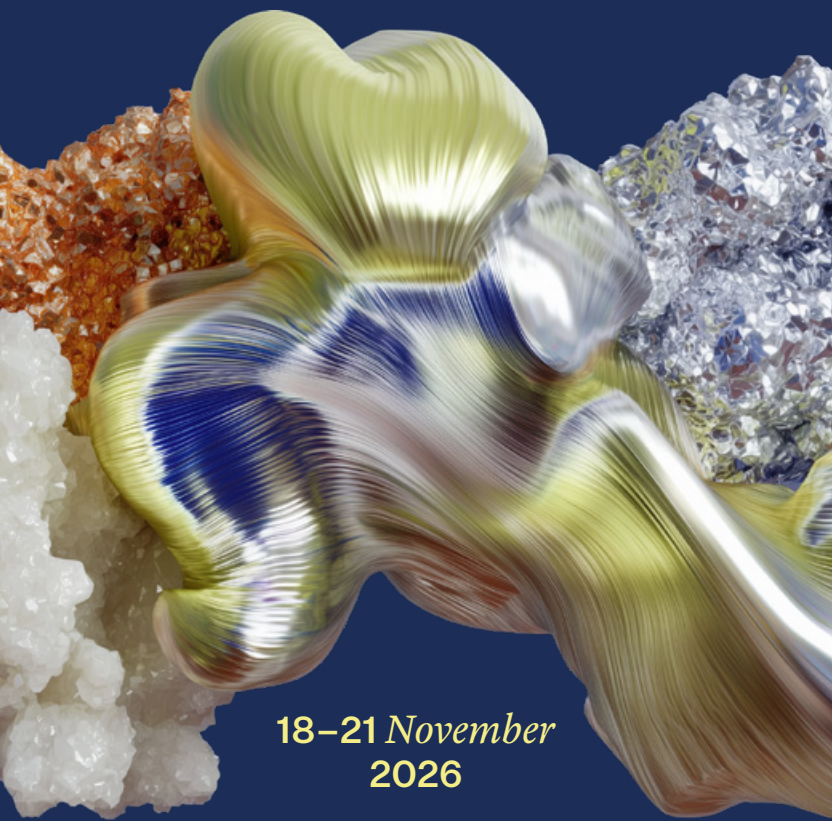
Dubai Future Week

your guide *to the* future



18–21 *November* 2026

for the human *of the* future



it's *not* personal? *actually*, it is.

Welcome to

Dubai Future Week

An initiative by the **Dubai Future Foundation.**

We think the future is deeply personal. For all the technology changing around us, humans haven't changed all that much. We still want to be loved. We still want to feel useful. We still worry about our children and whether they'll have a better life than we did. We still think about purpose, health, belonging and what we'll leave behind.

Think about it: What's changing isn't human nature. It's the world we're trying to be human in, and how we approach those same hopes, fears and questions.

Dubai Future Week is about that changing world: how we'll live, think, innovate, feel and do business in the decades ahead.

Because the future isn't really about technology. It's about us.



for the **human** *of the* **future**

rules *for the* future

01 **Stay curious.**
It didn't actually kill the cat.

02 **Question the obvious.**
No judgement.

03 **Don't just talk about the future.**
Build it.

04 **Make room for the unexpected.**

05 **Listen to people you disagree with.**

06 **Technology is never the whole story.**

07 **Ask what this means for us as humans.**

08 **Let's agree to mention Agentic AI only when it matters.**

09 **Look beyond the next five years.**
There's a 10,000-year clock being built right now.

