

# DubaiPrenneur

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**Ada Panday**

Co-Founder  
Kiara jewellery

LEGACY  
BEGINS WITH  
OWNERSHIP



Creating high-yield hotel  
and residential complexes  
in the best resort locations  
in the world

Teus Group has announced its first project in the Maldives – Radisson Resort Maldives. The resort is being developed as hotel real estate designed to generate income under the international Radisson brand, marking the next step in the company's expansion in Asia.

Teus Group is a developer specializing in income-producing resort properties in tourism-driven destinations. The company is expanding across key markets in Asia and the Mediterranean in partnership with international hotel operators.

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## Editor's Note

# DubaiPrenneur

**A**s West Asia heads towards a new horizon, our team at Dubaiprenneur has come out with a new issue with fresh stories and pathbreaking performances about the industry leaders.

Our latest cover story spotlights the remarkable journey of Ada Panday, Co-founder, Kiara Jewellery, a young business leader who heads this company along with her mother, Sonal Panday. Ada, an Oxford alumna, came to jewellery not from design but from medicine, carrying its precision and patience into a business she now shapes with her mother. Kiara works at the meeting point of modern design and traditional craftsmanship. It is a success story which has grown from a single boutique to multi-location stores spread across the length and breadth of the UAE. Their eleventh store opened in the Maldives, taking the brand beyond the borders of the UAE. At Kiara, consistency is what the brand protects the most as they grow with the belief that the client always comes first.

The profile section takes you through the world of fashion designer Sonia Mehra, who has been weaving magic with fabrics for over a decade.

Dive into the world of perfumes in our trends section, where we explore the most sought-after perfume brands across the world. World-class brands like Louis Vitton, Prada and Gucci have all dished out their collections for the year 2026, and we take a closer look at each of them.

In our regular updates we bring industry news and updates. As always, we look forward to hearing your feedback.

Hope you enjoy reading the magazine as we enjoy bringing it out.

Sincerely,

Editor-in-Chief







06



TRENDING  
PERFUMES  
FOR 2026

18



LEGACY  
BEGINS WITH  
OWNERSHIP

08



A DECADE  
OF  
TIMELESS  
OPULENCE

12



VONTO  
ARRIVES  
AT THE  
DISTRICT

16

## Celebrating Innovation, Leadership & Excellence

Where Visionaries Become Icons

Hello and welcome to DubaiPreneur Awards - a virtual recognition platform designed for successful CEOs and entrepreneurs. The award celebrates innovation, leadership and entrepreneurial excellence. It offers visibility, opportunities and convenience, allowing leaders to participate, connect and gain recognition without disrupting demanding schedules.



Disclaimer: While the publishers have made every attempt possible to get accurate information on published content in this magazine. They cannot be held liable for any errors herein.



# Leagacy Begins with Ownership

A piece of fine jewellery is never only an adornment. It is an asset, a memory taking shape, and a quiet form of independence. This is the conviction around which Ada Panday has built Kiara Jewellery, and it moves the house away from the occasion and toward ownership.

"I want a woman to see jewellery as something she holds for herself," she says. "Beautiful to wear, yes, but also hers to keep. A value that stays with her."

That philosophy runs through everything the house makes. Founded alongside her mother, Sonal Panday, Kiara began as a single boutique and has since grown to eleven stores, the newest of them beyond the UAE as the house goes global, an expansion built less on ambition than on the trust of the women who return to it. The house works at the meeting point of modern design and traditional craftsmanship: heritage techniques, refined for how women actually live and dress today.

Ada's own path is part of the story. An Oxford alumni, she came to jewellery not from design but from medicine, carrying its precision and patience into a business she now shapes with her mother. What emerges from Kiara is not simply fine jewellery, but a quiet argument for what a woman can build, wear, and own on her own terms.

**Ada Panday**  
Cofounder  
Kiara Jewellery





### What is the inspiration behind Kiara Jewellery?

The starting point was a belief: that jewellery should mean something beyond the moment it is worn. My mother and I built the brand around the modern woman, someone who buys for herself, on her own terms.

We work at the meeting point of modern design and traditional craftsmanship. The techniques are rooted in heritage, but the pieces are made for how women live now. That balance between what endures and what feels current is what drives everything we create.

