

GENERAL INFORMATION

ENTRY OF FOREIGNERS

Entry of all foreigners is regulated by the Department of Immigration, Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs, Royal Government of Bhutan.

Nationals of India

Nationals of India are eligible for entry permit on arrival at the port of entry. Individuals must have a passport OR a Voter Identity Card. No other identity documents are accepted.

Indian nationals visiting the country as tourists must obtain prior e-permit.

Nationals of other countries

Nationals of all countries other than India must obtain e-visa prior to entry into Bhutan unless exempted by bilateral agreement.

Visa on Arrival

Nationals of Bangladesh and the Maldives are eligible for visa on arrival. Nationals of Thailand and Switzerland holding diplomatic/official passports are eligible for visa on arrival.

SAARC Visa Exemption Sticker

Nationals of Member States of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) issued with a valid SAARC Visa Exemption Sticker are exempted from obtaining e-visa/entry permit.

Tourists

Any foreigner intending to visit Bhutan as tourist must process their visit through a licensed Bhutanese tour operator. Details are available at the website of the Tourism Council of Bhutan <https://www.tourism.gov.bt/tour-operators>

Employment

Any foreigner intending to work in Bhutan for a duration exceeding 30 days must obtain work authorization from the Department of Labour, Ministry of Labor and Human Resources prior to applying for e-visa/entry permit. Details are available at the website of the Ministry of Labor and Human Resources <https://www.molhr.gov.bt>

Study

Any foreigner intending to study in Bhutan must process for e-visa/entry permit through the institute/college/school prior to travel to Bhutan.

Passport Validity requirements

Passports must have a minimum validity of 6 months from the intended date of departure from Bhutan.

SERVICES

Office: Visa Division

Contact Details:

Contact no: 02-323127(PABX) /338764/337223/330876

Email- twangmo@mohca.gov.bt

Email- nwangchuk@mohca.gov.bt

Email- kdelma@mohca.gov.bt

SERVICE: ISSUANCE OF E-VISA FOR TOURISTS

Eligibility: A foreign national intending to visit the Kingdom as a tourist upon fulfilling the requirement as per the Immigration Act and Rules.

Documents Required:

- e-Visa application routed through Tourism Council of Bhutan.
- a copy of passport.

Turn Around Time: 3 working days after the application has been endorsed by the Tourism Council of Bhutan.

Fee: Visa Fee= Nu. 2500

SERVICE: ISSUANCE OF E-VISA FOR OTHER CATEGORIES

Eligibility: A foreigner intending to visit the Kingdom for employment/official/business upon fulfilling the requirement as per the Immigration Act and Rules.

Documents Required:

- Recommendation letter from the concerned head of the Agency.
- Duly completed Visa Application Form. Form available at <https://www.doi.gov.bt>
- The Department may ask for additional documents during assessment, if required. Please check entry requirement at <https://www.doi.gov.bt> for requirement on each category.

Turn Around Time: 3 working days from the date of payment of applicable fees

Fee: Nu. 2500

SERVICE: ISSUANCE OF E-VISA FOR STUDENTS

Eligibility: A foreigner intending to visit the Kingdom for study upon fulfilling the requirement as per the Immigration Act and Rules

Documents Required and Turn Around Time: Refer visa/entry permit guidelines for student/student exchange program 2020 available at <https://www.doi.gov.bt>

Fee: Nu. 2500

SERVICE: ISSUANCE OF E-VISA FOR INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL PLAYER

Eligibility:

A foreigner intending to visit the Kingdom for study upon fulfilling the requirement as per the Immigration Act and Rules.

Documents Required and Turn Around Time: Refer visa/entry permit guidelines for international professional football player 2019 available at <https://www.doi.gov.bt>

Fee: Nu. 2500

Note:

- Except for personal guest, all visa application must be submitted electronically. For obtaining user credentials, please contact ICT office:
Contact no: 328386 or email at tashidorji@mohca.gov.bt or ndorji@mohca.gov.bt
 - A minimum of 3 working days is required for assessment of visa applications unless otherwise specified. System will not accept applications not meeting minimum duration requirement.
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Office: Service Division

Contact Details:

Contact no: 02-323127(PABX) /330874/331263/330879

Email: kwangmo@mohca.gov.bt

Email: nchogyal@mohca.gov.bt

SERVICE: ISSUANCE OF E-PERMIT FOR STUDENTS

Eligibility: A foreigner intending to visit the Kingdom for study upon fulfilling the requirement as per the Immigration Act and Rules.

