



Australian Embassy Bangkok
Visa and Immigration Office

APPLYING FOR A TOURIST VISA TO AUSTRALIA

Who should apply for a Tourist visa?

People intending to visit Australia for tourism or other recreational activities, including holidaying, sightseeing, social or recreational reasons, to visit relatives or friends, or other short term, non-work purposes.

Where can I lodge my application?

- **In person at:** Australian Visa Application Centre (AVAC)
Floor 34, Thai CC Tower, 889 South Sathorn Road, Bangkok (next to Surasak BTS Station)
Further information on the Australian Visa Application Centre is available at www.vfs-au.net
- **By mail or courier:** Visa and Immigration Office
Australian Embassy Bangkok, 37 South Sathorn Road, Bangkok 10120
You **must** enclose pre-paid envelope (EMS) with self-return address with your application.
- **At the Australian Embassy by appointment only** Note: Appointments may not be readily available and are for urgent cases.
Please telephone (02)3446400 between 2.30- 4.30pm, Monday to Friday (except public holiday)

Visa Application Charge (VAC):

Cashiers cheque if purchased within Bangkok, Nonthaburi, Samutprakarn provinces; or Bank Draft if purchased in other provinces within Thailand and payable to 'Australian Embassy Bangkok' in Thai Baht (THB) only. Personal cheques and credit cards are **not** acceptable. Applications with the incorrect THB fee may be returned. The current THB VAC charge is available at <http://www.immi.gov.au/allforms/990i/visa-charges.htm>.

Important things to remember when making an application

Applicants are required to disclose information about all previous visa applications. The provision of false or misleading information in an application could lead to the application being refused.

It is important that you lodge a complete application. A complete application is one that provides all information necessary for a decision to be made. You should support your application with as much information as possible at the time of lodgement as a decision may be made solely on the information that you have provided with your application. You will be advised if an interview is required to assist in finalising your application.

What do I need to provide?

You may be asked to provide further documents or information relating to your particular circumstances after your application has been lodged. The list of supporting documentation below is not exhaustive. You should provide documents certified as true copies of the original, with the exception that we require the **original bankbook**. Documents can be certified as true copies of the original at the Australian Visa Application Centre (AVAC) or at the Amphur District Office. You should also provide an English translation of any document in another language. You may choose to provide original documents and a set of clear copies. All originals will be returned to you after the copies have been certified.

A complete application should include:

- Form 48R for a Tourist visa – completed in English and signed by the applicant
- A non-refundable Visa Application Charge (VAC). See detail under '**Visa Application Charge (VAC)**' above
- Your passport, and photocopy of biodata page (with photo)
 - Passport should be valid for the total period of your stay in Australia, or for a minimum of 6 months
- One recent passport size photo of yourself; attached to the application form
- Thai National Identification card
- Evidence of family (House Registration Certificate), employment and other ties to your country of usual residence
- If visiting or travelling with a relative - evidence of your relationship with the person you are visiting, for example, marriage certificate(s), birth certificate(s), house registration, statement detailing the relationship, or a combination of these documents.

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- Where someone is supporting your application you should provide a letter of invitation and evidence of your relationship with the person, for example: correspondence (emails, letters, messaging), telephone bills, photographs, money transfers, or evidence of their financial support.
- Evidence that you have adequate personal funds, or access to adequate funds to support yourself (and any family members travelling with you) during the period of intended stay, for example, a current bankbook or bank statement with at least 6 months history of transactions. Cash or credit cards are not sufficient evidence of funds. **If you are providing a bankbook, you must provide the original bankbook;** this will be returned to you with your passport.
- If you are employed; evidence of current employment in the form of an original letter from your employer outlining your present position, length of service, salary and period of approved leave. If you are self-employed, you need to provide evidence of business ownership such as business registration or shareholder's certificate.
- Students should present evidence of enrolment in a school or educational institution.
- You should not book airline tickets for travel to Australia unless your visa has been granted. This office cannot assume responsibility for meeting deadlines imposed by an applicant's proposed travel arrangements.

Applicants over 75 years of age

- Will need a health check up (see below)
- Medical insurance to cover your full stay in Australia.

Applicants under 18 years of age

Consent for travel or custody documents:

- An original statement from an Amphur office (Thai Government District Office) giving permission from the non-travelling parent/s or legal guardian/s for the child to travel to Australia; OR
- Form 1229 (available from AVAC or the immigration website www.immi.gov.au) signed by the non-travelling parent/s and witnessed by AVAC.
- If applicable, the following should also be provided:
 - A Por Kor 14 covering non-marital status of the applicant's parents and the custodial circumstances of the applicant; or
 - if the applicant's parents were married, their divorce certificate with memorandum attached; or
 - the Court Orders stating the change of parental power over the applicant.

Do I need to have a health examination?

Generally, applicants for a tourist visa are **not** required to have a medical examination. A medical may be requested if you: are likely to enter a hospital or health care area, including nursing homes, for any purpose

- are over the age of 75
- present any indications you may not meet the health requirement
- wish to stay in Australia for longer than 3 months

The department uses an online health system known as eHealth to record your health examination results and conduct your health assessment. The "E Health" program requires that medical examinations be conducted only after a visa application has been validly lodged with the Embassy. Once the application is lodged, the case officer will provide you with a "Health Assessment" letter (by email, mail or fax). The Panel Doctor will need to see this letter as part of the medical examination process and you should take the letter with you when you go to the Panel Doctor for your examination.

Medical examinations must be undertaken by a doctor from a list of approved doctors provided by the Visa and Immigration Office, Australian Embassy Bangkok. A list of these doctors is on the Department of Immigration and Citizenship website:

<http://www.immi.gov.au/contacts/overseas/thailand/panel-doctors.htm>.

How long will I need to wait for the visa?

You can expect a decision on your application within 5-7 working days from the day you lodge your application. **The processing time may take longer if the application was incomplete at the time of lodgement** or if there are other issues, such as child custody, character concerns relating to previous immigration history or criminal convictions, or if further medical checks are required. If your application is likely to take longer than 7 days, you will be informed of the reason for any delays.

Applications sent by mail or courier, take longer due to additional time required to receive and send documents by mail.

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Australia's modern electronic visa system does not require you to have a visa label placed in your passport to confirm your immigration status and entitlements in Australia. When you check in to fly to Australia, the airline staff will electronically confirm that you have authority to travel to Australia prior to you boarding the aircraft.

The visa is linked to the passport number that you provided in your application. If you obtain a new passport after visa grant, you should advise the department of the new passport details. If you do not provide us with the details of any new passport, you may experience delays at the airport and may be denied permission to board your flight to Australia.

Can I ask another person to deal with the Embassy?

Australian privacy laws prevent this office from responding to enquiries from people not authorised by the applicant. This includes the person providing support to the application. If you want to authorise another person to be able to discuss your application with this office, or receive correspondence about your application, you should indicate this by using a form 956 which must be signed by both applicant and authorised person.

Without a Form 956 we cannot talk about your case to anyone else, including your partner or family members.

For further detailed information, please visit www.immi.gov.au or www.thailand.embassy.gov.au