

**WE HAVE  
EXPANDED,  
WE ARE NOW  
IN DUBAI**



**JURISTAX MENA**

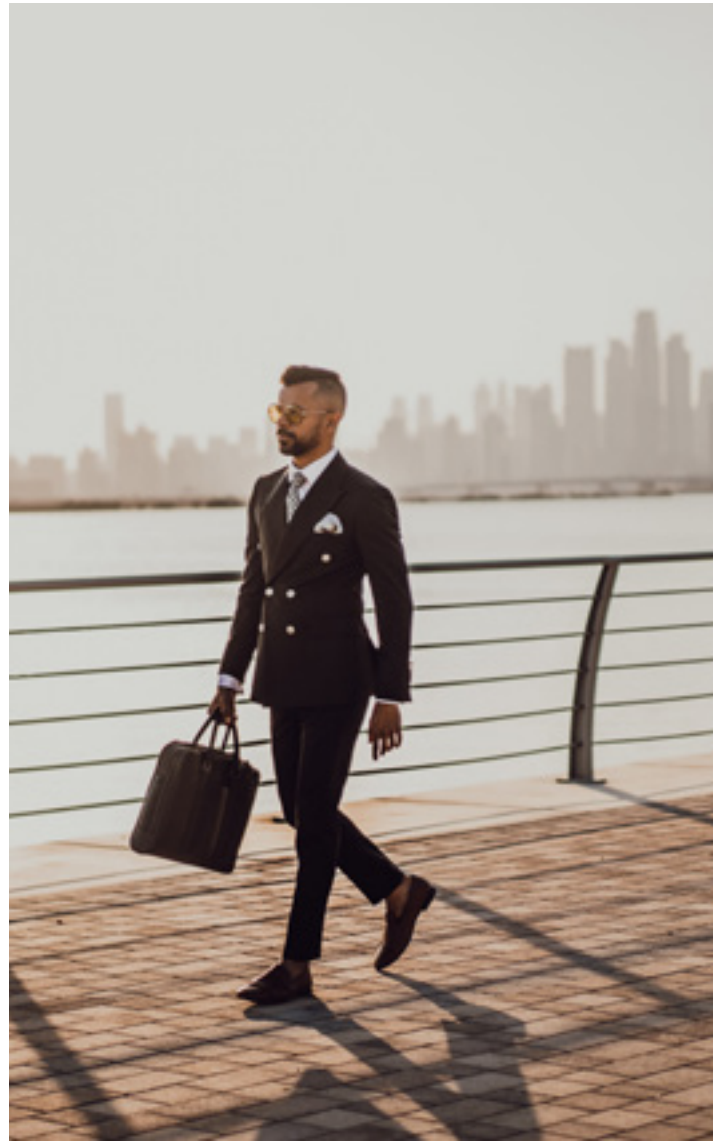
# LET'S TALK ABOUT DOING BUSINESS IN DUBAI

**50** years of a remarkable journey since the foundation of the UAE in 1971, the incredible UAE today is a leading jurisdiction with the following key features:



## WHY STRUCTURE YOUR BUSINESS THROUGH UAE?

- No.1 on Ease of Doing Business Index-MENA region
- No. 16 on World Bank Ease of Doing Business 2020
- No. 27 amongst 140 countries in the Global Competitiveness ranking
- 210 tax treaties signed (including DTAs and IPPAs)
- White-listed jurisdiction fully compliant with OECD
- Political stability and liberal business environment
- World-class infrastructure facilities and connectivity
- Vast range of corporate vehicles and regimes
- Full repatriation of capital and profit
- No foreign exchange controls
- 0% corporate tax on worldwide income
- 0% withholding tax on dividends/interests/royalties
- 0% personal income tax
- 0% capital gains tax
- Double A rated for S&P
- Double A2 rated for Moody's



## STRUCTURES TO DO BUSINESS IN UAE

There are 3 types of corporate structures across UAE, namely, (i) Mainland, (ii) Free Zone and (iii) Offshore.

Under each of them, there are different corporate structures ranging from establishment, subsidiary, branches, limited liability company, foundations and other special licenses.

The selection of the optimum structure depends on certain considerations, namely the type of structure sought, the number of partners, the proposed business activities, dealings inside and/or outside the UAE, the requirements for office type, the number of staffs, the requirement for residency visa and others.

## MAINLAND

A mainland company is an onshore company licensed by the Department of Economic Development (DED) of the related emirate which is allowed to do business in the local market as well as outside the UAE without any restriction. The main advantage for foreign investors establishing a business in mainland UAE is that, unlike the Free Zones, there is no territorial restriction on business activities or the location of offices/premises. A mainland company therefore has the freedom to trade anywhere in the UAE or wider Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, including all the Free Zones, and will have a far wider range of real estate options to choose from.



## FREE ZONE

A free zone establishment is incorporated within a designated jurisdiction of the emirate where the company is allowed to do business inside the same free zone or outside UAE. For commercial licenses and trading of physical goods, the company cannot do local business directly because the government has posed a limitation for trading in the local market. There are around 40 free zones established in the UAE and each free zone is designed around one or more commercial categories and only offers licenses to companies within those categories.



