

Applying for a Ghanaian visa

GHANA'S VISA REQUIREMENTS

Citizens of the following 28 Countries and Territories are not required to obtain a visa for entry to Ghana for visits up to 90 days (unless otherwise stated).

-  Barbados (60 days)
-  Benin
-  Burkina Faso
-  Cape Verde
-  Côte d'Ivoire
-  Eswatini/ Swaziland
-  Gambia
-  Guinea
-  Guinea-Bissau
-  Jamaica (60 days)
-  Kenya
-  Lesotho
-  Liberia
-  Mali
-  Mauritius (60 days)
-  Niger
-  Nigeria
-  Rwanda
-  Senegal
-  Seychelles
-  Sierra Leone
-  Singapore
-  Sudan
-  Tanzania
-  Togo
-  Trinidad and Tobago (60 days)
-  Uganda
-  Zimbabwe (60 days)

According to the Ghana High Commission in the United Kingdom nationals of Malawi, Namibia and South Africa are also exempt.

Visa is also not required for holders of a Dual Nationality Card issued by Ghana. Pre-arranged visa may be picked up on arrival.

Holders of diplomatic, official, or service passports issued to nationals of Brazil, China, Cuba, Germany, Iran, Namibia, South Africa and holders of diplomatic passports issued to nationals of Turkey do not require a visa for Ghana.

| | Passport required | Return ticket required | Visa required |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Other EU | Yes | yes | Yes |
| USA | yes | Yes | Yes |
| Canadian | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Australian | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| British | yes | Yes | yes |

Visas for Ghana (or entry permits for commonwealth citizens) are required by all nationals referred to in the chart above.

Nationals not referred to in the chart are advised to contact the embassy or high commission to check visa requirements for Ghana.

Requirements and Processes for Nationals not referred to in the chart.

Foreigners applying for a Ghanaian visa must prove their eligibility and will need to produce several documents as part of their application.

In order to apply for a Ghanaian visa, expats have to gather several documents:

- A passport valid for at least 6 months after the planned arrival date in Ghana.
- Completed Visa application forms (available to download from embassy websites, as well as at the Ghana Immigration Service Headquarters or regional offices in Ghana).

Depending on the type of visa you are applying for, the application form includes details such as nationality, expected place of residence in Ghana (hotel or other accommodation), arrival date and proposed length of your stay (flight ticket references), purpose of the stay and amount of money you are travelling with. The following are also required:

- 4 passport sized pictures
- A vaccination certificate against yellow fever (less than 10 years old). All travellers older than 9 months must hold a certificate or have been vaccinated at least 10 days prior to arrival.
- A letter from the company explaining the business reason as well as the company references if the person is travelling on behalf of a company.

Visa application process

You will be charged a visa application fee. The amount varies depending on the type of visa you are applying for. A current list of fees for all visas can be found on the [Ghana Immigration Service website](#).

The usual waiting period to get your visa is around 10 working days. Emergency visas may be issued within 48 hours.

You can apply for a single entry visa or a multiple entry visa. For a regular visa application (which does not include a transit visa), you will have also to choose between a minimum length of 1 month (30 days) visa or a 3 month (90 days) visa. These both have an effect on the visa price - higher fees will be charged for multiple entry and longer visas.

Visa extensions

If you plan to extend your stay in Ghana, you have to renew your visa before its validity ends. If you don't, you will be charged monthly until you receive your new visa (10.00 GH¢ = less than 5 euros and less than US\$6).

In order to extend your stay, you have to reapply to the Immigration Headquarters or regional office in Ghana. You will be asked to provide a written statement including the reason why you wish to stay longer in Ghana, prove you are intending to invest in Ghana and to prove you are planning to return to your home country (flight ticket). You

will also need to provide passport pictures, a completed application form, as well as a valid passport and the processing fee.

Short-term visas

Student, business & tourist visas

Short-stay visas are applicable to most visitors and expats. They concern stays between 2 days and 1 year. You may apply for these visas at an embassy or directly via the Ghana Immigration Service.

It is important to know that ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) citizens may also have to apply for a visa for longer stays in Ghana. Citizens of these countries have the right to enter Ghana without visa for short stays, and can also apply for the right of abode for free.

There are many different types of visa issued by the embassy. The most general and usual ones are business, student, transit and tourist visas.

These visas have common requirements, and also each have additional criteria.

The common requirements are the following:

- Fill in the visa application form
- Pay the fees
- Provide a valid identity card or passport, valid for 6 months minimum from the entry date to Ghana
- Provide 4 passport photographs (not older than 6 months)

Ghanaian business visa

People entering Ghana for business purposes can apply for this visa. As well as the common requirements listed above, you must provide:

- Current bank statements
- Proof of travel insurance coverage
- Proof of hotel / flight reservations

You must also have business references from the company you are working for (including a letter explaining and supporting your application). The company will have to provide several administrative documents (including tax clearance).

This visa is available as a single entry or multiple entry visa and is valid for 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 9 months or 1 year.

The average waiting time is around 10 working days and this non-quota work permit costs US\$500 (€383).

Student visas

This visa allows foreigners to come to Ghana in order to study in a Ghanaian institution.

Applicants must provide:

- A valid passport (or a ECOWAS Travel Document)
- A letter of admission from an approved Ghanaian institution
- Proof they can afford the courses fees
- Proof their courses are approved (from a Ghanaian institution)
- Proof of local accommodation
- External financial support

The cost of this visa is 50 GH¢ (€20, US\$26). ECOWAS citizens must also pay this price, and need to obtain this visa in order to study in Ghana.

Tourist visas for Ghana

This visa does not allow applicants to work or study during their stay. Applicants must be aware this is a limited period visa. In addition, they must ensure they leave Ghana on or before the expiration date stamped on the visa.

Similar to the business visa, applicants can apply for a 1 month, 3 month, 6 month, 9 month or 1 year visa. They have the choice between single-entry and multiple-entry visas.

Transit visa

The transit visa is a 2 day (48 hour) visa. The length cannot exceed this amount of time. This visa allows foreigners to spend time in Ghana between their flights, or to transfer to the port and continue on to another destination.

Holders of this visa are not allowed to remain in Ghana longer than specified on the visa. People moving through Ghana or transferring to a different airport or port may have to indicate their route precisely to the authorities in order to be validated.

This visa takes an average of 10 days to issue and the price reaches US\$20 (€15). ECOWAS citizens do not need to apply for this visa.