

ENTRY TO COLOMBIA AND VISA INFORMATION

A. Visa Waiver: Nationalities and Special Conditions

Visa-exempt nationalities and passports

Colombia exempts a group of 102 nationalities and territories from the Visitor (V) visa for short-stay visits (stays of less than 90 days). By virtue of this exemption, delegates of such nationalities accredited for the UN World Data Forum will be able to enter Colombia exempt from the visa requirement.

Nationalities exempt from Visitor (V) visa for short stay

Albania	Croatia	Hungary	Morocco	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Andorra	Cyprus	Iceland	Netherlands	Samoa
Antigua and Barbuda	Czech Republic	Indonesia	New Zealand	San Marino
Argentina	Denmark	Ireland	North Macedonia	Serbia
Australia	Dominica	Israel	Norway	Singapore
Austria	Dominican Republic	Italy	Qatar	Slovakia
Azerbaijan	Ecuador	Jamaica	Oman	Slovenia
Bahamas	El Salvador	Japan	Palau	Solomon Islands
Barbados	Estonia	Kazakhstan	Panama	Spain
Belgium	Fiji	Latvia	Papua New Guinea	Suriname
Belize	Finland	Liechtenstein	Paraguay	Sweden
Bhutan	France	Lithuania	Peru	Switzerland
Bolivia	Georgia	Luxembourg	Philippines	Trinidad and Tobago
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Germany	Malta	Poland	Türkiye
Brazil	Greece	Marshall Islands	Portugal	Ukraine
Brunei-Darussalam	Grenade	Mexico	Republic of Korea	United Arab Emirates
Bulgaria	Guatemala	Micronesia	Romania	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Canada	Guyana	Moldova	Russia (Federation)	United States of America
Chile	Holy See	Monaco	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Uruguay
Costa Rica	Honduras	Montenegro	Saint Lucia	Venezuela

Passports from special territories exempt from Visitor (V) visa for short stay

Hong Kong – SAR Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China	Sovereign Military Order of Malta
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Conditional Visa Exemption

The visa exemption is also applicable to nationals of *Cambodia, India, Nicaragua, Myanmar, the People's Republic of China, Thailand, Taiwan and Vietnam* who prove at the time of arrival in Colombia that they have a permanent residence permit, or a visa valid for more than six months, issued by the United States or any of the countries belonging to the Schengen Area; otherwise, participants of these 8 nationalities must obtain a visa in accordance with the provisions of section B.

In addition, Colombia also exempts from the visitor visa foreigners who prove to be permanent residents in any of the countries of the *Alianza del Pacífico (Chile, Mexico, and Peru)* or the *Comunidad Andina de Naciones (Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru)* regardless of their nationality,

Visa Exception under Bilateral Agreements for holders of Diplomatic, Official and Service Passports

Colombia has signed with some countries bilateral Agreements on Exemption Visitor Visa for holders of Diplomatic, Official and Service passports – Colombia has signed bilateral agreements with 13 countries to exempt holders of Diplomatic, Official and Service passports from the visa requirement. If a participant does not meet any of the other conditions for visa exemption referred above, but is a holder of a diplomatic, official, or service passport, he/she must check the following list of current valid agreements that allow entry to Colombia without a visitor visa.

COUNTRY	YEAR	AUTHORIZED STAY TIME	PASSPORT TYPE		
			DIPLOMATIC	OFFICIAL	SERVICE
Algeria	2013	90 days	Yes	Yes	Yes
Belarus	2018	90 days within a period of 180 days	Yes	Yes	Yes

Cambodia	2017	30 days	Yes	Yes	Yes
China	1987	30 days	Yes	No	No
Cuba	1994	Holders of diplomatic passports will be exempt from visas for an indefinite period of time, as long as the documents are valid. Holders of official passports will be visa-exempt for up to 6 months.	Yes	Yes	No
Egypt	2015	90 days within a 6-month term	Yes	Yes	Yes
India	2001	90 days, which may be extended at the request of the Mission or Consulate to which the holder is attached.	Yes	Yes	No
Iran	1998	30 days	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lebanon	2015	90 days during a period of 180 days	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mongolia	2014	30 days	Yes	Yes	No
Myanmar	2017	90 days during a period of 180 days	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nicaragua	2017	90 days	Yes	Yes	Yes
Palestina	2024	90 days during a period of 180 days	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thailand	2013	90 days	Yes	Yes	No
Vietnam	2012	90 days	Yes	Yes	No

Information for participants of Canadian and Nicaraguan nationality

Based on the principle of reciprocity, and in compliance with Colombian immigration regulations (Resolution 2676 of August 25, 2023), Canadian nationals who enter Colombia using the visa exemption prerogative are subject to payment of an immigration control fee 85 Canadian dollars. Canadian nationals holding a valid Colombian visa, as well as diplomatic, consular and service agents of that country, are exempt from paying this fee.

For the same reason, a fee of 10 American dollars (USD) will be charged to Nicaraguan nationals who enter Colombia using the visa exemption condition.

B. Processing and obtaining a visa for participant whose nationalities are not exempt from visa or are not subject to other exemption conditions.

For participants duly accredited who do not meet any of the conditions set in section A, the government of Colombia has established an expedited procedure for applying and obtaining a visa (VISITOR (V) COURTESY-INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT). It is entirely electronic, free of any charge and does not required interviews, nor verification or capture of biometric data other than the photograph required in the application form.

Access the electronic visa application form by clicking on the following link:

<https://tramites.cancilleria.gov.co/SOLICITUD-VISA-CORTESIA>

Please note that the visa regime in Colombia does not foresee the '*visa on arrival*'. Therefore, each participant subject to the visa requirement must obtain it, prior to the trip, and present it upon entry into Colombian territory.

