

FELT

The Player's Guide to Wynn Al Marjan Island

Everything serious players need to know before the UAE's first casino opens in Q1 2027.

Visa · Transfers · Hotels · Banking · Poker Room · Golden Visa

feltmembers.com

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OVERVIEW

What is happening and why it matters

Wynn Al Marjan Island opens in Q1 2027 as the UAE's first legal casino. This is a \$5.1 billion integrated resort in Ras Al Khaimah — built and operated by Wynn Resorts, the same company behind Wynn Las Vegas and Wynn Macau. It is the first time a world-class casino operator has opened in a zero-income-tax jurisdiction with direct access from a major international hub.

Property	Wynn Al Marjan Island, Ras Al Khaimah, UAE
Opening	Q1 2027 (target)
Investment	\$5.1 billion
Casino floor	20,900 m² — larger than MGM Grand Las Vegas
Hotel	1,542 rooms + 22 private villas
Regulator	RAKGRA — UAE's first gaming authority
Income tax	Zero. No tax on winnings for UAE residents.
From Dubai	45–55 min by road · 20 min by helicopter

"The opening of Wynn Al Marjan Island is not an incremental addition to an existing market. It is the creation of a new one."

PLANNING TIMELINE

What to do and when

WHEN	ACTION
Now (mid-2026)	Join Felt waitlist · confirm visa category · assess Golden Visa
Q3 2026	Start Golden Visa process if pursuing (4–8 weeks)
Q3–Q4 2026	Open UAE bank account if needed (requires physical visit)
Q4 2026	Confirm Wynn accommodation — opening period books out fast
4 wks before	Structure cash flow and initiate banking transfers
2 wks before	Visa confirmed (nationalities requiring advance application)
1 wk before	Transfer confirmed · hotel confirmed · Felt on WhatsApp
Arrival day	Driver at airport · Felt available throughout the stay

Transfers and airports

Al Marjan Island has no public transport. Every arrival requires a vehicle. There are three practical options:

Dubai International Airport (DXB)

The main hub for international arrivals. 45–55 minutes by road to Al Marjan Island. Felt provides fixed-price private transfers: driver confirmed before you fly, name and contact number provided, flight tracking included. No surge pricing, no app-based uncertainty after a long-haul flight.

RAK International Airport (RKT)

15–20 minutes from Al Marjan Island. Served by Air Arabia and select European routes. If a direct connection exists from your departure city, RKT is the cleanest arrival. Check Air Arabia routes from your city before defaulting to DXB.

Helicopter transfer from DXB

Approximately 20 minutes. Available on request through Felt. Eliminates the road journey entirely. The helicopter arrival at Al Marjan Island also signals your arrival to the property in a way that a car transfer does not.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

By nationality

EU / UK / US / AUS / CAN	Visa-free. 30–90 days on arrival. No action required.
GCC nationals	Visa-free. Saudi, Kuwaiti, Bahraini, Qatari residents — no visa.
Russian passport	Advance visa application required. Processing: 5–10 business days. Multiple-entry visa recommended for repeat visitors. Felt manages this process.
Chinese passport	Tourist visa via Emirates or licensed agent. Apply 1–2 weeks before travel. Felt assesses best route.
Indian passport	Visa on arrival available. Or apply e-visa in advance (recommended for speed).
Other nationalities	Varies. Felt confirms requirement for your specific passport before travel.

"For most EU and UK players the visa question is a 30-second confirmation that nothing needs doing. For Russian and Chinese players it requires 1–2 weeks advance action."

Banking and cash flow for casino players

This is the most practically consequential part of trip planning for high-stakes players — and the one that receives the least advance attention. UAE banks operate strict AML protocols. A large inbound transfer arriving without advance preparation will trigger a compliance hold. Resolving this from a hotel room on session day is the worst possible position.

Key points:

- **Start 3–4 weeks before travel.** Not on departure day.
- **Source of funds documentation** is commonly required for large transactions. Prepare this in advance: bank statements, tax returns, or equivalent.
- **Russian players:** Post-2022 correspondent banking changes affect RUB→AED routes. Felt advises on what is currently functional.
- **Chinese players:** SAFE controls mean transfers above ~\$50,000 USD equivalent per year require 3–4 weeks within compliant channels. No last-minute solution exists above this threshold.
- **UAE bank account:** Significantly simpler as a UAE resident (Golden Visa). For non-residents, opening a UAE account requires physical presence and 2–4 weeks.

