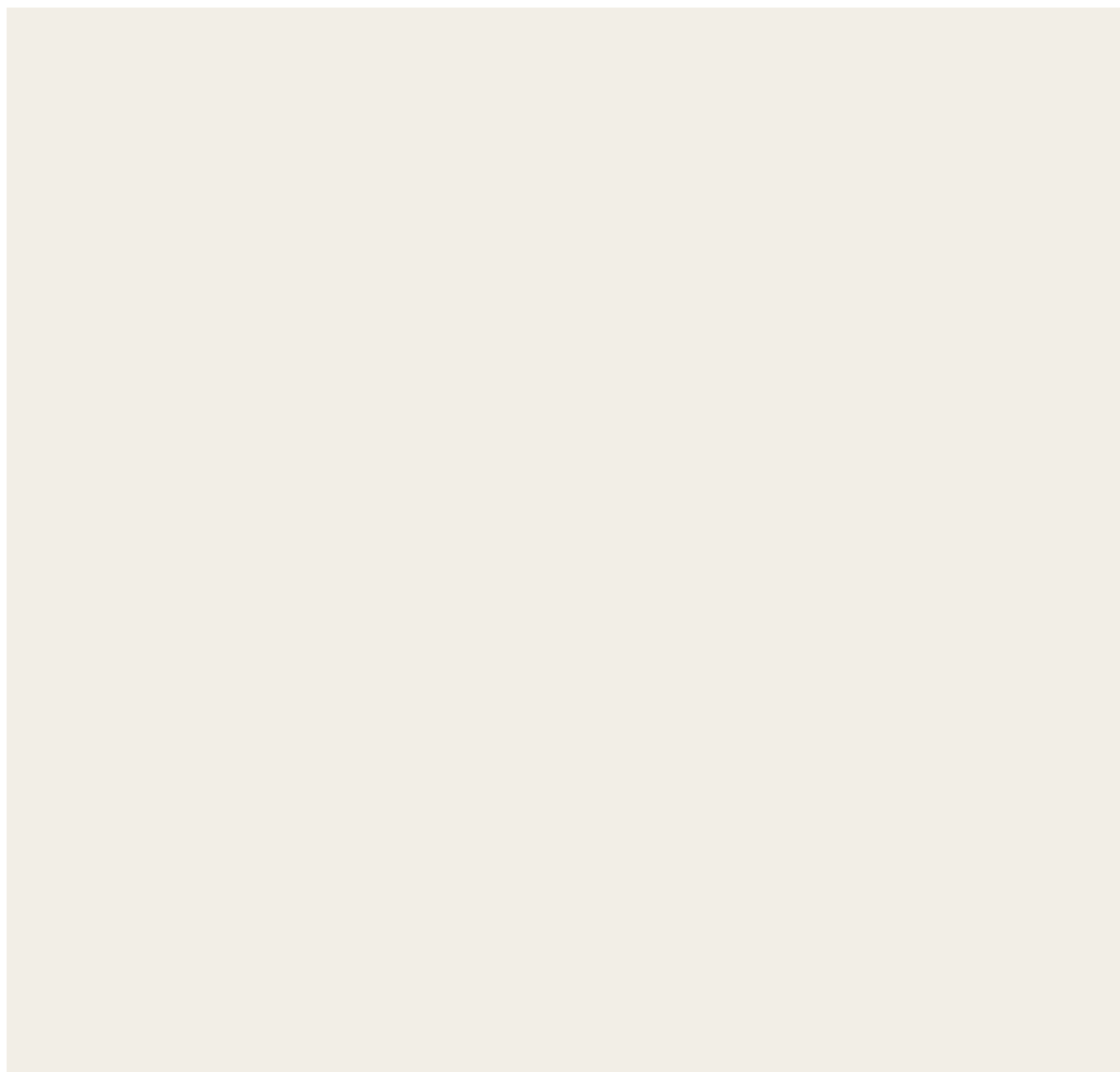


CONRAD

ART

ENCOUNTERS



Whenever you stay at Conrad Hotels & Resorts, you will find a locally curated art collection that allows guests to embrace their interest and passion for art and design while experiencing the destination with purpose and authenticity. Conrad Art Encounters has been created to illuminate the connections between hotels' art, design and location. We invite you to immerse yourself in the Conrad Art Encounters catalog and take a self-guided tour to learn about the stories and context of individual artworks around the hotel.

