



**2025 ICF SUP**  
**WORLD**  
**CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Abu Dhabi,**  
**United Arab Emirates**  
**29th October-**  
**2nd November 2025**

[www.sup2025.com](http://www.sup2025.com)

# Welcome and Assalamu Alaikum!

On the following pages, we walk you through all the necessary information that may guide you and your team on the way to Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

The Emirates Canoe and Rafting Federation (ECRF) and the International Canoe Federation (ICF) are looking forward to seeing you at the 2025 ICF SUP World Championships between 29<sup>th</sup> October – 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2025 in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

All ICF SUP competitions are open to paddlers of all levels and encourage anyone with a passion for paddling to come to join the festival. We have an amazing programme planned full of entertainment.

If you are looking for more information,  
do not hesitate to visit the official website of the competition:  
[www.sup2025.com](http://www.sup2025.com)

## See you in Abu Dhabi!





## ECRF Chairman's Greeting

On behalf of the Emirates Canoeing and Rafting Federation (ECRF), it is my pleasure to extend a warm invitation to all participants and spectators to join us in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, for the 2025 ICF SUP World Championships.

As the Host Organizing Committee, ECRF is proud to organize this prestigious gathering of SUP athletes and enthusiasts. We are deeply grateful to the ICF for placing their trust in our expertise to host such a significant event.

It is a true honour to welcome the world's finest SUP athletes to compete at the highest level of this incredible sport. I am confident that the upcoming championships will not only showcase outstanding performances but also create an atmosphere of joy, camaraderie, and unforgettable memories for everyone involved.

I firmly believe that SUP is among the fastest-growing sports globally and has a bright future as it continues to captivate more enthusiasts worldwide.

Wishing you all great success and remarkable achievements in this event.



MEETINGS • INCENTIVES • CONFERENCES • EVENTS



Sincerely,  
Yaser Alkatheeri



شانغريلا قرية البري، أبو ظبي  
SHANGRI-LA  
QARYAT AL BERI  
ABU DHABI





# HOC Host Organising Committee

ECRF Chairman	Yaser ALKATHEERI
Technical Organiser	Krisztián BÁRTFAI
Event Technology	Zoltán KÁRPÁTI
Secretary of the OC	Bernadett VARGA
Official Hotels Liaison	Fiona SWAFFIELD

