

COP28 UAE

PRE-COP FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CONTENT

3

Pre-Cop
Registration.....
Visas.....

4

Visas
Travel to UAE

5

Travel to UAE
Accommodation.....
Travel to Venue.....

PRE-COP

What is Pre-COP28?

Pre-COP28, the preparatory meeting prior to the 28th Conference of Parties of the UNFCCC, will take place in-person in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, on 30-31 October 2023.

Pre-COP28 is a critical milestone on the road to COP28. Everyone must play their part in a global effort that transforms our current course to ensure the delivery of real solutions to the climate crisis. As the last formal ministerial engagement before COP28, this is a key opportunity for the world to unite behind a collective ambition to transform the global response to the climate crisis.

When is Pre-COP28 being held?

Pre-COP28 will be held on 30-31 October 2023.

Where is Pre-COP28 being held?

Pre-COP28 will take place in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates.

What will be featured/discussed during the official Pre-COP28 schedule?

The meeting agenda will be shared directly with the invited delegates ahead of the event.

REGISTRATION

How can I register for Pre-COP28?

Pre-COP28 is an invitation-only event.

Invited delegates can access the registration portal on the official Pre-COP28 webpage.

What documents are required to register for Pre-COP28?

1. Clear, colored passport copy with a minimum of 6 months validity from the date of arrival in the UAE. The file must not be smaller than 150 KB in size. PNG and JPEG formats will be accepted
2. Clear, recent passport-sized photo taken against a white background

UNFCCC-registered participants invited to attend the formal ministerial and any side events during Pre-COP28 should utilize the COP28 UAE Visa process, outlined in more detail below.

VISAS

How can I apply for a visa to attend Pre-COP28?

The UAE Government has authorized an electronic, free-of-charge special entry permit for all UNFCCC-registered COP28 UAE event attendees, also known as the COP28 UAE Visa.

UNFCCC-registered participants invited to attend Pre-COP28 should utilize the COP28 UAE Visa process to enter the UAE.

- Once you have completed your UNFCCC registration for the COP28 Blue Zone, you will receive a UNFCCC confirmation email, which will include a link to apply for the COP28 UAE Visa.
- It is mandatory for all non-UAE resident UNFCCC-registered participants entering the UAE to apply for the COP28 UAE Visa prior to arrival, using the visa application link shared within their UNFCCC registration confirmation email.

To apply for your COP28 UAE Visa to enter the UAE for Pre-COP28, you will need to be registered by your National Focal Point through the UNFCCC's Online Registration System.

The COP28 UAE Visa allows the holder a single-entry visit into the UAE. Applicants who leave the UAE and wish to return for COP28 UAE must re-apply for their visa ahead of COP28 UAE. Please note, you can re-apply only after you exit the UAE, and you must use your UNFCCC registration number.

Do I require travel medical insurance to apply for the COP28 UAE Visa?

You are not required to submit proof of a travel medical insurance policy as part of the COP28 UAE Visa application. However, it is recommended that you acquire travel medical insurance when travelling abroad.

How long will it take for my visa to be issued?

Processing the COP28 UAE Visa application may take up to 72 hours after submission. Participants are strongly encouraged to apply as soon as their UNFCCC registration is confirmed.

Your application status can be checked using the link in your visa application confirmation email after your application has been submitted.

What happens after I complete my visa application?

Once you have successfully completed your application for the COP28 UAE Visa with the required documents, you will receive a confirmation email from the UNFCCC, which will include an application number which can be used to track the progress.

If you do not receive this email, please visit the visa portal link contained in your UNFCCC registration email to track the status of your application.

What visa should I apply for if I have been invited to attend other events during Pre-COP28?

UNFCCC-registered participants invited to attend side events and other meetings during Pre-COP28 should utilize the COP28 UAE Visa process.

The COP28 UAE Visa allows the holder a single-entry visit into the UAE. Applicants who wish to leave the UAE and return during COP28 UAE must re-apply for their visa ahead of COP28 UAE. Please note that you can only re-apply after you exit the UAE and you must use your UNFCCC registration number.

How far in advance can I apply for the COP28 UAE Visa?

Pre-COP attendees are encouraged to apply for the COP28 UAE Visa as soon as you receive both the formal invitation for Pre-COP28 and the UNFCCC registration confirmation email, which includes the COP28 UAE Visa application link.

What type of visa will I receive?

