



Alexander Brown

SENIOR PARTNER & CO-FOUNDER

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Years of Practice	21+ years

PRACTICE FOCUS

- Real Estate
- Immigration & Residency
- Employment Law
- Family Law
- Inheritance & Succession Planning

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Alexander Brown co-founded Crownstone Advocates in 2007, bringing a Gulf-side perspective to the firm from its earliest days and helping lay the groundwork for its 2013 expansion into Dubai. He advises developers, family offices and individual investors on UAE real estate transactions, Golden Visa qualification, and corporate relocation structuring, and has advised on freehold and off-plan transactions across Dubai and Abu Dhabi totalling over AED 1.2 billion.

His work regularly sits at the intersection of two questions clients rarely separate cleanly themselves — where they will hold property, and where they and their family will actually live — which is why his practice spans real estate, immigration, and family structuring rather than treating them as three separate instructions. That combination showed up directly in a recent matter coordinating a Dubai waterfront acquisition for a European investor consortium alongside, for a different client, a parallel Malta citizenship and UAE Golden Visa relocation for a technology-sector family.

APPROACH TO CLIENT WORK

Alexander treats a property or relocation instruction as unfinished until the paperwork actually reflects how the client intends to live or invest, not just what a developer's standard contract assumes. On real estate files that means catching the lease or off-plan payment irregularities before exchange rather than after, and on immigration files it means running related applications for an entire family in parallel rather than sequentially, so one household's relocation doesn't stall waiting on a single form.

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

- LLM in Real Estate Law, University of Reading (2006)
- LLB, American University in Dubai (2003)
- Dubai Legal Affairs Department, 2005

HONORS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- Real Estate Lawyer of the Year – Dubai Legal Awards (2022)
- Who's Who Legal – Real Estate

NOTABLE MATTERS

- Advised on the AED 480M off-plan acquisition and freehold structuring of a Dubai waterfront development for a European investor consortium.
- Secured Malta citizenship by naturalisation for exceptional services and UAE Golden Visa qualification in parallel for a technology-sector family relocating from outside the EU.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Golden Visas and Family Offices: Structuring Relocation the Right Way, Dubai Legal Affairs Bulletin (2023)
- Off-Plan Risk in the Post-2022 Dubai Market, Gulf Real Estate Review (2024)