

# Do I need a visa?

Go through the visa wizard on [France Visas site](https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en/web/france-visas/ai-je-besoin-d-un-visa) to know the type of visa you need and the required documents.

If you have stayed in the Schengen Area within the past 6 months please use the Visa Calculator tool to determine the precise number of days remaining for your authorized stay ([online calculator](https://ec.europa.eu/assets/home/visa-calculator/calculator.htm?lang=en))

# Submit A Visa Application

* A travel document (original + copy) in good condition, issued less than 10 years ago, with at least two blank pages, which is valid for at least three months after the date on which you have planned to leave the Schengen Area, or in the event of a long stay, which is valid for at least three months on the date on which the requested visa expires. However, in the event of a duly proven emergency, this final requirement may be waived.
* 2 recent ID pictures in [ISO/IECI format](https://france-visas.gouv.fr/documents/66002/47558890/ISO_IEC_FV_Visa_Photograph_Requirements_EN.pdf/3a830943-2167-47db-b55b-a822225b288a)
* The supporting documents (originals and copy) depending on your situation and your plan

***Important***: Documents in languages other than French or English may be required to be translated into French.

* Your application fees are due upon filing.
* If your home country is eligible, you must fill out the [online application form](https://france-visas.gouv.fr/web/france-visas/ma-demande-en-ligne). You will be guided through the whole process by on-screen explanations.
  + Before validating and printing out your application, you will be asked to create a personal account that includes your email address in order to save your partially- or fully-completed form. After this step, you will receive the list of required supporting documents and have the opportunity to book your appointment.
    - Tutorial : [How to create your account [https://france-visas.gouv.fr/documents/66002/47558264/Icon_External_Link.png/2c61f22c-ad98-4dff-9c23-a6bf920a36bb?t=1487238181280](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o1idAK3UdtI)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o1idAK3UdtI)
    - Tutorial : [Fill online your visa application form [https://france-visas.gouv.fr/documents/66002/47558264/Icon_External_Link.png/2c61f22c-ad98-4dff-9c23-a6bf920a36bb?t=1487238181280](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VmJ7pxgONy8)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VmJ7pxgONy8)
* If your country is not eligible, please check the appropriate procedure on your[country of application page](https://france-visas.gouv.fr/web/france-visas/lieu-de-residence?caller=depotVisas).

# Biometrics

* Any visa applicant aged 12 or older must submit his or her visa application in person.
* If you hold a biometric Schengen visa issued in the past 59 months, your previous biometric data can be re-used.
* Your fingerprints were previously collected as part of an earlier application less than 59 months before the date of your current application.

# Track your application

You can track the progress of your application. For details, go to our [track the progress of your application page.](https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en/web/france-visas/track-your-application-status)  
You will be notified when your passport is ready for collection from the visa centre where you applied. Visa applications are generally processed within 15 days. This period can be extended up to 45 days in particular cases if the examination of the application justifies it.

# The Schengen Area

includes the 26 following States:

* **Member States of the European Union:** Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden;
* **Non-Member States of the European Union:** Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

# Short-stay visa

Issued for Medical,tourism,transit, business trips or family visits.It is not to exceed 90 days over any period of 180 consecutive days  
must go thru the visa wizard to determine the required documents.

# Is a visa always required to enter the Schengen Area?

* The applicant’s nationality;
* Where the applicant holds a valid stay permit for the Schengen Area;
* Where the applicant holds a long- stay permit;
* The foreign national's specific status;

Foreign nationals not required to hold a visa to enter the Schengen Area by virtue of their nationality:

* Citizens of the European Union (EU), European Economic Area (EEE) and Switzerland;
* Nationals of countries listed on the common Schengen list
* Persons eligible for a visa waiver to enter the Schengen Area on the grounds of possession of a resident permit or long-stay visa:
* Holders of a valid residence permit, issued by a Schengen Area state;
* Holders of a valid residence permit, issued by a European Union state bearing the specification �Membre de famille� or �R�sident de longue dur�e CE�;
* Holders of a valid long-stay visa, issued by a Schengen Area state;
* Exemptions to these rules can be granted: Example: Journalists on assignment from the United States continue to be subject to French visa requirements.

# Visa for frequent travelers (Circulation Visa)

multiple-entry visa valid for anywhere from 6 months to 5 years. This visa is commonly referred to as a "circulation visa". (90 days per period of 180 days)

* Provide proof of the need or intention to travel frequently;
* Provide proof of integrity and reliability, particularly via previously granted visas.
* Applicant may apply for a new circulation visa before the valid circulation visa has expired.

# Visa required to enter the non-European French territories

The following foreign nationals are eligible for a visa waiver to enter the overseas territories on the grounds of nationality:

* Citizens of the European Union (EU), European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland;
* Nationals of countries listed on the Ministerial orders pertaining to each territory.