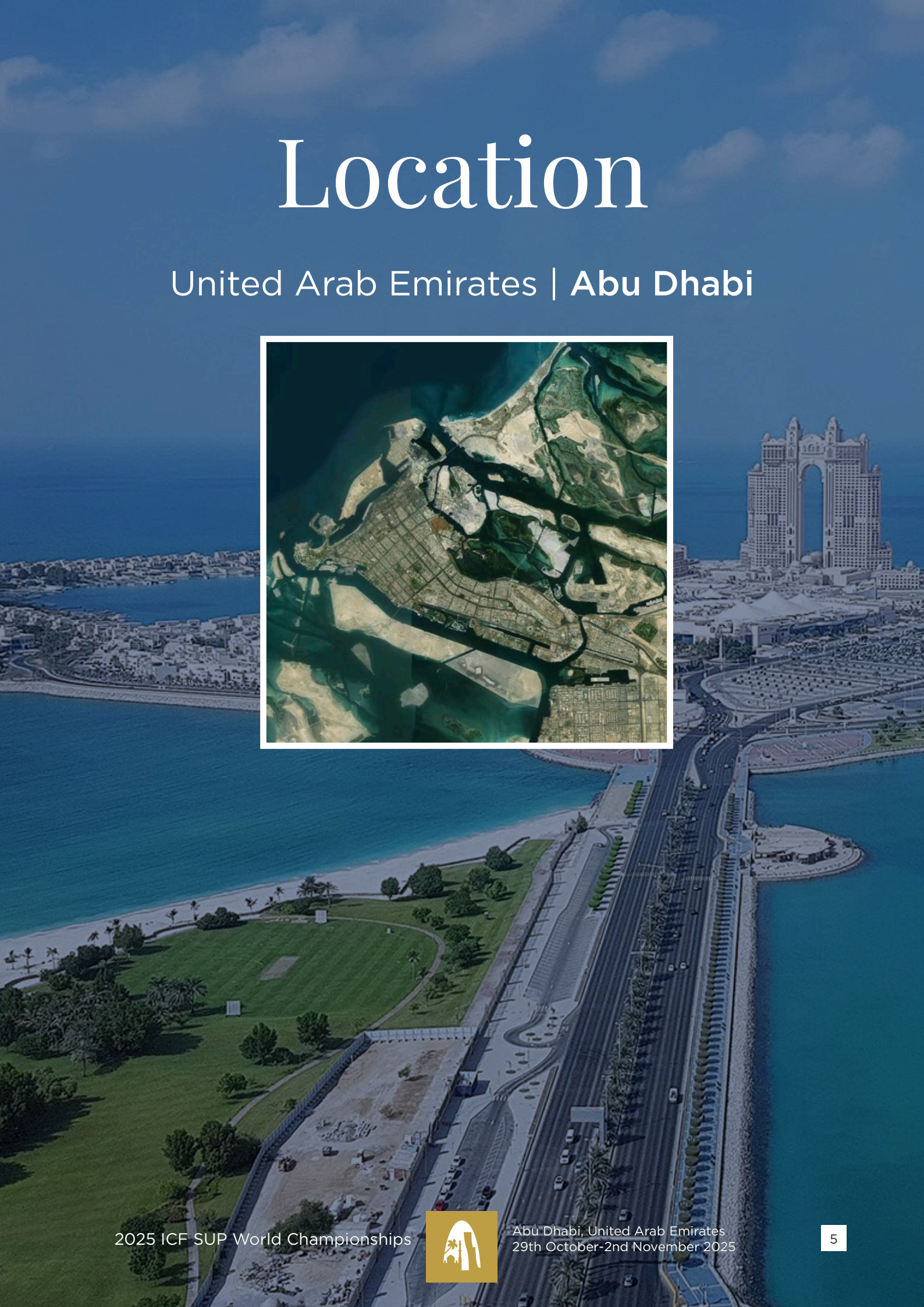
For general inquiries, please contact Betti on  
[beti@paddlershubuae.com](mailto:beti@paddlershubuae.com)

Regarding hotel reservation queries, please contact Fiona on  
[fiona@sirenevents.com](mailto:fiona@sirenevents.com)



# Location

United Arab Emirates | Abu Dhabi



# General information on United Arab Emirates and Abu Dhabi:

- The UAE is a constitutional federation of seven emirates. Abu Dhabi city is the capital of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and the capital of the UAE.
- Abu Dhabi city is the second most populated city in the United Arab Emirates.
- The city of Abu Dhabi is on the southeastern side of the Arabian Peninsula, adjoining the Persian Gulf. Most of the Abu Dhabi emirate resides on the mainland connected to the rest of the country but most of Abu Dhabi city is located on the islands that are joined to the mainland by multiple lane motorway bridges.
- The city skilfully blends tradition with modernity. This blend of traditional Arab culture with modern luxury and innovation makes Abu Dhabi a unique and fascinating destination for visitors and residents alike.



## How to get to the UAE:

[The Official Portal of the UAE Government](#)

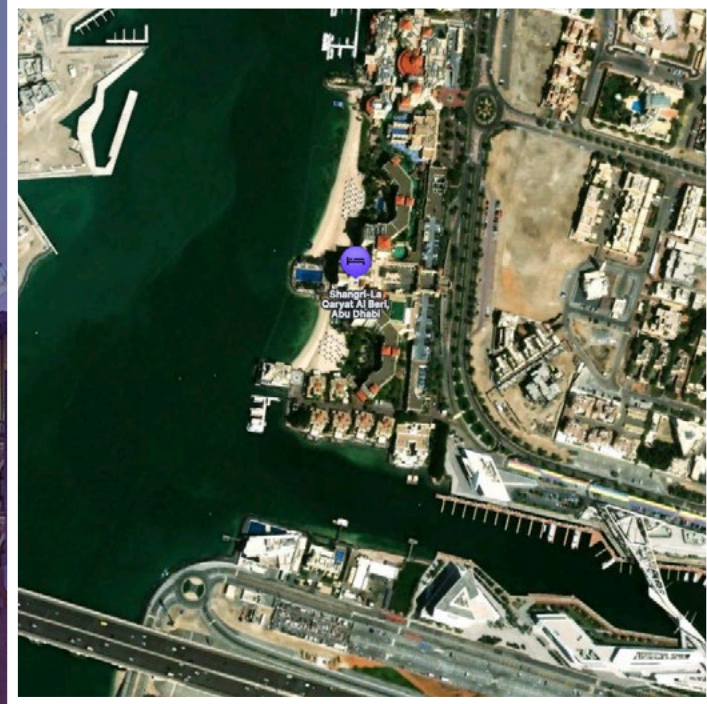
You can arrive in the UAE by **land, sea or air**. The UAE is well-connected by major airlines of the world. Road transportation is by private cars and public buses. Several cruise-ships have added Abu Dhabi and Dubai on their Asian itineraries. The UAE has 10 major airports, 12 seaports, an unrivalled network of roads and bridges, and 6 national carriers connecting to over 200 cities worldwide. This enables 33% of the world's population to reach the UAE within 4 hours, and 66% to access the country within 8 hours.

