

TAKE A TRIP WITH *Tina*




Visa information

WHAT IS THE SCHENGEN AREA AND A SCHENGEN VISA?

If you are a non European and you plan to travel to Europe, you may need to apply for a Schengen Visa. The Schengen Visa Scheme is a scheme that allows those wishing to visit certain countries within the European Economic Area.

A list of the Schengen countries is shown below.

🚩 SCHENGEN VISA COUNTRIES

 AUSTRIA	 BELGIUM	 CZECH REPUBLIC	 DENMARK	 ESTONIA	 FINLAND
 FRANCE	 GERMANY	 GREECE	 HUNGARY	 ICELAND	 ITALY
 LATVIA	 LIECHTEN-STEIN	 LITHUANIA	 LUXEMBOURG	 MALTA	 MONACO
 NETHERLANDS	 NORWAY	 POLAND	 PORTUGAL	 SLOVAKIA	 SLOVENIA
 SPAIN	 SWEDEN	 SWITZERLAND			

🚩 MICROSTATES BETWEEN SCHENGEN STATES

 ANDORRA	 MONACO	 VATICAN CITY	 SAN MARINO
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WILL RECOGNISE A SCHENGEN VISA TO ALLOW YOU TO ENTER

DO I NEED A SCHENGEN VISA?

Holders of any European Economic Area (**EU, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein**) or **Switzerland** passport do not need a visa for the Schengen area, and are generally allowed to stay for as long as they want.

Or if you are from any of the countries shown below then you don't need a Schengen visa.

ALBANIA (*)	ANDORRA	ANTIGUA & BERMUDA
ARGENTINA	AUSTRALIA	BAHAMAS & BARBADOS
BULGARIA & ROMANIA	BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA (*)	BRAZIL
BRUNEI	CANADA	CHILE
COLUMBIA (****)	COSTA RICA	CROATIA & CYPRUS
GUATEMALA	HONDURAS	HONG KONG (1)
ISRAEL	JAPAN	MACAO (2)
MACEDONIA (*)	MOLDOVA (*)	MALAYSIA
MAURITIUS	MEXICO	MONACO
MONTENEGRO (*)	NEW ZEALAND	NICARAGUA
PANAMA	PARAGUAY	PERU (****)
SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS	SAN MARINO	SERBIA (*/**)
SEYCHELLES	SINGAPORE	SOUTH KOREA
TAIWAN (***) (Republic of China)	SALVADOR	SWITZERLAND
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	UNITED KINGDOM	URUGUAY
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	VATICAN CITY	VENEZUELA

(**) FROM 2016 CITIZENS OF COLUMBIA AND PERU WILL BE ABLE TO TRAVEL TO SCHENGEN ZONE (FOR UP TO 90 DAYS) *BIOMETRIC PASSPORT REQUIRED***

SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGIONS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HONG KONG S.A.R. (NOTE 1) - THE VISA EXEMPTION APPLIES ONLY TO HOLDERS OF A "HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION" PASSPORT.

MACAO S.A.R. (NOTE 2) THE VISA EXEMPTION APPLIES ONLY TO HOLDERS OF A "REGIÃO ADMINISTRATIVA ESPECIAL DE MACAU" PASSPORT.

TURKEY (NOTE 3) GREEN PASSPORT HOLDERS ONLY ENJOY VISA FREE TRAVEL

(*) nationals of Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro and Serbia need a biometric passport to enjoy visa-free travel.

()** Serbian nationals with passport issued by the Serbian Coordination Directorate (residents of Kosovo with Serbian passport do need a visa)

(*)** Taiwan nationals need their ID number to be stipulated in their passport to enjoy visa-free travel

Individuals in the following category can enter Schengen Area: **BULGARIA, CROATIA, CYPRUS, ROMANIA**

Individuals in the following category of European Economic Area can enter Schengen Area: **ICELAND, LIECHTENSTEIN, NORWAY, SWITZERLAND**

CAN I APPLY FOR A SCHENGEN VISA?