### What is the vision of Kiara Jewellery?

Kiara is, at its heart, the future of memory. Every piece is designed to hold a moment and carry it forward, from the woman who buys it to the daughter who will one day inherit it. We make locally and we are worn globally, and that order matters to me. The craft begins in our own workshops before it travels anywhere.

Jewellery should point somewhere: toward a woman's independence, her sense of self, the life she is building. It is direction as much as it is beauty. And we are from Dubai, a city where the impossible has a habit of becoming inevitable. That spirit is in the house, and it is why we sign everything Kiara makes the same way. Trust in light.

### Do you work primarily with gold, or with other precious metals and gemstones?

Gold is at the heart of what we do, alongside diamonds and natural gemstones. But for me, gold is never only a material. It carries value in two directions.

It is beautiful to wear, and it is also entirely hers, independent of anyone. I tell our clients that a finely made gold piece is both an adornment and a long term asset. That perspective shapes how we design: pieces meant to be worn often, kept for years, and one day passed on.



### What is the price range of your collection?

The range is broad, because our clients are at different stages of their lives.

Some pieces are everyday and accessible, often a woman's first investment in herself. Others are elaborate, highly detailed or fully bespoke. Rather than fitting everything into a fixed bracket, we focus on the integrity of the make and the real value of the gold and stones, so a client understands exactly what she is holding.

### Selling online is catching up these days. What have you done to make your online presence strong?

We treat our online presence as an extension of the boutique, not a shortcut.

The focus is on how the work is presented: clean visuals, considered detail, and the same sense of trust you would feel walking into one of our stores. We also share the craftsmanship behind the pieces, so a woman understands what she is buying. With something as personal as fine jewellery, that confidence matters as much as the image.

### You built Kiara here in Dubai and now have eleven stores. What has driven that expansion?

Dubai gave us the right environment. There is a genuine appreciation here for both quality and design, and a clientele that understands jewellery as something to invest in.

We started with a single boutique, and each store since has come from demand more than ambition. Growing to eleven locations has meant staying close to our clients while keeping the craftsmanship and service consistent, and that consistency is what we protect most as we grow.

Now Kiara has gone global. Our eleventh store opened in the Maldives, our first outside the UAE, with Sharjah and Abu Dhabi to follow. It is the same idea carried further: meeting our clients wherever they are, and taking the craftsmanship and the sense of ownership with us.

**“Gold holds what time cannot. From Dubai to the world, jewellery that is not decoration but direction. Kiara. Trust in light.”**



### You moved from medicine into entrepreneurship. How has that shaped your approach?

Medicine taught me precision, patience, and how to listen. Those things carry into this work more than people expect. I did not trade one world for a completely different one. I brought the discipline with me.

Kiara came from a need for creativity, purpose, and impact that I wanted to express in another way. Working alongside my mother gave that ambition a foundation. She brings instinct and heritage; together we have shaped something neither of us could have built alone.

### You founded Kiara with your mother, and you are a strong advocate for women's financial independence. How do those threads connect?

For me they are inseparable. Founding a company with my mother, two women building something of our own, was itself a statement about what women can create and own.

I believe deeply in women's financial independence, and gold is one of the oldest, most accessible forms of it. When a woman buys a piece from Kiara, I want her to feel she is investing in her own legacy, not waiting for it to be handed to her. That is the message underneath everything we make.