The UAE's national airline is Etihad Airways. It flies from and to Abu Dhabi. Other airlines in the UAE are:

- Emirates and its low-cost carrier partner Fly-Dubai. Emirates flies from and to Dubai International Airport. FlyDubai departs from and arrives at both: Dubai International Airport and Al Maktoum International Airport.
- Air Arabia - It flies from and to Sharjah International Airport. It is the first and the largest Low Cost Carrier (LCC) in the Middle East and North Africa.
- Wizz Air Abu Dhabi- Based at Abu Dhabi International Airport. Wizz Air Abu Dhabi is the 6th national airline of the UAE. It offers low-cost economic travel to Abu Dhabi and to number of countries in the Middle East, Europe and Asia.



# Venue



## Shangri-La Qaryat Al Beri | Abu Dhabi

Nestled between a pristine 1-kilometre-long private beach and lush gardens, Shangri-La Qaryat Al Beri, Abu Dhabi is truly an oasis in the heart of the Emirates with a breathtaking view of the Khor Al Maqta creek and Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque. Ideally located between the two bridges of Al Maqta and Mussafah, the Shangri-La complex is approximately a 15 minutes drive from Abu Dhabi International Airport and 20 minutes from the Corniche and the city centre.



# How to get to the venue from Zayed International Airport, Abu Dhabi (AUH):



## Taxi

The venue is situated 20 km far from the airport, the quickest option to get there would be by using taxi service. The ride is approximately 15 minutes.



## Public Transportation

By using public transportation, it would take around 1 hour to get to the venue. First by taking the bus A10 to Khaleej Al Arabi St./Bus Interchange (2 stops) and then by changing to the bus L43 to Al Khor St./Souq Qaryat Al Beri (8 stops).

[BusServiceA10.pdf \(https://admobility.gov.ae\)](https://admobility.gov.ae/BusServiceA10.pdf)

[BusServiceL43.pdf \(https://admobility.gov.ae\)](https://admobility.gov.ae/BusServiceL43.pdf)





# How to get to the venue from Dubai International Airport, Dubai (DXB):



## Taxi

The venue is 140 km away from the airport, which is approximately 1,5 hour ride using taxi service.



## Public Transportation

By using public transportation, the journey would take around 4 hours. First by taking the metro from the Airport Terminal 3/Airport Terminal 1 metro stations to Ibn Battuta metro station (red metro line). Then from Ibn Battuta bus station taking

- the Abu Dhabi Airport Express bus which runs once every hour and it takes 1,5 hours to get to Zayed International Airport Terminal A, Abu Dhabi [Tickets \(transport-ticket.com\)](https://transport-ticket.com)

or

- the E101 bus to Abu Dhabi central bus station which takes 1 h 45 mins [Roads & Transport Authority - Home](https://roadsandtransportauthority.gov.ae)

**From the airport** you have the option to take a 15 mins taxi ride to the venue or to continue your journey by using buses to get to the venue: Bus A10 to Khaleej Al Arabi St./Bus Interchange (2 stops) and then Bus L43 to Al Khor St./Souq Qaryat Al Beri (8 stops).

[BusServiceA10.pdf \(https://admobility.gov.ae\)](https://admobility.gov.ae/BusServiceA10.pdf)

[BusServiceL43.pdf \(https://admobility.gov.ae\)](https://admobility.gov.ae/BusServiceL43.pdf)

**From the central bus station**, you can walk 15 mins and then from Shk. Rashid Bin Saeed St. /Hazza' Bin Zayed St. take the bus L43 to Al Khor St./Souq Al Qaryat Al Beri (16 stops).

