

# UAE in Motion: A Blueprint for Progress

An Expert Briefing on the Nation's Infrastructure  
& Mobility Vision



# A Unified Vision for Total Mobility

The UAE's future is built on a foundation of seamless connectivity. This presentation provides a comprehensive overview of the key infrastructure projects that are creating a world-class environment for living, business, and investment.

We will explore the framework from the national spine to the global gateways, down to the urban arteries and the future horizon.

*Human-led intelligence supported by AI precision.*

## 7.1 | The National Spine: Etihad Rail



### Stage 2 Mainline: Operational

The UAE's national freight network is active, linking major industrial zones and ports. Etihad Rail continues network development and a steady ramp-up of services.

Inter Regular

### The Future of Travel: UAE-Oman Hafeet Rail

A landmark cross-border railway is planned to connect Abu Dhabi with Sohar, Oman. Inter Regular



**~100-minute**  
passenger travel time Inter Regular



## 7.2 | Global Gateways: Airports & Airlines

# Abu Dhabi: The Capital's Ascendancy

### Zayed International Airport (AUH)

The new home of Etihad Airways opened in November 2023 and was officially renamed in February 2024.

**45 million**  
passengers per year  
(expandable).

### Etihad Airways Network Expansion

Etihad is in a significant growth phase, with multiple new 2025–26 routes announced.

Medina, Baku, Tbilisi, Almaty, Bucharest, Tashkent, Addis Ababa, Kabul.

## 7.2 | Global Gateways: Airports & Airlines

Dubai: Building the World's Future Airport

### A Vision for Unprecedented Scale at Al Maktoum International (DWC).

Dubai has approved a massive expansion program for DWC, designed to underpin long-term capacity growth far beyond DXB's current scope and create the world's largest airport.

**AED 128  
Billion**

(New Terminal Program Value)

**~260  
Million**

(Ultimate Pax/Year Capacity)



## 7.2 | Global Gateways: Airports & Airlines

# Nationwide Aviation Growth



### Sharjah International (SHJ)

Terminal expansion advancing to a target capacity of **~20 million** passengers/year, with key works confirmed in 2025.



### Ras Al Khaimah (RKT)

A new **~30,000 m<sup>2</sup>** terminal is underway, with a medium-term ambition of **~3 million** passengers.