### As a young entrepreneur, which Indian and international jewellery brands do you look up to?

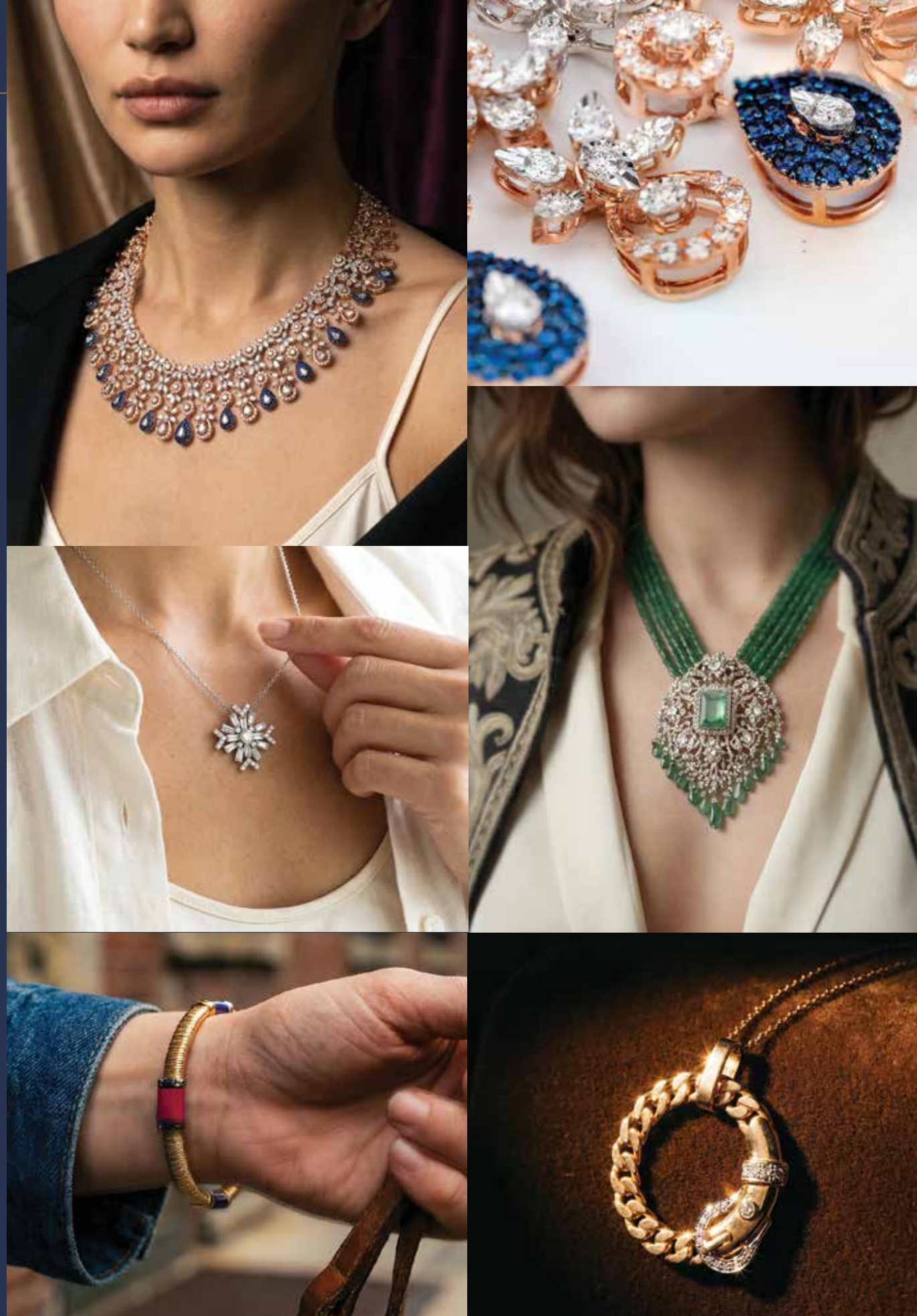
With admiration rather than imitation, always. In India, the names I return to are not the loudest ones. Anand Shah, for treating jewellery as sculpture and refusing to draw a line between art and adornment. Rahul and Roshni Jhaveri at Studio Renn, who have made Mumbai a serious address for conceptual fine jewellery, setting diamonds into concrete and quietly asking what precious really means. Mira Gulati at Mirari, for proving that Indian high jewellery can stand on any world stage without diluting itself. And above all, the Gulaabi Meenakari artisans of Benaras, a handful of families keeping a seventeenth century craft alive. They are not a brand, and that is precisely the point. They are the source.

Internationally, Cartier, not least for its honesty about where it once borrowed from. Those celebrated Tutti Frutti pieces were India speaking through a Parisian house a century ago, and there is something poetic in an Indian founder now carrying that conversation in the other direction. Van Cleef & Arpels I admire for treating jewellery as storytelling rather than display. What connects all of them is patience. None of these houses chased a season. They built a language, and then they trusted it.

### What are the jewellery trends for 2026?

The trend I trust most is transformation. Women no longer dress for one life at a time, and jewellery is finally catching up: pieces that convert, stack, detach, and reassemble, so a single set moves from morning to evening without a vault in between.

Gold itself is the other story of 2026. With prices where they are, women are buying with the head as well as the heart,



“Jewellery that moves with her, and still belongs to her. This is the future of memory. Kiara. Trust in light.”

treating gold as the asset it has always quietly been. And there is a subtler movement I care about deeply, the return to heritage craft. The most modern thing a house can do right now is keep an old technique alive. Trends pass. Craft compounds.

