



**BGA**

BRIGHT GLOBAL ACCOUNTING · UAE

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# Launch a Business in the UAE: *a step-by-step checklist*

12 steps from choosing a jurisdiction to your first payment. Check off each item as you complete it.

## 01 Choosing a Jurisdiction

Free Zone vs Mainland: comparison, cost, restrictions for different business activities.

- Compare Free Zone and Mainland by cost and conditions
- Check whether your business activity is permitted in the chosen jurisdiction

## 02 Company Registration

Documents, timelines, cost, choosing your activity and license type.

- Gather the documents and estimate registration timelines and cost
- Choose your business activities and license type

## 03 Bank Account

Bank requirements, required documents, opening timelines.

- Review bank requirements and prepare the documents for the account
- Build realistic account-opening timelines into your launch plan

## 04 Visas & Residency

Golden Visa, work visas, Emirates ID, health insurance.

- Arrange residency visas: Golden Visa or work visas
- Get an Emirates ID and arrange health insurance

## 05 Taxes

VAT 5%, Corporate Tax 9%, Small Business Relief, WPS.

- Check your obligation to register for VAT (5%) and Corporate Tax (9%)
- Assess eligibility for Small Business Relief and set up WPS

## 06 First Steps

Bookkeeping, licenses, contracts, hiring staff.

- Set up bookkeeping and a license-renewal calendar
  - Prepare contract templates and formalize employee hiring
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### **DISCLAIMER**

The information on this page is general in nature and does not constitute individual legal or tax advice. Procedures and requirements may change — for guidance on your specific situation, please consult a specialist.