Beyond the hotel, the Conrad Art Encounters catalog will guide you through the vibrant local art scene to some of the best art venues nearby as well as how you can support local creators.

TIMELESS BEAUTY

From the distinctive silhouettes and materials of traditional dhow trading boats and abra water taxis to the intricate geometric patterns of mashrabiya screens and the desert blooms of the national flower, the visual signatures of Dubai are woven through the design language of Conrad Dubai. The hotel lobby, with its dramatic sweeping staircase, provides a particularly rich introduction to the region's creative influences, combining subtle decorative detailing such as the intricate *Tribulus Omanense* flower engravings on the ivory marble pillars with more dramatic moments such as the striking backlit onyx stone that sits behind the dhow-inspired reception desk. Look out for mashrabiya patterns, an ancient Arabic design, which feature throughout this impressive space, on marble floors, lift doors and the side of the wooden reception desk. Beyond the lobby, more visual delights await, including the neon-bathed contemporary graphics of a local street artist in internationally inspired spaces filled with fun and color. This Conrad Art Encounter will take you on a thought-provoking visual journey between ancient and modern, making Dubai's rich heritage come alive for today's most inquisitive travelers.



1. Wonder wall

A magnificent wall in the lobby brings the atmospheric, intensely visual qualities of onyx – a naturally occurring material with a long history of being carved, stained and creatively enhanced – to Conrad Dubai. This semi-transparent mineral has the mesmerizing quality of transmitting light through its thick, marble-like layers. In daylight the onyx wall comes alive, with a spectrum of invitingly warm hues shifting and changing throughout the day. The interaction between light and solid object creates an ever-evolving ambience. More than a backdrop, the wall subtly enriches the lobby and every interaction within it. Onyx also features in the Royal Suites, and even elevators.



2. Desert flowers bloom

Engraved on the marble pillars at Conrad Dubai are delicate representations of the United Arab Emirates national flower, *Tribulus Omanense*. Sometimes called the “desert hyacinth” for its ability to produce vibrant yellow petals even in arid environments, it is a symbol of resilience that has long been present in Emirati folk art. The flower is featured discreetly on dirham banknotes, alongside other national symbols such as the falcon.





3. A seafarer's welcome

Our welcome desk has a distinctive, unconventional form – it was designed to echo the shape and textures of an Arabian dhow. This elegant wooden sailing vessel has been used in this part of the world for more than 2,000 years, and its evocative silhouette is frequently represented in Arabic art and architecture. In this way, a visual suggestion of the dhow is subtly incorporated into the heart of Conrad Dubai, and in a space where so many new journeys to this long-established region begin.



4. Echoes of mashrabiya

References to the lattices of traditional Arabic mashrabiya patterns have been imaginatively integrated into design elements throughout Conrad Dubai. Mashrabiya is echoed in surface details in guest bedrooms, on elevator doors and throughout our opulent ballroom, as well as in the details of our dhow-inspired welcome desk. First used on window screens that block out light but allow fresh air to flow, the patterns transcend the purely practical, with a richly creative tradition of varied and artful geometric designs.



5 and 6. The word on the street

The street-art aesthetic of our buzzing Korean-style bar, Kimpo, is a deliberate departure from the rest of Conrad Dubai. The K-pop-inspired work on the walls is the creation of a local street artist, Ramy Elzaghawy. Neon lighting is integrated into the spray-painted wall art, making this space decidedly social-media-friendly. A longtime champion of the merits of graffiti-style murals to enliven public spaces across the United Arab Emirates, Elzaghawy has been commissioned to create artworks in locations such as Yas Marina and the Al Qana waterfront district. "In Dubai, every day is a new day, something fresh is showing up," he has said. "I believe I am in the best place in the world to showcase my art". His boldly ambitious imagery for Anása, our Greek-style taverna, showcases a different side to his art and evokes the grandeur of Greek myths.