### What are you working on currently?

Three things at once, which is the honest rhythm of this house. We are bringing Kiara fully online, built as an extension of the boutique rather than a shortcut, so the trust travels with the piece. We are opening beyond the UAE, with the Maldives now open and Sharjah and Abu Dhabi to follow.

And in the atelier we are deep in our next collection, jewellery engineered to move, transform, and adapt to a woman's day, alongside a heritage revival project that is very close to my heart. I will come to that.

### Where is Kiara headed next? what does the future of the house look like?

Our next chapter is about jewellery that keeps pace with the woman who wears it. Modern times ask for modern solutions, and that has become the design language of the house: fine gold and diamonds engineered to move, transform, and adapt to how a woman actually lives.

We are building around six ideas. Stackable bangles designed to be layered and played with. Turnable pendants and earrings that reveal a new face with every flip, floral on one side, geometric on the other. Disco pieces, radiant sunbursts of gold set with diamonds and rubies that open like fans. Magnetic necklaces that snap into place for effortless wear, taking a woman from the boardroom to the evening in a single gesture. And detachable rings, earrings, and bracelets in gold with interchangeable emerald, ruby, and diamond components, so one set restyles itself for every occasion.

Modern does not mean leaving heritage behind. Alongside these, we are reviving Gulaabi Meenakari, a seventeenth century enamelling craft from Benaras kept alive by fewer than thirty pairs of hands, its translucent pink lotus blooms haloed by diamonds. That is the vision: innovation and heritage in the same piece. Jewellery that solves for a modern woman's life without ever asking her to give up craft, value, or ownership.



PROFILE

Sonia Mehra Couture

## Sonia Mehra Couture A DECADE OF TIMELESS OPIULENCE

In a world driven by fleeting trends, Sonia Mehra Couture has spent a decade doing something far more enduring — crafting garments that transcend time.

Founded on the philosophy that true luxury lies in heritage, artistry, and the intimate relationship between a woman and her wardrobe, Sonia Mehra Couture has quietly established itself as one of India's most distinguished names in Luxury Pret and Couture. Ten years on, the brand remains unwavering in its commitment to opulence without excess, and modernity rooted in tradition.

Each creation that bears the Sonia Mehra label is a dialogue between the ancient and the contemporary — where centuries-old Indian craft traditions meet refined silhouettes designed for the global woman of today. From hand-embroidered couture pieces that demand hours of meticulous artisanship, to Luxury Pret ensembles that carry the same uncompromising attention to detail, every garment tells a story of devotion to the craft.

Over the past decade, Sonia Mehra Couture has dressed women who do not merely wear fashion — they inhabit it. The

brand has become synonymous with a certain kind of quiet confidence: garments that command a room without raising their voice.

As the label celebrates its tenth anniversary, it stands not at a milestone, but at a legacy — one stitch, one thread, one timeless creation at a time.

**India's Luxury  
Pret & Couture  
House Marks Ten  
Years of Redefining  
Elegance**



**Sonia Mehra**  
Fashion Designer

## VONTO Arrives at The District: First Dubai Mall Store Now Open

*VONTO has officially opened its first Dubai Mall store inside The District, bringing its signature luxury bags, travel pieces, and personalised customisation experience to one of the world's busiest shopping destinations.*

VONTO was founded in Dubai and has become known for its premium leather goods, travel accessories, and instantly recognisable patterned designs.

Unlike many luxury brands that lean heavily on logos, VONTO built its identity around a distinctive signature pattern inspired by the landscapes and colours of the region. The result is a collection that feels modern, premium, and easy to spot from across a room.

Over the past few years, the brand has steadily expanded its audience through social media, attracting customers from around the world while maintaining strong roots in the UAE market.

Today, VONTO has become one of the region's most talked-about luxury accessories brands, with hundreds of thousands of followers tracking new releases, limited collections, and custom pieces.

One of the standout features at the new store is VONTO's personalised customisation service, which allows customers to add unique hand-drawn artwork and design elements directly onto selected pieces.

In a luxury market where exclusivity matters, the ability to create something genuinely one-of-a-kind gives shoppers a reason to visit the store rather than simply ordering online.

