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THE TBY GUIDE  
TO KUWAIT

## Introduction

**K**uwait, a strategic hub in the Gulf and a rising player in the global economy, offers a wealth of opportunities for investors, entrepreneurs, and corporate professionals. With one of the world's largest sovereign wealth funds, a strong financial sector, and ambitious development plans under Vision 2035, the country is rapidly modernizing its business landscape. Positioned at the crossroads of international trade, Kuwait serves as a gateway to both Gulf and Asian markets, with growing sectors in logistics, technology, and renewable energy complementing its well-established oil and gas industry.

This guide is designed for executives and entrepreneurs exploring opportunities, consultants working on in-country projects, and business professionals attending conferences or trade fairs. It covers Kuwait's key business districts, investment sectors, major networking events, visa and entry requirements, business etiquette, and practical tips on banking, transportation, and accommodation.

Whether you're considering long-term investment or a short-term business visit, this guide serves as your introduction to the opportunities Kuwait offers in 2025. If you need deeper insights, feel free to reach out to our team at [kuwait@thebusinessyear.com](mailto:kuwait@thebusinessyear.com)—leveraging local expertise and connections can be the key to success in Kuwait's evolving business environment.



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## Where to do business

### *Kuwait City*

#### *The Financial and Corporate Capital*



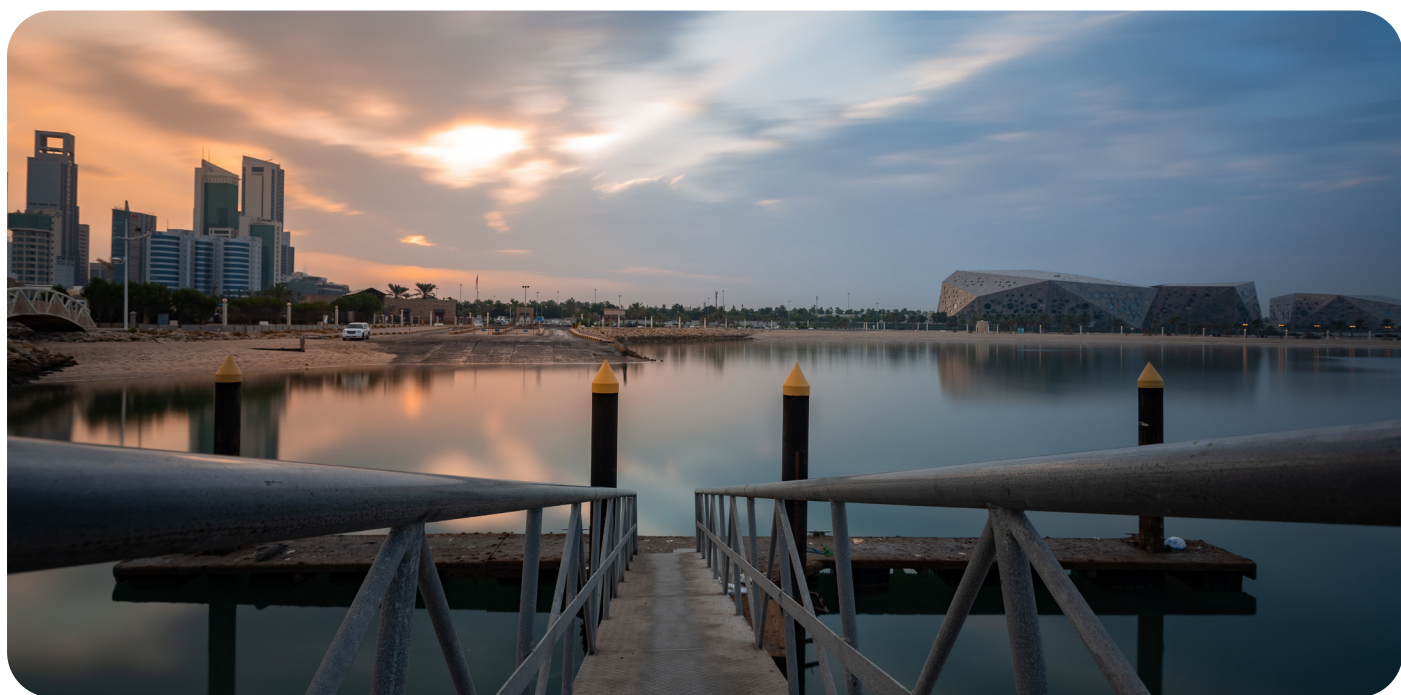
**K**uwait City is not only the political and economic capital of the country but also a dynamic hub for commerce and investment in the Gulf region. Home to key government institutions, multinational corporations, and major financial entities, the city serves as the center of Kuwait's business ecosystem. Its modern skyline, featuring iconic skyscrapers such as Al Hamra Tower and the Kuwait Financial Centre, reflects the country's commitment to economic growth and innovation. The commercial sector is thriving, with bustling shopping districts, luxury retail spaces, and business-friendly infrastructure designed to support both local enterprises and international investors.

