



# WHAT'S ON

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## AWARDS 2016

DUBAI

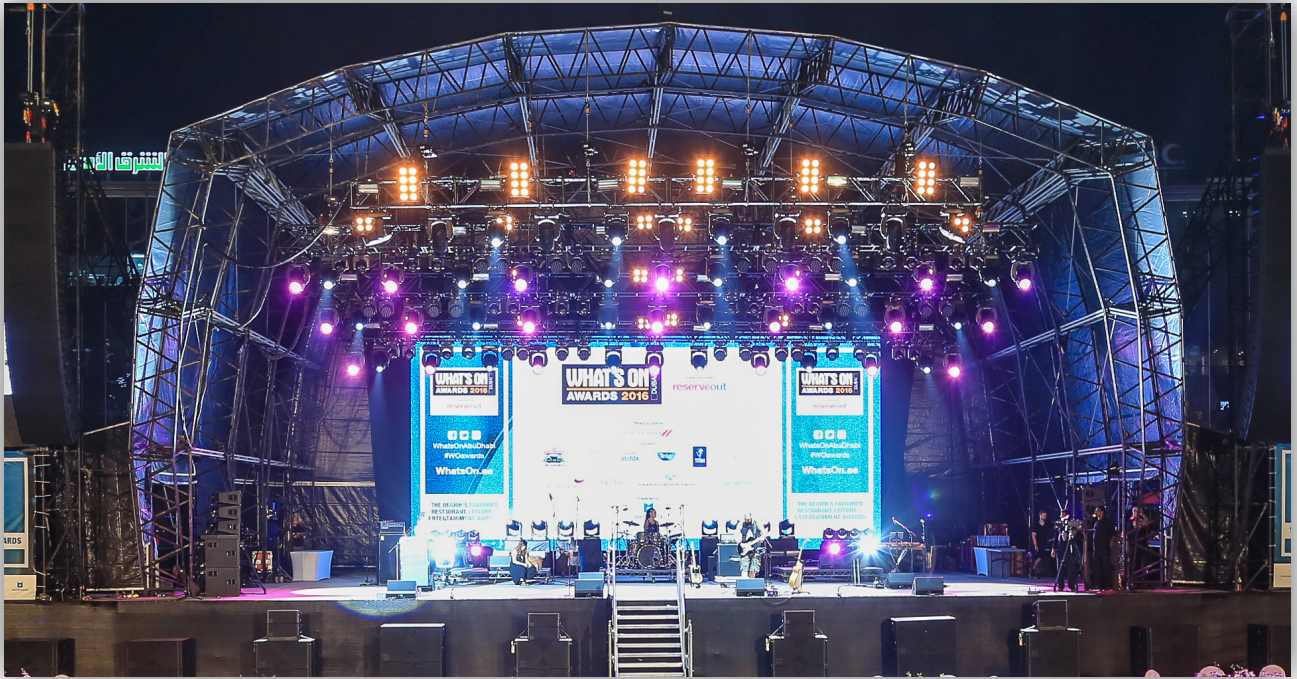
in association with

**reserveout**  
restaurant reservations simplified



MONDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2016  
DUBAI MEDIA CITY AMPHITHEATRE

## POST-EVENT REPORT



# THANK YOU

Motivate would like to extend a huge thank you to all the guests and sponsors for their contribution in making What's On Awards Dubai a big success. We hope you enjoyed yourself thoroughly and we look forward to working with you again in the near future.

Motivate Team

# YOU ARE INVITED....

More than 1,000 guests attended the What's On Awards ceremony in Dubai Amphitheatre.

The guest list included the city's leading professionals in the leisure and entertainment industry.

## PRINTED INVITATION



## DIGITAL ARTWORK

- Save the date
- E-invite
- See you tonight



# THE VENUE



## DUBAI MEDIA CITY AMPHITHEATRE

In the heart of Dubai Media City lies a spacious, green amphitheatre. This area is transformed into a glamorous event space for What's On Awards Dubai, and also some of Dubai's biggest concerts at different times of the year.



# BLUE CARPET GLAMOUR





# BLUE CARPET GLAMOUR





# BLUE CARPET GLAMOUR





# VENUE BRANDING



# ACTIVATIONS

## RESERVEOUT Headline Sponsor

**reserveout**  
restaurant reservations simplified

Headline Sponsor reserveout displayed their photo booth at the event where guests were able to take fun photos with props. The photos were printed and given to the guests as souvenirs of their night.

reserveout sponsored four categories. Dana Thawabteh, Client Relations Manager at reserveout, awarded Favourite Chinese Restaurant to Yuan, Atlantis The Palm Hotel, and Favourite French Restaurant to La Petite Maison.

Mireille Hajji, Senior Client Relations Manager at reserveout, awarded Favourite Japanese Restaurant to Okku, The H Hotel, and Favourite Modern European Restaurant to Al Hamra, Al Qasr.



# ACTIVATIONS

## DODGE Official Car Sponsor



Our official car sponsors, Dodge, displayed their 2016 Dodge Neons at the event. Both cars were also used by the *What's On* Team for the pre-awarding of the under 400's, two weeks prior to the event.

Neville Darukhanawalla, PR Manager for Chrysler, Jeep & Dodge, awarded four categories on behalf of Dodge. Favourite Ladies' Night was awarded to China Grill, The Westin Dubai Mina Seyahi, Favourite Nightclub was awarded to Zero Gravity, Favourite Food Truck was awarded to Salt, and finally Favourite The Americas Restaurant was awarded to Maya Modern Mexican Kitchen.



# ACTIVATIONS

## TITAN



Titan handed out samples of their drinks to the guests from their stand during the event. Bhikhu Opat, Chairman of Titan Energy Drink, handed out the awards for two categories. Favourite Day Out was awarded to Riva Beach Club and Favourite Sporting Event was won by Emirates Airline Dubai Rugby Sevens.



# ACTIVATIONS

## TETLEY



Tetley Tea handed out gift bags to all guest attending the awards. Their brand representative also went around taking photos with the guests, carrying the Tetley Tea Frame.

Awarding the first and second category on behalf of Tetley Tea was Managing Director at Tata Global Beverages, Mr Danny Finney. Favourite Indian Restaurant was awarded to Rang Mahal by Atul Kochhar and Favourite International Restaurant was awarded to The Beach House, Anantara The Palm Dubai Resort.

Awarding the third category on behalf of Tetley Tea was Mr Kiran Bhatia, Commercial Manager Middle East, Tata Global Beverages. Favourite Italian Restaurant was awarded to BiCE at Hilton Dubai.



# ACTIVATIONS

## AFRICAN & EASTERN



Our beverage partner African & Eastern provided the refreshments for the event. Jason Dixon, General Manager On-Trade and Hospitality, presented the Favourite Bar award to Lock Stock & Barrell, and Favourite Brunch was awarded to Bubbalicious at The Westin Dubai Mina Seyahi.

The following brands interacted with the guests by having impressive bar activations:

- Stella Artois Cidre
- Stoli Lemonade Lounge



# ACTIVATIONS

## JA RESORTS & HOTELS



Our culinary partner for the What's On Awards Dubai was JA Resorts & Hotels. Guests were treated to a vast range of menu options. Food stations were spread throughout offering international cuisine, tastefully and creatively themed.

Presenting the two sponsored categories on behalf of JA Resorts & Hotels was Deborah Thomson, General Manager at Bateaux Dubai. The award for Favourite Business Lunch was presented to La Cantine du Faubourg and Favourite Pub Grub was awarded to The Irish Village.