For VONTO, securing a permanent space inside the world's most visited mall represents a significant milestone in the brand's growth story.

The VONTO Dubai Mall store is officially open inside The District near the Dubai Ice Rink.





## Sheraa launches founder membership to support 1,000 ventures



The Sharjah Entrepreneurship Center (Sheraa) has launched SherAA Membership, a unified founder support system designed to provide entrepreneurs with continuous access to mentorship, funding opportunities, strategic networks and

ecosystem resources throughout every stage of their growth journey.

The initiative supports SherAA's 2030 vision of supporting 1,000 ventures and facilitating AED50 million in commercial deals for Sharjah-based businesses.

By 2030, the membership aims to help

launch more than 50 youth-led businesses and create 1,000 jobs. Applications are now open on a rolling basis through SherAA's official website. Entrepreneurs of all nationalities interested in establishing or expanding ventures in Sharjah are eligible to apply.

SherAA Membership consolidates the centre's founder support ecosystem into a single integrated platform. It offers entrepreneurs tailored programmes, expert guidance, community connections, growth opportunities and resources that support businesses from idea validation to expansion.

The membership also enables SherAA to provide continuous support beyond individual programme cycles, allowing aspiring founders, early-stage startups, alumni and growing SMEs to access resources and opportunities relevant to their evolving needs.

## RAKEZ session helps SMEs business foundations through legal insights

Ras Al Khaimah Economic Zone (RAKEZ) recently brought together entrepreneurs, founders, and business leaders for a practical knowledge-sharing session focused on helping SMEs better understand the legal foundations that support sustainable business growth.

As businesses navigate increasingly complex operating environments, legal awareness has become an essential part of managing risk, protecting commercial interests, and making informed decisions. The session provided attendees with practical guidance on key legal considerations that business owners commonly encounter, from contracts and liabilities to compliance requirements and governance practices.

Led by legal and compliance experts Simon Walker, Founder & Managing Partner of Skywalker Law, and Jamie



Killilea, Founding Partner and Global Head of Compliance at CGI Consultancy, the discussion explored common legal pitfalls faced by SMEs and offered practical insights on how businesses can strengthen their legal foundations as they grow.

During the session, participants gained a clearer understanding of how well-structured contracts can help protect commercial relationships, the importance of understanding liabilities and obligations, and the role of compliance in supporting long-term business success.

## ADNOC Drilling delivers first AI-enabled walking island rig ahead of schedule

ADNOC Drilling Company PJSC announced today the successful delivery and acceptance of AD-300, the first AI-enabled, fully automated walking island rig, delivered nearly three months ahead of schedule, enabling earlier revenue generation and accelerating the rollout of the six-rig next-generation programme.

Standing 50 metres tall, the height of a 15-storey building, and weighing around 2,000 tonnes, AD-300 combines advanced automation, digital systems and hybrid power capability, with the option to connect to the grid, enabling more efficient and lower-emission operations.

Its automated walking capability allows it to move seamlessly between well locations without dismantling, while automation systems, such as automated pipe handling and AI-enabled monitoring, help minimise personnel exposure in complex operating environments.

Abdulla Ateya Al Messabi, ADNOC Drilling CEO, said, "The



delivery of AD-300 marks a step-change in how we execute large-scale, technology-enabled energy development. By integrating automation, artificial intelligence and robotics at scale, we are enhancing safety, improving efficiency and delivering more consistent, predictable performance. As the first of six rigs under this programme, AD-300 demonstrates our ability to deliver complex, high-value assets ahead of schedule, accelerating revenue generation while supporting ADNOC's production capacity expansion and reinforcing the UAE's leadership in advanced energy solutions."

Deployed offshore on one of ADNOC's unique artificial islands, AD-300 is the first of six next-generation island rigs under a US\$1.54 billion contract awarded by ADNOC Offshore in 2024-2025. It represents a fundamental shift in offshore well delivery, enabling faster and more consistent execution.

The early start of operations, together with

the phased deployment of the remaining rigs, supports revenue visibility and underpins the Company's continued growth in the second half of 2026 and into 2027.

Tayba Abdulrahim Al Hashmi, ADNOC Offshore CEO, said, "At a time when the world needs reliable energy at scale, the UAE stands ready to supply global customers. AD-300 and our next-generation island rigs are accelerating our growth, expanding ADNOC's production capacity and delivering long-term value for our stakeholders and the nation."

