

# YOUR 5 STEP ROADMAP TO STARTING A BUSINESS IN DUBAI

A COMPLETE GUIDE FROM IDEA TO EXECUTION

**BY THALLIUM CONSULTING**

EXPERTS IN COMPANY FORMATION, LEGAL  
STRUCTURING & CORPORATE SUPPORT IN  
THE UAE SINCE 2014.



# 5 STEPS TO STARTING A BUSINESS

**01** UNDERSTAND THE  
OPPORTUNITY

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**02** BUILD YOUR  
STRATEGY

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**03** PREPARE YOUR  
APPLICATION

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**04** PLAN YOUR  
INVESTMENT

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**05** LAUNCH WITH  
CONFIDENCE

# 01

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SETUP GUIDE

## UNDERSTAND THE OPPORTUNITY

# WHY DUBAI?

Dubai is one of the most attractive business hubs globally. Here's why:

- 0% PERSONAL INCOME TAX
- 100% FOREIGN OWNERSHIP
- LONG-TERM UAE RESIDENCY FOR YOU AND YOUR TEAM
- STRATEGIC LOCATION (EUROPE-ASIA-AFRICA CROSSROADS)
- PREMIUM GLOBAL BRAND IMAGE
- WORLD-CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE AND DIGITAL SYSTEMS

FROM FREELANCERS TO GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURS,  
DUBAI IS WHERE SERIOUS BUSINESSES SCALE.

# FREE ZONE OR MAINLAND : WHICH ONE IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Jurisdiction	Free Zone	Mainland
Access to UAE market	✔ Yes (in most cases– ask your consultant)	✔ Full direct access
Office Requirement	Not mandatory (Flexi Desk available)	Yes – physical office required
International clients	✔	✔
Setup time & cost	Fast & affordable	More complete but higher cost
Foreign ownership	100%	100% (for most activities)

**THALLIUM** WILL HELP YOU CHOOSE WHAT FITS YOUR BUSINESS BEST.

## BUILD YOUR STRATEGY

# CHOOSING YOUR BUSINESS ACTIVITY & LICENSE

Dubai licenses are tied to specific business activities. The 3 main categories :

- **COMMERCIAL LICENSE** – FOR TRADING, E-COMMERCE, PRODUCT SALES
- **PROFESSIONAL LICENSE** – FOR CONSULTING, MARKETING, SERVICES
- **INDUSTRIAL LICENSE** – FOR MANUFACTURING, PRODUCTION

SOME ACTIVITIES (REAL ESTATE, MEDICAL, EDUCATION, MEDIA) REQUIRE EXTERNAL APPROVALS.

WE HELP YOU CHOOSE THE RIGHT LICENSE — SCALABLE, COMPLIANT, AND FUTURE-PROOF.



# 03

## PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION

### DOCUMENTS YOU'LL NEED

#### FOR INDIVIDUALS:



PASSPORT COPY



PASSPORT-SIZE PHOTO



PROOF OF ADDRESS



EMAIL AND MOBILE NUMBER

#### FOR CORPORATE SHAREHOLDERS:



CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION



BOARD RESOLUTION



MOA / AOA



MANAGER APPOINTMENT LETTER



LEGALIZED DOCUMENTS (IF REQUIRED)

**THALLIUM PREPARES AND REVIEWS  
EVERYTHING FOR YOU.**

# SETUP TIMELINE & PROCESS OVERVIEW

Company formation in Dubai usually takes 5–10 working days. Here's the standard flow:

1. CHOOSE JURISDICTION & BUSINESS ACTIVITY
2. RESERVE YOUR COMPANY NAME
3. SUBMIT APPLICATION AND DOCUMENTS
4. SIGN LEGAL DOCUMENTS (E.G., MOA)
5. RECEIVE TRADE LICENSE
6. APPLY FOR INVESTOR/RESIDENCY VISA
7. COMPLETE MEDICAL TEST & BIOMETRICS
8. GET EMIRATES ID AND ACTIVATE YOUR RESIDENCY

**WE MANAGE THE FULL PROCESS  
FROM START TO FINISH.**

# 04

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## PLAN YOUR INVESTMENT

# SETUP COSTS EXPLAINED

Costs depend on several factors:

- FREE ZONE OR MAINLAND
- NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES
- NUMBER OF VISAS NEEDED
- OFFICE SPACE VS. FLEXI DESK
- SPECIAL APPROVALS REQUIRED?

 STARTING FROM  
AED 10,000 FOR  
STREAMLINED FREE  
ZONE STRUCTURES.

ASK US FOR A  
PERSONALIZED  
QUOTE — NO  
HIDDEN FEES



# WHAT ABOUT TAXES IN THE UAE?

- **0% PERSONAL INCOME TAX**
- **9% CORPORATE TAX, BUT ONLY APPLIES IF:**
  - PROFITS EXCEED AED 375,000/YEAR
  - YOU OPERATE UNDER CERTAIN MAINLAND OR FREE ZONE STRUCTURES
- **0% VAT ON EXPORTS OUTSIDE THE UAE**
- **DOUBLE TAXATION AGREEMENTS WITH OVER 115 COUNTRIES**



**WE HELP YOU NAVIGATE  
TAXATION AND OPTIMIZE  
YOUR SETUP LEGALLY**

# 05

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**LAUNCH WITH  
CONFIDENCE**

## **WHY THALLIUM CONSULTING?**

We're not just company setup agents — we're your long-term business partner.

### **OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:**

- FREE ZONE & MAINLAND COMPANY FORMATION
- LICENSING, VISA & EMIRATES ID
- CORPORATE BANK ACCOUNT GUIDANCE
- LEGAL & ACCOUNTING SUPPORT
- TAX COMPLIANCE & ADVISORY
- BRANDING, MARKETING & STRATEGIC POSITIONING

**500+ BUSINESSES  
LAUNCHED ACROSS 15+  
COUNTRIES SINCE 2014.**

# LET'S GET STARTED

 **BOOK YOUR FREE CONSULTATION NOW**

 **WHATSAPP SUPPORT**

 **ONLINE SCHEDULING AVAILABLE**

 **WE SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL CLIENTS REMOTELY**

WITH **THALLIUM**, IT'S NOT STRESS — IT'S **STRATEGY**.

 **thallium**  
consulting