THE HOTEL

Where to stay at Wynn Al Marjan Island

On-property is the correct choice for serious players. Finishing at 3am and being in your room 4 minutes later — versus 50 minutes in a car — is a different experience repeated across every session of a 7-night trip.

Standard / Deluxe	Entry tier. Appropriate for short stays (1–3 nights) or players expecting a host comp upgrade.
Executive Suite	Minimum for a serious trip of 5+ nights. Separate living area, premium views, enhanced bathroom.
Salon Suite +	For 10+ night stays or top-tier players. Butler service, priority amenity access, dedicated host.
Private Villas (22)	The absolute top tier. Private entrance, dedicated butler, personalised arrival. Access through VIP programme — not standard booking channels. Felt manages this conversation for qualifying clients.

Opening period note: Accommodation for Q1 2027 should be confirmed by Q4 2026 at the latest. The opening of the UAE's first casino will be a global event. Supply is finite.

What to expect at Wynn Al Marjan Island

Wynn has a strong and consistent poker track record. Wynn Las Vegas operates one of the most respected poker rooms in the US. The Al Marjan property will serve an international mix — European, Russian, Chinese, and Middle Eastern players — that does not exist at any single property elsewhere.

Expected cash games:

No-Limit Hold'em	\$2/\$5 · \$5/\$10 · \$10/\$20 as standard floor games. Higher stakes by arrangement.
Pot-Limit Omaha	Expected given European and Russian player demand.
Mixed games	Plausible given the international player mix at the high end.
Private games	Off-floor high-stakes private room facilitation — standard Wynn practice.

Tournaments: Major series (WPT, high-roller events) will target Wynn Al Marjan Island from year one. The first international poker tournament at the UAE's first casino will be a landmark event. Prize pools at inaugural events in new jurisdictions tend to be elevated.

"Players who want to be at the first major event should have their infrastructure arranged before the tournament is announced — not after."

UAE GOLDEN VISA

10-year residency and zero tax on winnings

The UAE Golden Visa provides 10-year renewable residency without requiring a UAE employer or national sponsor. For players who intend to visit regularly or make the UAE a primary base, it removes the visa question permanently and makes UAE banking significantly simpler.

Why players pursue it:

- **Zero personal income tax.** No UAE tax on poker or casino winnings as a UAE resident.
- **No tourist visa for each trip.** Reside and travel freely on the residency visa.
- **UAE bank account access** — straightforward as a resident, complex as a non-resident.
- **Family included** — spouse and dependent children can be sponsored under the same application.

Main qualifying route	UAE real estate investment of AED 2M (~\$545,000 USD) or above.
Alternative route	UAE freezone company establishment.
Processing time	4–8 weeks when managed correctly.
Validity	10 years, renewable.

Al Marjan Island	Property investment on the island qualifies and provides on-site accommodation.
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Concierge for poker and casino players

Felt is purpose-built for serious players travelling to Wynn Al Marjan Island. It is not a generalist travel agent. The service covers every logistical layer of a casino trip so that the player's attention is on the game, not the logistics.

Private Transfers	Fixed-price, driver confirmed before you fly. DXB, RKT, AUH and helicopter on request.
Hotel Booking	Wynn rooms and suites at the right tier. VIP coordination where relevant.
Visa Management	Assessment and processing for all nationalities requiring advance arrangement.
Banking & Cash Flow	Pre-trip transfer routing, source of funds preparation, UAE bank introductions.
Golden Visa	Full application management from qualifying route to stamped visa.
In-Trip Support	Felt on WhatsApp throughout your stay. Restaurants, additional transfers, anything that comes up.
VIP Coordination	Pre-arrival introduction to Wynn player relations. Host relationship setup for qualifying players.
Event Planning	Tournament trip coordination: hotel, transfer, and logistics around specific event windows.

Start the conversation

One WhatsApp message covers your full pre-trip setup: visa category, banking preparation, accommodation, and transfer. Response within 4 hours during UAE business hours.

WhatsApp: +971 55 408 3685

Waitlist: feltmembers.com/#waitlist

Web: feltmembers.com

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