

XIPHIAS Immigration

PROGRAMME BROCHURE

CORPORATE MOBILITY | UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Dubai Investor Visa / Partner Visa

UAE residence as a company owner or investor. The published ladder runs from a AED 48,000 partner's share to sponsor family, to AED 1,000,000 for 5-year Green Residence and AED 2,000,000 for the 10-year Golden Visa.

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Updated 1 October 2026
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At a glance

COUNTRY **United Arab Emirates**	ROUTE **Corporate Mobility**
TIMELINE **Immigration steps take days once the company or property is in place**	COMPANY STRUCTURE **Residence as an owner, partner or investor in a UAE-licensed company, or as a Golden Visa investor**
OWNERSHIP **Shareholding recorded in the company's licence and constitutional documents**	OFFICE **Active trade licence and establishment card for company-based residence**
LAST UPDATED **1 October 2026**	

Overview

A business owner or investor can hold UAE residence in their own right, rather than as someone else's employee. There are three distinct levels, and it matters which one you are applying for:

- **Partner or investor residence through your company.** You hold shares in a UAE-licensed company, and the company sponsors your residence under its establishment card.
- **Green Residence (investor or partner).** A **5-year** renewable residence for investors whose contribution to the company is at least **AED 1,000,000**.
- **Golden Visa.** A **10-year** renewable residence for investments of at least **AED 2,000,000**, through property, a deposit or a business.

The published thresholds

Threshold	What it gives you	Authority
Partner's share of at least AED 48,000	Lets a partner sponsor family members	GDRFA Dubai
Investor contribution of at least AED 1,000,000, in cash or its equivalent in foreign currency	Green Residence, 5 years, renewable	ICP
Investment of at least AED 2,000,000	Golden Visa, 10 years, renewable	Cabinet Resolution No. 65 of 2022

No federal minimum shareholding is published for standard partner residence below the Green Residence threshold. Some free zones apply their own practice, so XIPHIAS confirms the requirement for your licence before you invest.

Golden Visa: the investment routes

Under Cabinet Resolution No. 65 of 2022:

- **Property.** One or more properties with a total value of at least AED 2,000,000. Mortgaged property qualifies where the loan is from a local bank, and the Dubai Land Department asks for the bank's no-objection letter. Where a property is jointly owned, the applicant's share itself must be worth at least AED 2,000,000. GDRFA's golden residence permit fee is **AED 1,100**, and a lien is placed on the property for the 10-year validity.
- **Off-plan property.** Permitted federally when bought from developers approved by the local authority. In Dubai, however, the Land Department in practice requires a registered title, so confirm the specific project before you buy.
- **Public investment.** A bank deposit of at least AED 2,000,000, new company capital of at least AED 2,000,000, a partnership share of at least AED 2,000,000, or annual tax paid of at least AED 250,000.
- **Entrepreneurs.** A project with annual revenue of at least AED 1,000,000, or a previous venture sold for at least AED 7,000,000.

Other Golden Visa categories, for talented individuals, scientists and specialists, outstanding students, humanitarian pioneers and frontline workers, do not depend on investment.

Lifetime golden visa offers. The UAE has no lifetime golden visa and no nationality-specific golden visa. On 8 July 2025 the Federal Authority for Identity, Citizenship, Customs and Port Security publicly denied reports of a "lifetime golden residency for a number of nationalities" offered from outside the UAE through consultancies on relaxed conditions, stating that the claim had no basis in law and that applications are handled exclusively through official UAE government channels. The official nomination service for golden residence is free of charge. Golden residence is granted for ten renewable years under Cabinet Resolution No. 65 of 2022; the property threshold is AED 2,000,000.

