

Abu Dhabi is an emerging destination of choice for filmmakers everywhere. The capital city of the United Arab Emirates may be the new kid on the block compared to some more established filming locations, but that hasn't stopped this Middle Eastern city from attracting some of the biggest Hollywood and Bollywood films, as well as a range of television productions, in the past five years.

Abu Dhabi offers a generous 30 % rebate, a huge variety of locations, and world-class facilities and crew that can handle projects of all shapes and sizes – all just three hours' flight from Mumbai.

**“We invite the vibrant and dynamic Indian film industry to think of Abu Dhabi as its second home.”**

**- Jassim Al Nowais, Manager - Abu Dhabi Film Commission**

# MAKE YOUR NEXT MOVIE IN ABU DHABI



A Still from Bang Bang



## WHY FILMMAKERS ARE CHOOSING ABU DHABI ?

**“Abu Dhabi is a wonderful place, and a very film-friendly city. It really does have everything you look for in a filming location. twofour54 has done a fantastic job on facilitating the film.”**

**- John Abraham - Star of Dishoom**

### The 30% Cashback Incentive

Perhaps the biggest commercial drawcard is a 30 % cash back rebate offered by ADFC. It is the only cashback incentive in the Middle East, and applies to productions filmed in Abu Dhabi – feature films, television dramas and series, commercials, music videos, lifestyle TV formats – as well as post-production, digital content services and visual effects work carried out in Abu Dhabi (even if filmed elsewhere). The costs of travel and accommodation also qualify for the rebate when booked through a specific travel agency.

### Diverse Locations

Abu Dhabi can cater for almost any backdrop that a director needs. ADFC even assists filmmakers find the right locations. Abu Dhabi offers not only year-round blue skies but also an incredible variety of locations from beaches, oceans, coastline, desert, oases, iconic Arabian architecture to luxurious hotels, towering skyscrapers, beautiful parks and modern cityscape. The list of locations can accommodate every budget & creative requirement.

### Production Support

ADFC enables filming throughout Abu Dhabi, helping with everything from choosing locations, script clearance, permits and visas. Importantly, ADFC has strong connections in government departments to arrange for those extra but crucial things, like road closures and emergency services. The government as well as the wider community is very film friendly and cooperative.

ADFC is also a gateway to UAE companies who provide support services, including twofour54, which is used by many visiting productions. twofour54 offers pre-production, crewing, equipment, set build, catering, accounting, transport and insurance, and anything else you might need while filming in Abu Dhabi. twofour54 is also home to an ecosystem of production suppliers, including Bollywood lighting specialists Light N Light as well as costume, props house and special effects companies.

### World Class Facilities

Through twofour54, Abu Dhabi offers first class facilities including studios and post production suites at competitive rates. There are 6 film studios within twofour54's campus; and after a revamp in 2015, their post production facilities provide an experience unmatched in the region. There are 15 HD server-based, multi-use suites with editing, audio and the region's only Baselight and Davinci colour grading equipment, plus an 18

seater screening room with Christie True 4k cinema project and Dolby surround sound. The most recent additions to Abu Dhabi's production infrastructure are two filming backlots, covering over 10,000sqm with facilities including costume, dressing rooms, a canteen and production offices.

**“Working with ADFC has been very streamlined, they delivered what they promised. On top of that, Abu Dhabi has fantastic locations that have given us beautiful scenes.”**

**- Rohit Dhawan - Director of Dishoom**

### Experienced, Professional Crew

A key consideration when choosing any filming location is access to the right crew. twofour54 oversees a freelancer pool of more than 600 professionals who are multilingual and internationally experienced, plus have built up an understanding of the Bollywood format from working on Dishoom, Bang Bang! and Baby.

Abu Dhabi Film Commission (ADFC) is the gateway to accessing the comprehensive package of incentives, services and support that Abu Dhabi has developed to attract productions to the city.

Abu Dhabi Film Commission is headed up by Jassim Al Nowais.

For more information and contact details visit [www.film.gov.ae](http://www.film.gov.ae)

# GLOBAL PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE

## Bollywood

Abu Dhabi has successfully hosted three large-scale Bollywood films, with ADFC working with twofour54's to ensure a world-class experience each time.

Bang Bang! starring Hrithik Roshan and Katrina Kaif was the first Bollywood movie to film in Abu Dhabi, in 2013. Filming took place at various locations including the Corniche (beach coastline), Hyatt Capital Gate Hotel, Emirates Palace and Yas Island. Baby, directed by Neeraj Pandey and starring Akshay Kumar, filmed for 10 days in Abu Dhabi in 2013, with scenes shot in the breathtaking Liwa Desert.

With a final count of 38 filming days, Dishoom filmed in Abu Dhabi in 2016. More than 90 cast and crew were involved in the shoot at 30 different locations including Ferrari World, Nurai Island, Emirates Palace, Yas Waterworld, Sheikh Zayed Stadium, Liwa Desert and various city locations.

## Hollywood and International TV

Some of Hollywood's best-known studios and biggest movie franchises have chosen to film in Abu Dhabi. Star Wars: The Force Awakens filmed in Abu Dhabi in 2014 with a cast and crew of 600. Abu Dhabi's desert doubled as the planet Jakku in the film; and the Star Wars set was built by an Indian set building company. Fast and Furious 7, the sixth highest grossing movie of all time, also filmed in Abu Dhabi in 2014. Actors Vin Diesel, Michelle Rodriguez, Tyrese Gibson and Chris "Ludacris" Bridges filmed at iconic locations Emirates Palace, Etihad Towers and the Liwa Desert.

Other international films to shoot in Abu Dhabi include Brad Pitt's War Machine; Deliver us from Evil. Abu Dhabi has also welcomed television programmes from the US and the UK including Bold and the Beautiful, Top Gear and The Today Show as well as a number of series destined for the Arabic market.



A Still from Dishoom



A Still from Baby



A Still from Star Wars : The Force Awakens