Upon visa approval, a free-of-charge, electronic COP28 UAE Visa will be granted, entitling the applicant to a single entry into the United Arab Emirates. This will be valid for 30 days upon arrival.

The COP28 UAE Visa allows the holder a single-entry visit into the UAE. Applicants wishing to leave the UAE and return for COP28 UAE must re-apply for their visa ahead of COP28 UAE. Please note that you can only re-apply for the COP28 UAE Visa **after** you exit the UAE, and you must use your UNFCCC registration number.

Can I arrive at any UAE international airport with my COP28 UAE Visa?

Yes, once issued, the COP28 UAE Visa is valid for arrival at any international airport in the United Arab Emirates.

What assistance will be provided at the first port of entry on arrival to the UAE?

The Pre-COP28 UAE team will have a support team on call for any assistance required at UAE airports. More details on the arrival journey will be shared in due course.

How can I apply for a visa to attend Pre-COP28 if I am NOT a UNFCCC-registered delegate?

Pre-COP28 is a by-invitation-only event.

If you are not a UNFCCC-registered delegate and are coming to Pre-COP to attend meetings or events outside of the formal Pre-COP ministerial, you can apply for a standard visit visa or receive a tourist visa on arrival, if applicable. For more information, please visit www.icp.gov.ae.

Can I apply for my spouse's visa permit along with my visa application? My spouse is not a registered attendee, but I am.

COP28 UAE Visa applications are only available for UNFCCC-registered delegates. Pre-COP attendees are invited to apply for their COP28 UAE Visa as soon as they have received their invitation and by following the UNFCCC registration visa portal link. Those who are not invited to attend Pre-COP can find further information on visas to travel to the UAE by visiting www.icp.gov.ae.

Are visas granted on arrival to the UAE?

Depending on your nationality, tourist visas are available upon arrival per UAE regulations. However, all UNFCCC delegates attending Pre-COP28 are encouraged to apply for the COP28 UAE Visa to ensure they benefit from privileges granted to UNFCCC-registered delegates.

Please follow the COP28 UAE Visa application process as outlined above and apply well in advance of your visit to the UAE.

I am a UNFCCC-registered delegate who will require entry into the UAE more than once before COP28. The COP28 UAE Visa grants me a single entry into the UAE. How can I enter the UAE more than once?

Once granted, the COP28 UAE Visa allows the holder a single entry into the UAE. Applicants who wish to leave the UAE following Pre-COP and return during COP28 UAE, must re-apply for their visa ahead COP28 UAE following the same process as you have previously, using your UNFCCC registration number and re-using the link found in the UNFCCC email. Please note that you can **apply** only after you have exited the UAE.

UNFCCC-registered participants invited to attend the formal ministerial, meetings or side events during Pre-COP28 should utilize the COP28 UAE Visa process.

TRAVEL TO UAE

How can I book my flight to the UAE?

The UAE is connected by direct flights to over 300 destinations worldwide.

Please find below a list of airlines with an extensive network of regional and international flights to and from Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

Abu Dhabi:

- Etihad Airways: <https://www.etihad.com/>
- WizzAir: <https://wizzair.com/>
- Air Arabia Abu Dhabi: <https://www.airarabia.com/>

Dubai

- Emirates Airlines: <https://www.emirates.com/>
- Flydubai: <https://www.flydubai.com/>

Sharjah

- Air Arabia: <https://www.airarabia.com/>
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Are there any COVID-19 restrictions for arrivals to the UAE?

All passengers travelling to the UAE are no longer required to present a COVID-19 vaccination certificate or to undergo PCR tests. However, please check your country's travel advisory for latest guidance on outbound trips, as well as the requirements of the airline.

Are any other vaccinations required for coming to the UAE?

There are no current vaccination requirements for entering the UAE. If this policy changes, updates will be communicated accordingly.

Is there internet access at the airports upon arrival to the UAE?

Yes, like most major global airports, UAE airports are equipped with state-of-art internet connectivity, which passengers can connect to. In addition, local SIM cards can be purchased at the airport from Etisalat, Du, or Virgin Mobile providers.

What transport options do I have after arriving in the UAE?

Information on onward transportation options from **Abu Dhabi International Airport** can be found here: <https://www.abudhabiairport.ae/en/transport/to-and-from-the-airport>

For onward transportation options from **Dubai International Airport**, please click here: <https://www.dubaiairports.ae/before-you-fly/to-from-the-airport>

What is the best way to get around in Abu Dhabi?

