

**IREX** Guide to  
**International Citizenship  
& Immigration Programs**  
2023



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# ANTIGUA & BARBUDA



**LOCATION:**  
Eastern Caribbean Sea  
**POPULATION:** 98,209  
**LANGUAGE SPOKEN:** English  
**CURRENCY:**  
East Caribbean Dollar (XCD)  
**CAPITAL:** Saint John's  
**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Antigua  
**MAJOR INDUSTRY:** Tourism

Antigua and Barbuda is an independent Commonwealth state in the Eastern Caribbean. With beautiful beaches of clean turquoise waters, the lush tropical islands of Antigua and Barbuda are an inviting paradise and considered to be one of the

most beautiful places in the world. Tourism is the key driver of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) generating around 60% of the island's income, with key target markets being the U.S., Canada and Europe.

Antigua and Barbuda is a member of the United Nations, the British Commonwealth, CARICOM and the Organisation of American States (OAS) among many other international organisations.

The Citizenship by Investment Unit (CIU) was established in 2013 by the Honourable Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda and is the Government authority responsible for processing all applications for Agent's Licenses, and all applications for Citizenship by Investment by applicants and their family.

There are several Investment Options for citizenship in Antigua and Barbuda:

- National Development Fund (NDF):** The non-profit National Development Fund finances government projects, public-private partnerships, and other charitable investments in Antigua and Barbuda.
- ▶ For a single applicant, or a family of 4 or less: USD 100,000
  - ▶ Family of 5 or more: USD 125,000

In addition to this, due-diligence fee and government fee per person is also applicable.

**Business Investment:** The Citizenship by Investment Unit (CIU) makes recommendation to Cabinet for approval of businesses, whether existing or proposed, for the purposes of investment in business under the Citizenship by Investment Programme.

- ▶ Main applicant: Minimum investment USD 1,500,000
- ▶ Joint Venture: A minimum of 2 persons making a minimum investment of USD 5,000,000, with each person making a contribution of at least USD 400,000 to the joint investment

In addition to this, due-diligence and government fee is also applicable.

**University of West Indies (UWI) Fund:** The University of the West Indies Fund finances the University of the West Indies' fourth landed campus in Antigua and Barbuda. It is only available to families composed of at least six members. It entitles one member of the family to a year of tuition-only scholarship at the university.

- ▶ For a family of 6: Investment amount USD 150,000 includes government processing fee for a family of six
- ▶ For a family of 7 or more: Investment amount USD 150,000 and an additional government processing fee of USD 15,000 per dependent

In addition, due-diligence fee is also applicable.

**Real Estate Investment:** To qualify for citizenship under the real estate option, the government requires applicants to make an investment in designated, officially approved real estate with a value of at least USD 400,000.

Two applications from related parties can make a joint investment, with each applicant investing a minimum of US \$200,000 in order to qualify.

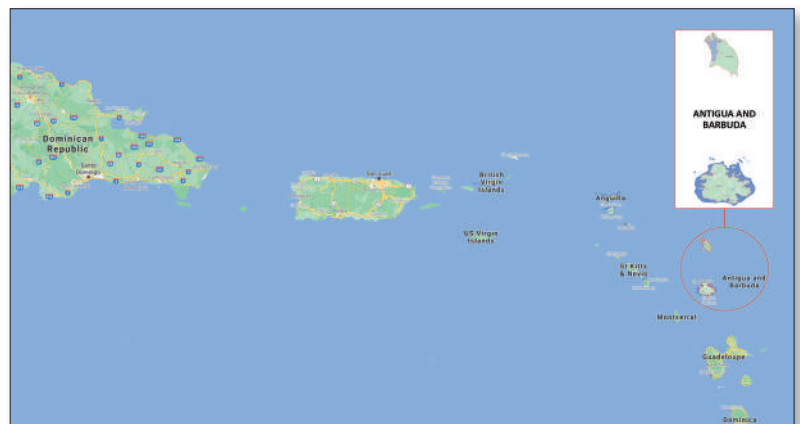
Applicants must hold the real estate for at least five years. In addition to this, due-diligence and government fee is also applicable.

Key Benefits of Antigua and Barbuda's Citizenship by Investment program:

- ▶ Lifetime citizenship for family and children with one time investment
- ▶ Direct citizenship in Caribbean country
- ▶ No foreign income, capital gains, gift, or inheritance tax
- ▶ No personal visit required
- ▶ Ability to pass on citizenship to future generations
- ▶ Entitlement to dual citizenship
- ▶ Visa-free travel to around 150 countries and territories

Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ Hold no Criminal Record
- ▶ Proof of Investments
- ▶ Police Clearing Certificate
- ▶ Provide no false information
- ▶ Must not be a threat to safety and integrity of the country.
- ▶ No visa denials from UK, Schengen, USA
- ▶ A medical Certificate for good health



**Application Processing Time:** 3-4 months

**Minimum stay requirements:** 5 days within a period of five years

# AUSTRALIA



**LOCATION:** Located between Pacific and Indian Ocean.

**POPULATION:** 2,56,04,826

**LANGUAGE SPOKEN:** English

**CURRENCY:** Australian Dollar

**CAPITAL:** Canberra

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Melbourne, Sydney, Perth, Adelaide

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Financial, Metal & Mining, Energy, Healthcare

Australia is an island continent and the world's sixth largest country. It is a unique and diverse country in every way - in culture, population, climate, geography, and history. Australian culture is as broad and varied as the country's landscape. Australia is multicultural and multiracial and this is reflected in the country's

food, lifestyle and cultural practices and experience.

