

Buildings

BESIX's Guggenheim Abu Dhabi: A pioneering achievement in the world of art and construction

BESIX-Six Construct is proud to be at the forefront of creating the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi (GAD). This monumental museum, designed by renowned architect Frank Gehry, will not only transform the cultural landscape of the United Arab Emirates but also showcase BESIX-Six Construct's expertise in delivering complex and innovative construction projects. Set to be unveiled in 2025, GAD will take its place as the newest and largest among the illustrious family of Guggenheim museums worldwide.

The project

The Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, a partnership between the Guggenheim Foundation and the Abu Dhabi government, will span over almost 30,000 m², making it the largest Guggenheim Museum in the world. The project's design combines cutting-edge aesthetics with traditional Arabic elements, reflecting the rich heritage and cultural diversity of the region.

BESIX-Six Construct has worked closely with the Guggenheim Foundation and local stakeholders to ensure that the GAD serves as a platform for Middle Eastern and North African artists, and their unique cultural expressions.

BESIX-Six Construct has prioritised environmental sustainability throughout the GAD project, implementing energy-efficient technologies and eco-friendly building materials to minimise the museum's environmental impact.

The role

As the main contractor for the GAD project, BESIX-Six Construct has taken on the ambitious challenge of turning Gehry's visionary design into a reality. Our team of expert engineers and project managers has worked closely with Gehry and other stakeholders to ensure that the museum's construction meets the highest standards in terms of engineering and sustainability, as well as design.

Project details

Guggenheim Abu Dhabi

Location

Saadiyat Island, United Arab Emirates

Client

Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi

External partner

Trojan General Contracting LLC

Construction period

2021 - 2025

Contract type

Design & Build

Architect

Frank Gehry



BESIX-Six Construct stands at the forefront of innovation and construction excellence as we embark on the remarkable journey of bringing the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi to life. This architectural masterpiece underscores our unwavering commitment to delivering complex projects.

Jean-Pol Bouharmont



The significance of GAD

The Guggenheim Abu Dhabi will play a pivotal role in establishing Abu Dhabi as a global centre for arts and culture. BESIX-Six Construct is proud to contribute to this vision, by constructing a museum that will not only attract international tourists and art enthusiasts, but also promote local artists and foster creativity within the community. Furthermore, GAD's environmentally friendly design will serve as a benchmark for future construction projects in the region.

Excellence in progress

The BESIX-Six Construct team has faced various challenges during the design and construction of the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, including the proper integration of state-of-the-art technologies and traditional Arabic design elements into the final form. Successfully tackling these challenges required close collaboration and innovative problem-solving.

As the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi nears completion, BESIX-Six Construct is proud of its role in constructing this iconic museum that will have a lasting impact on the city's cultural scene. With its pioneering design, vast art collection, and environmentally sustainable characteristics, GAD will stand as a testament to BESIX's expertise and dedication to excellence in the world of construction.

Championing sustainable practices

BESIX-Six Construct fully recognises the importance of sustainable construction practices. For example, GAD aligns with Estidama Pearl 3 sustainability rating requirements and includes the following targeted features:

- A 23.7 % reduction in building energy consumption beyond the baseline building consumption

- An impressive 88.5 % reduction in total potable water consumption versus the baseline building consumption
- A significant 70 % of timber used sourced from managed renewable sources
- An impressive 90 % post-consumer recycled composition across all reinforcing steel
- A commendable 75 % diversion of construction waste from landfill



The Guggenheim Abu Dhabi represents the union of art, culture, and sustainable construction on a grand scale. BESIX-Six Construct's relentless pursuit of excellence and our harmonious collaboration with all stakeholders have allowed us to create a museum that will not only inspire global audiences but also elevate Abu Dhabi's stature as a vibrant hub for the arts.

Abderrazak Nalouti