



## Area: Sir Bani Yas Church and Monastery

This project entailed the Stabilization and Surface Sealing of the entrance road, access roads, pathways, and parking areas of the Monastery in order to create access and to help ensure the optimum protection of the site's remains from environmental threats and to enhance the visitor experience in conjunction with the Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi.

**Background:** Sir Bani Yas is a natural island located 170km southwest of the UAE's capital Abu Dhabi. In 1971 Shaikh Zayed made the island one of the Arab world's largest wildlife reserves. It is now home to thousands of oryx, gazelle, deer, giraffes, cheetahs and birds plus a range of flora and fauna.

A 1,400 year-old monastery, the first Christian site discovered in the UAE, has been reopened to the public. The 7<sup>th</sup> Century Monastery is located on the eastern side of the island and is believed to have been established by a small community of monks.

“The Sir Bani Yas church and monastery sheds light on our cultural history, one we can be proud of. Its existence is proof of the long-standing values of tolerance and acceptance in our lands” said Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak, Minister of Tolerance, whom opened the site.

**Project Name:** Sir Bani Yas Island

**Location:** United Arab Emirates

**Date:** April 2019

**Client:** Department of Culture & Tourism

**Application:** EBS Stabilization & Surface Seal



Our approach provides for long-term sustainable solutions with only minimal maintenance required as the surface is fully protected from wind and water erosion. Furthermore, taking into consideration the climate of the region the EBS Surface Seal will provide full UV protection and won't be affected by high temperatures.



**Project Description:** The areas were constructed by creating a stabilized layer which was compacted then shaped properly to ensure for drainage. The surface was then made smooth and ready for the application of the EBS Surface Seal, which seals and protects the surface from erosion, cracking and any form of deterioration. All work was completed by Soil Solutions and Scan Construction.

**Result:** The end result is a sealed surface, which is usable year round in any weather conditions. The EBS Surface Seal will ensure proper water run-off as well as making the surface water and UV resistant. EBS is safe for vegetation, wildlife, flora and animals and will not require any future remedial work. Furthermore, this natural looking environmentally friendly flexible surface will prevent dust and blowing sand while blending in perfectly with the natural surroundings, which is crucial for the conservation measures and site enhancements to ensure a wonderful visitor experience.