# ACTIVATIONS

## EMIRATES PRINTING PRESS



**EMIRATES PRINTING PRESS (L.L.C)**

Emirates Printing Press sponsored Favourite Healthy Eating category as well as Favourite Café. Presenting the awards were Mr Mohan Valrani, Senior Vice Chairman and Managing Director of Al Shirawi Group Of Companies, and Mr Mohamed Al Shirawi, Deputy Managing Director of Al Shirawi Group Of Companies and CEO of Emirates Printing Press.

Just Salad received the award for Favourite Healthy Eating Restaurant and The Sum Of Us won the award for Favourite Café.



# ACTIVATIONS

## FUJI INSTAX

FUJIFILM  
**instax**

Shaji Shanmughan, Category Manager, Technology Division at Grand Stores, presented the two sponsored categories. Favourite Concert was won by David Guetta and Favourite Festival was awarded to Emirates Airline Festival Of Literature.



# ACTIVATIONS

## RONAI



Gavin Dodd, Managing Director at A Ronaii LLC, presented the awards for two categories. Favourite Middle Eastern Restaurant was awarded to Al Nafoorah Emirates Towers and Favourite British Restaurant to The Scene.



# ACTIVATIONS

## JACOBSONS

**JACOBSONS**  
accelerate business

Our official voting partners for the awards, Jacobsons Direct, sponsored two categories. Mr Ashley Jacob, Director at Jacobsons Direct, presented Favourite Pan-Asian Restaurant to Asia Asia and Favourite Seafood Restaurant to BiCE Mare.

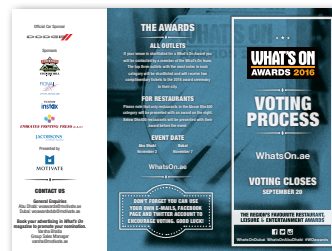


Voting Slips

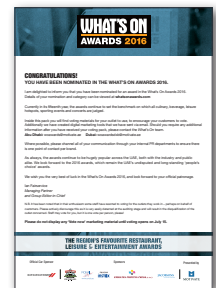


Table Tent Card

Business Cards



Voting process



Nominated Letter

# ACTIVATIONS

## STOCKYARD COUNTRY HILL



On behalf of Stockyard Country Hill, Maria Luisa Panzica La Manna, Business Development Manager at Country Hill International, awarded Favourite Steakhouse & Grill to Bushman's Restaurant & Bar. The second award, Favourite Thai Restaurant, went to Thiptara.



# ACTIVATIONS

## BLISS

**BLISS**  
FLOWER BOUTIQUE

Providing our tasteful selection of flower centerpieces were our flower partners, Bliss Flowers.



# NOMINEE BRIEFING

The Nominee briefing is always an opportunity for us to educate the nominees about the What's On Awards Dubai on all information such as the voting process.

An informal briefing consisted of introduction the *What's On* team, the 2016 awards process, deadlines, how to use collateral and answering all questions that the nominee representatives would have.



**WHAT'S ON DUBAI AWARDS 2016**

You're invited to  
**What's On Dubai Awards Nominee Briefing**

Learn everything you need to know about getting involved in the 2016 What's On Awards. It's a chance for you to meet the team, ask any questions you might have and enjoy afternoon tea and treats.

If you're unable to attend but would still like to get involved please email [woawards@motivate.ae](mailto:woawards@motivate.ae) to request an information pack.

**Date:** Monday 23rd May 2016 **Time:** 3pm – 4pm

**Venue:** Floor 24, Media One Hotel, Dubai

**RSVP before Sunday 8th May to [woawardsdxb@motivate.ae](mailto:woawardsdxb@motivate.ae)**

We look forward to seeing you there.

Presented by

**MOTIVATE** **WHAT'S ON**



# VOTING PROCESS

What's On Awards Dubai nominees consisted of bars, restaurants, cafés, spas, nightclubs and events. Voting took place from June to September 2016.

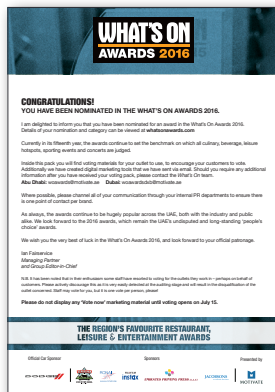
Nominees were able to promote their nomination to their customers online and through printed voting slips. The voting packs provided to each outlet consisted of table tent cards, business cards and voting slips.



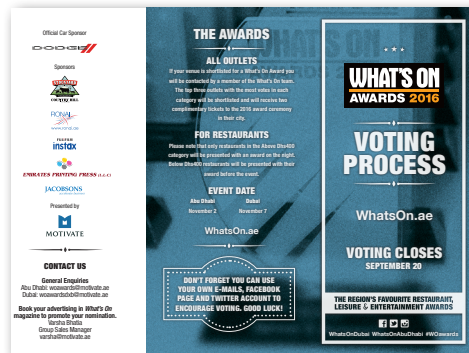
Voting Slips



Table Tent Card



Nominated Letter



Voting Process



Business Cards

Once voting was closed, all online and printed slips were sent to Jacobsons Direct, our auditing partner who checked and verified all votes. Top three outlets in each category were then invited to the What's On Awards Dubai on 7 November where the final winners were announced.

The Leisure & Below 400 Restaurant categories were pre-awarded two weeks prior to the event.

# PRE-EVENT COVERAGE

## NOMINATIONS

### PRINT

The 'Nominations now open' advertisements were placed across Motivate titles between June and September 2016:

- *What's On Dubai*
- *What's On Abu Dhabi*
- *Gulf Business*
- *Stuff*
- *Campaign*
- *Emirates Woman*
- *Hype*
- *Golf Digest*
- *Good*
- *identity*
- *The Week*



### NEWSPAPER

The 'Nominations now open' advertisement was placed in 7Days newspaper.



### DIGITAL BANNERS

The Nominations digital banners ran across the following sites from 20th May to 20th June.

WhatsOn.ae  
Emirateswoman.com  
Gulfbusiness.com  
Stuff.tv.me  
CampaignMe.com



### LEADERBOARD



MPU



HALF PAGE

### E-MAIL BLAST

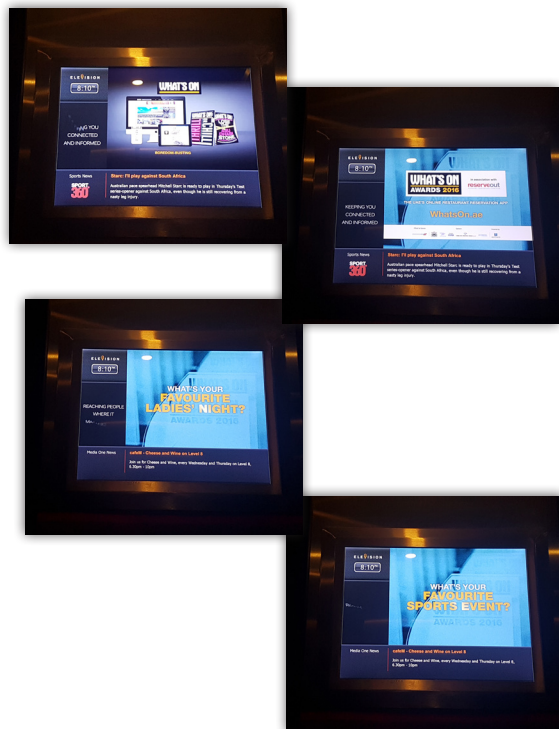
E-mail blasts were sent to the *What's On* database of over 60,000 in July, August, September, October and November



# PRE-EVENT COVERAGE

## ELEVISION

The campaign ran across the Elevision lift advertisement platform across their DMC and Business Bay network from 17th July until 15th September for the Vote Now campaign and 20th October through to 3rd November 2016 for the winner announcements.



