

DNHG Field Trip: Walk through Shindagha Historical Neighbourhood
Friday afternoon, 12th December, 2014

On Friday afternoon we will meet for a half-day walk through Shindagha historical neighbourhood, take an abra ride and we will also visit a few museums.

Shindagha, the strategic peninsula at the entrance to the Creek, was once the centre of Dubai's trade, economy as well as the residence of the ruling Maktoum family. With the development of new harbours, trade centres and the expansion of new Dubai, the historic neighbourhood of Shindagha has lost its importance and remained at the edge of Dubai's modern life. Almost completely demolished in 1991 to allow for new developments, Shindagha was later reconstructed based on old testimonials and photographs. As part of Dubai Creek – Khor Dubai historical area, Shindagha (unsuccessfully) participated in the 2013 UNESCO bid.

We will benefit from the cooler weather for an afternoon stroll along the Creek and between the alleys and 'sikka' of Shindagha. We will visit some of the local museums:

- Sheikh Saeed House, built by Sheikh Saeed's father, Sheikh Maktoum bin Rashid al Maktoum. In 1896, the house was home to the ruling family until Sheikh Saeed's death in 1958. It now houses a fascinating collection of stamps, coins and photographs of Dubai taken through the 20th century.
- We will stop in Juma and Obaid bin Thani's house, once owned by two rich merchants, brothers married to sheikh's daughters and which is now a Calligraphy Museum.
- We will pass by the new Camel, Horse and Traditional Architecture museums and stop by the 1939 Shindagha watch tower in Ghubaiba.

We will then take a traditional boat, abra, for an hour-long ride along the Creek to see the Creek from another off-shore perspective.

On the way back we will pass through the Heritage Village and Diving Village museum.

The walk will take about **4 to 5** hours. You will need comfortable shoes, water and snacks, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses (most of the walk is on the sun exposed Creek side), camera and a sweater for evening boat ride and chilly museum rooms. Please bring approx 20 AED per person for museum entrances and abra ride.

The information on exact meeting time and place will be sent to participants.

The group will be limited to 25 people.

If interested please contact Sonja at lavson@gmail.com