Government fees

Fee	Amount
Residence permit (GDRFA)	AED 200
Knowledge and Innovation fees	AED 10 each (AED 20)
Inside-country fee, if the applicant is already in the UAE	AED 500
Delivery	AED 20
Entry permit for residence (GDRFA)	AED 200 plus 5% VAT
Status change inside the UAE (GDRFA)	AED 500, plus AED 10 + AED 10
Golden residence permit (GDRFA)	AED 1,100
Financial guarantee per family member (ICP)	AED 3,000, up to AED 15,000 in total

Each family member's residence permit follows the same GDRFA schedule. Medical fitness and Emirates ID fees are charged separately. Company licensing charges depend on the free zone or on Dubai's Department of Economy and Tourism, and are set out on the free zone and mainland company pages.

Timeline

The immigration steps are measured in days. GDRFA processes residence permits and green residence in **48 hours**, ICP issues an establishment card in **2 days**, and Dubai Land Department Golden Visa requests take **7 to 10 business days**. The longer part is what comes first: licensing the company, or completing and registering the property purchase.

Family

To sponsor family, the resident needs a salary of at least **AED 4,000 a month, or AED 3,000 plus accommodation**. This is a single test for the sponsor. It covers a spouse, unmarried daughters, sons under 25 and children with special needs, with no separate threshold for a wife or for children. Family members over 18 must pass a medical fitness test. A partner who sponsors family as a partner must also hold a share of at least **AED 48,000** under the partnership agreement (GDRFA). Golden Visa holders can sponsor family for the full term of their own permit.

Keeping your residence

- Company-based residence lasts only as long as the trade licence and establishment card stay active, so renew both on time.
- If a residence permit is cancelled, ICP allows a grace period of 30 days as standard, 60 days where there is a guarantor or host, 90 days for skilled workers at levels 1 to 3 and for property owners, and 180 days for Golden and Green residence holders and their families. Overstaying costs **AED 50 per day**.

Tax

The UAE levies **no personal income tax**. A company you own pays corporate tax at **0% on taxable income up to AED 375,000 and 9% above**; the free zone 0% treatment applies only to the Qualifying Income of a Qualifying Free Zone Person. Small Business Relief, for revenue up to AED 3,000,000, applies only to tax periods ending on or before 31 December 2026.

Indian tax residence: an important caution

A UAE residence visa is an immigration status. It does **not** by itself end Indian tax residence. Under **Section 6 of the Income-tax Act, 1961**, residence turns on the days you spend in India: 182 days or more in the financial year, or 60 days in the year together with 365 days over the preceding four years, with longer limits for Indian citizens who leave India for employment or who are visiting. An Indian citizen whose Indian income exceeds **Rs. 15 lakh** and who is not liable to tax in any other country is treated as resident regardless of days spent in India. This deemed-residence rule matters precisely because the UAE levies no personal income tax.

Take Indian tax advice before you relocate. Indian residents who invest in a foreign company also have Indian exchange-control and foreign-asset reporting obligations to plan for.

Risks

- **Choosing the wrong level.** Company-based partner residence, Green Residence and the Golden Visa have different thresholds and durations. Confirm which one your investment supports before you commit funds.
- **Property title.** For a Golden Visa through Dubai property, expect the Land Department to require a registered title.
- **Unofficial offers.** Applications go only through official UAE government channels. Treat any offer of a lifetime or nationality-specific golden visa as false.
- **Company standing.** Expired licences or unpaid fines put company-based residence at risk.

{/ restored from the 2019–2026 site /}

Dubai Business Investment Program

Dubai, one of the 7 emirates of the UAE has a lot going on its stride. Dubai has one of the best infrastructures for conducting business and is one of the richest oil producers in the world. Dubai's economy is strong and is supported by strong governance. Dubai offers its Residence Program through Dubai Business Investment Visa Program.

Through this program, Dubai aims at inviting the best enterprising brains into Dubai. Such enterprising individuals need to be high net worth entrepreneurs who are looking at cross border investments.

Living conditions in Dubai are at its best. The transport facilities are pretty good. The living costs are pretty affordable in this part of the world.

Although the citizens locally speak Arabic, English is also their unofficial language.