[BusServiceL43.pdf \(https://admobility.gov.ae\)](https://admobility.gov.ae/BusServiceL43.pdf)





# Official World Championships Events

2025 ICF SUP World Championships



Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates  
29th October-2nd November 2025

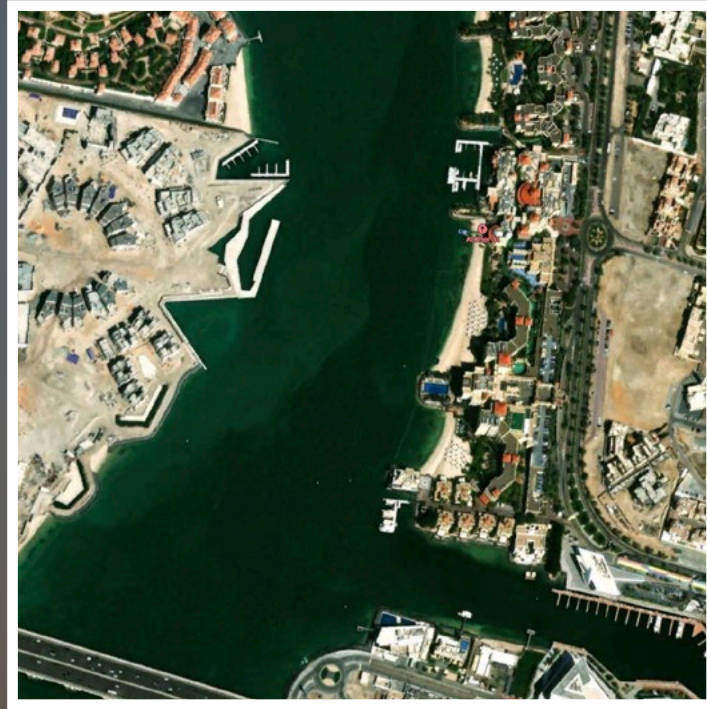
10

Age group	Event	Gender	Board
Junior	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sprint</li> <li>2. Technical</li> <li>3. Long Distance</li> <li>4. Team event technical;</li> <li>5. Team event long distance</li> </ol>	Male and Female	SUP One-design board
Masters 40+	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sprint</li> <li>2. Technical</li> <li>3. Long Distance</li> </ol>	Male and Female	SUP Hard board up to 14' long
Masters 50+	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sprint</li> <li>2. Technical</li> <li>3. Long Distance</li> </ol>	Male and Female	SUP Hard board up to 14' long
Open	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sprint</li> <li>2. Technical</li> <li>3. Long Distance</li> <li>4. Team event technical</li> <li>5. Team event long distance</li> </ol>	Male and Female	SUP Hard board up to 14' long
Open	Inflatable	Male and Female	SUP Inflatable board up to 14' long



# Course details

## Khor Al Maqta



**Khor Al Maqta, a historic waterway separates Abu Dhabi from the mainland, guarded by the now somewhat hidden Al Maqta Fort and a small watchtower in the middle of the creek (khor). The mainland bank is home to a cluster of luxury resort-hotels and the Souk Qaryat Al Beri mall, all with restaurants and bars that have outdoor terraces with views of the snowy-white Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque across the water.**

**Shangri-La Qaryat Al Beri Beach is a private coastline, that can be accessed only through the hotel. The water surface is about 240 m wide, a calm channel, without waves, currents. The beach is about 160 m long, covered by sand.**



## Sprint race

A straight 100 m line parallel to the beach, start and finish on the water.

## Technical race

Cca. 1000 m course with at least 2 right and 2 left turns, start and finish on the beach.

## Long Distance race

Cca. 10 km long course, start on the water, finish on the beach.



# General Conditions of Participation

The competition is run in compliance  
with the 2025 ICF SUP Rules.



## Range of participants:

The competition is open for anyone who complies with the rules and regulations of the competition. An ICF (International Canoe Federation) membership is not a requirement to participate in the competition.

Each competitor is individually responsible for their own participation and the administrative duties related to their entry.