## CINEMA

Cinema ads were shown across VOX Cinemas from July to November.



## RADIO AD



The radio ad was aired on Dubai Eye from 16th October until 7th November 2016.

**dubaieye**  
103.8

What's your favourite restaurant? Your favourite sports event?

What about your favourite ladies' night?

Voting has now closed for the What's On Awards in association with Reserve Out.

To find out who has been shortlisted to win an award visit [WhatsOn.ae](http://WhatsOn.ae).

*What's On*, the UAE's best-selling entertainment magazine. On sale now.

# PRE-EVENT COVERAGE

## VOTE NOW

### PRINT

The 'Vote & Win' advertisement was placed across the Motivate titles, including:

- *What's On Abu Dhabi*
- *What's On Dubai*
- *Gulf Business*
- *Stuff*
- *Campaign*
- *Emirates Woman*
- *Hype*
- *Golf Digest*
- *Good*
- *identity*
- *The Week*



### NEWSPAPER

The 'Vote & Win' advertisement was placed in 7Days newspaper.



### DIGITAL BANNERS

The 'Vote & Win' digital banners ran across the following sites from June to September.

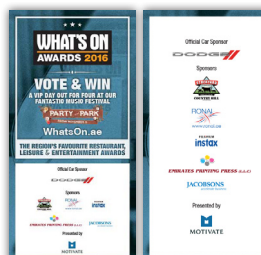
WhatsOn.ae  
Emirateswoman.com  
Gulfbusiness.com  
Stuff.tv.me  
CampaignMe.com



### LEADERBOARD



MPU



HALF PAGE

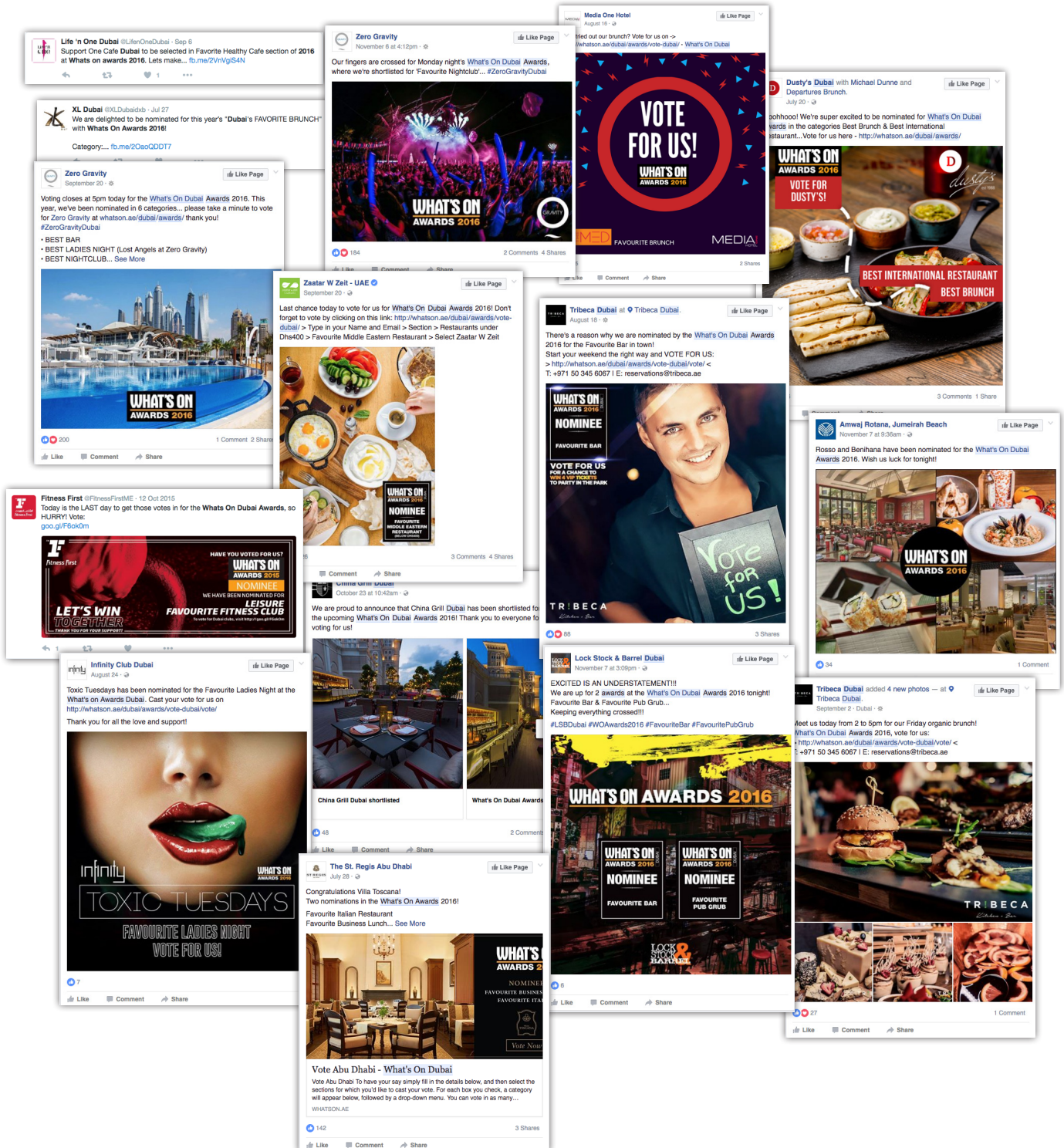
### E-MAIL BLAST

E-mail blasts were sent to the *What's On* database of over 60,000 in July, August, September, October and November



