

# Chinese firm tests electric flying taxi in Dubai

October 10 2022

---



A XPeng X2, an electric flying taxi developed by the Guangzhou-based XPeng, Inc's aviation affiliate, is tested in front of the Marina District in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Monday, Oct. 10, 2022. Monday's demonstration was held with an empty cockpit, but the company says it carried out a manned flight test last year of the two-passenger vehicle. Credit: AP Photo/Kamran Jebreili

A Chinese firm tested out an electric flying taxi in Dubai on Monday, offering a glimpse of futuristic technology that could one day whisk people through cities high above any traffic.

The XPeng X2, developed by the Guangzhou-based XPeng Inc's aviation affiliate, is one of dozens of flying car projects around the world. Only a handful have been successfully tested with passengers on board, and it will likely be many years before any are put into service.

Monday's demonstration was held with an empty cockpit, but the [company](#) says it carried out a manned flight test in July 2021.

The sleekly designed vehicle can carry two passengers and is powered by a set of eight propellers. The company says it has a top speed of 130 kilometers (80 miles) per hour.

Unlike [airplanes](#) and [helicopters](#), eVTOL, or "electric vertical takeoff and landing," vehicles offer quick point-to-point personal travel, at least in principle.



A man looks at the XPeng X2, an electric flying taxi developed by the Guangzhou-based XPeng, Inc's aviation affiliate, being tested in front of the Marina District in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Monday, Oct. 10, 2022. Monday's demonstration was held with an empty cockpit, but the company says it carried out a manned flight test last year of the two-passenger vehicle. Credit: AP Photo/Kamran Jebreili



A XPeng X2, an electric flying taxi developed by the Guangzhou-based XPeng, Inc's aviation affiliate, is tested in front of the Marina District in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Monday, Oct. 10, 2022. Monday's demonstration was held with an empty cockpit, but the company says it carried out a manned flight test last year of the two-passenger vehicle. Credit: AP Photo/Kamran Jebreili





People look at the XPeng X2, an electric flying taxi developed by the Guangzhou-based XPeng, Inc's aviation affiliate, being tested in front of the Marina District in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Monday, Oct. 10, 2022. Monday's demonstration was held with an empty cockpit, but the company says it carried out a manned flight test last year of the two-passenger vehicle. Credit: AP Photo/Kamran Jebreili

The pilot-less vehicles could one day ferry passengers across town high above congested roadways. But the sector still faces major challenges, including [battery life](#), air traffic control and safety, and infrastructure issues.

© 2022 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not

be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without permission.

Citation: Chinese firm tests electric flying taxi in Dubai (2022, October 10) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://techxplore.com/news/2022-10-chinese-firm-electric-taxi-dubai.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.