Keep in mind the following recommendations for successful visa application:

- Complete the visa application with appropriate advance and preparation. It is recommended to complete it almost immediately once the accreditation is obtained by the participant, or at least two (2) months before the scheduled date of the event in Colombia. The legal time for the process of studying a visa application is thirty (30) calendar days. Avoid, as far as possible, postponing the visa application until the last minute. Avoid, as far as possible, postponing the visa application until the last minute or a few weeks or days before the event begins.
- Reserve at least 30 minutes to complete the electronic application, preferably through a desktop or laptop computer (not a tablet or cell phone). Make sure you already have the documents required for the visa, in PDF, perfectly legible, without cuts, smudges or stains that make it difficult to read them fully. Do not use photos of documents. The maximum allowed size of documents is 5MB.
- Make sure to register a valid email address in the visa application.
- The requirements for the visa application (VISITOR V COURTESY-INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT) for participants accredited to UN World Data Forum are as follows:
 1. Copy of the main page (biographical data) of the passport. The passport must be the same which you obtain accreditation from the UN World Data Forum and which you plan to enter Colombia, it must be valid for more than six (6) months, counted from the scheduled entry date in Colombia, being in good condition and having free pages for stamps.
 2. Attach recent, clear, color and a well resolution photography (JPG format, maximum 300 kb), with a white background, 4 x 3 centimeters. The face must be facing the camera and with a neutral expression, head complete and centered, both eyes open; hair and accessories must not cover the head or face (photos with shadows or taken from passport or other documents are not allowed).
 3. Official notes issued by the UN World Data Forum Secretariat, including the accreditation letter. These notes must clearly contain the full participant names and surnames, as well as his(her) nationality and passport number.

Once the electronic application for the visa has been completed, the applicant/participant can check the status of the application through the following link, providing passport number, nationality, and application number (*número de solicitud*):

<https://tramitesmre.cancilleria.gov.co/tramites/enlinea/consultarEstadoSolicitud.xhtml>

This is the **ONLY** suitable way to check the status of the visa application. Inquiries related to this matter will not be answered via e-mail.

Decisions or questions regarding the visa application, will be transmitted in a timely manner to the applicant e-mail registered in the application.

Once the application is approved, the visa (e-visa) will be sent to the email. No visa stamping is required in the passport. It is allowed to enter Colombia with the visa on an electronic device or with a legible copy printed on paper.

C. Immigration Control, Passport Exemptions, Health Measures and Air Transportation

Immigration control

Before entering Colombia, it is not necessary to carry out any type of prior electronic registration with the Immigration Authority. However, upon arrival in Colombian territory the Authority *Migración Colombia* may require at any time, in addition to the valid passport and the visa for participants whose nationality requires it, or who are not covered by any other visa waiver measure, the accreditation documents to participate in the event.

Passport Exemptions

Nationals of countries of the Andean Community of Nations (CAN) and the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) are exempt from the passport requirement and may enter Colombia as tourists for short stays using their National Identification Document as a valid travel document. The immigration authority (*Migración Colombia*) may grant the traveler an Entry and Permanence Permit (PT) upon arrival that would enable him or her to participate in UN World Data Forum, in accordance with the provisions of the immigration regulation. It is important that the traveler has the documentation that accredits him/her as a UN World Data Forum participant, as this may be required by the immigration authority.

For more information, please check the following link:

<https://www.migracioncolombia.gov.co/entidad/ingreso-can-y-mercosur>

Health and vaccines

To safeguard against setbacks during your stay in Colombia, it's helpful to consider some general health and vaccination recommendations.

Vaccines

Currently, no vaccines are required to gain entry to Colombia, except for yellow fever vaccination, which is required for travelers coming from Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda and Brazil. However, if you wish to visit tourist sites such as the *Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta National Park*, the *Tayrona National Park* or the different *Amazon reserves*, the Colombia authorities will require that you are properly vaccinated against [yellow fever](#). Remember that this vaccine must be administered at least 10 days prior to traveling to these destinations.

Other recommended vaccines, but not mandatory, include immunization against Hepatitis A and Typhoid fever. The same applies to Malaria pills, which are advisable if visiting the rainforest regions, where we would also recommend the use of insect repellent and mosquito nets.

Medication and healthcare services

If you take medication, it is essential that you bring your prescription with you so that you can purchase them at a pharmacy or drugstore, if needed. Remember to always keep handy any related documentation regarding any special health condition you may have that would need to be considered in the event of an emergency.

We would also highly recommend that, before traveling, you take out international medical insurance to ensure full cover should you need medical attention.

Another key tip for you to follow in any part of the country, no matter what the climate, is to use sunscreen and stay well hydrated at all times. Keep in mind that in certain regions it is recommendable that you only consume bottled mineral water. You'll have no problem finding bottled water at any local store.

Lastly, if you have any food allergy, make sure you always ask about the ingredients used in the meals you order.

Air transportation

During the months prior to UN World Data Forum, until December 2024, Colombia will also host other international events, increasing demand for international transport services and itineraries. It is strongly recommended that participants make their flight reservation as far in advance as possible to ensure their participation in UN World Data Forum.

Local currency

The Colombian peso is the country's legal tender. It is generally identified with the abbreviation COP, and you'll find that the official peso symbol (\$) is used locally.



Cancillería

A wide selection of banknotes and coins are used. You will find 50, 100, 200, 500 and 1,000 peso coins and 1,000, 2,000, 5,000, 10,000, 20,000, 50,000 and 100,000 peso banknotes, highlighting Colombia's wealth and diversity. You can pay for your purchases in cash, or with debit or credit cards.



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