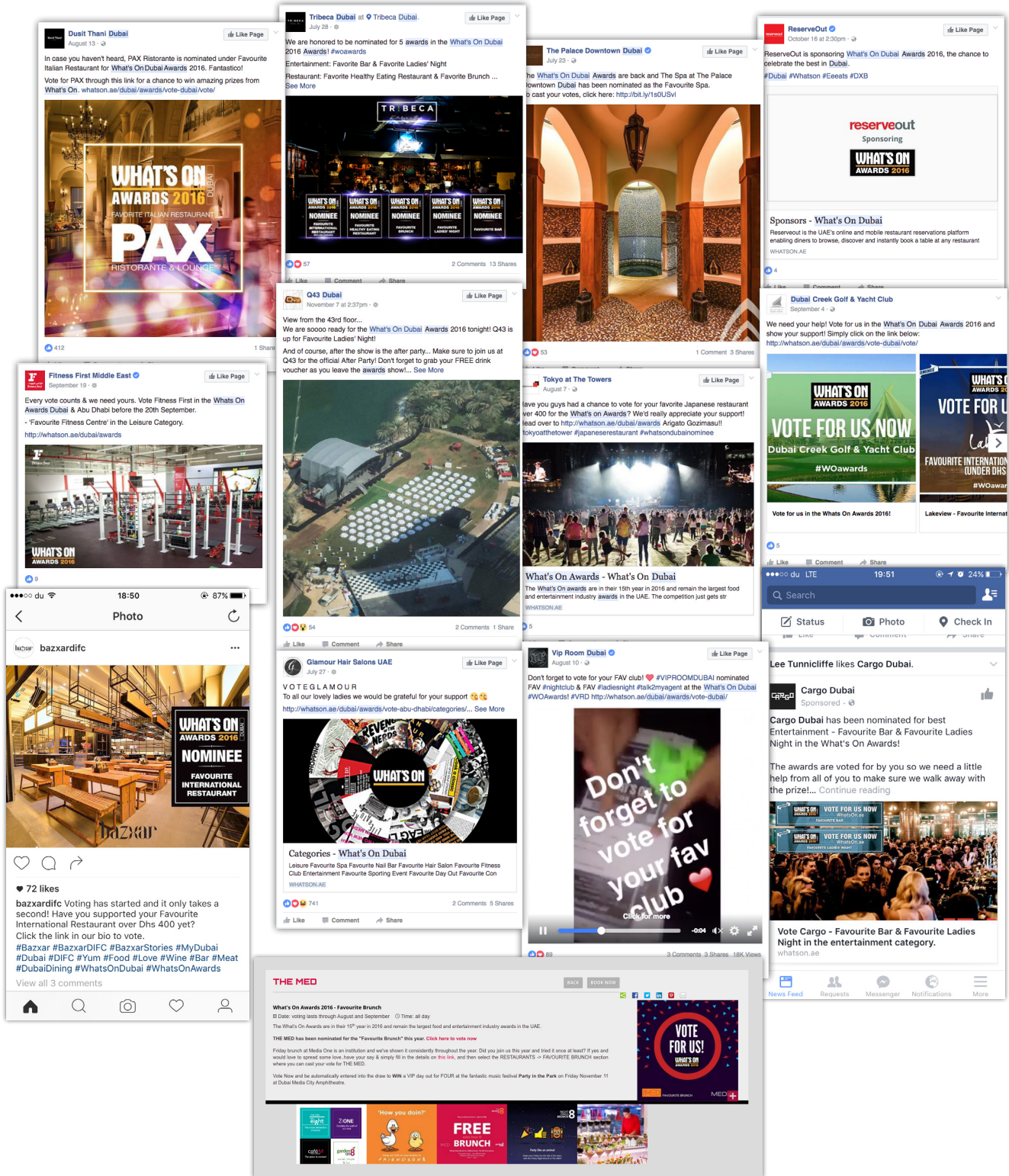
# VOTING PROMOTION

## EXAMPLES OF OUTLETS ENCOURAGING THEIR CUSTOMERS TO VOTE:



# VOTING PROMOTION

## EXAMPLES OF OUTLETS ENCOURAGING THEIR CUSTOMERS TO VOTE:



# THE WINNERS



What's On Restaurant of the Year  
**Coya**



What's On Indie Restaurant of the Year  
**La Taqueria DxB**



What's On Chef of the Year  
**Reif Othman**



What's On Newcomer of the Year  
**The Maine Oyster Bar & Grill**

# THE WINNERS



**Favourite Healthy Restaurant**  
**Just Salad**



**Favourite Concert**  
**David Guetta**



**Favourite Bar**  
**Lock Stock & Barrel**



**Favourite Day Out**  
**Riva Beach**



**Favourite Ladies' Night**  
**China Grill**



**Favourite Festival**  
**Emirates Airline Festival of Literature**

# THE WINNERS



**Favourite Nightclub**  
**Zero Gravity**



**Favourite Sporting Event**  
**Emirates Airline Dubai Rugby Sevens**



**Favourite Brunch**  
**Bubbalicious**



**Favourite Business Lunch**  
**La Cantine Du Faubourg**



**Favourite Café**  
**The Sum Of Us**



**Favourite Pub Grub**  
**The Irish Village**

# THE WINNERS



Favourite Middle Eastern Restaurant  
**Al Nafoorah**



Favourite British Restaurant  
**The Scene**



Favourite Chinese Restaurant  
**Yuan**



Favourite Food Truck  
**Salt**



Favourite French Restaurant  
**La Petite Maison**



Favourite Indian Restaurant  
**Rang mahal**

# THE WINNERS



**Favourite International Restaurant**  
**The Beach House**



**Favourite Italian Restaurant**  
**BiCE**



**Favourite Japanese Restaurant**  
**Okku**



**Favourite The Americas Restaurant**  
**Maya Modern Mexican Kitchen**



**Favourite Modern European Restaurant**  
**Al Hambra**

# THE WINNERS



Favourite Pan-Asian Restaurant  
**Asia Asia**



Favourite Seafood Restaurant  
**BiCE Mare**



Favourite Steakhouse  
**Bushman's Restaurant & Bar**



Favourite Thai Restaurant  
**Thiptara**

# THE WINNERS

(PRE-AWARDED)  
(BELOW 400)



Favourite Middle Eastern Restaurant  
**Seven Sands**



Favourite British Restaurant  
**Bread Street And Kitchen**



Favourite Chinese Restaurant  
**Soy Restaurant**



Favourite French Restaurant  
**La Farine**



Favourite Indian Restaurant  
**Gazebo**

# THE WINNERS

(PRE-AWARDED)  
(BELOW 400)



Favourite Italian Restaurant  
**Eataly**



Favourite Japanese Restaurant  
**Atisuto**



Favourite Pan-Asian Restaurant  
**Shanghai Chic**



Favourite Seafood Restaurant  
**Aprons & Hammers**



Favourite Steakhouse  
**Butcher Shop And Grill**

# THE WINNERS

(PRE-AWARDED)  
(BELOW 400)



**Favourite Thai Restaurant  
Benjaron**



**Favourite The Americas Restaurant  
Perry And Blackwelders**



**Favourite International Restaurant  
The Shore**



**Favourite Pakistani Restaurant  
Barbeque Delights**



**Favourite Modern European  
Boardwalk**

# THE WINNERS

(PRE-AWARDED)  
(LEISURE CATEGORY)



