

VISA / Residing in Japan

Exemption of Visa (Short-Term Stay)

December 26, 2014

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As of December 2014, Japan has taken measures concerning the Visa Exemption Arrangements with 67 countries and regions as the chart below.

Nationals and citizens of those countries and regions shown below are not required to obtain visas to enter Japan when their visits are tourism, commerce, conferences, visiting relatives/ acquaintances, etc. However, when foreign nationals engage in paid activities in Japan, or their periods of stay exceed those stipulated in each country's arrangement of short-term stay, visas will be required to enter Japan.

- Period of Stay

The period of stay granted at the time of the landing permission will be "15 days" for Brunei, Indonesia, and Thailand, and "90 days" for other countries and regions.

67 Countries and Regions for Visa Exemptions (as of December 2014)

Asia	Europe
Brunei (15 days)	Andorra
Indonesia ([Note1])	Austria([Note8])
Malaysia ([Note2])	Belgium
Republic of Korea	Bulgaria
Singapore	Croatia
Thailand ([Note3])(15 days)	Cyprus
Hong Kong([Note4])	Czech Republic
Macao([Note5])	Denmark
Taiwan([Note6])	Estonia
North America	Finland
Canada	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
United States	France
Latin America and the Caribbean	Germany([Note8])
Argentina	Greece
Bahamas	Hungary
Barbados([Note7])	Iceland
Chile	Ireland ([Note8])
Costa Rica	Italy
Dominican Republic	Latvia
El Salvador	Liechtenstein([Note8])
Guatemala	Lithuania
Honduras	Luxembourg
Mexico([Note8])	Malta
Surinam	Monaco
Uruguay	Netherlands
Oceania	Norway
Australia	Poland
New Zealand	Portugal
Middle East	Romania
Israel	San Marino
Turkey([Note7])	Serbia
Africa	Slovakia
Lesotho([Note7])	Slovenia
Mauritius	Spain
Tunisia	Sweden
	Switzerland([Note8])
	United Kingdom([Note8])

[[Note1]] [For nationals of Indonesia \(since December 1, 2014\), visas are not required only for those who have registered ICAO-compliant ePassport to diplomatic missions of Japan in Indonesia \(the embassy, consulates-general, or the consulate\). Validity of the registration is three years period or until the passport expires, whichever comes first.](#)

[[Note2]] For nationals of Malaysia (since July 1, 2013), visas are not required only for holders of ePassport in compliance with ICAO standards. Those who do not hold such ePassport are advised to obtain a visa in advance, otherwise will be strictly examined and may be refused entry to Japan.

[[Note3]] For nationals of Thailand (since July 1, 2013), visas are not required only for holders of ePassport in compliance with ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization) standards.

[[Note4]] For citizens of Hong Kong, visas are not required only for holders of Special Administrative Region (SAR) passport issued by the Hong Kong SAR of the People's Republic of China or British National Overseas (BNO) passports who have the right of residence in Hong Kong.

[[Note5]] For citizens of Macao, visas are not required only for holders of SAR passport issued by the Macao SAR of the People's Republic of China.

[[Note6]] For citizens of Taiwan, visas are not required only for holders of Taiwan passport which includes a personal identification number.

[[Note7]] For nationals of Barbados (since April 1, 2010), Turkey (since April 1, 2011) and Lesotho (since April 1, 2010), visas are not required only for holders of Machine-Readable Passport (MRP) or ePassport in compliance with ICAO standards. Those who do not hold an MRP or ePassport are advised to obtain a visa in advance, otherwise will be strictly examined and may be refused entry to Japan.

[[Note8]] For nationals of those countries with visa exemptions permitting stays of up to 6 months under the bilateral visa exemption arrangements, those who wish to stay in Japan for more than 90 days are required to apply for an extension of the period of stay to the Ministry of Justice (Regional Immigration Bureau) before the period of permitted stay is to expire.

[[Note9]] Nationals of Peru (since July 15, 1995) and Colombia (since February 1, 2004), are advised to obtain a visa in advance, otherwise will be strictly examined and may be refused entry to Japan.