7. Gateway to the divine

For centuries, archways have been a recurring motif in Arab architecture, as structures that transform and elevate our experience of moving through spaces, framing a view and dramatising an environment. In the tradition of religious buildings, the archway symbolizes a gateway to the divine, marking a transition from one world to the next. In our serene outdoor pool, the centrepiece pays homage to this tradition, with a 5-meter-tall marble arch, complete with a man-made waterfall. This monumental arch and water feature adds the gently meditative sound of running water to the calming sensory experience of our pool.



Beyond the hotel

A REGION RICH IN HERITAGE AND FUTURE AMBITION

Guests of Conrad Dubai who have a passion for art can explore the emirate's rich history and experience the lightning-fast pace of ambitious, modern development in this part of the world.

8. Alserkal Avenue

One of Dubai's most impressive cultural success stories, the transformation of a former industrial space in Al Quoz into a thriving community of high-quality contemporary galleries and artists' studios began in 2008 and is still going strong. Entrances at *17th Street, 6A Street and First Al Khail Street in Al Quoz 1*; alserkal.online

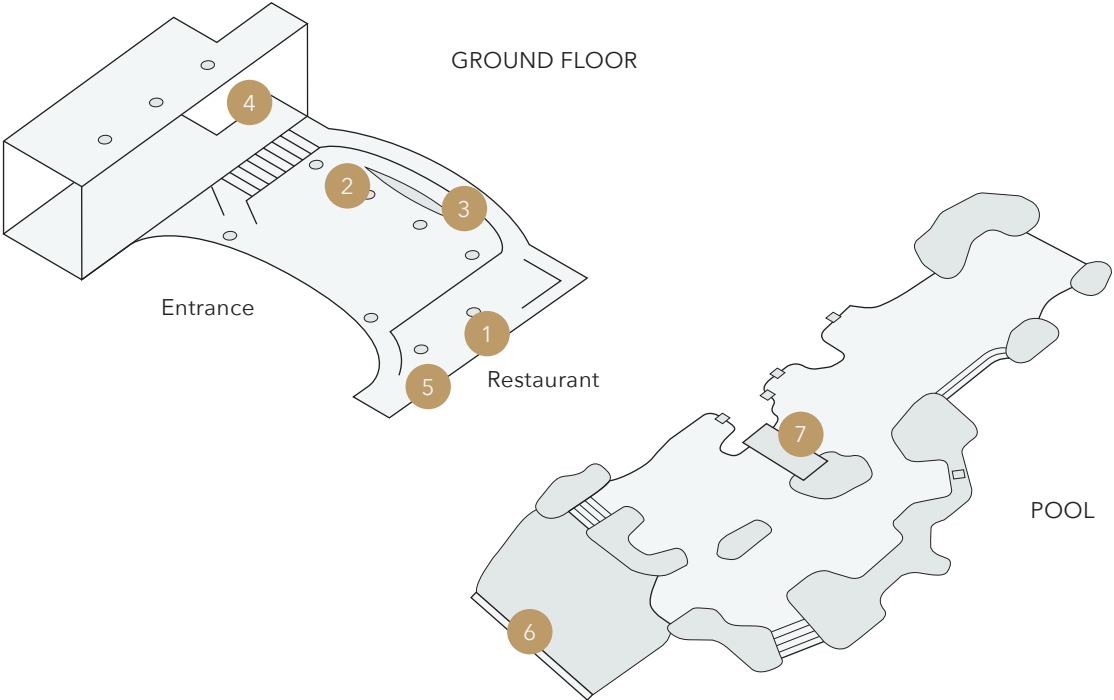
9. XVA Gallery

At the heart of the Al Fahidi Historical Neighborhood, famous for its Persian architecture, this elegant gallery provides a platform for contemporary Arabic artists as well as international names, many of whom also have personal or creative connections to this part of the world.
Al Fahidi Neighborhood, Bur Dubai; xvagallery.com

10. Jameel Arts Centre

This large but independent gallery is a significant contemporary art space in Dubai, with an ambitious multimedia arts program that includes new performance art and site-specific commissions, alongside family-friendly activities for the next generation of gallery-goers.
Jaddaf Waterfront, jameelartscentre.org

Within the hotel



Beyond the hotel