Documents Required and Turn Around Time: Refer visa/entry permit guidelines for student/student exchange program 2020 available at <https://www.doi.gov.bt>

Fee: Not Applicable

SERVICE: ISSUANCE OF E-PERMIT FOR INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL PLAYER

Eligibility:

A foreigner intending to visit the Kingdom for study upon fulfilling the requirement as per the Immigration Act and Rules.

Documents Required and Turn Around Time: Refer visa/entry permit guidelines for international professional football player 2019 available at <https://www.doi.gov.bt>

Fee: Not Applicable

SERVICE: ISSUANCE OF ROUTE PERMIT

Documents Required:

- Recommendation letter from employers/ agencies concerned/ Bhutanese counterpart as applicable
- Duly completed Route Permit Application Form. Form available at <https://www.doi.gov.bt>
- Copy of valid Immigration Permit
- Travel itinerary
- The Department may ask for additional documents during assessment, if required.

Turn Around Time: 1 working day from the date of submission of duly completed application.

Fee: Not Applicable

SERVICE: ISSUANCE OF WORK PERMIT

Eligibility: A foreigner intending to visit the Kingdom for employment upon fulfilling the requirement as per the Immigration Act and Rules. The foreign worker should be at least 18 years of age at the time of application for Work Permit.

Documents Required:

- Approval from the Department of Labour, Ministry of Labour and Human Resources.
- Duly completed Work Permit Application Form. Form available at <https://www.doi.gov.bt>
- Duly completed Employer Undertaking form. Undertaking form available at <https://www.doi.gov.bt>
- Duly completed Employee Undertaking. Undertaking available at <https://www.doi.gov.bt>
- Copy of Passport or Voter Identity Card
- Copy of relevant Visa/Entry Permit
- Medical Fitness Certificate issued by a competent government certified medical officer in Bhutan
- Passport size photograph
- The Department may ask for additional documents during assessment, if required.

Work Permit is processed zone wise as follows

Sl.no.	Office/Location	Zones	Contact details
1	Service Division, Thimphu	Arriving by flight	Contact no: 02-323127(PABX) 330874/331263 Email: kwangmo@mohca.gov.bt Email: nchogyal@mohca.gov.bt
2	RIO, Phuentsholing	1. Chukha 2. Thimphu 3. Gasa	Contact no: 05-251584/254447 Email: stobgay@mohca.gov.bt Email: mdhimal@mohca.gov.bt
3	RIO, Samtse	1. Samtse 2. Haa 3. Paro	Contact no: 05-365855 Email: kwangdi@mohca.gov.bt Email: ydorji@mohca.gov.bt
4	RIO, Gelephu	1. Sarpang 2. Tsirang 3. Dagana 4. Wangduephodrang 5. Punakha	Contact no: 06-252140/251837 Email: cthinley@mohca.gov.bt Email: thinleywangmo@mohca.gov.bt

		6. Zhemgang 7. Trongsa 8. Bumthang	
5	RIO, Samdrup Jongkhar	1. Samdrup Jongkhar 2. Pema Gatshel 3. Trashigang 4. Trashi Yangtse 5. Monggar 6. Lhuentse	Contact no: 07-251809 Email: dupchudorji@mohca.gov.bt Email: kloesel@mohca.gov.bt

Turn Around Time: 1 working day from the date of payment of applicable fees

Fee: Card Fee = Nu. 200

Note:

- *Work Permit will only be issued to foreigners that have been cleared for entry into Bhutan for purposes of employment.*
- *The foreigner must come in person to the immigration office to provide biometrics.*

Important information:

- On arrival at the port of entry, the foreigner must produce the passport which was submitted for processing prior visa clearance.
- Visa clearance/Entry Permit alone will not guarantee entry into Bhutan, unless is cleared by an immigration official at the port of entry.
- For foreigners issued with immigration permits, the individual or agency concerned must extend the visa on the passport as per the validity of the immigration permit.
- Change in category of visa or host agency shall require the foreigner to exit the country for at least 15 days.
- Foreigners must present original immigration permits at every checkpoint.

Please visit <https://www.doi.gov.bt> to download immigration forms

Contact details:

Head office

Department of Immigration
Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs
Royal Government of Bhutan
Kawajangsa, Thimphu, Bhutan
Phone: (+975) 2-323127/334798

Office of the Director General

Contact No. :+975-02-333523
sdema@mohca.gov.bt