



Посолство на Република България - Претория Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria - Pretoria

Checklist – Short Stay Visa – Private visit

Greetings from the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in Pretoria and thank you for your interest to apply for a short stay **Private visit visa** for the Republic of Bulgaria. Together with our partners from VFS, we are committed to make this process as smooth as possible. Please use the following checklist as a guide in order to prepare your visa application thoroughly and to speed up the processing time. The checklist is divided in multiple sections, depending on the type of applicant you are.

Visa Application Requirements			
	All applicants	Yes/No	Remarks (if any)
	Type of document		
1.	Application form (available online, free of charge) - Make sure the application form is fully completed, signed and dated. - <u>In case of minors</u> (travelling with family or alone) "Minors": a parent/legal guardian shall submit the following: a) the minor's birth certificate b) copies of ID/passport of both parents; c) if the minor travels alone: certified parental consent by both parents; d) if the minor travels with only one parent, the other parent must produce the certified consent. If only one parent has guardianship of the minor, the relevant court documents must be presented.		
2.	One recent passport size photo (3.5 x 4.5 cm) - Photos must be taken within the last 3 months, have a light background, neutral expression, and no head coverings, except for religious reasons.		
3.	Valid travel document – passport + copy of ID page, signature page and previous Schengen or other visas - Please ensure that that passport <u>has at least 3 months validity after</u> the intended date of return from the Schengen area. - Passport has to be issued <u>within the last 10 years</u> and contain <u>two front facing blank pages</u> . - If the passport does not contain the place of birth (e.g. Saudi Ordinary passports), ID card or Birth Certificated, <u>translated in English</u> should also be presented.		
4.	Medical Insurance - Medical insurance should have a coverage of at least 30 000 euros for medical emergencies, including repatriation. - It should be valid for the <u>entire</u> Schengen area		
5.	Flight and/or travel reservation - Please include details of the itinerary, return travel ticket or confirmed booking (for air/surface/sea transport)		
6.	Hotel reservations and other proof of accommodation - hotel booking or accommodation can be provided by the inviting person in the Invitation - Declaration.		
7.	Proof of Employment - proof of employment: a letter from company stating monthly wages, continuing employment after period of leave and duration of vacation etc.; - if self-employed: a certification from SA Companies and Intellectual Property Commission or SA Revenue Service is required; - if student: Letter from school/college/university in South Africa certifying the student status of the applicant.		
8.	Proof of sufficient financial means - Please provide <u>a bank statement</u> for the <u>past 3 months</u> . The statement should show the availability of sufficient funds to cover the expenses during the entire stay in the Schengen area. Additionally, a credit card statement may be included also.		

	- The Bank Statement should be <u>issued and stamped</u> by the relevant bank. Online statements are accepted if they have a valid <u>QR Code</u> .		
9.	Invitation letter from a private citizen residing legally in Bulgaria - The Invitation – Declaration should be legalised through the relevant Bulgarian Migration Authorities. While original of the letter is required, a copy is also accepted. The original can be request by the Border Police on arrival in Bulgaria. - The invitation should include the contact details for the host and full reference address An Invitation - Declaration for a private stay of a foreigner to the Republic of Bulgaria The Invitation - Declaration by a natural person for issuing a short-stay visa for the purpose of private stay shall be prepared in a form-sample (in accordance with Enclosure No 3 to the Regulation on procedures and conditions for issuing visas and defining the visa regime), signed by the inviting person, certified by a Notary Public and by the bodies for administrative control of foreigners - Migration Directorate of the Ministry of Interior of Bulgaria: https://mvr.bg/migration/en/administrative-services/administrative-services/other-administrative-services		
10.	Cover letter: - explaining the purpose of the visit with details and itinerary and as per duration of stay in Bulgaria and subsequent visits, if any.		

Additional Information

- The visa applicant on a first trip to Bulgaria / Schengen area must submit his/her application in person. For the next trips to Bulgaria the applications can be submitted by a representative.
- Any representative shall provide an original letter of authorization from the applicant bearing the name of the representative and its organization / company. A copy of a valid photo ID shall be attached to the application.
- The applicant bears responsibility concerning all content of the application.
- Applications cannot be submitted more than 6 months prior to departure.
- Processing can take up to 15 calendar days after receiving the application. Status queries will be responded after the above time frame only and shall be primarily addressed to the VFS-office of application or by e-mail on Info.BulSA@vfsglobal.com
- In case an application is lodged less than 15 calendar days before departure, a timely completion of the visa process cannot be guaranteed.
- However, in individual cases, that period may be extended up to 30 or to maximum of 60 calendar days particularly when further scrutiny of the application is needed.
- The applicant and/or its authorized representative declare being advised to submit full documentation according to the above checklist and that submission of incomplete or faulty documentation can be a reason for refusal of the application.
- Fingerprints data is collected for people above 12 years of age at the date of application.
- Applicants are advised that during the examination of an application, Embassy may request additional documents. The Embassy may call applicants for an interview if deemed necessary.
- It is possible to visit Bulgaria with a period of stay up to 90 days in 6 months period for holders of: uniform visa (C) for two or multiple entries, valid for all Schengen Area Member States; long-stay visa (D) for stays exceeding three months, issued by one of the Schengen Area Member States; residence permit issued by one of the Schengen Area Member States
- In the event of a visa refusal or withdraw of the application, visa fees and VFS service fees are non-refundable.
- There is no express visa service.

By signing bellow, you acknowledge your understanding of the visa process. You agree to obey the terms of the visa, to not rely on the public services of the Republic of Bulgaria and/or the other Member States of the Schengen area. You acknowledge that the visa process does not guarantee the granting of a visa.

Applicant/Parent/Guardian name

Signature.....

Place and Date.....

Applicant mobile number.....

Applicant e-mail.....

VFS Officer Receiving Application

Signature.....

Place and Date.....