People can become a permanent resident of Australia in different ways. Three common ways of becoming a permanent resident are through:

- ▶ Family-stream permanent visa
- ▶ Work-stream permanent visa
- ▶ Business or Investor-stream permanent visa

## FAMILY-STREAM PERMANENT RESIDENCE VISAS

These are for:

- ▶ partners, children, parents or dependent relatives of an Australian citizen, permanent resident of Australia or eligible New Zealand citizen
- ▶ children being adopted or in the process of being adopted outside of Australia
- ▶ carers who need to move to Australia to provide long-term care for an approved relative

## WORK-STREAM PERMANENT RESIDENCE VISAS

These are for workers who have an Australian employer sponsoring them to work in Australia, or have skills that Australia values.

## BUSINESS OR INVESTMENT-STREAM PERMANENT RESIDENCE VISAS:

There are six main streams under this;

**Business Innovation Stream** — The business innovation stream visa requires the visa holder to have owned a business and are intending to establish or operate a business in Australia. Individuals must pass a points test and have a successful business career with a business turnover of at least AUD 500,000 and net assets of AUD 800,000.

**Investor Stream** — The Investor stream visa is for those individuals that have owned a business or managed investments. Individuals must pass a points test, have three years' business or investment experience, commit AUD 1.5 million into an Australian state or territory bond for four years, and have net assets of AUD 2.25 million.

**Significant Investor Stream** — Individuals must commit at least AUD 5 million into a complying Australian investment for at least four years.

**Entrepreneur Stream** — Individuals must have signed a formal agreement to receive AUD 200,000 in venture capital funding from an Australian company.

The above temporary visas offer a direct pathway to permanent residence after four years.

The below two streams offer direct permanent residence:

**Business Talent (Significant Business History Stream)** — For successful businesspeople who own or part-own a business with a turnover of at least AUD 3 million per year. They must also make a substantial investment into a new or established business in Australia and take an active role in managing the business.

**Business Talent (Venture Capital Entrepreneur Stream)** — Individuals must have sourced AUD 1 million in venture capital funding to fund the start-up or product commercialization of a high value business idea payable by employers.

**Processing Time:** 9-12 months

Advantages of Permanent Resident Visa

- ▶ Allows the applicant of the visa to gain access to Australia's health and education services
- ▶ Remain in Australia indefinitely
- ▶ Apply for Australian citizenship

Any adult who became a permanent resident on or after 1 July 2007 must have been lawfully residing in Australia for four years immediately before applying for Australian citizenship. This includes:

- ▶ 12 months as a permanent resident
- ▶ Absences from Australia of no more than 12 months
- ▶ Absences from Australia of no more than three months in the 12 months before applying

**Eligibility Criteria for Citizenship:**

- ▶ Have passed a citizenship test (unless over the age of 60)
- ▶ Be a permanent resident at the time of application, and also, at time of decision
- ▶ Satisfy the residence requirement
- ▶ Be likely to reside, or to continue to reside, in Australia or to maintain a close and continuing association with Australia
- ▶ Be of good character



# AUSTRIA



**LOCATION:** Central Europe  
**POPULATION:** 90,24,190  
**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** English, German  
**CURRENCY:** Euro  
**CAPITAL:** Vienna  
**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Vienna International Airport  
**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Food, Tourism

Austria is one of the richest nations in the world and a prime destination for entrepreneurs, investors, educated professionals from across the world. Austria routinely records the highest levels of immigration every year. For those arriving in Austria to live and work, the country promises

a safe, clean, and stable environment. An excellent infrastructure makes Austria an outstanding place of residence. Austria's economy relies on its export market, with main exports including machinery and equipment, motor vehicles and parts, paper and paperboard, metal goods, chemicals, iron and steel, textiles, and food stuffs.

Austria's Residence-by-Investment program is among the most attractive programs in the European Union. As a centrally located Schengen area member country, Austria offers easy access to the European continent. A residence permit is initially issued for one year and can then be renewed annually without problems or interruptions. After 10 years of legal residence, and in certain circumstances after seven years, it is possible to apply for Austrian citizenship.