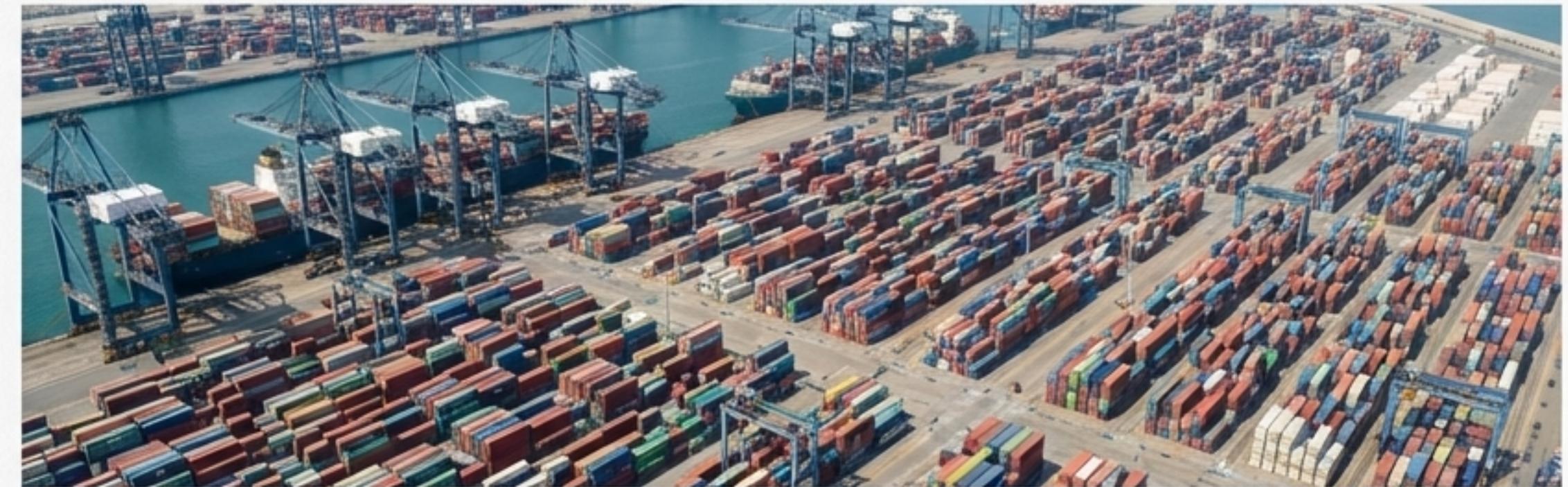


### Fujairah (FJR)

Scheduled international services have resumed and expanded, signaling renewed connectivity on the east coast. (e.g., IndiGo daily Mumbai-Fujairah).

\*Note: International commercial services are concentrated at AUH, DXB, SHJ, RKT, with FJR rebuilding service. Always verify current schedules.\*

## 7.3 | The Arteries of Trade: Ports & Free Zones



### Dubai Jebel Ali Port + JAFZA

One of the world's largest port-free zone ecosystems.

**US\$190 billion**

JAFZA trade (12 months to May 2025).

### Abu Dhabi Khalifa Port + KEZAD

The UAE's largest integrated economic and industrial zone, with Khalifa Port as the maritime gateway.

### Ras Al Khaimah RAKEZ

Home to over 35,000 businesses.

**43% YoY surge**

in new registrations in H1 2025 (8,506 companies).

## 7.4 | Energizing the Urban Core: Dubai Transit

# Dubai Metro Blue Line: The Next Frontier

**Length:** **30 km** (15.5 km underground / 14.5 km elevated)

**Stations:** **14** new stations

**Interchanges:** **3** (Al Khor, Centrepoint, International City 1)

**Target:** Projected opening in **2029**

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Features the first metro bridge crossing Dubai Creek and an iconic **Emaar station at Dubai Creek Harbour**.