Registration and entries will be available on the official event page starting **February 2025**.

By registering and participating in the competition the participants assure at the same time their ability to swim at least 200m without assistance and that they are comfortable paddling in open water.

If a competitor is under the age of 18, parental consent is required for the participation.

There will be possible unofficial races for one design race and for kids.

## Age group definition:

The kids race is open to children ages 8-14.

The first year an athlete can compete in an ICF international competition (International Canoe Federation) is the year of their 15th birthday.

The last year an athlete can compete in the junior age group is the year of their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The masters' age groups are defined by each discipline with a minimum age of 40 or 50 years old.

An athlete can compete in a masters (40+ and 50+) event in the year that they reach the lower limit of the age group.

## Entry conditions:

One athlete can race only at one (1) age group at Long Distance, Sprint and Technical race. Athletes who are eligible to race in the junior (U18), 40+ and 50+ age groups can enter the open age group if they wish. A competitor who enters any open age group event/s (with the exception of open inflatable event) cannot enter any of the junior (U18), 40+ and 50+ age groups.

Athletes who are eligible to race at 50+ can race at the 40+ age group for all events (except open inflatable event).

Anyone can participate in the open inflatable category, regardless of their age group, if they have reached the age of 15. Kids race participants cannot compete in the open age group.



## Team events:

If you wish to enter National Teams Events for Long Distance and Technical races, please contact your national canoe federation to enter you through SDP (Sports Data Platform). You can email [sdp@canoeicf.sport](mailto:sdp@canoeicf.sport) for NF contacts.

Deadline to enter for the team event is 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2025.

Each NF can enter teams to the following events:

Long Distance	Technical
Junior Men	Junior Men
Junior Women	Junior Women
Open Men	Open Men
Open Women	Open Women

Teams can be up to four (4) athletes for the Long Distance and Technical races. The top three (3) athletes' scores will count towards team results.

## Sporting Nationality:

The sporting nationality of the athletes is determined by their nationality or country of their domicile.

An athlete may represent one nation during the calendar year.

For full details, please visit the ICF SUP Competition Rule Book.

## Medical aptitude:

Each competitor is liable for their own health and fitness to be ready to compete in the races. Upon registering for the race, the participants give a declaration of their medical state as detailed in the ICF entry waiver on the registration form. The Host Organizing Committee (HOC) does not take any responsibility for any harm to the health and the consequences thereof due to the participant's medical state during the races.

All participants of the World Championships are strongly advised to take out medical insurance.



# Accreditation and participation fees



# Accreditation

Accreditation, payments can be made on the website exclusively.

Each competitor represents themselves and is responsible for their own entries and participation. **The HOC offers discounts for multiple entries in Sprint, Technical and Long Distance events.**

## Participation fees

NUMBER OF EVENTS	EARLY BIRD	NORMAL PRICE	LAST MINUTE	FROM 1st of OCTOBER
1 EVENT	145 USD	170 USD	187 USD	287 USD
2 EVENTS	166 USD	195 USD	215 USD	315 USD
3 EVENTS	187 USD	220 USD	242 USD	342 USD
INFLATABLE EVENT	85 USD	100 USD	110 USD	210 USD
KIDS' RACE	70 USD	80 USD	90 USD	190 USD
NON-PARTICIPATING PERSON	65 USD	70 USD	77 USD	177 USD

Early bird price is available for the registrations made until the end of March.

On a first-come, first-served basis, the first 100 athletes to register will receive a 20% discount on early bird ticket prices. This offer is available until March 1st or until all 100 discounts are claimed, whichever comes first.

Registrations can be made at a last minute price during the months of August and September.

Register before 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2025, after that prices will increase with 100 USD.

## Deadline of entries: 19th October 2025



Items	Sprint, Technical, Long Distance event participant	Inflatable event participant	Non-participating person
Guarded board storage	+	+	-
Drinking water on competition days	+	+	+
Medal for winners	+	+	-
Medical care at the venue	+	+	+
Internet access	+	+	+
Security service at the regatta course	+	+	+
Race bibs	+	+	-
Access to the competition area	+	+	-
Access to athletes' area	+	+	+
1 catering voucher in an outlet of the venue (50 aed)	+	+	-
1 merchandise product (T-shirt or baseball cap or clappers)	+	+	+



# Official board transportation partner

The ICF official logistics partner, Prowave will offer board transportation from Germany to Abu Dhabi venue and back to Germany.