Favourite Hair Salon  
**Maria Dowling**



Favourite Spa  
**Armani Spa**



Favourite Fitness Club  
**Physique 57**



Favourite Nail Bar  
**The Nail Spa**

# THE WINNERS AD

Published in *What's On Dubai* December Issue



in association with  
**reserveout**  
restaurant reservations simplified

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DUBAI WINNERS

<p>FAVOURITE BAR <b>Lock, Stock &amp; Barrel</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE DAY OUT <b>RIVA Beach Club</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE CONCERT <b>David Guetta</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE LADIES' NIGHT <b>China Grill, The Westin Dubai Mina Seyahi</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE FESTIVAL <b>Emirates Airline Festival of Literature</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE NIGHTCLUB <b>Zero Gravity</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE SPORTING EVENT <b>Emirates Airline Dubai Rugby Sevens</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE BRUNCH <b>Bubblicious, The Westin Dubai Mina Seyahi</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE BUSINESS LUNCH <b>La Cantine du Faubourg</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE CAFÉ <b>The Sum Of Us</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE HEALTHY EATING RESTAURANT <b>Just Salad</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE PUB GRUB <b>The Irish Village</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE FOOD TRUCK <b>Salt</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE BRITISH RESTAURANT <b>The Scene</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE BRITISH RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>Bread Street Kitchen, Atlantis The Palm Hotel</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE MIDDLE EASTERN RESTAURANT <b>Al Nafoorah, Emirates Towers</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE MIDDLE EASTERN RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>Seven Sands</b></p>	<p>FAVOURITE CHINESE RESTAURANT <b>Yuan, Atlantis The Palm</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE CHINESE RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>Soy Restaurant</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE FRENCH RESTAURANT <b>La Petite Maison</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE FRENCH RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>La Farine, JW Marriott Marquis Hotel Dubai</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE INDIAN RESTAURANT <b>Rang Mahal By Atul Kochhar, JW Marriott Marquis Hotel Dubai</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE INDIAN RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>Gazabo</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE INTERNATIONAL RESTAURANT <b>The Beach House, Anantara The Palm Dubai Resort</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE INTERNATIONAL RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>Shores Restaurant, Ramada Plaza Jumeirah Beach</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE ITALIAN RESTAURANT <b>Bice, Hilton Dubai Jumeirah Resort</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE ITALIAN RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>Eataly</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE JAPANESE RESTAURANT <b>Okku, The H Dubai</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE JAPANESE RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>Atisuto</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE MODERN EUROPEAN RESTAURANT <b>Al Hambra, Al Qasr</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE MODERN EUROPEAN RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>Boardwalk, Dubai Creek Golf &amp; Yacht Club</b></p>	<p>FAVOURITE PAKISTANI RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>Barbeque Delights</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE PAN-ASIAN RESTAURANT <b>Asia Asia, Pier 7</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE PAN-ASIAN RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>Shanghai Chic, Mövenpick Ibn Battuta Gate Hotel</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE SEAFOOD RESTAURANT <b>Bice Mare</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE SEAFOOD RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>Aprons &amp; Hammers</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE STEAKHOUSE <b>Bushman's Restaurant &amp; Bar, Anantara Dubai The Palm Resort &amp; Spa</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE STEAKHOUSE (BELOW DHS400) <b>The Butcher Shop &amp; Grill</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE THAI RESTAURANT <b>Thiptara, The Palace Downtown</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE THAI RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>Benjarong, Dusit Thani Dubai</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE THE AMERICAS RESTAURANT <b>Maya Modern Mexican Kitchen, Le Royal Méridien Beach Resort &amp; Spa</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE THE AMERICAS RESTAURANT (BELOW DHS400) <b>Perry &amp; Blackwelder's, Souk Madinat Jumeirah</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE FITNESS CLUB <b>Physique 57</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE SPA <b>Armani/SPA, Armani Hotel Dubai</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE NAIL BAR <b>The Nail Spa</b></p> <p>FAVOURITE HAIR SALON <b>Maria Dowling</b></p>
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Official Car Sponsor



Sponsors



Presented by

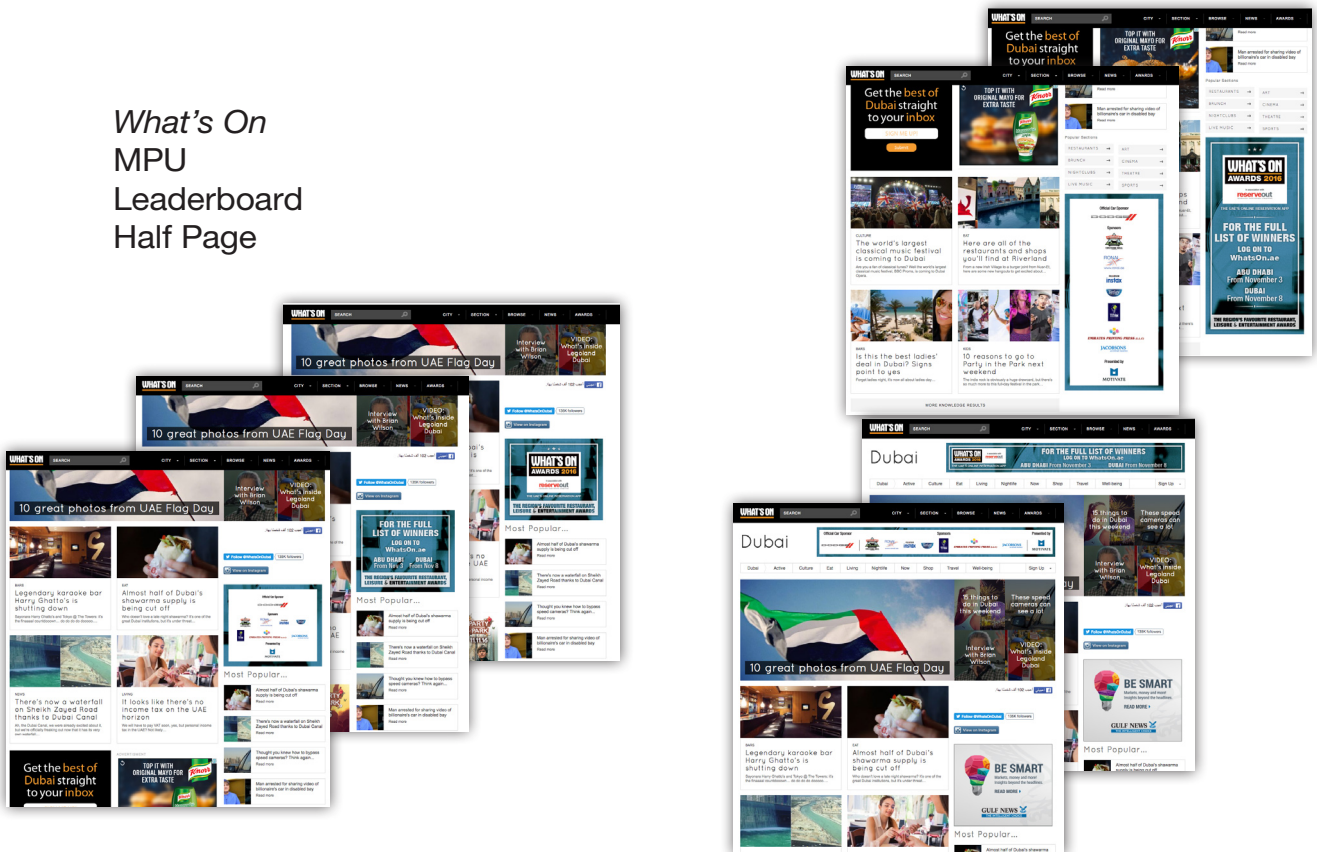




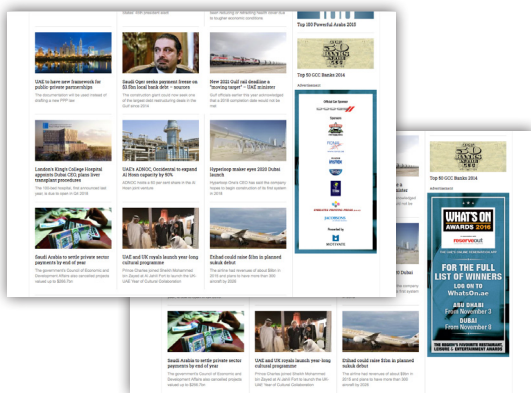
A badge was sent to all winners to promote their win.

