

Dubai as the Gateway to Global Trade



**DUBAI
IRPC
FREE** Dubai
Airport
Freezone
المنطقة الحرة بمطار دبي



LAUNCH, GROW, AND EXPAND
YOUR BUSINESS AT DUBAI'S DYNAMIC
GLOBAL TRADE HUB

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www.thamesvalleychamber.co.uk

Opening Remarks



Anne White

Head of International Trade



DUBAI
IRPC Dubai
FREI Airport
Freezone

المنطقة الحرة بمطار دبي

DUBAI'S PREMIUM FREEZONE



DUBAI AIRPORT FREEZONE

Established in 1996, as the 2nd free zone in the city and the 1st free zone close to the Dubai airport.



190,000

sq.m office space



18

Office buildings in total



NO

Currency restrictions
Employment restrictions
Corporate tax
Personal income tax



100%

Foreign company ownership
Repatriation of capital and profits



106,396

sq.m warehouse space



300

Warehouses in total



DESIGNATED ZONE

No charge or any tax on importing or exporting goods



3,100+ COMPANIES

In DAFZ, with more than 20,000+ investor employees

IN 2024, DAFZ CONTRIBUTED 13.5% TO DUBAI'S FOREIGN TRADE



Foreign trade exceeded

AED 330 Billion

In 2024



30% growth

of exports & re-exports



21% growth

of imports



+95% of DAFZ trade is derived from two HS sections:
Machinery - **73%**
Precious Stones - **22%**

'The 'Machinery and electrical equipment' sector witnessed a remarkable **17%** growth, while the Semi-Precious/Precious Stones sector witnessed a **33%** growth in 2024 compared to 2023.

UAE & UK TRADE RELATIONSHIP



UAE & UK TRADE RELATIONSHIP



The UAE and UK are looking to strengthen their economic partnership and create more opportunities for business growth in priority sectors such as energy, financial and professional services, education, healthcare, and infrastructure, defense and aerospace...

The UAE is the UK's **3rd** largest trading partner outside Europe, behind only China (including Hong Kong) and the USA.

In 2023, The UAE-UK non-oil bilateral trade has grown to **US\$27.35 billion**, a **63%** increase compared to the same period last year.

In June 2025, United Kingdom exported £584M and imported £250M from United Arab Emirates, resulting in a positive trade balance of £335M.

Top Exported Products from UK to UAE as of June 2025:

Gas Turbines (**£109M**)

Gold (**£43.9M**)

Cars (**£41.4M**).

DAFZ CONNECTING YOU WITH ECONOMIES AROUND THE WORLD

INDUSTRIES IN DAFZ ACROSS VARIOUS SECTORS

More than 3,100 Regional and Global companies



25%

Electronics,
Electrical,
Computer
and ICT



11%

Logistics,
Freight and
Aerospace



9%

Machinery,
Engines,
Engineering
and Building
Materials



6%

Consumer
Products



5%

Food and
Beverages



3%

Pharmaceutic
al and Medical
Equipment



10%

Computer
and ICT



2%

Automobiles, Oil
and Natural Gas



DAFZ COMPANIES



UK COMPANIES IN DAFZ



DAFZ currently holds **137 UK companies** in which **29%** are MNCs, and **71%** are SMEs.

LIST OF COMPANIES:

3Top Aviation Services Ltd Branch

Bentley Motors FZCO

CMR SURGICAL FZCO

Dunbar & Boardman Partnership Ltd (Branch)

Kanegrade Middle East (Branch)

Luceco Middle East FZCO



UNIQUE ONE STOP SHOP



ALL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

All administrative related services for clients' and client's employees



COMMUNITY CENTER

24/7 Gym, Food Hall, Retail Area, Co-working spaces, Medical Centre, etc.



BUSINESS FACILITIES

Business Center, Conference room, Training Facility, Auditorium



LATERAL SERVICES

Rewards program for freezone employees includes offers, discounts and privileges in leisure and work categories.

DAFZA Enablement Agency that provides services from Marketing, Accounting to Logistics and legal with preferential rates.



IMMIGRATION AFFAIRS

All immigration services for a Freezone client including admin, fitness test, codependents, etc.



GOVERNMENT OFFICES

Customs, Dubai Chambers Dubai Police, Dubai Health Authority



CUSTOMS

24-hour customs services and rapid cargo clearance.




IT, TELECOM AND BANKING SERVICES

Banks, Post Office, Etisalat / Du

BUSINESS SETUP IN DAFZ

STARTING YOUR BUSINESS IN DUBAI IS SIMPLE WITH DAFZ!

