

# THE AMWAJ

I S L A N D E R



60 Seconds With..

Hazem Ibrahim, General Manager, Gulf  
Residence Amwaj Hotel, page 2

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[www.amwaj.bh](http://www.amwaj.bh)



## Letter from the Editor

Dear Islanders,

Now that October has rolled around and everyone has settled in after a relaxing Eid holiday, we have a few announcements taking us to the end of 2016.

If you are celebrating Halloween this month, please be safe walking around during the evening. If you are open to trick or treating, please keep your lights on.

October brings awareness to Breast Cancer, and we would

like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the strength of all women who are survivors and warriors. It is also a milestone achievement that Bahrain has welcomed its first London Breast Care Center; a consultant breast and oncology surgery center.

Finally, this month's Photo of the Month winner has won a Friday Brunch for two at Muju Restaurant and Lounge. Turn to page 6 to find out who!

Sincerely,

**The Amwaj Team**

*From 12pm - 5pm*

**FRIDAY**  
*Brunch*

*BD 25 nett  
inclusive of food  
& beverages*

*Complimentary pickup & drop off  
from anywhere in Bahrain*

*For reservation & info call: +973 1603 9800*

**MUJU**  
restaurant & lounge

**THE DRAGON**  
HOTEL & RESORT

/mujuamwaj  
www.mujuamwaj.com



# 60 Seconds With..

## Name

Hazem Ibrahim

## Position

General Manager

## Company

Gulf Residence Amwaj Hotel

Nationality: Egyptian



## How long have you been in the field of hospitality and hotel management?

**How did you start?** I have been in the hospitality industry for the last 25 years. My first step into the “wonderland of Hospitality industry” started as a Management Trainee within Ramses and Nile Hilton and Sheraton El Gazirah Hotels in Cairo to fulfill my practical training during the study at AUC. After graduation, being second in my class and getting a scholarship at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, USA, I decided to take advantage of my two years in the States and obtained a couple of individual master degrees related to Hospitality. My first real job was in Dubai – UAE, end of 1993 when I joined the opening team of Ritz Carlton Dubai as Front Office Assistant Manager and moved 2 years later to join Hilton Dubai as Sales Manager. In January 1999, I started the journey with Starwood Hotels & Resorts where I spent 16 years of my career. I joined Sheraton Abu Dhabi Resort as Front Office Manager, I was later promoted to Director of Rooms at the same hotel. I then transferred within the company in 2002 to be the Director of Sales & Marketing of Sheraton Tashkent, followed by moving to Algeria in 2005 to open Sheraton Oran in 2006 to open Sheraton Aleppo in Syria, and was promoted in 2007 as Area Director of Sales & Marketing Starwood Hotels in Saudi Arabia. That same year I moved to Le Meriden

Kuwait Hotels as Deputy General Manager, a year later I was promoted as General Manager for both Le Meridien Hotels in Kuwait. I stayed in Kuwait until 2010, then moved to Dubai as Regional Director of Sales & Marketing for one year, and my last destination before coming to Bahrain in 2015, was the General Manager of Palmyra Hotel by Le Meridien in Marrakech – Morocco. I enjoyed the work, and the rest, as they say, is history.

## Tell us about Gulf Residence Amwaj, what facilities does it have for its guests?

Gulf Residence Amwaj Hotel is an oasis of luxury that offers five star suites and residences of high quality and services. Elegant and chic, this glamorous hotel is setting new standards of comfort in Bahrain, offering our guests an oasis of luxury with numerous unique design features along with a unique blend of traditional Arab hospitality in the most contemporary and cosmopolitan environment. Dressed to impress, our suites and residences use a palette of exquisite materials, soothing lighting and warm colours to create chic, serene living spaces. Hand painted motifs walls that sprinkle a hint of Middle Eastern tradition into the contemporary design. The 173 luxurious suites and residences, made up of 2 studio units, 42 one-bedrooms, 107 two- bedrooms and 18 three- bedroom Diplomatic Suites. We also offer 4 luxurious 4- bedroom penthouse suites, all with balconies, most with spectacular views of the sea. Our accommodation offers avant-garde technological features such as a flat screen IPTV television, video intercom and complimentary wireless internet, a fully equipped kitchen, and laptop sized safety box.