10 **There is never only one future.**

11 **The future belongs to you, not just your grandkids.**

12 **Leave with more questions than you arrived with.**

Dubai Future Week

four *days*
a lot to think about

18–21 *November* 2026

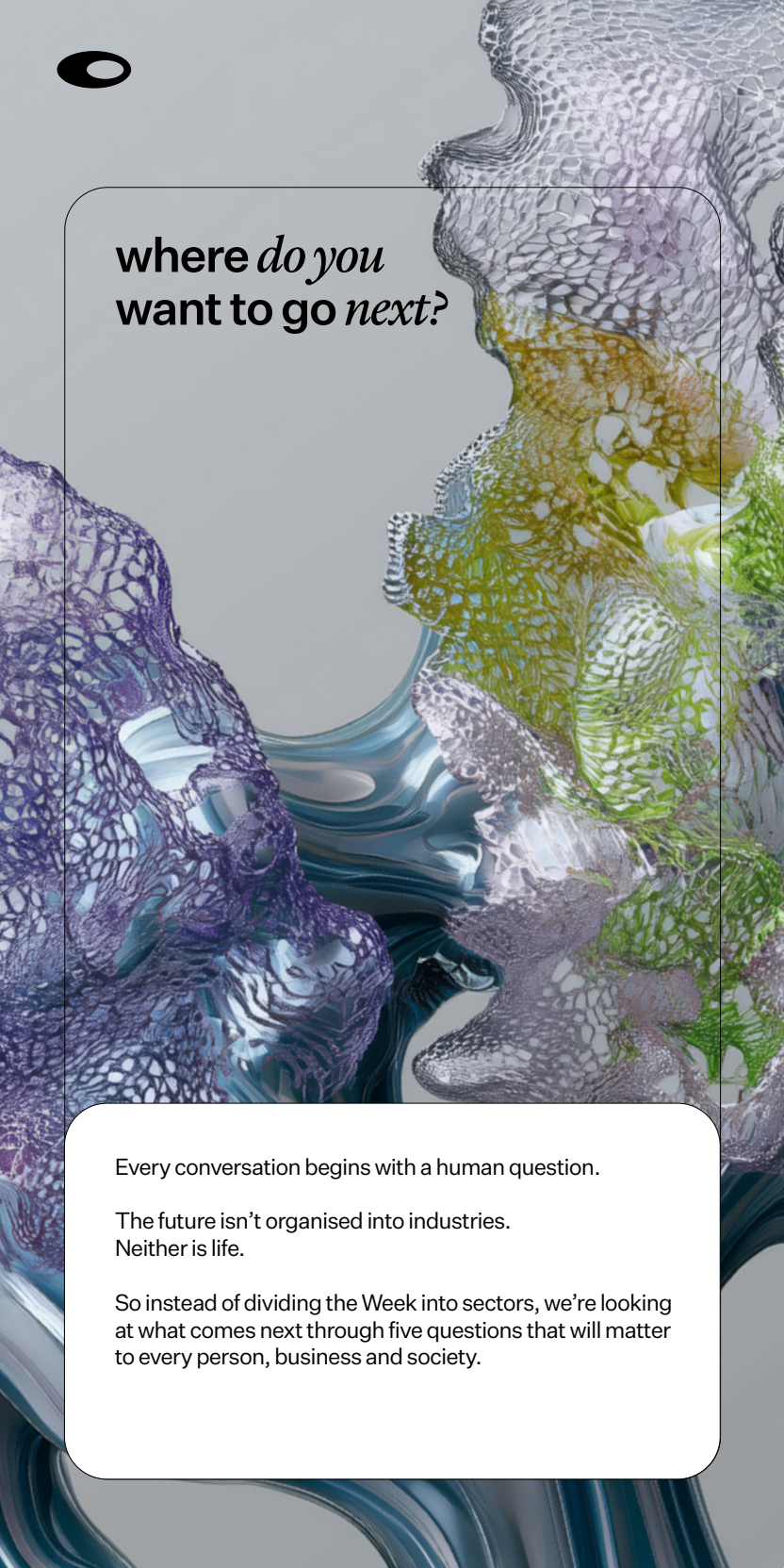


5 ways to look at the future
9 ways to experience it
10,000+ people to discuss it with

Expect big conversations and small ones. Prototypes and pitches. Scientists and artists. Policymakers and founders. Robots and researchers. Workshops, competitions, experiments, exhibitions, dinners and things that don't fit neatly into any of those categories.

you *don't need* to see everything.
you *do need* to see something that *changes your mind.*

where *do you* want to go *next?*



Every conversation begins with a human question.