Persons eligible for a visa waiver to enter overseas territories on the grounds of possession of a residenc permit or long-stay visa:

* Holders of a valid residenc permit, issued by a French Prefecture or by a Schengen Area state;
* Holders of a special card issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to diplomatic and consular mission personnel;
* Holders of a valid long-stay visa, issued by a Schengen Area state;

Visa waivers to enter the overseas territories on the grounds of nationality, where the applicant holds a visa issued by a French consulate authority with multiple entries and where the period of validity is between 6 months and 5 years, may be granted to:

* Nationals of Bahrain, Belarus, China, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Thailand and the United Arab Emirates.

# Airport transit visa

You are travelling from an airport in a country located outside the Schengen Area and staying in the international zone of an airport located in metropolitan France while waiting for your connection to your final destination, which is also located outside the Schengen Area.  
You must apply for an �A� airport transit visa (ATV) if you hold:

* An ordinary, service or special passport issued by: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Iran, Iraq, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, or Sri Lanka;
* An ordinary passport issued by: Angola, Bolivia, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, C�te d�Ivoire, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, India, Mali, Mauritania, Nepal, the Philippines (except in the case of seafarers holding a seaman�s book issued in accordance with international conventions), the Republic of Guinea, the Republic of the Congo, Russia (if you are travelling from an airport located in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Turkey or Egypt), Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria or Turkey
* A service passport issued by the Republic of Guinea;
* A travel document for Palestinian refugees;
* A travel document for Palestinian refugees issued by the Egyptian, Lebanese or Syrian authorities.

This requirement does not apply to holders of diplomatic passports. You do not require an airport transit visa if you are:

* An aircraft crew member or national of a country that is party to the Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation (except China);
* A holder of a valid residence permit issued by a Member State of the European Union or the European Economic Area;
* A holder of a residence permit guaranteeing the right of return and issued by Monaco, the Principality of Andorra, Japan, Canada, the United States or the Republic of San Marino, by one or more countries or public bodies from the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (Aruba, Cura�ao, Sint Maarten, Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius);
* A holder of a valid visa for a Member State of the European Union or the European Economic Area, Canada, the United States or Japan, by one or more countries or public bodies from the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (Aruba, Cura�ao, Sint Maarten, Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius);
* A family member of a national of the European Union, the European Economic Area or Switzerland;
* A holder of a valid Schengen visa, a national long-stay visa, or a residence permit issued by a Schengen country.

**There are three types of airport transit visa (ATV):**

* A one-way ATV, which authorizes one-way transit through a Schengen country;
* A return ATV, which authorizes return airport transit through one or two Schengen countries;
* A multiple ATV, which authorizes several transits through one or more Schengen countries.

Holders of ATVs are not authorized to enter the Schengen Area.  
You are travelling from an airport in a third country and you will remain in the international zone of an airport located in a French overseas department, community or territory while waiting for your connection to your final destination, which is also located in a third country.

# Long-stay visa

For any stay in France exceeding 90 days, you are required to apply in advance for a long-stay vis. In this instance your nationality does not exempt you from requirements (must be between three months and one year. In order to extend your stay beyond the period of validity of your visa, you must apply for a residence permit)  
As a family member of a national of a European Union Member State, European Economic Space state, or Switzerland, subject to visa requirements, and holder of a short-stay visa, you will be able to apply for a residence permit once in France.  
Long stay authorised without a visa if citizens of the European Union, European Economic Area, Switzerland, Andorra, Monaco, San Marino, and the Vatican may stay in the European territory of France without a visa for longer than 90 days.

# Holiday Programme

This programme allows you to visit France for a period of more than three months with the right to work, so as to supplement your financial resources on site.

* The main reason for your stay is tourism and discovering France�s culture;
* Your country or territory must have signed an agreement with France. Today, this applies to 16 countries or territories: Australia;Argentina;Brazil;Canada (agreement on youth mobility);Chile;Colombia;Ecuador;South Korea;Japan;New Zealand;Hong Kong;Mexico;Peru;Russia;Taiwan;Uruguay.
* Applicants must be, as of the date of request submission, between 18 and 30 years of age (i.e. until the day before their 31st birthday), regardless of country or territory of origin, except for : Argentina, Australia and Canada where the maximum age is 35 years (up to the date of 36th birthday).
* Nationals of countries that have signed a "Vacances-travail" (Working holiday) agreement with France must file their application with the competent visa center in their country or territory of nationality, with the exception of Australian, Canadian and Colombian nationals residing abroad who may file their visa application with the competent French consular service in their country of residence.

