

## About

Arton Capital's Passport Index is the world's most popular online interactive tool, which collects, displays and ranks the passports of the world.

It is the only live global ranking of passports, updated as frequently as new visa waivers and changes are announced.

Visitors can dive in the fascinating world of passports, explore their designs, sort them by country, region and even by color. For the first time ever, visitors can compare passports side by side.

The Passport Index also features PASSE/PORT, the comprehensive blog curating passport-related news, and views on global mobility, security, technology, branding, and visa policies from around the world.

## Purpose

### Inform

Showcase, educate and inform the public on the power passports transcend on the holder's identity, opportunity, mobility and overall quality of life. United by our diversity, the passport is one of the most important documents we possess.

### Engage

Encourage discussions on visa policies, citizenship, country branding, global mobility, public security, philanthropy and foreign policy.

### Inspire

In today's world, becoming a Global Citizen is more important than ever. Having a second citizenship is a liberating and empowering privilege which comes with a responsibility to the world.

## Methodology

The Passport Index methodology is based on the following:

- Passports of 193 United Nations member countries and 6 territories (ROC Taiwan, Macao (SAR China), Hong Kong (SAR China), Kosovo, Palestinian Territory and the Vatican) for a total of 199 are considered.
- Territories annexed to other countries such as Norfolk Island (Australia), French Polynesia (France), British Virgin Islands (Britain), etc. who do not issue their own passports are excluded and not considered as destinations.
- Countries which issue passports, regardless if they enforce independent visa policies or not are considered as destinations.
- Data is based on proprietary research from publicly available sources and on official information provided by government agencies.
- Significant number of passport images are provided by proud citizens of their countries. While some chose to remain anonymous, most have been credited for their contribution.
- To determine the individual rank of each passport, a three-tier method is applied:
  1. Visa-Free Score (VFS) – includes visa-free (VF) and visa on arrival (VOA)
  2. VF portion of their score vs VOA
  3. United Nations Development Programme Human Development Index (UNDP HDI) is used as a tie breaker. The UNDP HDI is a significant measure on the country's perception abroad.

## How to use the Passport Index

EXPLORE:

### By Country

Explore the interactive mosaic, find your country's passport, or simply discover others.

### By Region

Display passports for specific continents, regions, or other geopolitical filters.

## Global Passport Power Rank Examples

- Both Germany and Sweden rank as the most powerful passports in the world as they both have a Visa-Free Score of 158.
- Afghanistan is ranked last with a Visa-Free Score of 24.
- Barbados ranks as the most powerful Caribbean passport (ranked 21th), followed by Bahamas

**By Region**

Display passports for specific continents, regions, or other geopolitical filters.

**By Location**

The world map represented by the color of the country's passport cover.

**By Color**

Sort passports by the color of their cover.

**COMPARE:****By Passport**

Compare the world's passports next to each other, learn about their visa policies and discover your Global Mobility Score.

**By Destination**

Compare how welcoming different countries are.

**RANK:****Global Passport Power Rank**

Passports of the world are sorted by their total Visa-Free Score, which includes visa-free and visa on arrival privileges. The higher the VFS score, the better global mobility its passport bearer enjoys.

**Individual Passport Power Rank**

No two passports are alike, hence why share a rank? The 2016 edition of the Passport Index introduces a unique ranking system, where each passport occupies an individual rank, based on their individual country and visa characteristics.

**Filtered Rank**

It has never been easier to rank passports based on their individual characteristics within a context of your interest. You can now filter by continent, region, industry and many more.

**Global Country Welcoming Rank**

Some passports command respect and visa-free access to many parts of the world. But how welcoming are they? Passport Index' Country Welcoming Rank showcases the most and least welcoming countries in the world, ranked solely on the the number of countries they accept visa-free or with visa on arrival.

of 24.

- Barbados ranks as the most powerful Caribbean passport (ranked 21th), followed by Bahamas (22st) and Antigua & Barbuda (25th).

## Individual Passport Power Rank Examples

- Both Spain and the United Kingdom have a Visa-Free score of 157. However, Spain, ranked 6th, has a visa-free portion of 119, while the United Kingdom has only 115, which puts it in 7th place.
- Both Italy and Denmark have a Visa-Free Score of 156, and identical visa-free portions of 120. However, Denmark is ranked higher in the UN's Human Development Index than Italy, therefore it occupies the 8th rank in the Individual Passport Power Rank.

## Welcoming Countries Rank Examples

- The African continent has some of the most welcoming countries.
- Dominica is the most welcoming Caribbean country and ranked 2nd in the world).
- Iran is the most welcoming country in the MENA region (ranked 9th in the world), followed by Turkey (17th), Jordan (24th) and Lebanon (40th).
- UK ranks as the 45th most welcoming country in the world.
- While Germany has the most powerful passport in the world as of 2016, it only allows 88 countries to enter without a visa (or with visa on arrival), placing it 48th on the Welcoming Countries Rank.

## Terminology

**Visa-Free Score (VFS)**

Passports accumulate points for each country that their holders can visit without a visa, or they can obtain a visa on arrival.