Abu Dhabi International Airport is located 30km away from Abu Dhabi city. It takes approximately 30 minutes to reach the city by car. Journey planners are a great way to assess transportation options before traveling to Abu Dhabi, UAE: Abu Dhabi Journey Planner: [DARBIAUH](#)

Ride-shares like Uber and Careem are across the UAE, including in Abu Dhabi.

What is the national language and currency conversion of the UAE?

The official language is Arabic. English is commonly spoken, along with many international languages. The local currency is the UAE dirham (AED or Dhs) which is pegged against the US\$ (US\$ 1: AED 3.6725).

What is the local time and weather like in the UAE?

The United Arab Emirates observes Gulf Standard Time (GMT +4) throughout the year and does not observe Daylight Saving Time. The UAE has a sub-tropical and arid climate, characterized by sunny blue skies and high temperatures for most of the year. Rainfall is sporadic, primarily occurring in winter (November to March) and averaging 12cm per year in most of the country. Temperatures range from a low of around 13°C (50°F) on a winter night, to highs of around 42°C (118°F) on a summer day. Abu Dhabi's average daytime maximum temperature in October is 33.9°C (93°F), with highs as much as 41.6°C (106.9°F) and average lows overnight down to 28°C (82.4°F).

Can I exchange cash at the airport?

Foreign exchange counters are readily available with international currencies at both arrivals and departures across UAE airports. Hotels also provide foreign exchange services, and there are many foreign exchange bureaus across the country.

Can I use my locally issued credit/debit card?

Most shops, hotels and restaurants in the UAE accept major credit and debit cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, etc.). It is prudent to confirm with your local bank whether your debit and credit card is valid for international transactions before you travel

When is the weekend in the UAE?

In most of the UAE, the weekend consists of Saturday and Sunday, except in Sharjah, where the weekend consists of Friday, Saturday, and Sunday for federal employees.

Can I use my driver's license in the UAE?

Visitors are required to have a valid International Driver's Permit to drive in the UAE. However, the UAE accepts driver's licenses issued by many countries. Please check your eligibility here: [How to get to the UAE? -The Official Portal of the UAE Government](#).

What type of electrical plug is used in the UAE?

Across the UAE, the standard electrical plug is Type G (commonly used in the UK as well as across some countries in the Caribbean, Africa and Asia) operating between a 220V-240V supply voltage and 50 Hz.

What are the emergency numbers?

- 999 for Police
- 998 for Ambulance
- 997 for the Fire Department (Civil Defense)
- 996 for Coast Guard

What is standard tipping etiquette in the UAE?

Tipping is not expected but is commonly practiced in the UAE. Gratuities to staff at hotels and restaurants are at your discretion.

What are popular things to do in Abu Dhabi?

Please visit Abu Dhabi's Department of Culture and Tourism website for more information: [Experience Abu Dhabi | Travel and Tourism | Visit Abu Dhabi](#).

ACCOMMODATION

What accommodation options are available?

Pre-COP28 UAE will take place in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, offering a wide selection of accommodation options. There are over 230 hotels and resorts, along with serviced apartments available, ranging from 1-star to 5-star to suit every budget.

Plan your trip with [Visit Abu Dhabi](#)

If you require any assistance while planning your trip, you can connect with our assigned travel agency, Nirvana Travel, who will be able to support you.
Email: precop28@ntravel.ae
Contact Number: +971502116063 (standard operator charges apply)

TRAVEL TO VENUE

How do I reach the Pre-COP28 venue?

The Pre-COP28 venue is located in the heart of Abu Dhabi city and is easily reached through a range of different transport methods in Abu Dhabi:

Public transport

Plan your journey at [DARBIAUH](#)

Taxis

Both public and private taxi services are available in Abu Dhabi to cater to the transportation needs of the residents and visitors in the Abu Dhabi Emirate.

Taxi stations and taxi pick-ups/drop-offs (booked via apps) are available around Abu Dhabi city. The simplest way to use this service is:

- Abu Dhabi Taxi: <https://www.itc.gov.ae/en/taxi-booking>
- Careem: [Download the app or visit https://www.careem.com/](https://www.careem.com/)
- Uber: [Download the app or visit https://www.uber.com/ae/en/](https://www.uber.com/ae/en/)

The visitor manual, including the exact location map of the venue, will be shared in due course.

How will transport support those with accessibility needs?

Accessible taxis can be booked through the [Integrated Transport Services](#) (OTC) taxi application.

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THANK YOU
