

ACENTRIC

Retreat

An invite only retreat of female founders building 6 & 7 Figure businesses and
the people who help them grow

31 JAN FOR 2 NIGHTS
10 FOUNDERS
BY APPLICATION

BACKED BY 

A group of five women are seated on a rooftop lounge, looking out at the Dubai skyline at sunset. The women are dressed in elegant evening wear. The lounge features large white sofas, small round tables with drinks and flowers, and warm ambient lighting from candles and lanterns. In the background, the city skyline is silhouetted against a vibrant orange and yellow sky, with the sun low on the horizon over the water. The Burj Khalifa is prominent on the right side of the skyline.

Sometimes thinking bigger starts with stepping outside the world you're in every day.

Step into a different room. Two nights in one of Dubai's most extraordinary settings, surrounded by ambitious founders and some of the region's greatest minds across business, investment and entrepreneurship. Space to reset, think differently and imagine what could be possible next.

THE RETREAT

Built around commercial growth, energy and performance, and access to some of the region’s greatest minds.

31 JANUARY – 2 FEBRUARY 2027 . TWO NIGHTS . PALM JUMEIRAH, DUBAI

Acentric brings together a carefully selected group of female founders building six and seven-figure businesses for two nights in Dubai. A chance to step away from the day-to-day, expand your thinking, build new relationships and think bigger about what comes next.



Commercial Growth

Step outside the business and think bigger about where it could go next.

Some of the best ideas come from being in a different room, with different people. Over the retreat, you’ll spend time with exceptional founders, operators, investors and business leaders, talking about growth, opportunity and what’s changing in business right now.



Self Mastery

Step away, reset and create space to think differently.

Morning movement and wellness experiences sit alongside conversations around energy, clarity, leadership and ambition. Time to recharge, get perspective and think about how you want to operate as the business grows.

GALA DINNER

The Official Launch of Acentric

The retreat culminates with the official launch of Acentric at an intimate, invite-only gala dinner in one of Dubai’s most spectacular settings.

Invitations will extend beyond the retreat to some of the region’s greatest minds across business, investment and entrepreneurship, bringing an extraordinary group of people together for one night.

An unforgettable setting. An exceptional guest list. The official beginning of Acentric.



Collected by private boat from the residence on the Palm and taken across the water at golden hour.



One long table at a private location, set against the skyline, for the official launch of Acentric.

THE RETREAT
AT A GLANCE

DAY 1 . 31 JAN
Arrive & Connect
Private arrival & check-in ·
Welcome drinks & gathering ·
Opening circle · Curated gifting
· Intimate welcome dinner

DAY 2 . 1 FEB
Expand
Morning wellness · Breakfast ·
Commercial growth
conversations · Founder &
mentor sessions · Lunch · Time
to reset · Gala Dinner

DAY 3 . 2 FEB
Reflect & Reset
Morning wellness · Breakfast ·
Closing founder session ·
Reflections & next steps · Final
connections · Departures

THE PEOPLE AROUND ACENTRIC

The right people can change the direction of a business.

Acentric is built around access to exceptional people. Our wider network includes 30+ mentors across global business, investment, technology and entrepreneurship, with leaders from AWS, Google, Coca-Cola, active VCs and founders who have built and exited businesses.

For the retreat, we'll draw from this network and beyond, bringing in people who can challenge thinking, share what they've learned and bring a different perspective to the room.

MENTORS FROM



30+ MENTORS AROUND THE ACENTRIC NETWORK

A snapshot of the founders, operators, investors and business leaders around Acentric.



Ahmed Zakaria
Marketing GM & CMO, The Coca-Cola Bottling Company
Previously PepsiCo, Colgate-Palmolive and Nestlé



Anam Khalid
Co-Founder & Co-CEO, SQUATWOLF
Background in strategy and people at Fortune 500 companies



Sophie Smith
Founder & CEO, Nabta Health
\$4.5M raised, featured in Bloomberg and Forbes Middle East



Sandeep Jadwani
Head of Investment Advisory, H Capital Limited
Nearly 20 years in investment strategy



Simona Agolini
CEO & Co-Founder, the Q app
CEO, board member and angel investor



Kartik Renjen
Head of Startups & VC, Amazon Web Services
Startup and VC partnerships across the Middle East, Africa and Turkey

Retreat mentors and guest speakers are currently being curated and will be shared with confirmed founders ahead of the retreat.

THE FOUNDERS IN THE ROOM

10 women building
six and seven figure businesses.

A carefully selected group of founders across industries, each already building a business with traction and ambitious about where they take it next.

Different businesses. Different perspectives. Similar ambition.

THE EXPERIENCE

What you'll leave with



- 01

Fresh thinking for your next stage of growth

New perspectives on growth, partnerships, capital, markets, technology and the opportunities ahead, shaped by people who have built, scaled, invested in and led businesses.
- 02

Access to people you want in your world

Direct conversations with Acentric mentors, founders, investors, operators and enterprise leaders, alongside access to some of the region's greatest minds at the Acentric Gala Dinner.
- 03

A network that grows with you

Real relationships with a carefully selected group of women building six and seven-figure businesses, with the time and space to actually get to know each other.
- 04

More energy for what comes next

Two nights away from the day-to-day, combining wellness, movement and space to reset with the kind of conversations that leave you thinking differently about your business and how you want to lead it.

YOUR INVESTMENT

\$3,500

USD . PER FOUNDER

INCLUDED

- Two nights at a private five-star residence on Palm Jumeirah

Private accommodation

All meals and dining experiences

Full retreat programme

Commercial growth sessions
- Wellness experiences

Guest mentors and speakers

Acentric Gala Dinner

Curated gifting

Transport during the retreat

NOT INCLUDED

Travel to and from the retreat · Personal expenses

WHO IT'S FOR

10 founders.
By application only.

Female founders building six and seven-figure businesses who are ambitious about what comes next and want to be surrounded by people operating at a similar level.

THE NETWORK BEHIND ACENTRIC

Acentric is created by Founders Official, one of the UAE’s fastest growing ecosystems for female entrepreneurs.

Built from Dubai, Founders Official brings together founders, investors and enterprise leaders through curated events, experiences and partnerships.



12,100+

COMMUNITY

100+

VETTED FOUNDERS

60+

SOLD-OUT EVENTS

2,300+

ATTENDED OUR EVENTS

TRUSTED BY





FARANAK FARAHMAND POUR

Regional Director of Global Strategic Initiatives, Google





KARTIK RENJEN

Head of Startups and VC, AWS



"We've absolutely loved working with Nicki and Founders Official. The alignment was spot on; it added real value to our positioning in market. It's clear this platform is becoming a major force in the region."

"Founders Official is doing the kind of work AWS wants to back. Our partnership reflects a shared belief in expanding opportunity for female founders in this region."



THE FOUNDER

Nicki Bedford

Founder, Founders Official & Acentric

Former Head of Asia Pacific at BuzzFeed, Nicki Bedford has spent close to two decades building commercial teams and expanding businesses into new markets. She has closed tens of millions of dollars in commercial partnerships and is the founder of Founders Official, one of the UAE’s fastest-growing ecosystems for female entrepreneurs. Nicki chairs the Women Leaders Summit and CEO Forum and was shortlisted for Inc. Arabia’s Women of Influence in 2025 and 2026.

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PALM JUMEIRAH, DUBAI
10-12 FOUNDERS . BY APPLICATION

Apply for the Acentric Retreat

[team@foundersofficial.com