The financial sector is particularly strong, with institutions like the Kuwait International Financial Centre and the Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA) driving regional economic activity. Boursa Kuwait, the country's stock exchange, is headquartered in the city, making it a key destination for financial professionals and investors. Business travelers benefit from a well-connected urban environment, with high-end hotels, fine dining establishments, and exclusive networking opportunities. The city's strategic location and advanced infrastructure make it an attractive base for companies looking to expand within the Gulf and beyond.

## Where to do business

### *Shuwaikh*

#### *Kuwait's Industrial and Trade Hub*



**L**ocated west of Kuwait City, Shuwaikh is the country's primary industrial and logistics hub, playing a vital role in Kuwait's trade and supply chain network. At its core is Shuwaikh Port, one of the busiest and most strategically important ports in the region, facilitating the movement of goods between Kuwait and international markets. The port handles a vast range of cargo, from consumer goods to industrial equipment, making it an essential gateway for imports and exports.

Beyond the port, Shuwaikh is home to a diverse range of industries, including manufacturing plants, warehousing facilities, and logistics firms that support the country's growing economy. The area is also seeing rapid growth in e-commerce fulfillment, with companies investing in distribution centers to meet rising demand for online shopping. With ongoing infrastructure upgrades and its proximity to major highways and Kuwait City, Shuwaikh continues to strengthen its position as a key driver of Kuwait's industrial and commercial growth.

## Where to do business

### *Ahmadi*

#### *The Energy Capital*



As the heart of Kuwait's oil and gas industry, Ahmadi plays a crucial role in the country's energy sector. It is home to Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) and its subsidiaries, which oversee exploration, production, refining, and petrochemical activities. The city's infrastructure is designed to support large-scale energy operations, with oil refineries, processing plants, and research facilities driving innovation and efficiency in hydrocarbon production.

Ahmadi is also a key hub for professionals in energy production, engineering, and infrastructure development. The area hosts a skilled workforce, including engineers, geologists, and technical specialists, who contribute to Kuwait's position as a leading oil exporter. With ongoing investments in refinery expansions and environmental sustainability initiatives, Ahmadi remains at the forefront of Kuwait's energy sector, balancing economic growth with modernization and technological advancements.

## Sectors of interest

*Kuwait's economy is heavily reliant on oil, though efforts are underway to diversify into sectors like finance, real estate, and infrastructure.*

### Oil & Gas

➔ Kuwait boasts some of the world's largest oil reserves, and the oil sector continues to be the cornerstone of the country's economy. The Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) plays a pivotal role in managing and expanding the nation's oil resources, with ongoing investments in oil production, refining, and petrochemical projects. These developments create significant opportunities in a range of industries, including engineering, technology, energy services, and infrastructure.



### Finance & Investment

Kuwait's financial sector is one of the most developed in the region, with a well-established reputation for stability and sophistication. Boursa Kuwait, Islamic banking, asset management, and fintech are all growing rapidly, driven by strong regulatory frameworks and technological advancements. The Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA), one of the world's largest sovereign wealth funds, plays a key role in global finance, strategically investing in diverse international markets to enhance the country's financial standing.



## Infrastructure & Real Estate

Kuwait's Vision 2035 includes major projects like Mubarak Al-Kabeer Port, Silk City, and the Kuwait Metro, aimed at making the country a regional trade and financial hub. These developments create lucrative opportunities in construction, engineering, and real estate while boosting transportation and smart city technology. Kuwait's infrastructure expansion will drive long-term economic growth.



## Technology & Innovation

Kuwait is investing in smart cities, e-commerce, and cybersecurity to accelerate digital transformation. Government-backed incubators and accelerators support innovation in fintech, AI, and renewable energy. With tech hubs and increased funding, Kuwait is positioning itself as a regional leader in entrepreneurship.



## Logistics & Trade

Kuwait's strategic location and well-developed ports position it as a key gateway to Gulf and Asian markets, facilitating trade and commerce across the region. The logistics sector is experiencing significant growth, driven by investments in port infrastructure, free zones, and e-commerce fulfillment centers. Major initiatives, such as the expansion of Mubarak Al-Kabeer Port and the development of logistics hubs, are enhancing Kuwait's role as a regional trade and distribution center, attracting both local and international businesses.





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