# POST-EVENT COVERAGE-ONLINE

What's On  
MPU  
Leaderboard  
Half Page



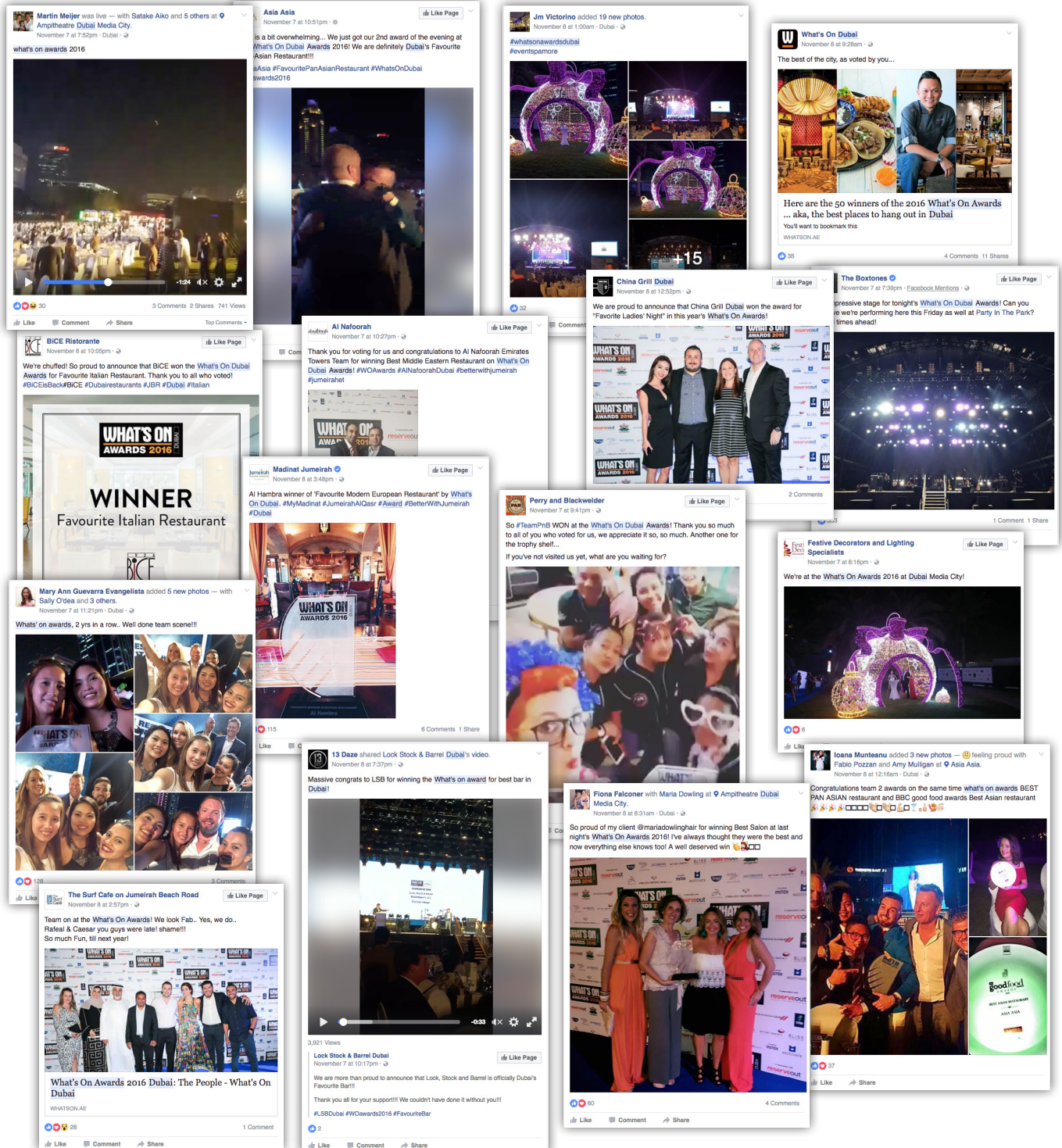
Gulf Business - Half page



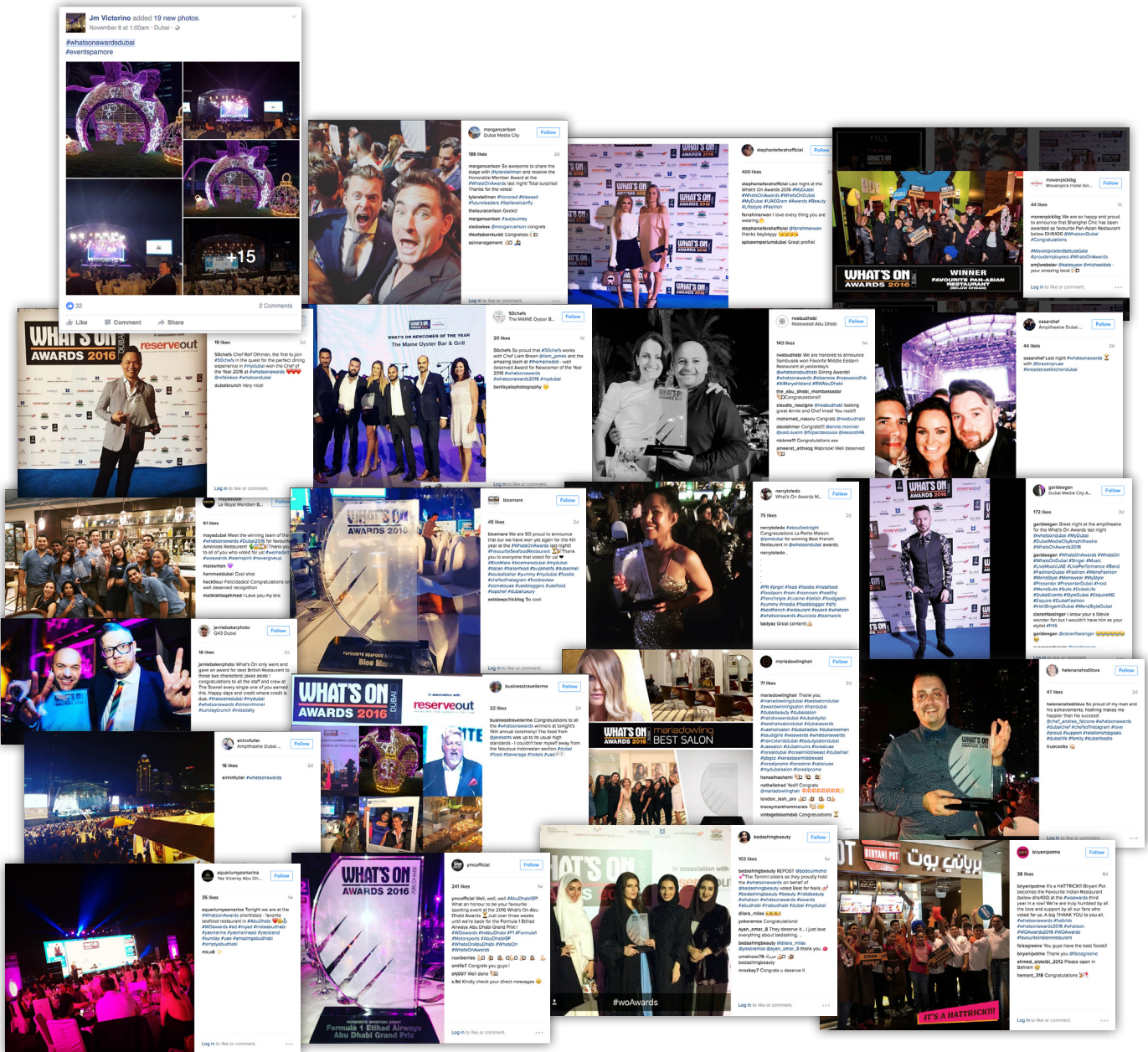
Campaign - MPU



# POST-EVENT COVERAGE - SOCIAL MEDIA



# POST-EVENT COVERAGE - SOCIAL MEDIA



*What's On Dubai* (December 2016)

# AND THE WINNERS ARE...

THE PEOPLE OF DUBAI HAVE SPOKEN  
AND WE HEARD YOU LOUD AND  
CLEAR. MEET THE WINNERS OF THE  
2016 WHAT'S ON AWARDS, THE MOST  
PRESTIGIOUS HOSPITALITY AWARDS IN  
DUBAI, VOTED BY YOU

68\_What's On\_12.2015

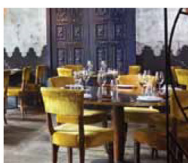
What's On Dubai (December 2016)



## THE BIG WINNERS

### What's On Restaurant Of The Year COYA

Given that it is such a stalwart of Dubai's dining scene, it's hard to believe our Restaurant Of The Year opened its doors just two years ago. Coya serves impeccably prepared dishes combining bold flavours with creative flair. This, together with fabulous service in a setting created with loving attention to detail, our restaurant of the year has proved that it really represents the spirit of South America in Dubai.