## Why was Amwaj chosen as the latest setting for Gulf Hotel Group?

The Gulf Residence Amwaj is one of the new projects in line with the Gulf Hotels group’s expansion strategy of adding hotels and luxury apartments in key locations. Amwaj created something special; an island surrounded by tranquil azure waters, clear blue skies, fresh breeze, providing a relaxing lifestyle for residents and visitors, and a community of people with different cultures living in close harmony. An island flowing with waterways and lagoons connected to the sea, while

still being conveniently located close to the bustling city of Manama, for that, Amwaj Islands is a fantastic location for both long stay and short stay visitors to Bahrain. Gulf Residence Amwaj is one of the latest additions to join the group’s exclusive collection of unique independent properties and will not only offer guests every comfort, but also excellent value for money. The service will mirror the group’s core philosophy of providing five-star services for four-star pricing.

## What would you say is the top three positive aspects of this hotel?

Our main positive aspects are the newly opened Gulf Commercial Laundry Service Shop: this new state-of-the-art laundry provides the Gulf Hotel’s and Amwaj Islands clients with an enhanced level of service and accommodates greater volumes of business, thereby providing a five star laundry service to many organizations in Bahrain. Secondly, the hotel has a tempting variety of places to eat, with a breath taking pool restaurant and a peaceful café in which to re-energize. The hotels’ three food and beverage facilities combine innovation with style and comfort. With a large new menu full of tempting d’oeuvres, generous classics, delicious main courses, plentiful sharing dishes and mouth-watering desserts. And thirdly, the Recreation at Gulf Residence Amwaj gives our guests the opportunity to leave the demands of the real world, and escape to an oasis of well-being, relaxation, and serenity.

## What are some of the strategies you had implement in the past to increase customer profitability?

The mission I set for my hotel is all about making sure that guests are happy, we have grown our repeat guest percentage from 20% to over 69%. The goal is also to continually create new ideas to keep guests “addicted” to the hotel, which isn’t too difficult since the minute our guests try it, they love it.

## What do you like to do in your spare time?

My spare time is allocated entirely to my wife and my son, I owe them a lot of my success. So my weekends are usually dedicated to my time with them to go to the beach. My son and I share a hobby of diving and snorkeling, and of course dine out as a family.

# Resident of the Month



Alexandra Novik Khamis is an artist, art teacher, art mentor and art guide. Born in the Ukraine in 1987, Mrs. Khamis showed great interest in painting and drawing very early on in her childhood. Her parents were encouraging and wanted her to pursue her interest in the arts and further develop her art skills.

At the age of 10, the Tala Island resident started attending Smolensk Arts School, and at the age of 16 was admitted to the Department of Fine Arts and Graphics of Smolensk State University. Five years later, university studies and self-development gave her refined skills and a profound knowledge of the arts schools



and techniques. This in turn helped the budding artist to find her own artistic style and vision of "life in the arts".

During the course of her artistic career, Mrs. Khamis took a number of master classes from famous Russian artists and started learning more about realism – her favorite artistic school. Using her new techniques, she organized a few exhibitions locally and proved to be a talented teacher while working in school.

Mrs. Khamis's unique style was



praised by many of her teachers and treated as a deviation from the classics by the others, but it was recognized by all.

The realism artist has been a resident of Bahrain and Amwaj Islands for the past 7 years and has continued her love for the arts here on the islands. During this time, she opened her own art studio and organized several exhibitions. She was also



recognized as one of the most successful business woman in the Gulf, created educational art books and painted more than 200 artworks. Mrs. Khamis's style is an advocate of surrealistic realism with a touch of impressionism.

For more information or to view the artist's work, follow one of more of her channels online:

#### Blog:

[www.alex-butterfly.blogspot.com/](http://www.alex-butterfly.blogspot.com/)

#### Instagram

@shuroop

#### Youtube

[www.youtube.com/user/Shuroop](http://www.youtube.com/user/Shuroop)

#### Website

[www.jemnovik.wix.com/palitra](http://www.jemnovik.wix.com/palitra)

#### Twitter

@Shuroop



# Amwaj Updates

## Tilal Towers

Celebrate the newly homes prepared for launched Tilal Towers, immediate residency. located in close proximity to The Lagoon and sea front. The launch event on October 7-8 will provide family and children's entertainment throughout the day, live music, and the chance to find out more on the development. Featuring 230 fully furnished apartments available for sale and rent, Tilal Towers presents affordable low-energy

For your detailed invitation, contact:

Telephone:

+973 1600 1800 /  
3969 5551

Email:

info@tilaltowers.com



## Pink Paddle 2016 Charity



Raise awareness for Breast Cancer while enjoying a fun family day by the beach at Palm Beach, Amwaj Marina.

The event sponsored by Bare Chocolates and Gypsea Watersports will be held on Friday, November 4th starting at 10am till Sunset. Supported by Think Pink Bahrain Breast Cancer Charity, Amwaj Islands and BISS, the event will include a live DJ, watersport activities, food stalls, beach games, children's' games and wakeboarding sessions.

