LIWA CAMPING

Liwa Festival 2026-2027: Dates, Location, Camping and Visitor Guide

Primary keyword: Liwa Festival 2026

Liwa International Festival is a major winter event around Tal Moreeb in Al Dhafra, combining motorsport, entertainment, heritage activities and desert camping. As of September 2026, official 2026-2027 dates have not been published on Experience Abu Dhabi; recent editions typically run from mid-December into early January.

Expected timing for 2026-2027

Use mid-December to early January as a planning window until official dates are released. The official Abu Dhabi tourism page says the festival typically runs for around three weeks each winter; the 2025 edition ran from 12 December to 3 January.

Where the festival happens

The main setting is Tal Moreeb (Moreeb Dune) in Al Dhafra near Liwa. The dune rises over 300 metres and has an incline of about 50 degrees, making it a famous motorsport venue.

What visitors can expect

Programming commonly includes hill climbs, drifting, drag racing, family attractions, concerts, local crafts, food, fireworks and cultural experiences. Exact events vary by year.

Camping during festival season

Festival weeks are busy. Reserve accommodation or camping early, arrive with fuel and water, and expect heavier traffic near the event area. Families should choose a managed campsite if they want toilets, lighting and easier access.

Tickets and entry

Entry and attraction pricing can change by season. Check the official festival channels close to travel rather than relying on older prices or social posts.

Before you leave

Check the latest weather, carry water, confirm fuel and navigation, verify bookings, and do not attempt deep-sand driving without suitable experience and recovery equipment.

Frequently asked questions

What is the best time for Liwa Festival 2026?

For most Liwa desert activities, the cooler period from November to March is the most comfortable. Always check the current weather and event information before travel.

Is Liwa suitable for a first-time desert visitor?

Yes, especially when you stay on paved roads or use a guided operator for dune driving, camping setup and remote-area logistics.

Do I need a 4x4 in Liwa?

A 4x4 is not required for many paved-road viewpoints, hotels and oasis stops. Deep-sand driving requires a suitable 4x4, recovery equipment and experience.

What should I carry for a Liwa trip?

Carry water, sun protection, charged phones, navigation, warm layers in winter, basic first aid and enough fuel for the planned route.

Can I camp overnight in Liwa?

Camping is a popular Liwa experience. Use a suitable site, follow local rules, prepare for wind and temperature changes, and avoid blocking vehicle routes.

Is Liwa far from Abu Dhabi city?

Liwa is roughly 250 km from Abu Dhabi, and official tourism guidance describes the drive as about two and a half to three hours depending on destination and traffic.

Is Liwa good for families?

Yes. Families can choose hotels, managed camps and festival activities, while avoiding demanding off-road driving unless accompanied by experienced guides.

What is Moreeb Dune?

Moreeb Dune, or Tal Moreeb, is a famous dune in Al Dhafra. Official tourism information describes it as over 300 metres high with an incline of about 50 degrees.

Should I book in advance?

Advance booking is strongly recommended for winter weekends, festival periods, private tours and serviced camps.

What is the safest way to explore remote dunes?

Use an experienced licensed guide or travel with properly equipped vehicles in a group. Do not attempt deep-sand routes alone without training and recovery gear.

Prepared for liwacamping.com - Updated 23 September 2026. Event dates, prices and access details can change; confirm current information before travel.