



## Al Maha

**DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

An oasis beyond the edge of the city. This is a high-end but low-key desert retreat, surrounded by gazelle and incredibly peaceful. Hidden among golden dunes in the hinterland that Dubai forgot, it's the antithesis of the high-maintenance coast. A private wildlife sanctuary, it's very easy come, easy go. It's about zoning out, it's about relaxing. Handsome treatment rooms look out onto green lawns, swaying palms and undulating sands. Book the signature skin-smoothing date, frankincense and sand massage and scrub and don't miss the traditional Rasul, with mineral-enriched clays, mood-enhancing lighting and aromatic steam that feels uplifting and ancient – solo or à deux. Then hang out poolside, feasting on plump local dates and delicately fragranced white tea. Arrive a Cinderella, exit an indulged Arabian princess. **Website** [al-maha.com](http://al-maha.com). **UK reservations** Cleveland Collection (tel: 0845 450 5732). **Rates** Double, from £1,020, full board.