Integrated data systems provide real-time operational insights for performance optimisation and predictive maintenance. AD-301 is currently being deployed, with the remaining rigs scheduled for delivery through 2027, creating one of the most advanced island rig fleets globally and reinforcing ADNOC Drilling's role as a key enabler of ADNOC's upstream growth ambitions.



## Nakheel releases next phase of Palm Central Private Residences

Nakheel, a member of Dubai Holding Real Estate, has released the next phase of Palm Central Private Residences on Palm Jebel Ali, reflecting continued demand for premium beachfront living.

The latest phase introduces 222 residences across three low- to mid-rise buildings. The launch builds on the strong market response to the initial release in October 2025.

Khalid Al Malik, Chief Executive Officer of Dubai Holding Real Estate, said, "Dubai continues to demonstrate resilience and stability, underpinned by strong fundamentals and a long-term vision. This sustained confidence is reflected in the strong demand we are seeing for Palm Jebel Ali, which is rapidly emerging as a significant new waterfront destination globally."

As part of the wider masterplan, the



destination will feature a 9,000 sqm retail centre and the Palm Jebel Ali Friday Mosque, which accommodates up to 1,000 worshippers.

Spanning 13.4 kilometres, Palm Jebel Ali comprises seven interconnected islands and more than 90 kilometres of beachfront.

## Middle East leads global infrastructure transition, Siemens report finds



**A** new study from Siemens reveals the Middle East is ready to enter a new era of infrastructure transition that is autonomous, resilient, and sustainable.

According to the 2026 Middle East Infrastructure Transition Monitor, the region is outpacing global counterparts in its commitment to the transition, with regional leaders demonstrating stronger investment intentions and a heightened sense of urgency around clean energy transformation.

Siemens' comprehensive study, titled Powering Transformation: How a new generation of infrastructure assets is reshaping the Middle East, based on a survey of 400 senior executives and in-depth interviews with leaders and experts in the region, reveals a region aligned for impact, with 66 percent of executives stating that the global energy transition needs to accelerate significantly, compared with 57 percent globally.

According to the report, industrial AI is accelerating operational transformation, unlocking unprecedented efficiency, productivity, and sustainability across national systems.

A total of 62 percent of executives expect AI to reshape infrastructure operations within just three years.

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## Gucci Flora Gorgeous Gardenia

When Gucci introduced its Flora scarf for Grace Kelly in the 1960s, the Italian fashion house unknowingly created an emblem that would become one of its most enduring signatures. The print's vibrant garden of blossoms and delicate greenery has since inspired fashion collections, accessories and, of course, an entire line-up of Flora fragrances, including its latest eau: Gorgeous Gardenia Intense.



## Imagination By Louis Vuitton

This masterpiece with its luxury citrus aromatic fragrance was launched in 2021. Created by master perfumer Jacques Cavallier Belletrud, it is widely celebrated as one of the best fresh signature scents. It revolves around a high-quality blend of citrus, black tea, and a heavy dose of ambroxan.

# Trending Perfumes For 2026

A man is judged by his rich, long-lasting fragrance. In case of Bollywood stars each star is associated with a unique perfume. We at DubaiPreneur bring a list of perfume trends for 2026.

## Le Male By Jean Paul Gaultier

The French House has been celebrating the 30th anniversary of its iconic scent and bottle. Launched by Jean Paul Gaultier in 1995, created by Francis Kurkdjian, Le Male became a standout thanks to its sculpted sailor silhouette and a warm-fresh blend that put a new spin on masculinity at the time.



## Ombre Nomade by Louis Vuitton

It is designed by Master Perfumer Jacques Cavallier Belletrud for lovers of rare essences, Ombre Nomade is an ardent perfume, as intense as the fire of the setting sun. With its strong leathery, spicy and woody accents, a monumental oud assam is blended with a hint of benzoin and accents of raspberry. Never has oud been so mystical.



## Prada Paradoxe

Floral tribute by Italian Luxury brand Prada Paradoxe Virtual Flower Eau de Parfum is the new feminine fragrance by Prada, a floral musky signature expands the boundaries of sensory perception.



- ▶ High Quality Products
- ▶ Green Environment
- ▶ Comprehensive Amenities
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- ▶ Humanitarian Community
- ▶ Absolute Security



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