Visitors can also enjoy open paddle sessions (paddle boarders must wear pink!) or get the chance to win prizes for different categories. Entry ticket is BD5 for adults, BD2 for children below 12, kids below 3 years are free entry. \*

*\*All the profits from the event will be donated to Think Pink Charity for Breast Cancer Awareness.*



# Now Open

The Gulf Hotel Laundry Services welcomes you to the new branch in Amwaj Islands. Ideally located in one of Bahrain's reputed and new 4 star hotel, Gulf Residence Amwaj, The Gulf Hotel Laundry Services offers an exemplary dry cleaning and laundry service focused in meticulous fabric care and attentive services.

**Services**

- Tailoring Repair
- Specialist Valet Presentation
- Wedding Gown Service
- Curtain Service
- Be-Spoke Laundry Dry Cleaning

Extend the  
**Lucky Charm**  
We make them **LAST LONGER**

Call 17 746326



خدمات سفلة قذوا ووجسايغ  
**GULF HOTEL**  
**LAUNDRY SERVICES**

## Upcoming Events & Sessions

### OCTOBER

**31- Amwaj Book Club.** Resident book lovers are invited to attend at 7.30pm, please contact Suzanne 33109531 for more information and details on location

**Every Saturday – Amwaj Marina Prize Night.** Enjoy a beautiful night by the Amwaj Marina while winning cash prizes and savouring live BBQ cooking, 8pm-12am. For more information, please call Amwaj Marina main office on 1601 1160.

**Every Monday - Tapas Night at Cellar 59.** Meet us at Cellar 59 from 7:00PM - 11:00PM for a soulful Tapas infusion as we dish out the best in Spanish delights. Indulge in an interesting selection of tapas options paired with great beverages while listening to the beautiful serenades of our live Latin band. Our Tapas tasting platter is priced at BD8\* per person. For more information or table reservations, please contact us via email at fb.art@rotana.com or call +973 16000111. \*Prices are subject to 10% service charge and 10% government levy.

## Classifieds

**Investment options, Properties FOR RENT/ FOR SALE home owners/ hunters please contact:**

Anastasia mob. 39 555 745 or

Email: anastasia.ageeva@gmail.com



## Amwaj Notice Board

The Amwaj Security and Maintenance teams are responsible for the below.

For leaks or blockage in a common area; contact Kamel on 3666 6007. Beach and road cleaning, damage on roads or pavements, fallen signboards or flags and garbage bins request, contact Niaz on 3315 6871.

For construction site issues contact Roger on 3909 4842. For workers' gate pass, contact Mohammed on 3943 4809. For pest control issues contact Verminex on 3920 4295.

Traffic accidents can be reported to police on 199, medical emergency, ambulance or fire can be directed to 999, with the assistance of the Amwaj Security team.

## Photo of the Month

Congratulations to **Reem Ahmed** who won a **Friday Brunch for Two at Muju Restaurant and Lounge** for October's 'Photo of the Month' Competition with this picture! To participate, please send your photos to [socialmedia@amwaj.bh](mailto:socialmedia@amwaj.bh) Please make sure all photos entered for the competition are over 1MB in size to qualify for submission.



A copy of the Amwaj Islands' Rules and Regulations for Residents and Visitors is available to collect from the Management of Amwaj Islands, at the main office. Secure Services Company is responsible for the security of all common areas around Amwaj Islands. The Secure Services Site Team Supervisor can be reached on 36046147. The Security Team's contact details are: 33 530 223 during working hours, Sunday to Thursday 8am-5pm. For contact outside those hours, the 24-hour emergency hotline can be reached on 39 866 952 or email [amwaj@secureservices.bh](mailto:amwaj@secureservices.bh).





**KEY**

-  Waterside residential
-  Inland residential
-  Residential & Commercial
-  Hotel
-  Commercial
-  Educational
-  Amwaj Marina

# Directory

## Amwaj Islands' Security

Working Hours: 24 hrs  
Location: Amwaj Islands entrance  
M 39 866 952  
E amwaj@secureservices.bh

## Amwaj Islands Main Office

Working hours: 8am – 5pm, Sunday - Thursday  
Location: Amwaj Islands entrance  
T 16 033 100  
E info@amwaj.bh  
W www.amwaj.bh

## Tala Island Security

T 16 060 033

## Nuetel Communications

Working Hours: 8am – 5pm, Sunday - Thursday, 8am - 2pm on Saturdays  
T 16 033 000