You, as an investor, can choose either to invest in Dubai's Real Estate or in business there.

i. Business Investment

To invest in Dubai, you can get your funding from any part of the world. The taxes in Dubai are not heavy on the investor or a person residing there. Dubai has one of the best atmospheres to invest.

You can invest either in a running business or in a start-up. It offers many free zones, where you can decide to open your business, which also has solid infrastructure.

ii. Investment in Real Estate

Dubai is a place for exotic buildings, hotels and resorts. The place offers few of the most intricately designed places to live, work and enjoy.

XIPHIAS Immigration is one and only official partners of DAMAC which provide one of the best housing, villas and resorts in Dubai. You can become an exalted owner of one of these properties in Dubai by partnering with us.

This is renewable further. Once you receive your residence permit, you can become a sponsor for anybody who you think are qualified to become residents in Dubai.

There are no minimum eligibility requirements defined. However, it would be required that you have clean crime free background.

the Process

- You have to enter an agreement to invest in the country.
- With this agreement, you qualify for the Residence permit

Such an investor, who enters Dubai through this program, cannot work under anybody else. He/she needs to be self-employed.

You will either be a sole- owner in the company you invested or a business partner.

At XIPHIAS Immigration, we have the best team of investment immigrations who can help you relocate to Dubai at best

possible prices. We are partners with property builders, real estate houses and business houses through who we can provide you the best options available in the market.

Partner with us today to know more about your investment destinations.

Fees and rules on this page reflect the official sources listed below as at 1 October 2026.

Key benefits

- Residence based on business ownership or investment, not on employment by someone else.
- 5-year Green Residence for investors contributing at least AED 1,000,000.
- 10-year renewable Golden Visa for investments of AED 2,000,000.
- Family sponsorship; Golden Visa holders can sponsor family for the full term of their own permit.
- 180-day grace period after cancellation for Golden and Green residence holders and their families.

Requirements

- Valid passport.
- Shareholding in an active UAE-licensed company, or a qualifying Golden Visa investment.
- For company-based residence: a licence, constitutional documents and establishment card that reflect your ownership.
- For Green Residence: an investor contribution of at least AED 1,000,000.
- For the Golden Visa: AED 2,000,000 in qualifying property, a bank deposit, company capital or a partnership share.
- Medical fitness test and Emirates ID biometrics.

When this route may not fit

- An expired or inactive trade licence or establishment card.
- A contribution below the threshold for the residence category applied for.
- Property that does not meet the Land Department's title requirements for the Golden Visa.
- Outstanding fines or compliance issues with the licensing authority or GDRFA.

How the process works

1. **Confirm your route**
   Partner residence through your company, Green Residence (AED 1,000,000) or the Golden Visa (AED 2,000,000).
2. **Put the company or investment in place**
   Licence, shareholding and establishment card, or the qualifying property, deposit or business investment.
3. **Entry permit or status change**
   GDRFA entry permit (AED 200 plus VAT), or status change inside the UAE (AED 500 plus AED 20).
4. **Medical test and Emirates ID**
   Complete the medical fitness test and biometrics.

5 **Residence issued**
GDRFA processes residence permits and green residence in 48 hours; Golden Visa requests through the Land Department take 7 to 10 business days.

6 **Sponsor family**
Apply for family residence once the sponsorship conditions are met.

After your residence is issued

- Collect your Emirates ID and open personal and corporate bank accounts (subject to each bank's checks).
- Sponsor family once the conditions are met: a salary of AED 4,000, or AED 3,000 plus accommodation, and a partner's share of at least AED 48,000 where you sponsor as a partner.
- Renew the trade licence and establishment card on time; company-based residence depends on them.
- Review whether your investment supports Green Residence (AED 1,000,000) or the Golden Visa (AED 2,000,000).
- Take Indian tax advice: UAE residence does not by itself end Indian tax residence.