### What's On Chef Of The Year REIF OTHMAN, PLAY

This gentleman has shaped the dining scene in Dubai. He was instrumental in transforming Zuma into a world-class restaurant, and since March this year, his daring food and flair at his latest endeavour, Play, has caused a stir in the city and beyond.



12.2016\_What's On\_69

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2016 // THE BIG WINNERS

# EDITORIAL COVERAGE

# WHAT'S ON DUBAI

What's On Dubai (December 2016)

## What's On Newcomer Of The Year

### THE MAINE OYSTER BAR & GRILL

A cross between a fisherman's warehouse and a stylish seafood brasserie, The Maine looks as good as the food it serves. Since opening this restaurant has become one of the busiest in the city, largely down to the excellent cuisine – their truffle pizza and lobster rolls are the talk of town. Perfect for a romantic dinner, a quick post-work hangout or a full-blown party, The Maine has proved it is here to stay.



## What's On Indie Restaurant Of The Year

### LA TAQUERIA DXB

Charming, honest, hard-working, passionate and authentic. These are the five mantras our indie hotspot lives by. Located in an unassuming spot in Business Bay, this family-run passion project has impressed industry pros in the know with unfailingly delicious Mexican food. Just one bite of their fish tacos and you'll have tasted perfection.



12.2016\_What's On\_71

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2016 // THE BIG WINNERS

What's On Dubai (December 2016)

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2016 // BEST RESTAURANTS



## BEST RESTAURANTS



### Favourite French Restaurant

**LA PETITE MAISON**

Award-winning French food that regularly makes it onto lists of the world's best restaurants, La Petite Maison is a Dubai classic, perfect for celebrating a special occasion. Always fizzing with energy, expect French food of the highest quality.



### Favourite Indian Restaurant

**RANG MAHAL BY ATUL KOCHHAR**

Atul Kochhar is known for his Michelin-starred London restaurant Benares, and his fine dining Indian restaurant is one of the culinary highlights in the world's tallest hotel.



### Favourite Chinese Restaurant

**YUAN, ATLANTIS THE PALM**

From the in-house DJ spinning chill-out tunes in the bar to the glamorous private dining room, Yuan is a stylish setting for your Chinese food fix. Tuck into Dubai-style Szechuan cuisine including wagyu rib-eye, vegetable dumplings and deep-fried tiger prawns. ▶

72\_What's On\_12.2016

# EDITORIAL COVERAGE

# WHAT'S ON DUBAI

What's On Dubai (December 2016)

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2016 // BEST RESTAURANTS

## Favourite Japanese Restaurant

**OKKU**

From its legendary Disco Sushi Friday brunch to chic and sassy ladies' night, the award-winning Okku has cemented its place as a Dubai icon.



## Favourite International Restaurant

**THE BEACH HOUSE, ANANTARA THE PALM DUBAI RESORT**

A visit here feels like a true escape from the city. Choose a table on the terrace, soak up the sunshine and tuck into pizza, tapas and seafood while you pretend you're in the Mediterranean.



## Favourite Italian Restaurant

**BICE, HILTON DUBAI JUMEIRAH RESORT**

A true Dubai classic and a great spot for date night, Bice serves traditional, contemporary yet unpretentious Italian dishes in an elegant setting. Bice may be part of a global family-run chain, but it sure doesn't feel like it.

74\_What's On\_12.2016

What's On Dubai (December 2016)



## Favourite Pan-Asian Restaurant

**ASIA ASIA, PIER 7**

The food at this Pier 7 gem is an ingenious fusion of Asian and Middle Eastern flavours – try the miso-marinated Persian black cod. Book a table on the terrace for gorgeous views of the marina.



## Favourite Modern European Restaurant

**AL HAMBRA**

For fantastic tapas in a Mediterranean setting, Al Hambra knocks spots off the rest. The menu is full of old favourites (including juicy chorizo) and new innovations.



## Favourite Middle Eastern Restaurant

**AL NAFOORAH, EMIRATES TOWERS**

Delicious Lebanese food with a focus on traditional, Al Nafoorah is back on top as the city's finest Middle Eastern restaurant.



## Favourite Seafood Restaurant

**BICE MARE**

Dubai diners can't get enough of Bice Mare's succulent seafood dishes prepared with authentic Italian flair by friendly chefs.

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WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2016 // BEST RESTAURANTS

# EDITORIAL COVERAGE

# WHAT'S ON DUBAI

What's On Dubai (December 2016)

WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2016 // BEST RESTAURANTS



## Favourite Steakhouse

### BUSHMAN'S RESTAURANT & BAR

A true-blue Aussie restaurant with a totally relaxed vibe, Bushman's is your go-to spot for succulent cuts of prime meat and fresh seafood prepared at the Parilla Grill and charcoal ovens. If you're feeling brave, they even serve kangaroo pie.



## Favourite Thai Restaurant

### THIPTARA, THE PALACE DOWNTOWN

Authentic Thai cuisine inside one of the city's most impressive dining rooms. The only thing that could top an evening inside is dinner on the terrace overlooking Dubai Fountains with a mouthful of spring roll.



## Favourite The Americas Restaurant

### MAYA MODERN MEXICAN KITCHEN

There's absolutely no denying that this authentic Mexican restaurant really stands out from Dubai's many Tex-Mex pretenders. The décor is cool and sophisticated and that cheese fondue is a melting pot party.



## Favourite British Restaurant

### THE SCENE

Celebrity British chef Simon Rimmer has come up trumps with his fantastic restaurant in Pier 7. The gastro pub-style food is fantastic, especially the chicken pies, mash potato and truffles – and the view across Dubai Marina is one of the best.

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WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2016 // BEST SPAS AND SALONS



## Favourite Fitness Club

**PHYSIQUE 57**

Another big win for Physique 57, which has won this category for two consecutive years, and for good reason too. They have created a loyal barre following who love the positive energy of the instructors and the visible results.



## Favourite Spa

**ARMANI/SPA, ARMANI HOTEL DUBAI**

Slick, muted (yet clearly very swanky) interiors and the fact you're inside the Burj Khalifa make this a once-in-a-lifetime spa experience.



## Favourite Nail Bar

**THE NAIL SPA**

Excellent service and a friendly team make this one of the most reliable mani-pedi joints in town. The new branch in Mall Of The Emirates is particularly gorgeous and well worth checking out.



## Favourite Hair Salon

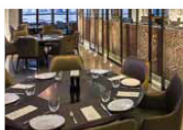
**MARIA DOWLING**

Maria Dowling is a stalwart of the Dubai hairdressing scene – the woman herself is famous for her eye for colour, but the whole team at this salon are experts at their craft.

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## FAVOURITE MIDDLE EASTERN RESTAURANT

**Seven Sands**  
JBR introduced some local flavour when Seven Sands opened at The Beach a year ago. Since then, it's become the go-to for Emirati cuisine. Order the Emirati vegetable pie and prepare to be impressed.

## FAVOURITE CHINESE RESTAURANT

**Soy Restaurant**  
When you're craving wasabi prawns and dumplings, Soy is that dependable Chinese restaurant whose number you should have on speed dial. It's cheap, cheerful and always hits the spot.