## International School of Choueifat

T 16 033 333

## Amwaj Marina

T 16 011 160

## Bahrain International Airport

T 17 339 339

## Amwaj Hotels

### ART Rotana

T 16 000 111

### Gulf Residence Amwaj Hotel

T 16 030 001

### Ramada Hotel and Suites Amwaj islands

T 16 000 099

### The Dragon Beach Hotel & Resort

T 16 031 111

### The Sea Loft Boutique Chalets

T 16 033 833

## Amwaj Outlets

### ACES Taekwondo Academy, Tala Island

M 39 658 741

### Al Osra Supermarket

T 16 033 773  
Working Hours  
Everyday 7am - 11pm

### Argan Day Spa

T 16 030 888, 16 030 887

### Azizia Bird Kingdom

T 16 030 597

### Azizia Bird Kingdom

T 16 030 597

### Beauty Bar N.5

T 16 010 555  
Working Hours  
Everyday 10am-8:30pm

### BISS Marine

T 16 034 486

### Black & White Laundry

T 17 532 268  
M 36 308 889

## Corners

T 16 031 113

## Costa Coffee, Tala Island

T 16 034 509

## Dance Studio, Tala Island

M 33 393 344

## Delilah Cafe

T 16 034 369

## Environment Friends Society

M 39433228

## Franky Joes

T 16 011 601

## Jones the Grocer

T 77 770 055

## Joz Salon & SPA, The Dragon Hotel & Resort

T 16 031 120

## Lux Actuaries

T 77 005 464

## Maya Beach Resort & Fitness, Meena 7

T 16 030 070  
Working Hours: 6.30am - 10pm  
Saturday - Thursday, 8am - 10pm on Fridays

## Muju Lounge & Restaurant

T 16 039 800

## Park & Shop Supermarket, Zawia 2

T 77 115 121

## Persian Room

T 16 010 166

## Pet Arabia

T 16 010 501

## Quest Realty, Meritas House

T 1607 8378

## Smart Boating Center

T 17 003 838

## Speed Rent a Car

T 16 010 131

## Tala Leisure Center

T 16 071 007  
Working Hours  
Weekdays 6am - 10pm  
Weekends 9am - 6pm

## Universal Music

T 16 010 491

## Yara Beauty Lounge, Zawia 1

T 16 010 999  
Working Hours  
Everyday 9am - 8pm

## Zaman Studio, Meritas House

T 77 300 001  
M 39 223 553

## Market 1956, Meritas House

T 7777 1956  
(free home delivery)

## 24-Hours Supermarket

T 16 034 498

## Food Deliveries

### Breadtalk

T 17 535 371

### Chickey's

T 17 467 771

### China Express

T 17 717 598

### EZ Burger

T 17 241 111

### Hardeez

T 17 111 112

### Little Ceasars Pizza

T 17 675 552

### Shanghai Hut

T 17 292 988

## Emergency Numbers

### Emergency line

T 999

### Al Hidd Police Station

T 17 671 212

### Samaheej Police Station

T 17 334 401

### Coast Guard

T 17 700 000

### Traffic Police

T 199

## Nearest Hospitals to Amwaj

### American Mission Hospital, Amwaj Medical & Wellness Center

T 17 248 100

### Bahrain Specialist Hospital

T 17 812 000

### Al Hilal Hospital

T 17 344 199

### King Hamad Hospital

T 17 351 450

## Closest Vets to Amwaj

### Dr Mohammed Hussain

T 17 292 125

### Dr Nonie Coutts

T 17 245 515

## Closest Pharmacies to Amwaj

### Al Quds Pharmacy

T 17 470 080

### Ibn Sina Pharmacy

T 17 677 207

### Nasser Pharmacy

T 16 010 505

## Taxi Services

### Arabian Taxi

T 17 461 746

## Bahrain Limo

T 17 266 266

## Bahrain Taxi

T 17 682 999

## Travel Services

### Aradous Travel and Tour

T 17 234 417

## Car Washing Services

### Ecowash

T 17 490 565

### MASY

T 17 822 404

## Closest Removal & Storage to Amwaj

### Takhzeen Self Storage

M 69 990 999  
M 39767977

## IT Home Services

### TechnoServ

M 39 609 876

## Cargo Services

### Baz Cargo Services

T 17 771 132

## Closest Post Office to Amwaj

### Al Hidd Post Office

T 17 673 157  
Working Hours: 7am - 2pm  
Saturday to Thursday

## Shopping Malls

### Aali Mall

T 17 581 000

### Bahrain City Center

T 17 179 779

### Moda Mall

T 17 533 140

### Seef Mall

T 17 581 111

www.amwaj.bh



@AmwajIslands



Amwaj Islands



@Amwaj\_Islands