**The principal free zones and their license activities include:**

Dubai Multi Commodities Centre (DMCC)	Commodities Trade and Exchanges
Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA)	Trading, General Trading, Service, Logistics and Industrial
Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC)	Banking, Financial Services and Legal
Dubai World Central (DWC)	Aviation, Logistics, Light Industry and Ancillary services
Dubai Knowledge Park (DKP)	Human Development
Dubai Internet City (DIC)	Internet and Communications Technology
Dubai Silicon Oasis (DSO)	Information Technology, Telecom, Electronic and Engineering
Ras Al-Khaimah (RAKEZ)	Trading, General Trading, Service, Industrial and Educational

## OFFSHORE

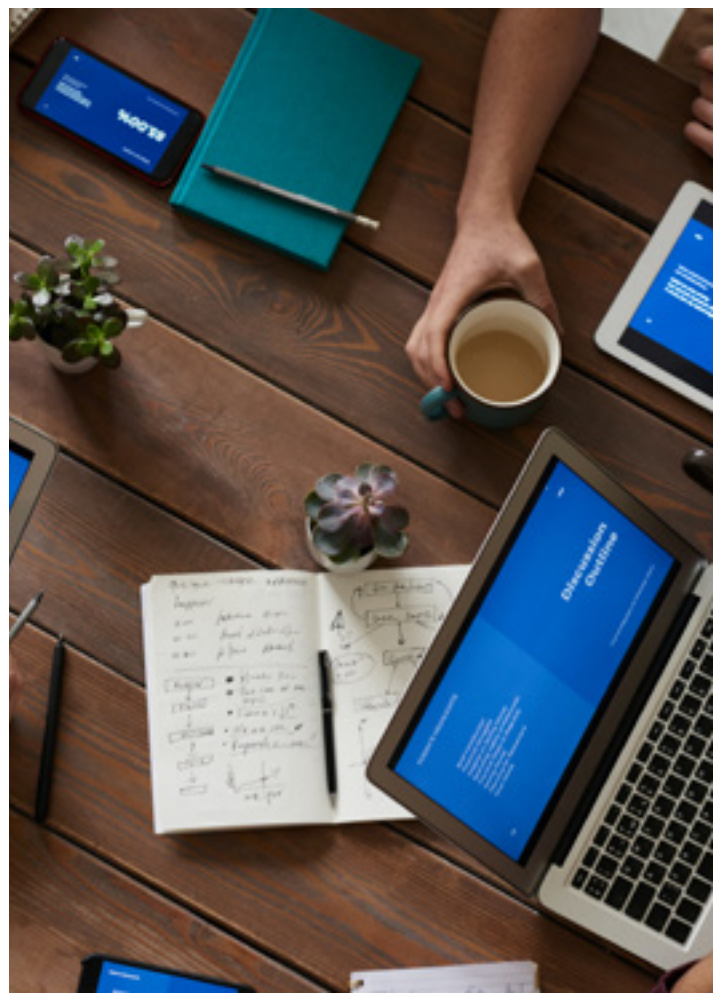
Offshore Companies are set up with the intention of operating outside its registered jurisdiction and/or the location of its ultimate ownership. The two principal jurisdictions offering Offshore Companies in the UAE are Ras Al Khaimah (RAK) and the Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA). Both are “tax free” jurisdictions that levy no income tax or corporate tax and allow 100% foreign ownership. They may not, however, carry out business with residents in the UAE or have physical premises within the UAE. Both RAK and JAFZA have their own specific benefits. RAK is the most cost effective, but JAFZA is the only Offshore Company that is legally permitted to own property situated in Dubai.

## THE PRINCIPAL FREE ZONES AND THEIR LICENSE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

	<i>Mainland</i>	<i>Free Zone</i>	<i>Offshore</i>
Corporate tax rate	0%	0%	0%
Foreign ownership	*100%	100%	100%
Access to tax treaties	Yes	Yes	No
Conduct of business	Anywhere in UAE & outside UAE	Within the free zone. Trade within UAE is possible through a distributor.	Outside UAE
Office requirements	Min. of 200 sq feet	Not compulsory to have a physical office space. Many free zones in Dubai allow	Not allowed to have a physical office in UAE.
Location of office	Anywhere in UAE	for flexible desk solutions.	Not applicable
Types of trade license	Commercial, Professional & Industrial	Only in the free zone	Not applicable
**Local service agent	Required	Commercial, Professional & Industrial	Not required
VISA	Eligible	Not required	No eligibility

\* For all professional trade licenses, they can be held 100% by foreigners. Certain licenses under commercial segment still require 51% ownership by a UAE citizen.

\*\* A local service agent is a UAE citizen who is required to sign up for all applications connected to governmental bodies. He does not interfere in the daily business operations unless agreed.





In addition to our office in Ras Al Khaimah, we are proud to announce the opening of our new office in Dubai.

Meet us at **27th Floor, Al Saqr Business Tower, DIFC Zabeel 2, Sheikh Zayed Road, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.**

## OUR SERVICES

- Incorporation & registration
- Re-domiciliation & migration
- Bank account opening services
- Application of special licenses / approvals
- Accounting & bookkeeping support services
- Wealth advisory & management services
- Secretarial & corporate services
- Compliance services (screening reports, internal control manual, independent audit, compliance officer & MLRO)
- Visa applications and local services
- Audit of investment portfolios
- Fund Administration and Accounting

## WHO WE ARE

Juristax MENA is a corporate service provider incorporated in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). JurisTax MENA forms part of JurisTax Group, headquartered in Mauritius, with representations and offices in South Africa, Seychelles, Rwanda, UAE and Singapore. JurisTax is a privately-owned and diversified financial services group in existence since 2008. The aim of the group is to help global clients structure, preserve and grow their capital in a compliant and sustainable environment, by leveraging on the different business clusters, seasoned experts and trusted partner networks. The ultimate objective is for clients to take advantage of personalized solutions while at the same time reaping the benefits of large corporate-style operations.



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