**Dubai Tram:** The existing 11 km system provides crucial integration for mobility in the JBR and Marina districts.



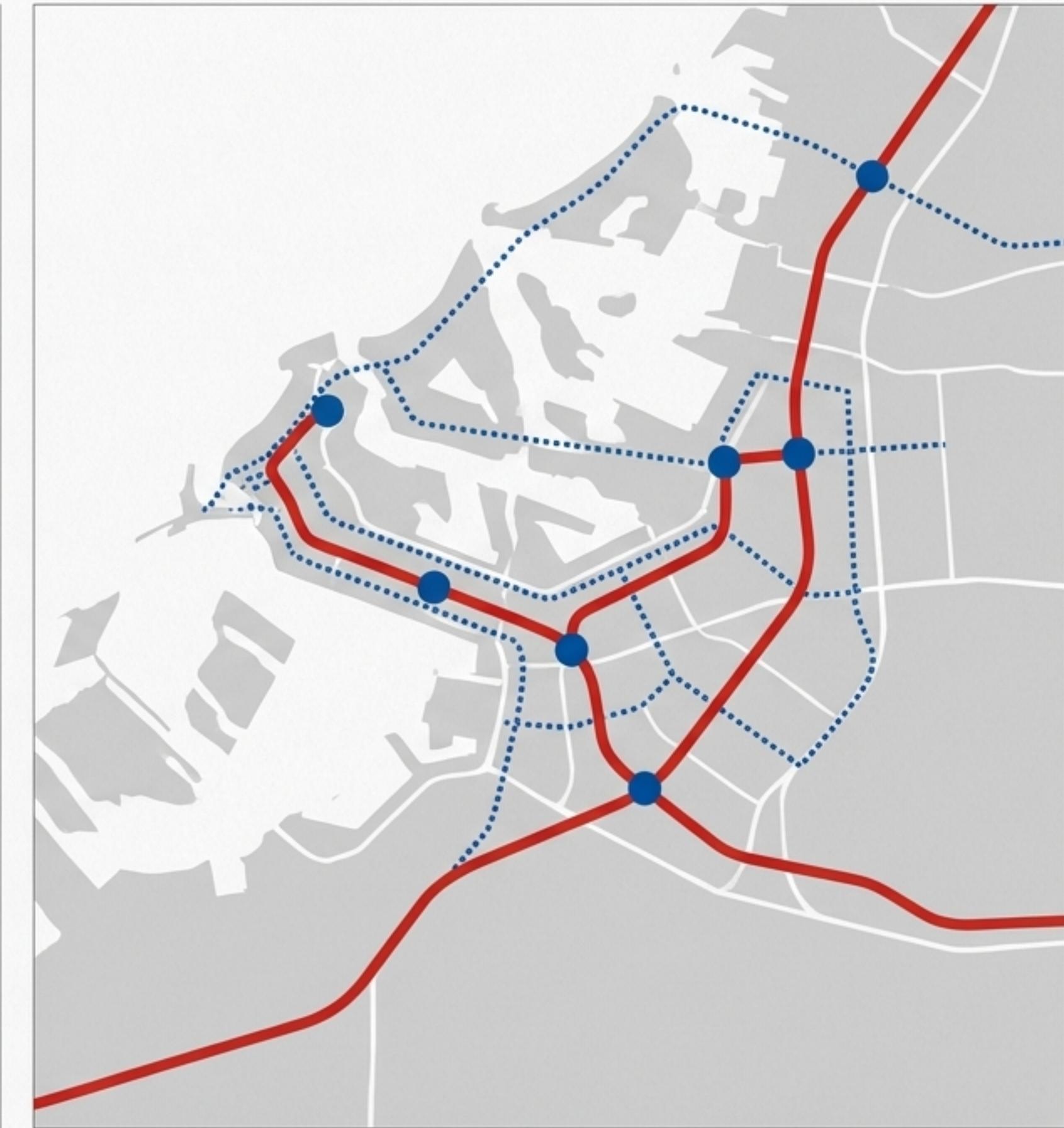
## 7.4 | Energizing the Urban Core: Abu Dhabi's Vision

# Abu Dhabi's Surface Transport Master Plan (STMP)

Abu Dhabi Mobility's STMP outlines a comprehensive, multimodal expansion designed to coordinate directly with the emirate's land-use and population growth.

## Key Components of the Plan

- BRT / Rapid Bus Networks
- Future Metro / LRT / Tram Corridors
- Integrated Park-and-Ride Facilities
- High-Specification Road Upgrades



## 7.5 & 7.7 | Mobility for All: Waterways & Inclusion



### Dubai's Water Network

The RTA Marine network includes Abras, Water Taxis, Water Buses, and the Dubai Ferry, fully integrated with the Nol payment system and connecting key points across the Creek, Canal, and Marina.



### A Commitment to People of Determination

**RTA (Dubai):** Metro, tram, and bus systems are designed for inclusion with tactile floors, wide lifts, wheelchair spaces, and audio-visual signals.

**Airports (DXB/AUH):** Dedicated Assisted Travel facilities, the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower program, and ACI World Level-2 Accessibility Accreditation (AUH, Sep 2025).



## 7.6 | Pioneering the Future: Advanced Aerial Mobility

# The Future is Arriving: Air Taxis Take Flight

### Dubai (eVTOL Operations)

The RTA, in collaboration with Joby Aviation and Skyports, is advancing concrete plans for an air-taxi network.

# 2026

Targeted initial operations.

Includes development of a vertiport network at key city nodes.

### Abu Dhabi (eVTOL Ecosystem)

Abu Dhabi is actively nurturing the entire e-aviation ecosystem under ADIO/ADGM frameworks, providing guidance on digital assets and innovation to support advanced mobility pilots.



## The Integrated Blueprint: A Nation in Perpetual Motion

From the national rail spine connecting its industries, to global gateways welcoming the world; from seamlessly integrated urban arteries to a pioneering vision for the skies—the UAE is not just building infrastructure. It is crafting a comprehensive, human-centric mobility ecosystem.

**This strategic investment in connectivity underpins the nation's continued growth, stability, and its position as a leading global hub for business and life.**