

MARKET ACCESS SPOTLIGHT: JAFZA



Opportunities for Startups



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01 Why JAFZA for Startups?

Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA) is a leading global trade and business hub, offering a seamless environment for startups, SMEs, and multinational corporations to establish and expand their operations. As the flagship free zone of DP World, it plays a crucial role in facilitating international trade, industrial growth, and investment flows. With its business-friendly regulatory framework, tax benefits, and integrated logistics infrastructure, JAFZA provides companies with efficient market access, operational flexibility, and strategic expansion opportunities. Recognized as one of the world's top free zones, JAFZA was awarded at the fDi Global Free Zones of the Year Awards 2024, reinforcing its reputation as a preferred destination for enterprises looking to scale globally.

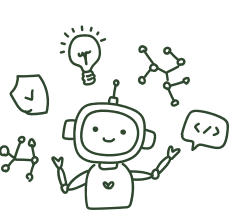
Key Highlights



10,700+ companies from 100+ countries operate within JAFZA, making it one of the largest free zones in the world.



100% foreign ownership and full capital repatriation, ensuring ease of international expansion.



0% corporate tax for 50 years, no import/export duties, and zero personal income tax, creating a highly competitive financial environment.



Businesses in JAFZA generate \$169 billion in trade annually, driving Dubai's position as a global commerce hub.



Proximity to Jebel Ali Port and Al Maktoum International Airport, ensuring seamless trade and logistics connectivity with 150+ markets worldwide.

02

A Strategic Location for International Trade

JAFZA's proximity to Jebel Ali Port, the region's largest deep-sea port—positions businesses within a high-efficiency trade corridor, facilitating access to over 150 markets worldwide. Integrated with Al Maktoum International Airport, the free zone ensures streamlined logistics for air freight, making it an ideal hub for import-export operations.

Key connectivity advantages:

- 📌 **Multimodal transportation options, enabling efficient trade flows.**
- 📌 **Onsite customs clearance, reducing transit delays.**
- 📌 **Seamless trade facilitation through Dubai Trade and DP World's integrated platforms.**
- 📌 **Zero restrictions on foreign currency transactions, ensuring smooth financial operations.**

With custom-built logistics hubs and state-of-the-art industrial parks, JAFZA offers an unmatched competitive edge for businesses seeking global reach.

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JAFZA's Thriving Business Sectors

Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA) is home to specialized industry clusters, creating an ecosystem where businesses benefit from synergies, innovation, and sector-focused infrastructure. With a tailored regulatory framework, multimodal connectivity, and dedicated business parks, JAFZA provides an ideal foundation for companies looking to expand and compete globally.



Logistics & Supply Chain – Over 430 companies operate within JAFZA's specialized logistics parks, leveraging integrated freight solutions and proximity to Jebel Ali Port for seamless global distribution.



Manufacturing & Industrial – A strategic hub for automotive, machinery, and advanced manufacturing, offering customized industrial spaces and specialized production zones.



Technology & Innovation – A growing center for AI, blockchain, fintech, and digital enterprises, with pro-business regulations supporting tech-driven advancements.



E-Commerce & Retail – Designed to streamline online business operations, JAFZA provides dedicated infrastructure for warehousing, last-mile delivery, and global distribution networks.



Petrochemicals & Energy – A key location for oil, gas, and chemical processing, offering storage, refining, and trading facilities to support regional and global energy demands.



Food & Agriculture – A gateway for agri-business, food processing, and international trade, ensuring efficient supply chain solutions and food security initiatives.

With sector-specific business parks, tailored incentives, and global market access, JAFZA empowers companies to scale efficiently while tapping into new growth opportunities.



Business Setup & License Options in JAFZA

JAFZA offers a fast-tracked, digital business setup process, allowing companies to establish operations with minimal bureaucracy. Businesses can select from multiple license categories based on their industry and operational needs.

Types of Licenses Available:

- **Trading License:** For businesses engaged in buying, selling, and distributing goods.
- **Service License:** For professional service providers, consultancies, and corporate support functions.
- **Industrial License:** Required for companies involved in manufacturing and production.
- **E-Commerce License:** Ideal for digital and online businesses operating within JAFZA's ecosystem.
- **Logistics License:** For freight, supply chain, and distribution companies.

