

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR GERMAN PASSPORT HOLDERS FOR HOLIDAY PURPOSES FOR A PERIOD EXCEEDING THREE (3) MONTHS

Dear Sir/Madam,

We refer to your enquiry and wish to inform you that German citizens holding German passports are exempt from South African visa control for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days for holiday purposes. A visitor's permit for holiday purposes for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days may therefore be issued to a German citizen holding a German passport at a South African port of entry e.g. international airport, provided that he or she is able to submit the following documentation to the immigration officer:

- a passport valid for no less than thirty (30) days after departure from the Republic of South Africa, and containing at least one (1) blank page for endorsements;
- documentation confirming the purpose and duration of the visit, if applicable;
- proof of a valid return air ticket or payment of a deposit, or both the return air ticket and deposit, which shall be refunded after the foreigner's final departure or after a permanent residence permit has been issued to the foreigner;
- a yellow fever vaccination certificate, if the applicant travelled or intends travelling from or through a yellow fever endemic area: provided that the certificate shall not be required when the applicant travelled or intends travelling in direct transit through such area;

Should the holder of a visitor's permit wish to stay in the Republic of South Africa for a period exceeding three (3) months, **but not exceeding six (6) months**, he or she may, at least thirty (30) days before the expiry of this visitor's permit, apply for a **one-time** extension of his or her visitor's permit for a maximum period of a further three (3) months at any regional office of the Department of Home Affairs **in the country** (see <http://www.home-affairs.gov.za/regions.asp>). The following documents must be submitted for such an application:

- a fully completed application form (see [Form BI-1739](#));
- a passport valid for no less than thirty (30) days after departure from the Republic of South Africa, and containing at least one (1) blank page for endorsements;
- documentation confirming the purpose and duration of the visit, if applicable;
- proof of a valid return air ticket or payment of a deposit, or both the return air ticket and deposit, which shall be refunded after the foreigner's final departure or after a permanent residence permit has been issued to the foreigner;
- proof of sufficient financial means;
- the non-refundable application fee of 425 ZAR.

Alternatively, should a foreigner be able to meet the requirements, before proceeding to the Republic of South Africa, he or she may apply for a retired person permit or relatives permit for a period of up to four (4) years or two (2) years respectively, at a South African Mission abroad e.g. Embassy in Berlin.

A [retired person permit](#) may be issued to a foreigner, who intends to retire in the Republic of South Africa on a seasonal or continuous basis, provided that he/she is able to fulfil the prescribed financial requirement by means of either:

- a) a pension, irrevocable annuity or retirement account from the country of his/her origin, which will give the applicant a minimum payment of R20.000,- per month for the rest of his/her life; or
- b) a combination of assets realising R20.000,- per month;

A retired person permit, which does not only apply to pensioners, may not be issued for a period exceeding four (4) years, but may be renewed one or more times. Furthermore, the Department of Home Affairs may authorise the holder of a retired person permit to conduct work in the Republic of South Africa.

A [relative's permit](#) may be issued to a foreigner, who is a member of the immediate family of a South African citizen or permanent resident, provided that such citizen or permanent resident provides the prescribed financial assurance, which shall be an amount of R5.000,- per person per month to be proven by means of a salary advice or bank statement (this financial assurance shall not be applicable where the applicant is a spouse or dependent minor child of a South African citizen or permanent resident).

The period of validity of a relative's permit shall be determined by the amount available as the financial assurance, but will not exceed two (2) years at a time. Furthermore, the holder of a relative's permit may not conduct work in the Republic of South Africa.

Should you be able to meet the requirements for a retired person permit or relatives permit and wish to pursue such an application, please request the necessary forms from our office.

Kind regards,
Consular Section
Embassy of the Republic of South Africa
Tiergartenstr. 18
10785 Berlin

Tel.: 030 22073 0 (Mon-Fri; 14:00-16:30)
Fax: 030 22073 202
Email: berlin.consular@foreign.gov.za