The future isn't organised into industries.
Neither is life.

So instead of dividing the Week into sectors, we're looking at what comes next through five questions that will matter to every person, business and society.

how we'll *live?*

Home, cities and the world we're building. How will we move, eat, travel and live together? And what happens when our homes and cities start anticipating what we need?

how we'll *think?*

When knowledge is everywhere and machines can reason alongside us, what becomes uniquely valuable about the way humans think and learn?

how we'll *innovate?*

From machines that work alongside us to scientific breakthroughs that change what's possible – what are we building, and why?

how we'll *feel?*

Longer lives. Healthier bodies. New relationships with food, ageing, consciousness and ourselves. But what will actually make us feel better?

how we'll *do business?*

What will we own and invest in? What will org structures look like? How will we work? And what holds value when everything changes?

It's *five* questions, but there's *billions* of possible *answers*.

there *is* more than *one* way *into* the future

You could sit in an auditorium all day.
But where's the fun in that?



the big stage



For the questions too big for small talk.

The biggest conversations of the Week across multiple locations. Global leaders, scientists, thinkers, innovators and unexpected voices tackle the ideas changing our lives through keynotes, debates, confessionals, reveals and major announcements.

the prototype floor



The future. See it.

More than 100 selected prototypes from some of the brightest minds and universities around the world come to Dubai. These are real innovations being built to solve real problems.

the pitch



Good ideas need more than applause.

Promising UAE-based founders pitch live while investors, corporates and government are in the room looking for what comes next.

Around the competition, workshops, roundtables and conversations create opportunities for capital, partnerships, pilots and growth. We're also bringing Shark Tank Dubai for a live finale!

the policy room



Who writes the rules for things that don't exist yet?

Behind closed doors, policymakers and experts tackle questions that tend to arrive before the answers do.

Can regulation move as quickly as innovation? What risks are governments not seeing yet? Who owns something created with AI? How do we make policy for futures we haven't experienced?

the challenge



Talking is easy. Prove it.

AI practitioners. Robotics teams. Builders. Problem-solvers. The Challenge puts talent to the test through live competitions where what you can actually do matters more than what you can say. We've got our flagship prompt engineering competition, AI Grandmaster, challenging 20 elite AI practitioners in front of a live audience. And on the final day, robots take over. The Emirates Robotics Competition brings 10 top university teams to put their autonomous robots through a real-world test.

offstage



Sometimes, good conversation needs smaller rooms.

A Breakfast Briefing by the Financial Times. A Peer Foresight Group gathering. A book corner. A Women of the Future gathering. A Designing the Future Workshop by Dubai Design Lab. A Learning Centre by Dubai Future Academy. Specialist symposiums. Masterclasses, workshops and immersive experiences create space to go deeper, learn something new and actually talk to the person sitting next to you. See our website to sign up.

500 future minds



500 people. One city. What next?

A one-day gathering bringing together 500 people from Dubai's future-driven sectors to look at what their industries could become. Then comes the important part: committing to what they'll actually do about it.