## RESIDENCE BY INVESTMENT PROGRAM- AUSTRIA

Residence for persons of independent means:

This route to immigration depends on an applicant's ability to support themselves with their liquid funds, have a university degree that is recognized in Austria or knowledge of the German language at A1 level, permanent accommodation in Austria, health insurance that provides full cover in Austria and no criminal record. (Under the sufficient funds criterion, you must be able to show liquid assets at your disposal of about EUR 40,000 per adult and EUR 10,000 per child below 18 years. These assets should be in the form of a statement of account from an Austrian or major international bank). Applicants do not receive a work permit under this program and must rely on their independent means to support their livelihood.

## SETTING UP A COMPANY:

Immigrant entrepreneurs can live and work in Austria if they can prove their ability to set up a viable business in the country. Austrian immigration authorities decide each application on a case-by-case basis. There is no fixed quote or set criteria, which means the viability and value of the business proposition must be explained in negotiations with authorities. The higher the investment the better the chances of approval. A potential for job creation is also an

integral part of the application. New applicants have to invest at least €150,000 in their new venture. English and/or German language skills are required. Holding a university diploma increases the chances and young entrepreneurs have better prospects for a successful application. A meticulous and thorough business plan is required as part of this application. Many potential applicants prefer hiring an expert business consultant with local expertise to develop this business plan to maximize success.

Conditions to obtain Austrian Residency:

- ▶ Financial Independence
- ▶ No criminal record
- ▶ A property to live in
- ▶ Knowledge of the German language

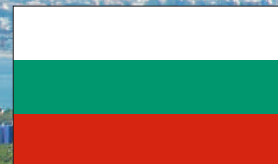
## KEY ADVANTAGES OF AUSTRIAN RESIDENCE-BY-INVESTMENT

- ▶ Austrian residency gives the right to live year-round in Austria, and also visit other countries in the Schengen area visa-free
- ▶ A residency permit is granted at the same time to both the main investor and members of his/her family, including dependent children
- ▶ Austrian residency for financial independent applicants does not oblige him to reside in Austria year-round, and thus he can choose in which country he wish to be a tax resident
- ▶ Living in Austria on the basis of a residency permit will give an opportunity to later apply for permanent residency and Austrian citizenship



Application processing time for Residence for persons of independent means: 3- 6 months.

# BULGARIA



**LOCATION:** South East Europe

**POPULATION:** 69,29,639

**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:**

Bulgarian, English

**CURRENCY:** Bulgarian Lev

**CAPITAL:** Sofia

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Sofia

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Export of Machinery and Equipment, Energy, Metallurgical, Electrical, Tourism, Food and Beverage

Bulgaria is a EU and NATO member country in southeast of Europe, surrounded by Romania, Turkey, Serbia and Greece. Main industries sectors are energy, mining, metallurgy, machine building, agriculture and tourism. It has low tax rates of 10% personal and corporate tax and a very skilled educated workforce.

Bulgaria is one of the few countries in the EU that has legislation that offers citizenship for foreign investors. Residency is obtained within 3 to 4 months of the initial visa application, and applicants are eligible for citizenship after five years. However, applicants may elect to Fast-Track their citizenship application by doubling their investment granting them citizenship within two years.

Bulgaria is not a member of schengen area but is expected to join the schengen in the near future.

Bulgaria offers a permanent residence scheme for foreigners known as the 'Immigrant investor program'.

**Qualifying Investments**

- ▶ €250,000 in Business entity (For temporary residency)
- ▶ €300,000 in real estate (For temporary residency)
- ▶ €512,000 (BGN 1 million) Business enterprise capital (Permanent Residency, Immediate)
- ▶ €512,000 (BGN 1 million) Government bonds (Permanent Residency, Immediate)

**Applicant Requirements:**

- ▶ Applicant should be a Non-EU citizen
- ▶ Application should have no criminal record
- ▶ Minimum investment of 1 million BGN (approx EUR 500'000 or more) for PR
- ▶ Proof for source of funds
- ▶ Proof of investment agreements and power of attorneys certified by Apostille

**BENEFITS OF OBTAINING PERMANENT RESIDENCE IN BULGARIA**

- ▶ Holders of Bulgarian permanent residency can work in Bulgaria without work permit
- ▶ Non-EU nationals and their families (spouse and minor children) can obtain Permanent Residence in Bulgaria. It should be noted that permanent residence gives the same rights as Bulgarian citizens, except voting
- ▶ Holding Bulgarian permanent residence for five years entitles you to apply for Bulgarian citizenship
- ▶ Opportunity to become resident of the European Union. Easy access to EU countries – no visa requirement
- ▶ Holding a permanent residence the foreign national is entitled to enter and leave the country as many times as they wish without visas
- ▶ Free education and medical system throughout EU
- ▶ Becoming a permanent resident, qualifies one as a Bulgaria tax resident

