

# DoubleTree by Hilton Dubai - Business Bay

## Antonio Bissoni, Director of Business Development

### 1) Do you also live in the hotel?

I wish!

I did work in several hotels in my career but DoubleTree by Hilton Dubai – Business Bay has something magic!!

The warm colors and round shape designs make it so welcoming.

The rooms are spacious (the smallest measure on average 39 sqm) and the bathrooms seem bigger than my studios when I was a student. Internet is for free throughout the hotel and there is a complimentary shuttle bus to all the major attractions and the beach.....

### 2) How would you describe a normal day as hotelier?

Being hotelier is a lifestyle.

If you love 'making people happy' then this is the right industry for you.

Hotels are such an exciting environment. There is always great and positive energy. From a key business meeting where new ideas are created to a wedding celebration. Travelers come to enjoy a relaxing time and are in good mood. It is like being a buzzing little city.

### 3) What do you love most about Dubai? Do you have an insider tip?

I can wear shorts most of the time ;-) The sun shines year round and this puts a smile on my face every morning when I wake up. Dubai is such an eclectic and cosmopolitan city. It boasts fantastic outdoor and indoor activities.

**Insider tip:** 15 minutes' walk from the hotel, or 5 minutes' free shuttle bus, located in front of the magnificent Burj Khalifa and the mesmerizing Dubai Dancing Fountains, there is a small park where you can go and sit. Take a snack or lunch box with you, and enjoy a privileged view of these world class attractions. It is so peaceful yet you are in the middle of downtown Dubai. Love it!

### 4) What's your favorite holiday destination?

Difficult to pick only one.

Thailand is amongst my favorites.

I have to admit in Dubai I feel a little bit on holidays throughout the year. It is definitely in my top 3: anything you want is here! Sun, sand, sea, security, friends, food from all over the world and anything you want to entertain yourself in terms of sports and music. I also appreciate the cultural offering which is growing exponentially. The Dubai Opera, located 15-20 minutes' walk from the hotel, is a prime example of this new trend.



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### **5) Are there some funny stories you can tell?**

I've got quite a few but I'd rather share them over a nice drink on the Bay Club, our vibrant pool deck....

### **6) What do guests forget most often in your hotel?**

My hotel is opening in June and we hope they will forget all about their negative thoughts and challenges during and after they stayed with us.

### **7) Is it true that there are guests who steal towels and bathrobes?**

It happens, yes.

Sometimes, I feel they simply wish to take back home a token/a souvenir of their lovely holiday time.

### **Fun Facts:**

#### **what can you tell us about your team?**

Tell us what language you speak, and there are good chances we will be able to communicate with you in your own language.

We have 32 nationalities in our troupe, 60% are males and 40% females, and this is quite unique in our part of the world

#### **how many drinks do you serve daily? (in total)**

Enough to keep you hydrated and not too many so you won't have a 'headache' 😊 the following day

#### **how many meals have to be cooked daily? (in total)**

The open kitchen in My Square will showcase vibrant live cooking so the focus will not be on how many but on how lively it is going to be ;-)

#### **Is there some favorite drink, that the most guest order?**

I will be able to tell you when we open.

But in the meantime, let me give you a little hint: my friends call me the 'Aperol Spritz Master'. So if you stay at the hotel or come to visit, make sure you order one. You will understand why. I shared my special recipe with the Bar team

#### **Funny complaints?**

I had a guest once who wanted to get a full refund because it was raining and blamed the hotel for it. I am serious



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