# Volunteering

Visas can be issued for the purposes of volunteering. There are three types of volunteering: civic service, association-based volunteer work and European Voluntary Service (EVS).  
If part of the European Voluntary Service (EVS), you will receive a temporary long-stay visa (VLS-T) marked �Volunteer�.  
For the other categories of volunteering, different types of visa will be issued based on how long you will be volunteering:

* If your stay is equal to or less than 12 months it will be marked �Temporary exemption from a residence permit�
* If it is over 12 months it will be marked �Visitor�

# TLS Centers

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|  | **London** | **Edinburgh** | **Manchester** |
| **Submission of visa application (upon appointment)** | Monday to Friday except public holidays 08:30 -12:30, 13.30 - 15:30 | Monday - Friday except public holidays 08:30 - 13:30 | Monday - Friday except public holidays 08:30 - 13:30 |
| **Passport Return (without appointment)** | Monday to Friday except public holidays 08:30 -12:30, 13.30 - 15:30 | Monday - Friday except public holidays 08:30 - 13:30 | Monday - Friday except public holidays 08:30 - 16:30 |

# Visa Application Fees

* The visa fee and service fee are both non-refundable and non-transferable if the visa application is denied by the Embassy staff or if the applicant decides to terminate his or her application.
* Starting from 1st November 2022, the service fee, mandatory for any visa application, is **GBP 31.01**

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| **Visa Type** | **EUR** | **GBP** |
| **Short stay Schengen visa (less than 90 days)** | 80.00 | 68.91 |
| **Short-stay Schengen (less than 90 days) for minor child of 6-12 years old** | 40.00 | 34.45 |
| **Short-stay French visa (less than 90 days) for French Overseas Departments and Regions (DROM)** | 60.00 | 51.68 |
| **Short-stay French visa (less than 90 days) for French Overseas Departments and Regions (DROM) minor child of 6 to 12 years old** | 35.00 | 30.15 |
| **Short-stay Schengen visa (less than 90 days) - Negotiated tariff Schengen and DOM** | 35.00 | 30.15 |
| **Short-stay French visa (less than 90 days) for French Overseas Territories (CTOM)** | 9.00 | 7.75 |
| **Long-stay French visa (over 90 days) - full price** | 99.00 | 85.27 |
| **Long-stay French visa (over 90 days) - half price** | 50.00 | 43.07 |
| **Transit visa** | 80.00 | 68.91 |

# Added-value Service Fees

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| **Courier return fee via Royal Mail Special Delivery** | £18 (per applicant). |
| **Premium lounge service** | £50 (per applicant) / £25 (Child aged 6-12) / £0 (child under 6) applying together with parents, unavailable in London centre available in Manchester centre |
| **Photocopy** | £0.20 (per copy) |
| **Self-service photo booth** | £8 (one set of photographs), available in London and Manchester centres |
| **Self-service insurance kiosk** | Depending on product chosen, available in London and Manchester centres. |
| **Form Filling Assistance** | �15.00 |
| **Prime Time Appointment (available all weekdays from 07:30am to 08:30am) London:**Saturdays from 09:30 am to 13:00 **Manchester:**Saturday from 8:30am to 13:30pm **Edinbrugh :**N/A | GBP 50.00 GBP 25.00 (CHILDREN AGED 6-12 YEARS OLD) FREE (CHILDREN UNDER 6 YEARS OLD) |
| **Apply Anywhere** | GBP 750.00 FOR THE FIRST APPLICANT GBP 150.00 ADDITIONAL APPLICANT (UP TO 9) **must call after booking an Apontmnt. to provide info** |

# When should I apply for a visa?

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| **Short stay visa** | 6 months (9 months for seamen) before your scheduled date of arrival in Schengen area/French Overseas (DROM-CTOM). |
| **Long stay visa** | 3 months before your scheduled date of arrival in France. |

# Appointment on TLScontact website

account data not used for more than 20 days will be automatically deleted and new registration will be necessary to submit your visa application.

# Passport

* For a short stay visa (less than 90 days), the expiration date must be no earlier than 3 months after the date of your return from the Schengen Area;
* For a renewal of circulation visa, the expiration date must be 15 months after the day you apply for a visa;
* For a regular long stay visa (more than 90 days), the expiration date must be 15 months after your planned return date back to the UK.
* Make sure your passport has two or more completely blank and unmarked visa pages.
* Issue date must be less than 10 years

# Schengen Visa and vs. National visa

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| **Schengen Visa** | Issued by a Schengen Area member country for transit or stay in part of or all Schengen space. It is not to exceed 90 days over any period of 180 consecutive days |
| **National Visa** | only valid for an establishment or a stay of more than 90 days in the country which issued the visa. The national visa allows, however, transit through other Schengen countries and for some (long stay French citizen�s spouse, workers, students or visitors), it also allows traveling freely throughout the Schengen area. |

# Correct Visa Category

Please visit "Coming to France for..." section of [France Visas Portal](https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en/web/france-visas/) for more information on the scopes of different purposes of travel.