



WeRide Secures World's First City-level Fully Driverless Robotaxi Permit Outside the U.S.

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- *Fully driverless Robotaxi rides to start in Abu Dhabi*
- *The latest permit enables WeRide Robotaxi services in Abu Dhabi to achieve financial breakeven on unit economics*

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, Nov. 17, 2025 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- WeRide (NASDAQ: WRD, HKEX: 0800.HK), a global leader in autonomous driving technology, has been granted a permit to conduct **fully driverless Robotaxi commercial operations**, marking it as one of the first companies to receive a **city-level commercial permit for Level 4 autonomous driving issued outside the United States (U.S.)**, and the first international company to achieve this milestone in the UAE.

WeRide Robotaxis in Abu Dhabi



WeRide Robotaxis in Abu Dhabi

WeRide Robotaxi GXR in Abu Dhabi



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The permit, granted on October 31, 2025, authorizes WeRide's Robotaxis to **operate commercially without an on-board safety driver**. Commercial operations will start on the **Uber** and **TXAI** platforms in **Abu Dhabi**, with further details to be communicated soon.

WeRide's permit application received the necessary approvals following a thorough evaluation process. In July 2023, the company was granted the UAE's first national license for all types of self-driving vehicles, authorizing autonomous testing and operation on public roads across the country, subject to emirate-level approvals.

Under the guidance of relevant authorities, WeRide completed a rigorous testing process that led to the approval for fully driverless commercial operations. The clear standards and collaborative approach helped ensure that operations complied with local regulations, with the approval demonstrating the government's confidence in WeRide's autonomous driving technology.

WeRide has been operating Robotaxis with **TXAI** in Abu Dhabi since **2021**. In December 2024, WeRide and Uber launched their Robotaxi ride-hailing partnership in Abu Dhabi — the largest commercial Robotaxi service outside the U.S. and China. The partnership expanded in July 2025 to cover about **half of Abu Dhabi's core areas**, including Al Reem and Al Maryah. Together with its partners, WeRide plans to extend services to cover most of Abu Dhabi city core by the end of 2025.

As of October 2025, WeRide Robotaxis have accumulated close to **one million kilometers** in Abu Dhabi. The latest permit removes the requirement for an in-vehicle safety officer, enabling WeRide Robotaxi services in Abu Dhabi to achieve financial breakeven on unit economics.

Since Q2 2025, WeRide has been conducting fully driverless Robotaxi testing in Abu Dhabi to validate reliability ahead of commercial deployment, working closely with the ITC through a rigorous safety and regulatory approval process.

This milestone supports WeRide's broader plan to expand its Middle East fleet to **1,000 Robotaxis by 2026**, and ultimately deploy **tens of thousands of Robotaxis by 2030**.



WeRide Robotaxi GXRs in Abu Dhabi

About WeRide

WeRide is a global leader and a first mover in the autonomous driving industry, as well as the first publicly traded Robotaxi company. Our autonomous vehicles have been tested or operated in over 30 cities across 11 countries. We are also the first and only technology company whose products have received autonomous driving permits in seven markets: China, the UAE, Singapore, France, Saudi Arabia, Belgium, and the US. Empowered by the smart, versatile, cost-effective, and highly adaptable WeRide One platform, WeRide provides autonomous driving products and services from L2 to L4, addressing transportation needs in the mobility, logistics, and sanitation industries. WeRide was named to Fortune's 2025 Change the World and 2025 Future 50 lists.

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Safe Harbor Statement

This press release contains statements that may constitute "forward-looking" statements pursuant to the "safe harbor" provisions of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements can be identified by terminology such as "will," "expects," "anticipates," "aims," "future," "intends," "plans," "believes," "estimates," "likely to," and similar statements. Statements that are not historical facts, including statements about WeRide's beliefs, plans, and expectations, are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties. Further information regarding these and other risks is included in WeRide's filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. All information provided in this press release is as of the date of this press release. WeRide does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement, except as required under applicable law.

Photos accompanying this announcement are available at

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