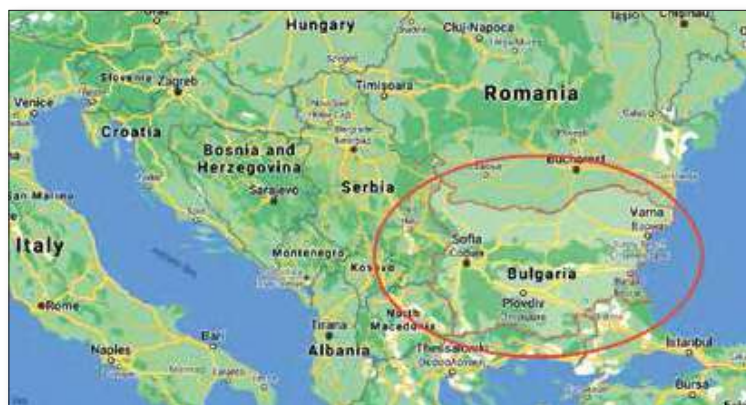
**INVESTMENT OPTIONS FOR BULGARIA CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT PROGRAM**

From €512,000 — €1,024,000

To qualify for the Bulgaria Citizenship by Investment Program investors are required to make direct investments of least €512,000 in one or more of the following investment choices: shares of Bulgarian companies, Bulgarian State Bonds, fiduciary investment or intellectual properties. The investment always remains that of an applicant and can be released immediately after grant of citizenship. Additionally, the applicant has the option to diversify their investment portfolio if pursuing their own investment goals and limits. The program allows for an expedited citizenship application via the fast-track option. This means that after holding a residence permit for at least 1 year, candidates who have made an initial investment of €512,000 can double their investment to the total amount of €1,024,000. After this, candidates immediately become eligible to apply for Bulgarian citizenship. Both investments must be maintained throughout the process and for an additional 2 years after grant of citizenship.

**BENEFITS FOR CITIZENSHIP**

- ▶ Bulgarian Passport in 2-6 years with permanent residency acquired in first 6 months
- ▶ Enjoy EU freedoms to live, work, study or travel anywhere in the EU
- ▶ Visa-free access to 169 countries including EU & UK, Canada and Australia
- ▶ Bulgarian citizens can live in the USA by applying for a E2 Visa due to the country's E2 reciprocity agreement with the United States
- ▶ The entire family is eligible, Spouses, children of any age
- ▶ No physical residency is required, although a residential address must be maintained
- ▶ Attractive Tax regime as it has one of the lowest tax rates in the EU
- ▶ Bulgaria allows for dual citizenship
- ▶ No Language test required
- ▶ No Donation required as this is an Investment only program, with lowest amount required among the EU countries
- ▶ Low cost of living for high standard of goods and services
- ▶ Obtain right to buy and invest in property throughout the EU
- ▶ Provide your children with access to top-rated universities with lower EU tuition fees
- ▶ Citizenship transferable by descent regardless of age



**Application Processing time:** 9-12 months

**No Minimum stay requirement**

# CANADA



**LOCATION:** Northern Part of North America

**POPULATION:** 37,859,919

**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** English, French

**CURRENCY:** Canadian Dollars

**CAPITAL:** Ottawa

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Tourism, Construction, Energy

Canada is a G7 country with one of the world's best performing economies. As the world's second largest country, Canada, is also rich in natural resources, including the world's second largest oil reserves and fourth

largest supply of fresh water.

Canada provides a cosmopolitan, family-friendly lifestyle, with several world-class cities that provide well diversified business environments, vibrant social scenes and a wealth of cultural events. Canada also offers incredible natural beauty, including oceanic coastlines, immense forests, rugged mountains, vast prairies and pristine beaches.

Options for Canada Residency Programs:

**Provincial Nominee Program (PNP):** The Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) is a path to Canadian Permanent Residency. The Canadian federal government has entered into arrangements with Canadian Provinces and Territories that allows the provinces to select their own immigrants and have the flexibility to address their own unique economic needs.

If the applicant wants to immigrate to Canada as a provincial nominee, he must first apply to the province where he wish to settle and complete the process.

Approved applicants will be issued a Provincial Nominee Certificate. The applicant is eligible to apply for Permanent Residence relying on that Provincial Nominee Certificate. The applicant can apply for a temporary work permit to work with the Canada employer while the Permanent Residence application is in process.

As of January 2015, most of the provincial nominee programs have combined their programs with the Express Entry system, in this case, the issuance of the PNP certificate will give the applicant an additional CRS 600 points, which will almost guarantee their selection in the following round of invitations.

**Express Entry:** The Canadian Express Entry (EE) program is a one-stop access point to

submit Permanent Residency applications for four separate Permanent Residence categories. Currently, application processing times range from 8-12 months or less.

- ▶ Federal Skilled Worker (FSW)
- ▶ Canadian Experience Class (CEC)
- ▶ Some Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) streams
- ▶ Federal Skilled Trades (FST)

#### **Federal Skilled Worker (FSW):**

The Federal Skilled Worker Program (FSWP) has been one of the most popular immigration programs. It is a process for obtaining Permanent Residency in Canada. FSW is the longest standing economic-based Permanent Residency program in Canada. It is suitable for those who are prospectively looking to live and work in Canada, but have not yet secured employment in Canada, or are self-employed in Canada and not progressing through a Provincial Nominee Program (PNP). In order to qualify, the applicant must score a minimum of 67 points out of the possible 100 points.