The following services are provided:

- Transport in Sea Freight Containers to Abu Dhabi Venue and back to Germany
- Loading and lashing service in special construction inside the container for safe Transport by our team staff
- All custom clearance paperwork
- Transport Insurance
- Guaranteed delivery in time for the event
- Safe storage before and after the transport service until pick up / delivery

The rate for this all inclusive service:

14 feet board incl. boardbag: 450 EUR  
Accessories like paddles, etc. on request.

**For one way transportation, custom fees may apply.**

Timetable to send the boards to Abu Dhabi:

1. Boards can be delivered till **10<sup>th</sup> of September 2025 to Kassel, Germany**
2. Optional pick up at any location in Europe for an additional cost, please ask Prowave for special rates
3. Boards will be ready to use in Abu Dhabi venue latest from **28<sup>th</sup> of October** till end of end of competition on **2<sup>nd</sup> of November 2025**
4. After 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2026 the boards can be collected in Germany. As well we can offer safe storage for your boards until pick up or delivery.

**Please send your reservation for board transportation until 1st August 2025 to the following contact details:**

**Stefan Bretthauer**  
**kontakt@prowave.de**  
**www.prowave.de**  
**Fon/Fax: + 49 561 56010350**  
**Mobil: +49 177 8750202**

Board rental service will be handled by the HOC and will be published in detail in Bulletin 2. There will be limited availability of boards and will be on a first come first serve basis.



# Official hotel accommodation partners

The HOC has selected the following hotels as official accommodation providers of the 2025 ICF SUP World Championships with meal services at the hotels. The hotels have been carefully selected due to quality and distance.

The HOC encourages all participants to take advantage of the convenience of the official hotels.



Rooms/night Hotels	Shangri-la Qaryat Al Beri	Traders Qaryat Al Beri
Room only (single/double/twin bed)	214 USD	98 USD
Room + breakfast (single/double/twin bed)	236 USD	118 USD
Room + half board (single bed)	298 USD	154 USD
Room + half board (double/twin bed)	360 USD	207 USD
Room + full board (single bed)	329 USD	184 USD
Room + full board (double/twin bed)	423 USD	249 USD

Rooms/night Hotels	Ibis Abu Dhabi Gate	Novotel Abu Dhabi Gate	Yas Island Rotana, Crown Plaza Yas Island, Radisson Blu Yas Island
Room only (single/double/twin bed)	166 USD	185 USD	192 USD
Room+breakfast (single bed)	177 USD	193 USD	203 USD
Room+breakfast (double/twin)	188 USD	201 USD	216 USD

Rooms/night Hotels	Premier Inn Abu Dhabi Capital Centre
Room only (single/double/twin bed)	Best available online non-refundable rate
Room+breakfast (single bed)	
Room+breakfast (double/twin)	

All rates are per room per night.

In Shangri-La Qaryat Al Beri & Traders Qaryat Al Beri & Yas Hotels the price of an extra bed is AED 150 in higher room categories and subject to availability.



# Pre and post competition period room rates:

**Shangri-La and Traders Qaryat Al Beri** offer the same room rates for pre competition period (27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of October).

For the post competition period (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of November) Shangri-la hotel offers the rooms for an extra USD 408 per room per night plus taxes.

Traders hotel offers the rooms for an additional USD 313 per room per night plus taxes.

**Ibis & Novotel Abu Dhabi Gate** offer the same room rates for pre competition period (27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of October). Rooms are not available from 2 November onwards.

For the **Yas Hotels**, if a guest wishes to book 2 days earlier (27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of October) or 2 days later (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of November), then they will need to send an email to the below email address and mention the booking code to confirm the rates for pre and post reservations:

- Booking Code: SIREN2025
- Email: [groups@yasplazahotels.com](mailto:groups@yasplazahotels.com)
- Contact Person: Lovely & Albert





# Booking links:

## Shangri-la Qaryat Al Beri and Traders Qaryat Al Beri:

[Book now!](#)

Alternatively, search for the rate by following below steps.

1. Visit <https://www.shangri-la.com/>
2. Insert hotel name, check-in date, check-out date, and total number of guests.
3. On next column, click "Special Code" > choose "Group" > key in Group Block code SIR291025
4. Click "Search" and rates will display accordingly.

