

REQUIREMENTS FOR PHILIPPINE VISA

Philippine Visa

A visa is an endorsement made on a travel document denoting that the visa application of a foreign national has been properly examined and that the bearer is permitted to proceed to the Philippines and request permission from the Philippine Immigration authorities at the ports of entries to enter the country. The visa issued is not a guarantee that the holder will be automatically admitted into the country, because the admission of foreign nationals into the Philippines is a function of the immigration authorities at the port of entry.

21-day Visa-Free Entry into the Philippines

Nationals from certain countries are allowed to enter the Philippines without a visa for a period of stay of twenty-one (21) days or less. (Please see [List of Countries Whose Nationals are Allowed 21-day Visa-Free Entry into the Philippines.](#))

To be allowed entry into the Philippines, these foreign nationals must have passports that are valid for a period of at least six (6) months beyond the contemplated period of stay. They must also have valid ticket for return journey to port of origin or next port of destination.

Balikbayan Privileges and Benefits

The following are considered *balikbayan* (returning Filipino) travelers to the Philippines:

1. a Filipino citizen who has been continuously out of the Philippines for a period of at least one year;
2. a Filipino overseas worker;
3. a former Filipino citizen; and
4. alien spouse and children of balikbayan as defined in categories 1, 2, and 3 who are **traveling with them**.

The following privileges and benefits are extended to the balikbayan:

- **Visa-free entry** to the Philippines for a period of **one (1) year for foreign passport holders**, with the exception of restricted nationals.

The immigration officer at the port of entry in the Philippines will stamp the one-year stay permit in the passport of the qualified *balikbayan*. Thus, a qualified balikbayan does not need to apply for a visa at the Consulate General.

(Note: Restricted nationals must still obtain an entry visa to the Philippines even if they are married to a Filipino or former Filipino citizens. Nationals of countries not appearing in the [List of Countries Whose Nationals are Allowed 21-day Visa-Free Entry into the Philippines](#) are encouraged to inquire with the Consulate General if they are categorized as "Restricted" before making any travel arrangements.)

- Exemption from travel tax.
- Duty-free shopping privilege of up to US\$2,000.00, provided that shopping must be done within two (2) days upon arrival and purchases must be made personally by the *balikbayan*.

These benefits are available to the *balikbayans* every time they enter the Philippines regardless of their frequent travel. For more information, please read text of [Republic Act 9174 "Balikbayan Law."](#)

Classifications of Philippine Visa

Depending on their intent for their travel to the Philippines, foreign nationals may apply for any of the following visas:

- I. NON-IMMIGRANT VISA
 - o Temporary Visitors – 9(a)
 - o Transients – 9(b)
 - o Seamen and Crew Members – 9(c)
 - o International Treaty Traders and Treaty Investors – 9(d)
 - o Foreign Government Officials – 9(e)
 - o Students – 9(f)
 - o Pre-Arranged Employees – 9(g)
- II. IMMIGRANT VISA
 - o Quota Immigrant
 - o Non-Quota Immigrant
 - wife or husband or the unmarried child under twenty-one (21) years of age of a Philippine citizen - 13(a)
 - a child of alien parents born during the temporary visit abroad of the mother - 13(b)
 - a child born subsequent to the issuance of the immigration visa of the accompanying parent, the visa not having expired - 13(c)
 - a woman who lost her Philippine citizenship because of her marriage to an alien or by reason of the loss of Philippine citizenship by her husband - 13(d)
 - a person previously lawfully admitted into the Philippines for permanent residence, who is returning from a temporary visit abroad to an unrelinquished residence in the Philippines - 13(e)
 - wife or husband or the unmarried child under twenty-one years of age, of an alien lawfully admitted in the Philippines for permanent residence and who is resident therein - 13(f)
 - a natural born citizen of the Philippines, who has been naturalized in foreign country - 13(g)
- III. SPECIAL NON-IMMIGRANT VISA – 47(a)(2)
- IV. SPECIAL RESIDENT RETIREE'S VISA (SRRV)
- V. SPECIAL INVESTOR'S RESIDENT VISA (SIRV)

List of Countries Whose Nationals are Allowed 21-day Visa-Free Entry into the Philippines

Andorra
Angola
Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Bahamas
Bahrain
Barbados
Belgium
Benin
Bhutan
Bolivia
Botswana
Brazil*
Brunei Darussalam
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cambodia
Cameroon
Canada
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Chile
Colombia
Comoros
Congo
Costa Rica
Cote d'Ivoire
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Denmark
Djibouti
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Estonia
Ethiopia
Fiji
Finland
France
Gabon
Gambia
Germany
Ghana
Gibraltar
Greece

Grenada
Guatemala
Guinea
Guinea Bissau
Guyana
Haiti
Honduras
Hungary
Iceland
Indonesia
Ireland
Israel*
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Kenya
Kiribati
Kuwait
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Latvia
Lesotho
Liberia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Madagascar
Malawi
Malaysia
Maldives
Mali
Malta
Marshall Islands
Mauritania
Mauritius
Mexico
Micronesia
Monaco
Mongolia
Morocco
Mozambique
Myanmar
Namibia
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Niger
Norway
Oman
Palau
Panama
Papua New Guinea
Paraguay
Peru
Poland

Portugal
Qatar
Republic of Korea
Romania
Russia
Rwanda
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Samoa
San Marino
Sao Tome and Principe
Saudi Arabia
Senegal
Seychelles
Singapore
Slovakia
Slovenia
Solomon Islands
Somalia
South Africa
Spain
Suriname
Swaziland
Sweden
Switzerland
Thailand
Togo
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Tuvalu
Uganda
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania
United States of America
Uruguay
Venezuela
Vietnam
Zambia
Zimbabwe

**The following nationals are allowed to enter the Philippines without a visa for a stay not exceeding fifty-nine (59) days:*

- 1. Holders of Brazil passports; and*
- 2. Holders of Israel passports*

The following nationals are allowed to enter the Philippines without a visa for a stay not exceeding seven (7) days:

- 1. Holders of Hong Kong Special Administrative (SAR) passports*
- 2. Holders of British National Overseas (BNO) passports*
- 3. Holders of Portuguese Passports issued in Macao*
- 4. Holders of Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) passports*

Important Note: *Nationals who are subjects of deportation/blacklist orders of the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Bureau of Immigration shall not be admitted to the Philippines.*

For more information, please see the following websites:

<http://www.dfa.gov.ph/main/index.php/guidelines-requirements>

<http://www.pcgny.net/2009/visa.html#PhilippineVisa>