Document checklist

Ownership

- Trade licence
- Memorandum or articles of association showing your shareholding
- Share certificate
- Establishment card

Golden Visa through property

- Title deed
- Bank no-objection letter for mortgaged property
- Evidence that the property value totals at least AED 2,000,000

Residence

- Passport and photographs
- Medical fitness test
- Emirates ID biometrics

Family

- Marriage certificate
- Children's birth certificates
- Tenancy contract, if you rely on accommodation for the family salary test

Questions clients ask

Is there a minimum investment for a partner visa?

No federal minimum is published for standard partner residence. The published thresholds are AED 48,000 (a partner's share, to sponsor family), AED 1,000,000 (5-year Green Residence) and AED 2,000,000 (10-year Golden Visa).

How long is the residence valid?

Green Residence is valid for 5 years and the Golden Visa for 10 years, both renewable. For standard partner residence through your company, XIPHIAS confirms the validity for your licence.

Can I get a Golden Visa through property?

Yes, with property worth at least AED 2,000,000 in total, in one or more units. Mortgaged property qualifies with a loan from a local bank. Off-plan is permitted federally from approved developers, but in Dubai the Land Department in practice requires a registered title.

Is there a lifetime golden visa?

No. ICP publicly denied such reports on 8 July 2025. Golden residence is granted for ten renewable years, applications go only through official government channels, and the official nomination service is free of charge.

Can I sponsor my family?

Yes. The sponsor needs a salary of AED 4,000, or AED 3,000 plus accommodation; a partner who sponsors as a partner needs a share of at least AED 48,000. This covers a spouse, unmarried daughters, sons under 25 and children with special needs.

How long does the process take?

The immigration steps are quick: GDRFA processes residence permits and green residence in 48 hours, and Land Department Golden Visa requests take 7 to 10 business days. Setting up the company or completing the property purchase comes first and takes longer.

Does UAE residence change my Indian tax status?

Not by itself. Indian tax residence is decided under Section 6 of the Income-tax Act, 1961, on days spent in India and the deemed-residence rule. Take Indian tax advice before relocating.

Important notes

- Published thresholds: AED 48,000 partner's share to sponsor family (GDRFA); AED 1,000,000 investor contribution for 5-year Green Residence (ICP); AED 2,000,000 for the 10-year Golden Visa (Cabinet Resolution No. 65 of 2022).
- Golden Visa public-investment routes: a bank deposit of AED 2,000,000, new company capital of AED 2,000,000, a partnership share of AED 2,000,000, or annual tax paid of at least AED 250,000.
- Medical fitness and Emirates ID fees are charged separately; XIPHIAS confirms them for your file.
- If a residence permit is cancelled, ICP allows a grace period of 30 days as standard, 60 days where there is a guarantor or host, 90 days for skilled workers at levels 1 to 3 and for property owners, and 180 days for Golden and Green residence holders and their families. Overstaying costs AED 50 per day.

Official sources: ICP — Issuing a residency permit; GDRFA Dubai — Green residence (partner or investor); GDRFA Dubai — Golden residence for investors; GDRFA Dubai — Entry permit for family members; GDRFA Dubai — Issuing residence permits for the private sector; GDRFA Dubai — Status amendment; UAE Legislation — Cabinet Resolution No. 65 of 2022 (annex); Dubai Land Department — Request for golden visa (investor); u.ae — Golden visa; ICP — Statement on lifetime golden residency, 8 July 2025; ICP — Cancellation of residency permits; u.ae — Residence visa for family members.



XIPHIAS Immigration

NEXT STEP

Plan your United Arab Emirates application with our Dubai team

Tell us about your profile, family and timeline. We will confirm whether **Dubai Investor Visa / Partner Visa** fits, set out the full cost in writing and manage the application with you from start to finish.

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CREDENTIALS

- Advising clients on global mobility since 2009; XIPHIAS Immigration DMCC in Dubai since 2017.
- Named Best Immigration Consultant by The Times of India in 2022.
- Canada files handled by a CICC-licensed Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant, licence R516194.
- Australia files handled by a registered migration agent, MARA 1680615.

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