

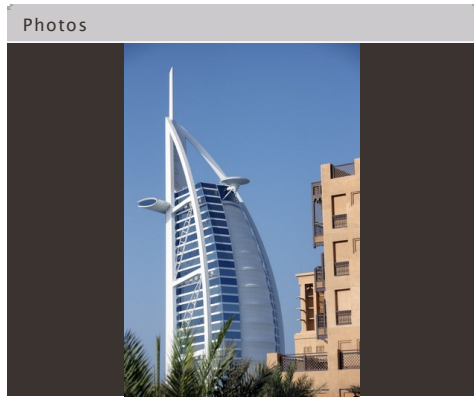
## World

# Hotels in Dubai told to cancel New Year celebrations

by [amyjudd](#) | December 31, 2008 at 09:19 am

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The luxury hotels in **Dubai** have been told to cancel their New Years Celebrations, after His Highness **Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum** issued an order to do so.

He has cancelled the celebrations as an **act of solidarity with the Palestinian people in Gaza**, who are undergoing fighting, destruction and death at the moment, and Shaikh Mohammad wants all hotels to respect his decision and not make this a year for celebration.

Hotels and event companies in Dubai are holding meetings on Wednesday to discuss the implementation of Shaikh Mohammad's order to cancel New Year celebrations.

According to the order, which WAM reported on Tuesday, Dubai will mark the New Year with a "sombre tone" as a token of solidarity with the Palestinian people in general and Gaza Strip in particular, which is currently under the barrage of Israeli's military fire.

Hotels, including the Burj Al Arab, Jumeirah Beach Hotel and the Madinat Jumeirah said top executives would be holding meetings later on Wednesday.

The Cellar, Aviation Club, say they are discussing what they plan to do and will make a decision by 1pm.

Source: [archive.gulfnews.com](#)

The hotels will release what they plan to do later today, as no concrete decision has been made yet.

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  Mark V (not verified)  
at 10:18 on December 31st, 2008

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NOT A GOOD MOVE FOR BUSINESS!!!

Dubai is home to more foreigners or 'Global Citizens' than locals. They are playing a major role in the building of modern Dubai and the hotels are the reasons why Dubai is the number One destination in the world. Their right to celebrate and enjoy themselves on New Year's Eve should not be curtailed.

The Palestinian problem is sad but should not hostage the rights of other peaceful loving people to enjoy themselves and celebrate the New Year.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

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Vancouver, Canada

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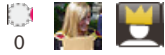
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amyjudd

at 10:29 on December 31st, 2008

reply

Thank you for your comment and Happy New Year as well!

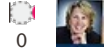


imredubai

at 10:53 on December 31st, 2008

reply

Happy New Year!



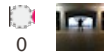
debbieweil

at 11:12 on December 31st, 2008

reply

Snapped this on Dec. 16, 2008 from the vantage of Al Qasr, one of the hotels in the Madinat Jumeirah complex in Dubai. We later went to the bar at the top of the Burj Al Arab (pictured) for a drink and view of downtown Dubai. The bar was not as exciting as we'd hoped as it faces out to sea (the Arabian Gulf) so there's not much to see at night except for inky black. But the interior of the hotel is so over the top that it was worth the trip up. Gold, glitter, mirrors everywhere along with a two (three?) story fish tank, etc. I was in Dubai to give the keynote at [The New Media Event](#).

debbieweil has contributed a photo to this story.



H. Evan Miller

at 12:23 on December 31st, 2008

reply

Burj Al Arab shot from the Atlantis hotel on the Palm Jumeirah. Big celebrations and "sombre tones" aside, Happy New Year to all!

H. Evan Miller has contributed a photo to this story.



tary boy

at 12:40 on December 31st, 2008

reply

tary boy has contributed a photo to this story.



tary boy

at 12:41 on December 31st, 2008

reply

Happy New Year!!!



wolfgangp

at 13:12 on December 31st, 2008

reply

my impressions from wild wadi waterpark & jumeira beach hotel ;)

wolfgangp has contributed a photo to this story.



moonwolf

at 17:21 on December 31st, 2008

reply

There are surely a lot of p\*\*sed-off high rollers out there! LOL!

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