## FAVOURITE FRENCH RESTAURANT

**La Farine, JW Marriott Marquis Hotel Dubai**  
Freshly baked bread, crafted barista coffee as well as authentic French cuisine. If you're in the mood for some escargot or a spot of crusted baked Camembert, you know where to look.

## FAVOURITE INDIAN RESTAURANT

**Gazebo**  
You can tell Gazebo is legitimate as the crowd they serve is mainly Indian. When it comes to curries, their paneer jalfrezi hits the spot with its sweet and sour sauce.



Eataly



Soy Restaurant

## BEST RESTAURANTS



Bread Street Kitchen

## FAVOURITE INTERNATIONAL RESTAURANT

**Shores Restaurant**  
Two consecutive wins for the all-day dining restaurant, which stands out for its take on the classic international buffet, plus a strong menu. The view from the terrace is lovely, too.

## FAVOURITE ITALIAN RESTAURANT

**Eataly**  
We don't know what we love more: the aisles of products from Europe, the cheese counter with buffalo cheese balls, or the delicious bowls of pasta they serve.



## FAVOURITE JAPANESE RESTAURANT

**Atisuto**  
This place always seems to be

bustling, and we reckon the chicken gyoza has something to do with it. The fresh, homemade dumplings are piping hot parcels of flavour. You won't be disappointed with their bowls of ramen, either.



## FAVOURITE MODERN EUROPEAN RESTAURANT

**Boardwalk**  
Boardwalk's waterside restaurant sits on a wooden-stilted jetty overlooking the Dubai Creek. If that doesn't impress, the fresh seafood certainly will.

## FAVOURITE PAN-ASIAN RESTAURANT

**Shanghai Chic, Mövenpick Ibn Battuta Gate Hotel**  
A popular choice for

years, its brunch really put Shanghai Chic on the map. You'll find steaming plump dumplings, Peking duck, as well as a dessert that's called the Shanghai Snickers. Authentic? Perhaps not. Delicious. You bet.

## FAVOURITE SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

**Aprons & Hammers**  
Buckets of mussels, clams and prawns all aboard a wooden ship. Don your apron and get stuck in. Thousands have, and that's why it's your favourite seafood spot.



## FAVOURITE THE AMERICAS RESTAURANT

**Perry And Blackwelder**  
Home of the hot dog and chicken wing, P&B is all

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## UNDER DHS400



about that classic deep south soul food with a side of sports thrown in for good measure.



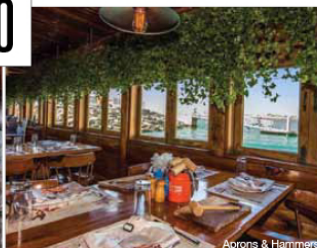
### FAVOURITE THAI RESTAURANT

**Benjarong,**  
Dusit Thani Dubai  
A Bangkok-born brand serving traditional Thai in an ornate setting. You'll feel like you're in the posh part of Bangkok, but you're really just off the side of Sheikh Zayed Road.



### FAVOURITE BRITISH RESTAURANT

**Bread Street Kitchen**



Aprons & Hammers



La Cantine du Faubourg

Classic British fare with a famous name behind the scenes, Gordon Ramsay's new branch has left the city's diners impressed. The food is thoughtful, the setting cosy, and the cuisine on point.

### FAVOURITE PAKISTANI RESTAURANT

**Barbecue Delights**  
A busy branch in JBR, Barbecue Delights has knocked off Ravi's to claim the coveted title of best Pakistani restaurant. You'll also find Afghan and North Indian cuisine on the menu.



### FAVOURITE STEAKHOUSE

**Butcher Shop & Grill**  
It looks just like a butcher shop with a few extra tables thrown in front for good measure,

but boy, is the meat at this legendary South African chain fantastic. Order the juicy burger, medium-rare and is comes with crispy onions and chunky chips. You'll be full and very happy.



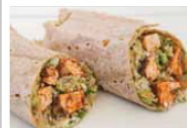
### FAVOURITE CAFÉ

**The Sum Of Us**  
A perfect spot for a long, lazy breakfast at the weekend, The Sum Of Us does healthy (gluten-free porridge) and hearty (salted caramel French toast). The café also has its own roaster and bakes fresh sourdough loaves on site.

### FAVOURITE BUSINESS LUNCH

**La Cantine du Faubourg**  
For French sophistication in your lunch hour, this tres chic restaurant in DIFC delivers. Just Dh105 per person will

get you one starter and one main course, and includes vichyssoise, foie gras and grilled salmon.



### FAVOURITE HEALTHY RESTAURANT

**Just Salad**  
Only fresh, local and organic ingredients are used to construct tasty salads, wraps and smoothies. You can even create your own, customising your greens, protein and dressing. It's budget-friendly too, with nothing on the menu costing more than Dh50.



### FAVOURITE PUB GRUB

**The Irish Village**  
Pub grub is all about comfort food, and the award-winning Irish Village does it best. You can tuck into everything from Irish soda bread to toad in the hole, fish and chips, and proper bangers and mash.



### FAVOURITE FOOD TRUCK

**Salt**  
Instantly recognisable thanks to its shiny exterior, Salt keeps beachgoers happy with tasty food like wagyu beef sliders and addictive French fries.

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## Favourite Bar LOCK, STOCK & BARREL

No night out in Tecom would be complete without a trip to Lock, Stock & Barrel. We love the New York-esque décor, well-stocked bars serving craft ales and cocktails, and rocking house band.



## Favourite Day Out RIVA BEACH CLUB

Nothing beats a day in the Dubai sunshine at Riva, a family-friendly spot where you can relax on a beach bed, cool off in the temperature-controlled pool or try your hand at a variety of watersports. The restaurant and bar serve up tasty Mediterranean bites.



## Favourite Concert DAVID GUETTA

Mega-DJ and producer David Guetta brought us into 2016 in style when he played the Dubai Media City Amphitheatre on New Year's Eve. The 47-year-old is known for his A-list collaborations with the likes of Rihanna, Sia and Nicki Minaj.



## Favourite Ladies' Night CHINA GRILL

It looks like the ladies loved the Madam Butterfly nights at China Grill, where they get 50 per cent off Asian-inspired dishes along with complimentary drinks and free-flowing champagne.

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WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2016 // BEST ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

# EDITORIAL COVERAGE

# WHAT'S ON DUBAI

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WHAT'S ON AWARDS 2016 // BEST ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS



## Favourite Festival

### EMIRATES AIRLINE FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE

The Middle East's biggest celebration of literature attracts some of the biggest names in the book world. This year saw Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield, young adult novelist Jacqueline Wilson and Joe Wicks, aka, the Body Coach, join the celebration. Next year will feature Lucy Hawking (daughter of Stephen), Jo Malone, Jon Ronson and Nadiya Hussein (of *Great British Bake Off* fame) on the roster.



## Favourite Nightclub

### ZERO GRAVITY

With its huge outdoor stage, state-of-the-art sound system and capacity for entertaining over 3,000 people right next to the beach, it's no wonder that Zero Gravity has cemented its place as one of the best nights out in Dubai, attracting a wealth of international DJ talent, including Paul van Dyke and Fatboy Slim.



## Favourite Sporting Event

### EMIRATES AIRLINE DUBAI RUGBY SEVENS

It's lucky number 14 for Dubai's biggest – and best – sporting event of the year. Whether you're in it for the sport, the family-friendly day out or the chance to break out the fancy dress, the Rugby Sevens is – and always will be – a Dubai must-do.



## Favourite Brunch

### BUBBALICIOUS, THE WESTIN

Whether you're fresh off the plane or a Dubai brunch veteran, the Westin's Bubblicious brunch is always wow-worthy. Forget moderation and prepare for a party.

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