FOR APPLYING FOR ANY EURO TOUR EXCEPT TO FRANCE

Check your passport and the UK Visa. You will need about 5 months remaining valid on that visa to be able to have enough time to apply. This will allow you to book the appointment, have the visa processed and passport returned for your travel and the required 3 months remaining valid on the UK visa after the tour returns.

FOR APPLYING FOR A TOUR TO FRANCE.

Check your passport and UK Visa. You need minimum 7 months total UK visa to apply with about 5 months remaining valid on it. This will allow you to book the appointment, have the visa processed and passport returned for your travel and the required 3 months remaining valid on the UK visa after the tour returns.

I CAN APPLY FOR A SCHENGEN VISA – WHAT DO I DO NOW?

1. For going to France use TLScontact (see box below) or visa application centre for any other tour and apply for the main destination country you are travelling to. If you are travelling more than once to the Schengen area then apply at the embassy of the country you stay for the most amount of time, or if equal time in each main destination then its the first country you stay in.

You can apply for a single entry visa, double entry visa (twice) or multiple entry visa (3 or more times entry to Schengen area).

2. Pay for the tour with TATW Tina Tours (which should be departing at least 2 or 3 weeks after your appointment date to ensure visa process is completed) and contact us to get a visa letter showing hotel accommodation (which you will need with other paperwork for your appointment - see below for other items required)

3. Take your visa letter and ticket with all your required items to the embassy appointment (see below for the list of items you generally need)

4. If you are not successful in your application for the Schengen visa then contact TATW Tina Tours immediately to receive your money back for the tour (other cost involved unfortunately cannot be refunded).

LIST OF ITEMS GENERALLY NEEDED FOR EMBASSIES

- **Completed application form**

- **Your passport** or travel document which must be valid and in date. This must contain your student visa (which must be valid for at least 3 months longer than the validity of the Schengen visa applied for) Your passport must have a blank page to affix the Schengen visa sticker.

- **1 x passport photo**

- **Health insurance** to the value of at least 30,000 EU. Insurance is available from the Post Office, large supermarkets or various providers online The insurance company will provide you with a letter or certificate to include with your application

- **Proof of travel plans** this will be the tour ticket and TATW Tina visa letter available on request. / most of the times your University can provide this letter as well

- **Proof of accommodation** this will be on the visa letter we can send on request.

- **Proof of financial means.** You should have approx. £60 per day available to you for the duration of your visit. You should provide bank statements covering the last 3 months or travellers cheques for the relevant amount to prove this.

- **Schengen visa fee.** This varies from country to country and will be about £50 to £80 normally.

- **Self-addressed special delivery envelope.** This is so that the Embassy can post your passport and / or documents back to you when a decision has been made and is available from all post offices.

- **Copies of all documents provided.** Generally, you will be expected to take both originals and copies of all your documents to your appointment with you.

- **Letter from Parents giving permission to travel on a tour abroad (under 18s only)**

HOW DO I MAKE AN APPOINTMENT OR CONTACT THE EMBASSY?

See below for an application centre which can process visa application for some countries and also the embassy contact details for countries we travel to.

The whole process may take up to 6 weeks to get an appointment and receive your visa so please keep this in mind for your travel. It is worth noting that arranging a Schengen visa can be much cheaper and quicker if arranged in country of origin before you arrive in the UK.

Joint	Visa	Application	Centre		
66 Wilson Street, London, EC2A 2JX					
RECOMMENDED SERVICE FOR MOST VISA APPLICATIONS					
Application centre can process a Schengen visa for: Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Italy, Sweden, Denmark & Spain					
NOTE: For travelling to FRANCE see box below - contact TLS not the joint visa application centre					
The application centre's helpline number is 0871 376 0023 (line open from 8:30 to 17:30 Monday-Friday).					
Email help address: info.schengen@vfshelpline.com					
APPOINTMENT ALWAYS REQUIRED - call the telephone number below or follow the links from the boxes below for any main destination country for appointment.					
TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT FOR SCHENGEN VISA APPLICATION:					
PHONE 09067 530 530					
You will need when you phone: full name, passport number, passport valid from date/expiry date, your contact number and email address, your UK residence address, dates of travel.					
Directions	to	Joint	Visa	Application	Centre
By					Tube/Train

Take Central Line to Moorgate or London Liverpool Station
Exit the station toward Sun Street passage (for Liverpool Station) or Moorfield (From Moorgate Station) and follow the sign for Wilson Street.