**Visa-Free (VF)**

Permission from a foreign authority to enter a country is not required.

**Visa on arrival (VOA)**

Permission from a foreign authority to enter a country is required but can be obtained on arrival.

## UNDP Human Development Index (UNDP HDI)

The United Nations Development Programme's Human Development Index is a summary measure of average achievement in key dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable and

#### Visa on arrival (VOA)

Permission from a foreign authority to enter a country is required but can be obtained on arrival.

#### Visa required (VR)

Permission from a foreign authority to enter a country is required prior to travel.

#### Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

Requirement for foreign nationals travelling to a country where permission to enter is not required. It is a relatively new approach, widely used by the USA and Canada.

#### Passport Power Rank (PPR)

Passports are ranked based on their Visa-Free Score. The higher the Visa-Free Score, the better the Passport Power Rank.

#### Welcoming Countries Score (WCS)

Countries are ranked by the number of passports they accept visa-free or with visa on arrival.

#### Global Mobility Score (GMS)

A measure for people's current or potential number of countries they can visit visa-free with up to 4 passports.

in key dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable and have a decent standard of living. These measures are an important indication to a country's perception abroad.

#### Legend (UNDP HDI value)

1.00  
0.86 - 0.95  
0.76 - 0.85  
0.66 - 0.75  
0.56 - 0.65  
0.46 - 0.55  
0.36 - 0.45  
0.26 - 0.35  
0.16 - 0.25  
0.06 - 0.15

As seen on





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and many more

## Contribute

Help us improve this tool and have a chance to represent your country by sending us a high quality passport cover photo to [contribute@passportindex.org](mailto:contribute@passportindex.org). Your name will be fully credited, unless you wish to remain anonymous. Your privacy is guaranteed.

Our aim is to build the most comprehensive photo library of passport covers in the world. Can you help us? We will be happy to integrate any passport cover photo, which is of better quality than the current version displayed. Photos or scans should be of high resolution, well lit and as close as possible to the original. By sending us the photo, you give us full rights for usage as we see fit.

## Legal notes

Passport Index is a free tool, built with publicly available information and with content contributed by fans and government agencies around the world. Analytics is based on proprietary research. Certain assumptions have been taken where data was missing or not reliable.

This tool should not be used for travelling purposes. For specific visa policies, please contact a consulate or embassy near you.

Passport designs are copyright of each respective government.

## Media Enquiries

For press and media enquiries, please contact us at [media@passportindex.org](mailto:media@passportindex.org).

## Change log

2.0.16.12.01: Serbia waive visa requirements for Malaysia.

2.0.16.12.01: Canada waive visa requirements for Mexico.

2.0.16.11.25: Belarus and Brazil waive visa requirements.

2.0.16.11.22: Russia waive visa requirements for Vanuatu.

2.0.16.11.21: New Zealand impose visa requirements for South Africa.

2.0.16.11.11: Guyana waive visa requirements for Malaysia.

2.0.16.11.01: Azerbaijan waive visa requirements for Kuwait, Israel, Japan, Oman, Qatar, Korea (Rep), Bahrain, Malaysia.

2.0.16.11.01: Mongolia impose visa requirements for 53 countries.

2.0.16.10.15: Singapore impose visa requirements for North Korea.

2.0.16.10.11: European Union and Solomon Islands waive visa requirements.

2.0.16.10.03: Korea, Republic of and United Arab Emirates waive visa requirements.

2.0.16.09.23: St. Kitts and Nevis and Maldives waive visa requirements.

2.0.16.09.22: European Union waive Visa requirements for Micronesia.

- 2.0.16.09.23: St. Kitts and Nevis and Maldives waive visa requirements.
- 2.0.16.09.22: European Union waive Visa requirements for Micronesia.
- 2.0.16.09.08: UAE waive visa requirements for China.
- 2.0.16.08.06: Iran and Armenia waive visa requirements.
- 2.0.16.07.30: Brasil waive visa requirements for Montenegro.
- 2.0.16.07.19: St Vincent and The Grenadines and Ecuador waive visa requirements.
- 2.0.16.07.11: Papua New Guinea waive visa requirements for Australian.
- 2.0.16.07.09: Qatar waive visa requirements for Turkey.
- 2.0.16.07.07: Tuvalu, Marshall Island, Kiribati waives visa requirements for EU citizens.
- 2.0.16.07.07: European Union waive Visa requirements for Tuvalu, Marshall Island, Kiribati, Peru.
- 2.0.16.06.06: Indonesia waive visa requirements for Rwanda.
- 2.0.16.05.18: UK electronic visa waiver scheme was launched for Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and UAE passport holders.
- 2.0.16.04.25: Russia lifts visa requirements for Mauritius and Seychelles.
- 2.0.16.04.21: Brunei lifts visa requirements for Croatian citizens.
- 2.0.16.04.13: Added Global Mobility Score comparison and sharing functions.
- 2.0.16.04.01: Passport Index 2016 launch.