License Pricing:

- **Trading License:** Starting at AED 15,000 per year, depending on the number of business activities included.
- **E-Commerce License:** Priced at AED 10,000 annually, with additional benefits for online sellers.
- **Office Spaces & Flexi-Desks:** Starting at AED 6,500 per month, offering scalable leasing solutions.

With customized packages for SMEs and startups, JAFZA ensures that businesses can establish a cost-effective market presence.



JAFZA's Comprehensive Infrastructure & Workforce Solutions

JAFZA provides scalable commercial and industrial infrastructure, designed to support diverse business operations and global expansion.

- **Premium Office Spaces:** Executive offices, business centers, and coworking environments designed for productivity.
- **Warehousing & Industrial Parks:** Fully equipped logistics hubs with fire safety compliance, advanced storage solutions, and high-load capacity floors.
- **Retail & Showroom Spaces:** High-visibility commercial properties for B2B and B2C engagement.
- **Development Plots:** Open land for custom-built factories, large-scale industrial setups, and specialized business needs.

Workforce Accommodation & Employee Well-being

Recognizing the importance of a well-supported workforce, JAFZA provides dedicated residential solutions, ensuring security, comfort, and accessibility for employees.

- 6,450+ rooms across JAFZA North & South, accommodating a large workforce.
- Secure, gated residential areas with 24/7 security monitoring and fire safety compliance.
- Proximity to essential services, including mosques, supermarkets, healthcare facilities, and recreational spaces.
- Community halls and common areas, fostering a balanced work-life environment for employees.




By offering integrated infrastructure and residential solutions, JAFZA enhances business efficiency, workforce retention, and overall productivity, making it a preferred destination for enterprises looking for a comprehensive operational base.



06

Financial Support & Custom Development Solutions in JAFZA

JAFZA collaborates with leading financial institutions, offering businesses access to funding, trade finance, and risk management solutions to support seamless operations.


-  **Emirates Development Bank:** Providing SME funding and expansion capital, ensuring access to growth financing.
-  **Abu Dhabi National Insurance Company (ADNIC):** Offering corporate insurance and risk management solutions, helping businesses mitigate operational risks.
-  **WIO Bank:** A digital-first banking platform, designed for startups and high-growth enterprises, enabling smooth transactions and financial planning.

Custom Development & Long-Term Growth Solutions

JAFZA offers tailor-made business infrastructure, ensuring companies can expand, operate efficiently, and optimize costs through flexible development solutions.

 **Long-term leasing options, ensuring stability and cost efficiency for commercial and industrial facilities.**

 **Scalable ownership flexibility, allowing businesses to expand operations seamlessly based on market demand.**

 **Development management services, assisting with project execution, regulatory approvals, and infrastructure design.**

By combining robust financial support with strategic real estate solutions, JAFZA enables companies to focus on long-term expansion while minimizing operational constraints.

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07

Global Events and Success Stories in JAFZA

JAFZA Business & Trade Forums

JAFZA regularly hosts high-impact trade and investment summits, providing businesses with a platform to connect with global industry leaders, investors, and policymakers. These events facilitate market expansion, regulatory insights, and international partnerships.

JAFZA Global Expansion Summit

An exclusive event bringing together CEOs, trade experts, and policymakers to discuss the latest trends in global trade, digital transformation, and industrial growth. The summit serves as a catalyst for international business collaborations.

Success Stories from JAFZA



Unilever – The global consumer goods giant has established its regional manufacturing hub in JAFZA, leveraging the free zone's logistics infrastructure and cost-effective trade policies.



PepsiCo – One of the world's leading beverage companies operates in JAFZA, benefiting from its seamless supply chain solutions and extensive distribution network across the Middle East and Africa.

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08 The JAFZA Advantage for Startups

Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA) serves as a premier gateway for businesses looking to expand globally, offering a highly competitive, investor-friendly environment. With zero corporate tax, 100% foreign ownership, and seamless access to international markets, JAFZA empowers startups, SMEs, and multinational enterprises to thrive in a dynamic trade ecosystem. Backed by world-class infrastructure, multimodal logistics connectivity, and a streamlined business setup process, JAFZA continues to be the preferred choice for entrepreneurs, investors, and global corporations..

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