the district

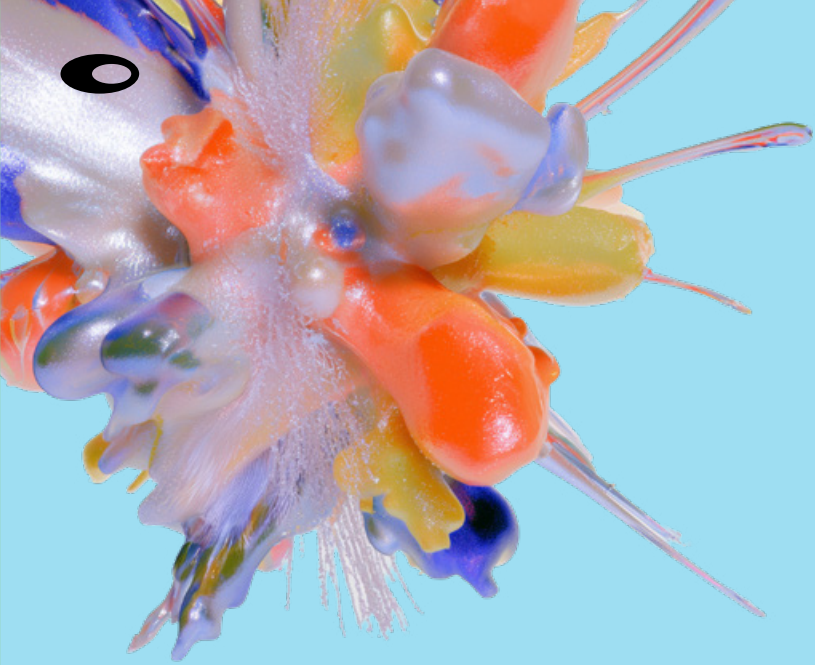


The future escapes the conference room.

See the Colour of the Future with Pantone. Smell it with Byredo. Capture it on film with Flick Cameras and Analog the Room. Think differently with PAPER by the HUNTR, The Week by Dubai Future Foundation and a special edition of the Financial Times. Touch, taste, talk, shop and maybe discover something you didn't expect to feel.

Dubai Future Week





worth *missing* something else for

Your calendar is about to become a negotiation.
Here are a few things worth fighting for.

S✦T✦A✦R✦S

The **Science, Technology, Arts and Research Summit** brings researchers, scientists, technologists and artists into the same conversation around one big question: what makes us human?

AI meets biology. Neuroscience meets robotics. Psychology meets art. Across five scientific pillars - AI, biology, neuroscience, robotics and psychology - STARS explores the body, consciousness and feeling, creativity, work and purpose, identity and the self.

Through talks, poster sessions, art and tech exhibitions, theatre, immersive experiences, satellite events and collision dinners, it asks what machines can't yet feel, whether machines can make meaning, what happens to human purpose when machines can do more, and ultimately: what makes you, you?

100 ideas that went way beyond a PPT

100 selected prototypes from leading universities around the world arrive in Dubai with one ambition: turn groundbreaking ideas into tangible solutions that can improve lives.

Dates: November 18–21
Location: The Prototype Floor

Shark Tank in the house!

Somebody in this room might build the next big company, brought to you by Shark Tank Dubai.

Founders pitch. Investors listen. Corporates look for solutions. Government meets the ecosystem.

Date: November 21
Location: The Pitch

AED 1 million goes to the AI Grandmaster

Twenty elite AI practitioners. Live builds. Elimination rounds. One title. AI Grandmaster brings some of the world's most talented AI builders to Dubai to compete live for AED 1 million: testing not just prompts, but orchestration, product thinking, integration and measurable outcomes.

Date: November 18
Location: The Challenge

Shhh. The robot is in the library

This year's Emirates Robotics Challenge sounds simple: build an autonomous library assistant that can identify books and deliver them. It isn't.

Teams must master perception, grasp planning, navigation and autonomy using the same robotic platform: making the software, not the hardware, the differentiator.

Date: November 21
Location: The Challenge



Experiences:

Things you won't *find* on a stage

Marshmallow Laser Fest

An immersive audiovisual journey inside the human body, guided by the voice of Cate Blanchett. Following a single breath as oxygen moves through the cardiovascular and respiratory systems to our cells, the experience uses scientific data and blood-flow simulations to reveal the invisible processes that sustain life – and our connection to the wider living world.

Dates: November 18–21
Location: STARS

Are You Well?

The Sandy Times invites you to check in with yourself. Take a quick, playful test exploring your physical, mental, emotional and social wellbeing, then see how your answers compare with how well you thought you were doing.

Dates: November 18–21
Location: Courtyard District

The Learning Centre

Confused by the future? Excellent place to start.
Hands-on courses, practical workshops and interactive sessions designed to make emerging technologies something you can understand. Make sure to book on the Dubai Future Week app before you head there.

