

## PASSPORT HOLDERS WHO ARE EXEMPT FROM VISAS FOR SOUTH AFRICA

### (SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE)

The citizen who is a holder of a national passport (diplomatic, official and ordinary) of the foreign countries / territories / international organisations listed below, is not required to hold a visa when reporting to an immigration officer for an examination at a South African port of entry, subject to the terms and conditions set out in this list, including *inter alia* the intended period of stay in the Republic.

1. The holder of a national South African passport, travel document and document for travel purposes.
2. The citizen who is a holder of a national passport (diplomatic, official or ordinary) of the following countries / territories / international organisations is not required to hold a visa in respect of purposes for which a visitor's permit may be issued or by virtue of being a person contemplated in section 31(3)(b) [diplomatic & official visit] for an intended stay of **90 days** or less and when in transit:

African Union Laissez Passer

Andorra

Argentina

Australia

Austria

Belgium

Botswana

Brazil

Canada

Chile

Czech Republic

Denmark

Ecuador

Finland

France

Germany

Greece

Iceland

Israel

Italy

Jamaica

Japan

Liechtenstein

Luxemburg

Malta

Monaco

Netherlands

New Zealand

Norway

Paraguay

Portugal

Republic of Ireland

San Marino

Singapore

Spain  
St Vincent & the Grenadines  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Tanzania (**90 days per year**)  
Trinidad & Tobago (**ordinary passport holders only – 90 days per year**)  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, British Islands Bailiwick of Guernsey and Jersey, Isle of Man and Virgin Islands

British Overseas Territories **who are in possession of British passports** namely: Anguilla, Bermuda, British Antarctic Territory, British Indian Ocean Territory, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Montserrat, St Helena and Dependencies (Ascension Island, Gough Island and Tristan da Cunha), Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno Islands, the Sovereign Base Areas on Cyprus South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and the Turks and Caicos Island.

Uruguay  
Venezuela  
United States of America  
Zambia (**90 days per year**)  
Zimbabwe

3. The citizen who is a holder of a national passport (diplomatic, official and ordinary) of the following countries / territories / international organisations is not required to hold a visa in respect of purposes for which a visitor's permit may be issued or by virtue of being a person contemplated in section 31(3)(b) [diplomatic & official visit] for an intended stay of **30 days** or less and when in transit:

Antigua and Barbuda  
Bahamas (**ordinary passport holders only – 30 days per year**)  
Barbados  
Belize  
Benin  
Bolivia  
Cape Verde  
Costa Rica  
Cyprus  
Gabon  
Guyana  
Hong Kong [only with regard to holders of Hong Kong British National Overseas passports and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region passports]  
Hungary  
Jordan  
Lesotho  
Macau [only with regard to holders of Macau Special Administrative Region passports (MSAR)]  
Malaysia  
Malawi  
Maldives  
Mauritius  
Mozambique  
Namibia  
Peru  
Poland  
Seychelles

Slovak Republic  
South Korea  
Swaziland  
Thailand  
Turkey

4. Agreements have also been concluded with the following countries for holders of diplomatic and official (issued primarily to government officials) passport holders.

Citizens who are holders of **diplomatic, official and service passports** of the following countries do not require visas in respect of purposes for which a visitor's permit may be issued or by virtue of being a person contemplated in section 31(3)(b) [diplomatic & official visit] for the **period indicated** and transit:

Albania	(120 days)
Algeria	(30 days)
Angola	(90 days)
Belarus	(90 days)
Bulgaria	(90 days)
China	(30 days – <b>for diplomatic passport holders only</b> )
Comoros	(90 days)
Croatia	(90 days)
Cuba	(90 days <b>per year</b> )
Cyprus	(90 days)
Egypt	(30 days)
Guinea	(90 days)
Hungary	(120 days)
India	(90 days)
Ivory Coast	(30 days)
Kenya	(30 days)
Mexico	(90 days)
Madagascar	(30 days)
Morocco	(30 days)
Mozambique	(90 days)
Paraguay	(120 days)
Poland	(90 days)
Romania	(90 days)
Russian Federation	(90 days)
Rwanda	(30 days)
Slovak	(90 days)
Slovenia	(120 days)
Tanzania	(90 days)
Thailand	(90 days)
Tunisia	(90 days)
Vietnam	(90 days)

5. Notwithstanding this Schedule, a foreigner whose visa exemption has been withdrawn shall comply with the visa requirements until notified by the Department that his or her visa exemption has been re-instated by the Department on petition or of its own accord.
6. Visas are not required by passport holders of Lesotho, Swaziland, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Malawi who are entering the Republic as commercial heavy-duty vehicle drivers provided that their visits do not exceed 15 days and on condition that they can produce a letter confirming their employment with a transport company on entry.

The same principle applies to Zimbabwean commercial heavy-duty vehicle drivers, except that their sojourn may not exceed 30 days at a time. The afore-mentioned does not apply to commercial heavy-duty vehicle drivers who transport goods for a South African transport company. Such drivers must be in possession of a valid work permit.

7. Staff members of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) who travel on SADC laissez-passers are exempt from visa requirements for bona fide official business visits up to 90 days and transit.
8. The following categories of the UN as well as their spouses, dependent relatives and other members of the households are exempt from visa requirements when visiting the Republic for periods not exceeding 90 days for purposes for which a visitor's permit may be issued, and for official business purposes and transits and when accredited for placement at a UN mission in the Republic for the duration of their accreditation, provided they are in possession of the relevant letters or identification documents to identify themselves at ports of entry as personnel of an UN agency.
  - Holders of United Nations Laissez-passers
  - Volunteers attached to the UN
  - Persons involved in any United Nations agency
  - Persons performing services on behalf of the UN
9. Members of military forces attending any military related matters with the South African National Defence Force are exempt from visa and study permit requirements irrespective of their duration of stay provided they are in possession of letters of invitation from the SANDF as well as letters of consent from the military force of which they are members.

**Effective from: 2012.01.25**