---

## Ibis and Novotel Abu Dhabi Gate:

Send an email with the booking code on as per below details:

- Booking Code: SIREN2025
- Email: [charity.yongconebria@accor.com](mailto:charity.yongconebria@accor.com)
- Contact Person: Charity

---

## Radisson Blu Yas Island:

[Book now!](#)

---

## Crowne Plaza Yas Island and Yas Island Rotana:

Send an email with the booking code on as per below details:

- Booking Code: SIREN2025
- Email: [groups@yasplazahotels.com](mailto:groups@yasplazahotels.com)
- Contact Person: Lovely & Albert

---

## Premier Inn Abu Dhabi Capital Centre:

[Book now!](#)

Premier Inn Abu Dhabi is providing a booking link with the lowest nonrefundable rate selling on their official website, you can make the bookings from there directly.



# Visa requirements

to the UAE

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) offers a relatively straightforward visa process, especially for citizens of over 70 countries who can either enter visa-free or obtain a visa on arrival. Here's a breakdown of the key points regarding UAE visa requirements and travel information.



## Visa-Free Entry

Citizens of certain countries, including many in the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council), can enter the UAE without a visa for short stays.

## Visa on Arrival

Nationals from over 40 countries, including the USA, UK, Canada, and several EU nations, can obtain a visa upon arrival. These visas are typically valid for 30 days. Citizens of some countries can obtain a visa that allows for a stay of up to 90 days upon arrival. Lists of countries eligible for visa on arrival may vary from time to time; therefore, please check with the UAE embassy in your country before travelling to the UAE.

## Pre-Arranged Tourist Visas

For those not eligible for visa-free entry or visa on arrival, a pre-arranged visa is required. This can be obtained through a UAE-based airline, a UAE hotel, or a travel agency. Your event's invitation and assistance can play a crucial role here.

**Passports must be valid for at least 6 months from the date of entry into the UAE.**



[Visa exemptions for non citizen](#)

[Visit site](#)

[Do you need an entry permit or a visa to enter the uae?](#)

[Visit site](#)

[Visas](#)

[Visit site](#)

[Travel requirements for the United Arab Emirates tourist visa](#)

[Visit site](#)

[Visa policy of the United Arab Emirates](#)

[Visit site](#)



# Customs to respect

while in the UAE

While Islam is the official religion of the UAE, the government promoted and enforced non-discriminatory laws and policies for peaceful co-existence, tolerance and religious inclusion. People of more than 200 nationalities reside in the UAE and therefore countless faiths living together, side by side.

UAE is a haven of a diversity of heritage, traditions and customs. These are taken seriously by locals, and tourists should be aware of these in order to respect them. Some customs include actions which need to be followed by tourists, like the do's and don'ts of the country. Respecting the customs and traditions is necessary in avoiding conflicts.



## Rules of how to behave in public may be the biggest difference in the culture between locals and tourists:

Public displays of affection are frowned upon and regarded disrespectful to the Emirati customs and culture, due to religious differences. Maintain your public displays of affection to the minimum, anything more than holding hands such as kissing and hugging in public might land you with a hefty fine or in jail.

Taking pictures of people in public is not tolerated, especially of women, military or government facilities, unless at a tourist location.

Attire or clothing is expected to be modest according to the country's dress code. Dressing up decently is the basic requirement in the public places. Dresses and skirts above

the knee and skimpy clothes are frowned upon. Even men are expected to dress decently and not go topless. Swimwear for both men and women are only allowed at the private beaches and private swimming pools. Everywhere else, including the public beaches skimpy swimwear is not allowed. Pointing fingers or any obscene hand gesture is considered to be rude and a sign of extreme bad manners.

The entire UAE has zero tolerance for drunk driving. This also applies to holding alcohol or any drug in possession, no matter even in minuscule quantity.

About the United Arab Emirates

[Visit site](#)

Tolerance

[Visit site](#)

Fact sheet

[Visit site](#)

UAE traditions and customs tourists should know

[Visit site](#)

Dos and Dents in Dubai

[Visit site](#)



# Climate



## Weather:



The UAE is located in the tropical dry area that extends across Asia and North Africa. However, it is affected by the Arabian Sea as it overlooks both the Arabian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.