From London Liverpool Station: Exit the station, head north on **Sun Street Passage** towards **Pindar Street**. From **Pindar Street** turn right on to **Clifton Street** and then turn left on to **Christopher Street**, at the end of **Christopher street** turn right to **Wilson Street**.

From Moorgate: Exit the station. Head north on **Moorfield** towards **Moor PI**, turn right onto **Ropemaker Street**, continue on to **South PI** and then turn left onto **Wilson Street**.

Embassy of France

Website: <http://www.ambafrance-uk.org>

MINIMUM OF 7 MONTH UK VISA REQUIRED AND 3 MONTHS LEFT VALID FROM TOUR RETURN DATE

French Embassy London outsources Schengen Visa operation to TLScontact

Visa applications are processed by appointment only at TLScontact centre:

**Exhibition house, Suite 18,
Addison Bridge Place,
London W14 8XP**

Appointment: To book an appointment, go to the [TLScontact website](#) or call **0845 7300 118**, Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30.

Embassy of the Netherlands (Holland)

The Netherlands embassy outsources visa appointments to VFS and you can book an appointment online by following the instructions on the link below

Website: <http://nl.vfsglobal.co.uk/>

OR USE: Joint Visa Application Centre (see above)

Embassy of Belgium

The Belgian embassy outsources visa appointments to VFS and you can book an appointment online by following the instructions on the link below

Website: <http://www.vfs-be-uk.com/>

OR USE: Joint Visa Application Centre (see above)

Embassy of Italy

The Italian embassy outsources visa appointments to VFS and you can book an appointment online by following the instructions on the link below

Website: <http://it.vfsglobal.co.uk/>

OR USE: Joint Visa Application Centre (see above)

Embassy of Germany

The German embassy outsources visa appointments to VFS and you can book an appointment online by following the instructions on the link below

Website : <http://www.vfsglobal.com/germany/uk/>

OR USE: Joint Visa Application Centre (see above)

Embassy of Denmark

The Embassy of Denmark has appointed VF Services (UK) Ltd. as its outsourced partner for acceptance and processing of its visa applications.

Website: <http://dk.vfsglobal.co.uk/>

OR USE: Joint Visa Application Centre (see above)

VISA FOR IRELAND

You can get information and apply for a visa for Ireland by clicking here: <http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/Irish%20Visa%20Information>

Online Application form: <https://www.visas.inis.gov.ie/avats/OnlineHome.aspx>

Citizens of the following countries do not require a visa to enter Ireland. ([List of Countries](#))

(see below for more nationals who do not need a visa below on short stay visa waiver programme).

INFORMATION NOTE - Short stay visa waiver programme allows extra nationalities to Ireland without Irish visa

The Short-stay Visa Waiver Programme was announced by the Government as part of its Jobs Initiative with a view to promoting tourism from emerging markets. It commenced on 1 July 2011. The programme will run up to end October 2016 but may be amended or expanded at any point.

The below link to a document contains current information relating to the Irish Short Stay visa waiver programme.

[Information Note - Short Stay Visa Waiver programme March 2012 \(Size 77KB\)](#)
What does the Programme do?

Under the Programme, persons

(i) who are nationals of one of eighteen countries covered by the scheme,

(ii) who have entered the UK on UK 'C' General visa, and

(iii) have been granted leave to remain in the UK for up to 180 days

may

(iv) travel to Ireland, within the time remaining on a current leave to remain in the UK, without the requirement to obtain an Irish visa, and

(v) be granted permission to remain in Ireland up to a maximum of 90 days or the time left on their UK leave to remain, whichever is the shorter.

List of countries to which the Visa Waiver Programme will now apply:

Nationals from Eastern Europe

- Belarus
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Montenegro
- Russia
- Serbia
- Turkey
- Ukraine

Middle East

- Bahrain
- Kuwait
- Oman
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- United Arab Emirates

Other Asian Countries

- India
- Kazakhstan
- Peoples' Republic of China
- Thailand
- Uzbekistan