Amazing Dubai

Have you ever heard of Dubai? Dubai is a part of the United Arab Emirates. It is located on the Arabian Peninsula, south of the Persian Gulf. Although it began as a fishing village, today it is a bustling city of nearly two million people.

In the past twenty years, Dubai has become known for its mind-boggling architecture. If you can dream it, Dubai can build it!

In 1990, much of the area around Dubai was a blank canvas. Then, city planners began a campaign to build the city of the future. They wanted to become a center for business and tourism in the region. They thought that creating fantastic buildings was the answer. Many would say that they were right! Some of the most exciting designs are these:

**The Palm Islands.** Workers used sand and stone from the ocean floor to create these man-made islands. They are shaped like palm trees and can be seen from outer space!

**Burj Al Arab.** Sometimes called the world’s only seven-star hotel, this building is shaped like the sail of a ship. It has become a symbol of modern Dubai.

**Dubailand.** Can you imagine an amusement park twice as big as Disney World? It’s being built now in Dubai! It will cost $20 billion dollars and cover more than 100 square miles.

**Ski Dubai.** Only Dubai would dream up something as far-fetched as an indoor ski park in the middle of the desert—honest!

These and other amazing buildings have put Dubai on the map as a modern city with much to offer. The only question is, what outrageous thing will Dubai build next?