The UAE has an arid desert climate with only two main seasons, winter and summer separated by two transitional periods.

The temperature starts to decline in October which is the start of the second transitional period, the average temperature is still 29°C (84.2°F). Daytime averages reach a hot 36°C (96.8°F) and nights only cool to 22°C (71.6°F).

The end of the second transitional period is November which is still warm but lower temperatures are more bearable. The average temperature in November is 25°C (77°F), made up of daytime averages of 31°C (87.8°F) and night averages of 18°C (64.4°F).

## Wind:

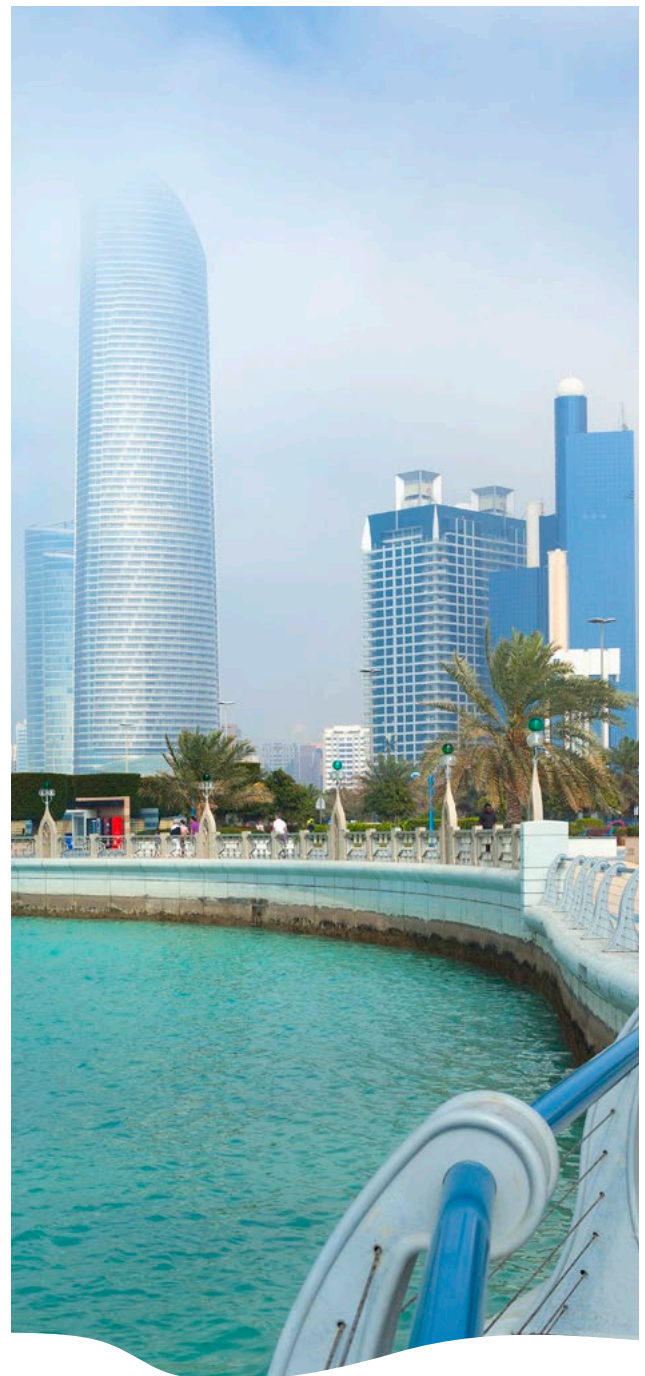
The average hourly wind speed in Abu Dhabi experiences mild seasonal variation over the course of the year.

The calmer time of year lasts for 8,5 months, from mid April to end of December. The calmest month of the year in Abu Dhabi is September, with an average hourly wind speed of 12km (7.6 miles) per hour.  
31°C (87.8°F) and night averages of 18°C (64.4°F).

## Water temperature:

Abu Dhabi is located near a large body of water. The average sea water temperature experiences significant seasonal variation over the course of the year.

The time of year with warmer sea water lasts from June until the end of October, with an average temperature above 31°C (88°F). The month of the year in Abu Dhabi with the warmest water is August, with an average temperature of 33.8°C (93°F).





Promotional video



Youtube



Facebook



Instagram

