

GENERAL INFORMATION

ENTRY OF FOREIGNERS

Entry of all foreigners is regulated by the Department of Immigration, Ministry of Home 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.

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 visa/permit application online at <https://visit.doi.gov.bt>.

Non-Tourists Categories

For non-tourist categories, please refer *“Revised list of non-tourist categories of foreigners”* for eligibility and requirements for visa/permit applications at <https://www.doi.gov.bt/?p=2169>

Passport Validity requirements

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

Note:

- Except for personal guest, all visa application must be submitted electronically. The Immigration Services are now accessible through Integrated Citizen Services (ICS) portal at <https://permit.doi.gov.bt> or <https://www.citizenservices.gov.bt>.

For further information or clarification, please contact:

Visa Division at 337223/330876/338764 or email to ltshering@moha.gov.bt for visa services, Service Division at 331529/333873/327042 or email to tphuntsho@moha.gov.bt for permit services during office hours, and

ICT Office at 02-323127(PABX)/328386 or email at tashidorji@tech.gov.bt or ndorji@moha.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.

SERVICES

Office: Visa Division**Contact Details:**

Contact no: 02-323127(PABX)

For Tourists:

Email - rnorbu@moha.gov.bt

For Non-Tourists Categories:

Email- kwangmo@moha.gov.bt

Email- ltshering@moha.gov.bt

Email- kcheki@moha.gov.bt

SERVICE: ISSUANCE OF E-VISA FOR TOURISTS

Eligibility: A foreign national intending to visit the Kingdom of Bhutan as a tourist must fulfill the requirements outlined in the Immigration Act and Rules.

Documents Required:

- Copy of Passport.
- Recent passport size photo.
- Valid travel insurance.
- The Department may ask for additional documents during assessment, if required.

Turn Around Time: 5 working days after the application has been endorsed.

SERVICE: ISSUANCE OF E-VISA FOR NON-TOURISTS CATEGORIES

Eligibility: A foreign national intending to visit the Kingdom of Bhutan under a non-tourist category must fulfill the requirements outlined in the Immigration Act and Rules.

Documents Required:

- Refer “Revised list of non-tourist categories of foreigners” for eligibility and requirements for visa applications under non-tourist categories at <https://www.doi.gov.bt/?p=2169>
- The Department may ask for additional documents during assessment, if required.

Office: Service Division

Contact Details:

Contact no: 02-323127(PABX)

Email: nwangchuk@moha.gov.bt

Email: kdelma@moha.gov.bt

Email: tphuntsho@moha.gov.bt

Email: dorjiz@moha.gov.bt

SERVICE: ISSUANCE OF E-PERMIT FOR TOURISTS

Eligibility: A foreign national intending to visit the Kingdom of Bhutan as a tourist must fulfill the requirements outlined in the Immigration Act and Rules.

Documents Required:

- Copy of Passport/ Voter Identity Card/ Birth Certificate for children below 18 years.
- Recent passport size photo.
- Valid travel insurance.
- The Department may ask for additional documents during assessment, if required.

Turn Around Time: 5 working days after the application has been endorsed.

SERVICE: ISSUANCE OF PERMIT FOR NON-TOURISTS CATEGORIES

Eligibility: A foreign national intending to visit the Kingdom of Bhutan under a non-tourist category must fulfill the requirements outlined in the Immigration Act and Rules.

Note:

Except for personal guest of Bhutanese and students, permit for non-tourist categories shall be facilitated at the port of entry by the respective Regional Immigration Office.

Documents Required for personal guest and students:

- Refer “Revised list of non-tourist categories of foreigners” for eligibility and requirements for visa applications under non-tourist categories at <https://www.doi.gov.bt/?p=2169>
- The Department may ask for additional documents during assessment, if required.

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: A working day from the date of submission of duly completed application.

Office: Regional Immigration Offices

Contact Details:

Sl. No.	Office/Location	Contact No.	Email ID
1	RIO, Phuentsholing	05-252383 (PABX)	jtenzin@moha.moha.gov.bt / stobgay@moha.gov.bt / karmaw@moha.gov.bt / tmsharma@moha.gov.bt / mdhimal@moha.gov.bt
2	RIO, Samtse	05-365237 (PABX)	kpelden@moha.gov.bt / kwangdi@moha.gov.bt / ydorji@moha.gov.bt
3	RIO, Gelephu	06-252119 (PABX)	ksamphel@moha.gov.bt / ksamphel@moha.gov.bt
4	RIO, Samdrup Jongkhar	07-251070 (PABX)	dupchudorji@moha.gov.bt / kloesel@moha.gov.bt

SERVICE: ISSUANCE OF PERMIT FOR NON-TOURISTS CATEGORIES

Eligibility: A foreign national intending to visit the Kingdom of Bhutan under a non-tourist category must fulfill the requirements outlined in the Immigration Act and Rules.

Documents Required:

- Refer “Revised list of non-tourist categories of foreigners” for eligibility and requirements for permit applications under non-tourist categories at <https://www.doi.gov.bt/?p=2169>
- The Regional Immigration Office may ask for additional documents during assessment, if required.

Important information:

- The foreigner must travel with the ID document against which the visa/permit clearance has been issued. If the foreigner intends to travel with a different ID document, he/she must apply for amendment prior to arrival in the country.
- E-visa/e-Permit/clearance alone will not guarantee the right to entry or stay in the Kingdom of Bhutan. Admission into the Kingdom will be determined by immigration officials at the port of entry.
- The foreigner or agency concerned must process for extension of visa/permit before expiry of the visa/permit.
- For visa holders issued with immigration permits, the individual or agency concerned must extend the visa on the passport as per the validity of the immigration permit.
- Foreigners must present original immigration permits at every checkpoint.

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