BECOME A PART OF THE DAFZ
BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN JUST
3 EASY STEPS

-  **Step 1:** Choose your license
- Step 2:** Choose your company type
- Step 3:** Choose your space



TYPES OF LICENSES



TRADING LICENSE

Allows the holder to import, export, distribute and store items specified on the license

SERVICE LICENSE

Allows the holder to carry out services specified in the license

E-COMMERCE

Allow the holder to carry out trading of goods and services over electronic network using electronic means

TALENT PASS

Freelance Permit for individuals to conduct their freelancing activities within the fields of arts, culture, education, media, marketing, consultancy, and technology

INDUSTRIAL LICENSE

Entitles the holder to carry manufacturing, light industrial activities, packaging, and assembling

GENERAL TRADING LICENSE

Entitles the holder to import, export, re-export, store, distribute and trade in general activities

DUAL LICENSE WITH DET

Allow Businesses that register to operate within Dubai Airport Freezone, also be licensed to operate onshore in the emirate, following an agreement between the free zone authority and Dubai Government

SFO & MFO LICENSE

Enables high-net-worth individuals and families to oversee and manage their wealth.

TYPES OF COMPANIES



BRANCH

- Representative office
- A foreign company can set up a branch of its existing company in DAFZ
- No share capital required



PLC

- A public limited company with limited liability
- No limit of shares holders
- This type of entity is suited to a company that wishes to list and/or offer its shares (IPO) on a securities market.



FREEZONE COMPANY

- A company established in the Freezone
- Formed with 1-50 shareholders (individual or non-individual)
- A minimum share capital of USD 1 (=AED 3.67) is required.

FURNISHED OFFICES



SMART OFFICE / SMART OFFICE PLUS

- Desk Space
 - Business License
 - 1 Employment visa
 - Wi-Fi
- * Smart Office Plus – office desk with a semi-private layout.



PREMIUM PACKAGE

- Office area: 25 sq.m
- Business License
- 2 Employment visas
- Fully Furnished Office



BUSINESS BOUTIQUE OFFICE

- Office area: 12-15 sq.m
- Business License
- 2 Employment visas
- Fully Furnished Office



PREMIUM PLUS PACKAGE

- Office area: 50 sq.m
- Business License
- 6 Employment visas
- Fully Furnished Office



INDUSTRIAL AND WAREHOUSING UNITS

DAFZ has increased its market share in sectors such as F&B, apparel & footwear, gold & precious stones, pharmaceuticals and electronics by offering suitable logistics solutions. Thus, diversifying the customer base of DAFZ.

- Multi story warehouses
- Multi tenant warehouses
- Temperature controlled
- Cold storage
- High security warehouses



SPECIFICATIONS

Area: LIU has an area of approximately 350 sq.m.

Office: Each LIU has ground and mezzanine floor offices of 90 sq.m.

Lease term: One year, renewable annually





DAFZ'S EXPANSIONS



DAFZ INDUSTRIAL PARK



33 warehouses with 10 units dedicated for cold-storage

Average warehouse size of 312 m²
Each unit comes with 20 visas

*Designated Zone

DAFZ INITIATIVES

SCALITY

Scality is a one stop solution for all startups from inception to scale. The objective is to cater to a new segment and build a foundation for companies of the future.



DAFZ INITIATIVES



Halal Trade & Marketing Center (HTMC) is a global business development hub focused on opportunities in the halal sector. Key services entail certification and compliance advisory, Sharia financing, Market insights, Sales & marketing support to name a few.



DAFZ INITIATIVES



Tradeling is an innovative technology company building the leading business-to-business eMarket place in the MENA region. Tradeling aims to create the preferred search and sourcing tool for business buyers across the region.



DAFZ INITIATIVES

ORASEYA CAPITAL

Under the patronage of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, DIEZ launched ORASEYA CAPITAL, a US\$136M VC fund to finance tech startups, supporting Dubai Economic Agenda D33 and strengthening the UAE's tech ecosystem.

ACHIEVEMENTS

#1 Investor in the UAE*

- Top 2 Most Active Series A Investor in MENA
- Top 4 Most Active VC in MENA
- 52 active portfolio startups
- 12 investments in 2025 • 6 exits

DIVERSIFIED VERTICALS



Fintech



Edtech



Logistics



Future
of Work



E-Commerce



Impact



Digital
Health



Ai/MI



Climate
Tech



Consumer

THANK YOU

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Q&A



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