Dates: November 18–21
Location: Offstage – The Learning Centre

MIT Senseable City Lab: Open Lab

A glimpse into cutting-edge urban technologies, mobility innovation and smart-city research, including work that has not yet been presented publicly.

Date: November 19
Location: STARS

the humans thinking *about* humans of *the* future

See all these speakers and many more inspiring, insightful voices at Dubai Future Week's Big Stage.



Ma Yansong
MAD Architects



Carlo Ratti
MIT



Amy Webb
Future Today Institute



Tom Gruber
Humanistic.AI



Stefi Troguet
WYLD



Kaname Hayashi
GROOVE X

scan for **the agenda**

the future *needs* lunch, bites *and* snacks

You cannot rethink the world on an empty stomach. Across the District, food becomes part of the Week, with local F&B, curated concepts and places to stop, recharge and continue whatever argument you started in the last session.

HUDSON & RYE
Fynd DFB
feels
BOLLE BOLLE
brew
1990
BARID | بارد
dalia bagel bar + coffee
كلتشر ديلي CULTURE DELI
DIME
TRIO
TWST DUBAI
SOIL©

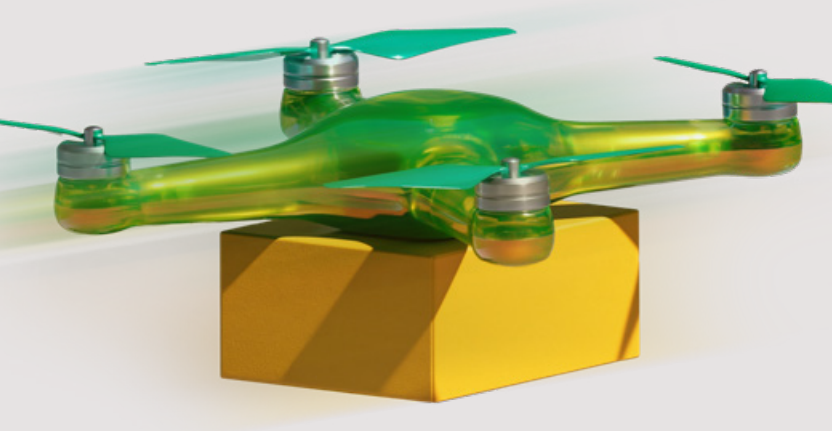


our delivery *has* landed

Witness the global launch of Keeta Drone's M-Drone 4L at Dubai Future Week!
Catch live drone deliveries every 30 minutes, daily from **10:00 AM** to **5:30 PM.**

Watch Keeta Drone lower packages directly to the delivery point, located at The Courtyard, Emirates Towers, Outdoors in The District with exciting giveaways.

keeta drone



Dubai Future Week

and here's the *things* you *need* to know

WHEN?
18–21 *November* 2026

WHERE?
Emirates Towers *and* the Museum of the Future

WHAT TIME?
9:00 am – 10:00 pm

WHERE'S MY BADGE?
at the Dubai Future Week House *in* Emirates Towers

HOW DO I GET THERE?
Dubai Metro *and* Dubai Taxi *are your* best bets

NEED A HUMAN?
Call 800 2071
Email humans@dubaifutureweek.com

Or you can find our Volunteers across the event.

@dubaifuture
#DubaiFutureWeek

thank you, partners

strategic *partners*

OMNIYAT

RTA

مدينة إكسبو دبي
EXPO CITY DUBAI

بلدية دبي
Dubai Municipality

EGA

concept *partners*

Meta

DIFC

غرفة دبي
DUBAI CHAMBER
DIGITAL الرقمية

Al-Futtaim الفطيم

XPANCEO

Uber

keeta drone

دبي للإعلام
DUBAI MEDIA

media *partners*

FT LIVE

FAST COMPANY
MIDDLE EAST

MONOCLE

DUBAI دبي
معاً في دبي

PAPER
by the HUNTR

ARN

dubaieye 103.8

الخليجية
Alkhaleejiya 1009

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سماشي
smashi

Dubai Future Week



DFOW26

the **future**
gets **real**





SCAN FOR AGENDA

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