The category works on a point system with the minimum requirement of 67 points out of a possible 100 to qualify. Points can be gained for the following:

- ▶ Age
- ▶ Level of education
- ▶ Language ability in English and French
- ▶ Work Experience
- ▶ Arranged employment
- ▶ Adaptability (points for other connections to Canada)

The applicants must meet the following minimal requirements to apply as a skilled worker:

- ▶ The applicant must have at least one year of continuous full-time, paid work experience or the equivalent in part-time continuous employment
- ▶ The applicant must have had this experience within the last 10 years
- ▶ The work experience must be Skill Type 0 (managerial occupations) or Skill Level A (professional occupations) or B (technical occupations and skilled trades) on the Canadian National Occupation Classification (NOC)

**Canadian Experience Class (CEC):** The Canadian Experience Class (CEC) is a Permanent Residence program for persons who have already been in Canada and working at a managerial, professional or skilled worker level (NOC O, A or B).

The following requirements must be met to qualify for the program:

- ▶ Have worked in Canada for one year within the past 36 months
- ▶ Employment must have been at the managerial, professional, or skilled worker level (NOC O, A or B)
- ▶ The work in Canada was completed legally, while in Canada on an authorizing status document
- ▶ Meet a minimum language requirement of CLB 5 for a NOC B position, or CLB 7 for a NOC O or A position

**Federal Skilled Trades (FST):** The Federal Skilled Trades Program (FSTP) was launched on January 2nd 2013 in order to provide a route for skilled trades people to immigrate to Canada.

The following requirements must be met to qualify for the program:

- ▶ Must have at least two years of work experience in an accepted occupation
- ▶ Must have this experience in the last five years
- ▶ Must obtain a Certificate of Qualification or must have a job offer(s) from up to two Canadian employers that totals at least one year of full time work

- ▶ Must meet the minimum language requirements in English or French

Minimal Language Requirements:

- ▶ Must meet the Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB)5 level for speaking and listening
- ▶ CLB 4 for reading and writing in either English or French

For English, results from both the CELPIP (Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program) and the IELTS (International English Language Testing System) tests are accepted.

Requirements for obtaining Citizenship:

- ▶ Investors and their family members who have lived in Canada for three out of the five years (1,095 days) preceding the application
- ▶ Have adequate knowledge of English and/or French
- ▶ Have no criminal record
- ▶ Have acquired knowledge of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship
- ▶ Understanding of Canada's history, values, institutions and symbols

Key Benefits:

- ▶ G8 and NAFTA member
- ▶ World-class health care system, one of the best in the world.
- ▶ Dual Citizenship
- ▶ Excellent education system
- ▶ One of the most valued passports for international travel
- ▶ Excellent place to do business, with access to the entire North American market





# CAYMAN ISLANDS



**LOCATION:** Western Caribbean

**POPULATION:** 65,998

**LANGUAGE SPOKEN:** English

**CURRENCY:** Cayman Islands Dollar

**CAPITAL:** George Town

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** George Town

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Financial, Tourism, Technology

Located in the Western Caribbean, 450 miles southwest of Miami, the Cayman Islands is a British Overseas Territory and a well-regulated financial centre with a politically stable government and an enviably high standard of living.

With plentiful natural beauty, excellent infrastructure and legal services, a high level of tax-friendliness, and world class lifestyle options, the Cayman Islands is an excellent place to consider for second residency.

The path to obtaining residency can be a simple and straightforward process for persons of independent means and for qualified business investors. With four residency certificate options to choose from, a growing number of discerning individuals now live and work in one of the world's premier financial centres.

## Investment Requirements:

The Cayman Islands Government offers the following residency by investment through real estate programmes and business investments for individuals who are seeking permanent residence in the Cayman Islands.

**Certificate of Permanent Residency for Persons of Independent Means** Persons who invest a minimum US\$2.4 million in developed real estate in the Cayman Islands may apply for a Certificate of Permanent Residence for Persons of Independent Means. This programme permits the ability to work in Cayman and eventually qualify for a British Overseas Territory passport and then a UK passport.

**Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means:** This facility is for persons who wish to reside long-term in the Cayman Islands without the right to work. Applicants will be required to demonstrate that they have invested a prescribed minimum US\$ 1.2 million in developed real estate in the Islands and show annual income of at least US\$144,000/year derived outside of the Cayman Islands.

**Certificate of Direct Investment** The Certificate of Direct Investment is for persons who invest, or propose to invest, a minimum prescribed amount in a licensed employment generating business in the Cayman Islands and in which he/she will exercise substantial management control.

**Residency Certificate (Substantial Business Presence)** This facility is for persons who invest in, or who are employed in a senior management capacity within, an approved category of business in the Cayman Islands. These approved category primarily include financial and legal services.

## Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ Have a clean criminal record
- ▶ Pass a medical exam

- ▶ Purchase locally compliant health insurance coverage
- ▶ Demonstrate the required financial standing
- ▶ Meet the minimum required business or real estate investment

## KEY BENEFITS:

- ▶ Enjoy travel to all developed nations with flexible and easy visa requirements
- ▶ Have a second passport without renouncing citizenship of one's country
- ▶ Option of obtaining permanent residence for a period of 25 years or for life depending on investment
- ▶ The resident permit issued by Cayman Islands covers Spouse and dependent Children
- ▶ British Overseas Territory
- ▶ One of the highest standards of living in the world
- ▶ No restriction on foreign ownership of land
- ▶ No direct taxation in the form of corporate, capital gains, inheritance, personal income, sales (VAT) or recurring property taxes
- ▶ Convenient location with nonstop flights to London Heathrow and major North American cities, including a 90-minute flight to Miami
- ▶ A sophisticated infrastructure with modern hospitals, reliable telecommunications, quality education and an extensive paved road network
- ▶ Strong and stable economy
- ▶ Low crime rate
- ▶ High-quality real estate, shops, services, hotels and restaurants
- ▶ Friendly, welcoming and educated population

## Annual residency requirement under each program

- ▶ Certificate of Permanent Residence: 1 day
- ▶ Residency Certificate for Persons of Independent Means: 30 days
- ▶ Certificate of Direct Investment: 90 days
- ▶ Substantial Business Presence: 90 days

## CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT

The Cayman Islands don't offer a pure citizenship-by-investment program, but as a British Overseas Territory, its permanent residents become eligible for a Cayman Islands passport after five years and a British passport within twelve months thereafter.



# CYPRUS



**LOCATION:** Easternmost island in the Mediterranean Sea.

**POPULATION:** 12,10,468

**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** Greek, Turkish, English

**CURRENCY:** Euro

**CAPITAL:** Nicosia

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Larnaca and Paphos

**MAJOR INDUSTRY:** Tourism

Cyprus is strategically located at the crossroads of three continents, Europe, Asia and Africa and is the third largest island in the Mediterranean. Its geographical location has played an important role in establishing it as a business hub since

antiquity and as a very popular tourist destination. Cyprus has been a member state of the EU since 2004 and a member of the Eurozone since 2008.

The combination of quality people, business infrastructure and availability of investment opportunities makes it an ideal business hub in the region. In Cyprus, one can enjoy a high standard of living, sunny weather, the beach and mountains and the lowest reported crime rate in the EU. As an EU Member, Cyprus offers excellent healthcare services at a lower cost than most other EU countries.

One can secure permanent residency in Cyprus through investment in real estate. It is a legal status which entitles Non-EU citizens and qualifying dependents to enter and stay as permanent residents in Cyprus with no limitations. It does not expire; therefore, the holder does not need to renew it. It can be passed down to dependents and spouse. The programme is one of the fastest and simplest investor visa programmes in Europe.

## Investment Requirements:

- ▶ Purchase new immovable property of a total market value of at least EUR 300,000 plus VAT
- ▶ Deposit a minimum of EUR 30,000 from abroad into a Cypriot bank account that will be locked for three years. After 3 years the money will be released without restrictions
- ▶ Provide supporting evidence of a secured annual income of at least EUR 30,000 deriving from abroad (an additional EUR 5,000 is required for each dependent spouse and adult child, and EUR 8,000 for each parent)

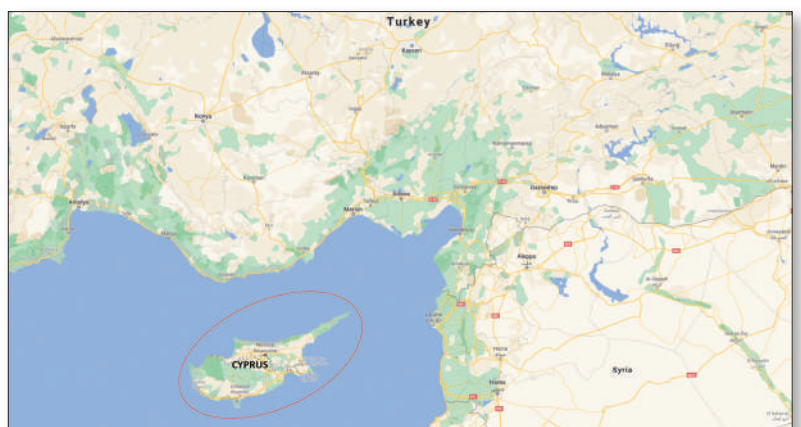
## Applicant requirements:

- ▶ Applicants should have no intention to undertake any employment in Cyprus. They can own a business registered in Cyprus and receive dividends from this business
- ▶ Applicants must have a clean criminal record and should not be in the list of persons whose property is frozen by the EU as a result of sanctions
- ▶ Applicants must visit Cyprus within 1 year of the date of the Permanent Residence Permit (PRP) to provide biometrics for

issuance of PR card. All family members are required to visit Cyprus once every two years

## Key Advantages:

- ▶ Fast-track Permanent Residency Program where processing of application takes 2 months
- ▶ Residency program with no government contributions
- ▶ Permanent Residency for entire family which includes main applicant, spouse, dependent children up to 25 years, parents and parents in law
- ▶ Dependents can be enrolled in high-quality private schools, offering English language courses
- ▶ Only one visit to Cyprus is required for biometric submission
- ▶ Not necessary to reside in Cyprus but a visit once every two years is required
- ▶ Favourable tax regime as there is no worldwide dividends, interest and income tax. No tax on gains. No inheritance tax
- ▶ Only first-time sale properties qualify for the program, apartments, villas and houses
- ▶ Safe and highly profitable investments with regular rental income from letting out the property
- ▶ Secure environment, "Insurance policy" in case of economic or political stability
- ▶ Highly efficient process as the application can be processed in the applicant's absence and filed on their behalf
- ▶ PR holder benefits by the newly established General Healthcare system and is entitled to free healthcare.
- ▶ Eligibility for citizenship as Cyprus PR holders may apply for citizenship in 5 years if all the conditions have been met



**Application Processing Time:** 2 months  
**No Minimum Stay Requirements**

# DOMINICA



**LOCATION:** Eastern Caribbean, between the French islands of Guadeloupe to the north and Martinique to the south

**POPULATION:** 72,048

**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** English, French Patois

**CURRENCY:** East Caribbean Dollar (XCD)

**CAPITAL:** Roseau

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Dominica

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Tourism, Agriculture, Manufacturing

Resting in the heart of the Eastern Caribbean archipelago between Martinique and Guadeloupe, The Commonwealth of Dominica is a former British colony and a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, as well as the United Nations, the Organization of American States, CARICOM, and other international organizations.

The Dominican Island boasts pristine sandy beaches, lush green mountains, acres of unspoiled tropical rainforests, and some of the best diving and hiking in the Caribbean. Dominica is a politically and economically stable state with the lowest crime rate in the region. Dominica also recognizes dual citizenship.

Its citizenship-by-investment program was established in 1993 to boost the country's largely agriculture-based economy. Citizenship by investment of Dominica comes with a wide array of benefits. It is these benefits that attract investors to their shores, and ultimately help them seize fresh opportunities, live new adventures, and experience life like never before.

Economic citizens of Dominica:

- ▶ Have the right to live and work in Dominica
- ▶ Can call one of the world's most beautiful and eco-friendly countries their home for life
- ▶ Can take advantage of robust healthcare and education systems
- ▶ Join a global community that transcends Dominica's land borders
- ▶ Can hold multiple citizenships under Dominica's laws
- ▶ Have significant mobility rights, including travel without a visa to approximately 140 countries and territories, including major business hubs
- ▶ Have personally contributed to the prosperity of a peaceful, welcoming country
- ▶ May reside in Dominica, but become tax residents after 183 days of physical presence
- ▶ Are not overburdened by tax. For example, there is no net wealth tax or inheritance tax

There are several qualifying options for Dominica Citizenship by Investment program:

**Economic Diversification Fund:** The Economic Diversification Fund (EDF) is a Dominican Government program supporting socio-economic initiatives with the aim of driving national development.

To qualify for Dominican citizenship through the Citizenship by Investment program, applicants must make a non-refundable contribution to the EDF.

- ▶ Single applicant: USD 100,000
- ▶ Spouse of the main applicant: USD 50,000

- ▶ Sibling of the main applicant or of the spouse of the main applicant aged 18-25: USD 50,000
- ▶ Any dependant other than the spouse of the main applicant or a sibling of the main applicant or of the spouse of the main applicant aged 18-25: USD 25,000 each
- ▶ Family of four including the main applicant, the spouse of the main applicant, and two other dependants other than a dependant sibling: USD 175,000

**Real estate:** To qualify for Dominican citizenship under the real estate option of its Citizenship by Investment programme, the applicant must purchase authorised property worth at least USD \$200,000. The applicant is obligated to hold the property for three years from the date of citizenship is granted, and will only be able to re-sell the real estate under the Citizenship by Investment programme after five years.

Once the application for Dominica citizenship by real estate investment is approved, the government fees also applies which ranges from USD 25,000 for a single applicant to USD 70,000 for a family of seven or more including the main applicant.

Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ Hold no Criminal Record
- ▶ Proof of residential address (lease agreement or utility bill)
- ▶ Letter of recommendation from the head of the school/university for children between 12 and 18 years old. Official transcripts from an institution of higher learning or a letter from the competent authority confirming enrolment for children aged 18 to 30 who are currently in a recognised institution of higher learning
- ▶ Letter of employment/financial statements
- ▶ 12 months bank statements
- ▶ Notarised affidavit of source of funds
- ▶ Detailed business background reports/resume/CV
- ▶ Proof of payment of relevant fees



**Application Processing Time:** 3 months from the receipt of a fully completed application

**No minimum stay requirement.**

# GEORGIA



**LOCATION:** Located in Caucasus (region between Black Sea and Caspian Sea) of Eurasia, East of Turkey

**POPULATION:** 39,86,472

**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** Georgian, English

**CURRENCY:** Georgian Lari (GEL)

**CAPITAL:** TBILISI

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Tbilisi International Airport

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Tourism, Food Processing, Agribusiness, Technology

Georgia is a modern, politically stable and a fast growing country with rich history and traditions, beautiful nature, excellent cuisine, low taxes, low crime rate, low corruption and low cost of living. Georgia is an eurasian country connecting eastern europe and western asia. It has a strategic location and is a primary spot for investors who want to

access both the European and Asian markets.

Georgia offers visas, residence permits and tax residency status to investors and their family members with a path to citizenship. Residence Permit is one of main grounds for a foreigner for his/her entry into Georgia and legal stay. Based upon the appropriate grounds, Residence Permit shall be issued to a foreigner with the right of temporary or permanent residence.

According to new regulations which came into affect In July 2019, there are 2 different options for obtaining an Investment Residence Permit (Permanent Residence permit) of Georgia:

1. By making a personal investment in real estate; buying non-agricultural real estate (land, apartment, commercial area etc.) in Georgia which costs more than USD 300,000.

The Investment Residence Permit will initially be issued for 5 years. If after 5 years, the applicant does not sell the real estate property, they will be granted with a Permanent Residence Permit of Georgia.

2. Obtaining Investment residency by making investment through Georgian Company.

Applicants will need to incorporate a company in Georgia and make an investment of USD 300,000 in his/her Company (buy real estate, issue loans, money in the company's term deposit account, etc.) Following the incorporation and investment, the Investment Residence Permit will be issued for 5 years. After the applicant has been granted with the investment residence permit, it is obligatory that company's annual turnover must exceed certain minimum limits:

- USD 50,000 for the first year;
- USD 100,000 for the second year;
- USD 120,000 for the third, fourth and fifth years.

If the applicant is able to meet this criteria, they will receive a Permanent Residence Permit after 5 years.

## Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ Provide documents certifying USD 300,000 investment in real estate or investment in a newly-formed Georgian company

- ▶ No Criminal record

## Key Advantages:

- ▶ Visa-free travel to 116 countries and territories, including EU (Schengen) countries, most of CIS countries, Iran and Turkey
- ▶ Right to unrestricted stay in the country
- ▶ Include a spouse, underage dependent and/or fully dependent incapacitated person
- ▶ The cost of living in Georgia is very low compared to other European countries
- ▶ EU membership is a possibility ahead for Georgia and permanent residence here, with the option of citizenship, opens up prospective EU citizenship for investors
- ▶ Minimum investment requirement is significantly lower than golden visa programs of EU member nations
- ▶ The country has a liberal tax regime for residents with non-residents being totally exempt from tax on foreign income

## Naturalization:

Georgian citizenship shall be granted to the applicant if they meet the following requirements:

- ▶ Lawfully resided in Georgia for the last 10 consecutive years up to the day of applying for Georgian citizenship
- ▶ Knows the official language of Georgia within the established limits
- ▶ Knows the history of Georgia and basic principles of law within the established limits
- ▶ Have a job and/or real estate in Georgia, or carry on business in the territory of Georgia or hold an interest or shares in a Georgian enterprise or married a Georgian citizen

The decision on granting Georgian citizenship by naturalization is made within 3 months.



**No Minimum Stay Requirement**

# GERMANY



**LOCATION:** North-Central Europe  
**POPULATION:** 8,38,79,156  
**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** German, English  
**CURRENCY:** Euro  
**CAPITAL:** Berlin  
**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Frankfurt and Munich  
**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Automobiles, Steel, Electrical, Food, Tourism

The Federal Republic of Germany lies in the heart of Europe and is a cosmopolitan, democratic country with a great tradition and a lively present. It is the largest economy in Europe which is made up of 16 states, each with a unique cultural identity and areas of responsibility. It is world's fourth-largest economy,

highly innovative with a strong focus on exports and renowned for its recognizable brands, precision engineering, and high-tech products. Germany has a lot to offer for those seeking a better education, high living standards, or a conducive business environment.

Germany does not have an investor category per se. Instead, foreign nationals wishing to invest and become a resident of Germany must comply with the immigration laws related to self-employment, by taking up an economic activity in a local municipality. This is facilitated through a regionalised investment.

A foreign national is to:

- 1) Purchase off-plan real estate and
- 2) Make an entrepreneurial investment into a regional development fund.

## INVESTMENT OPTIONS

The required investment is two fold and applicants must fulfil all the following requirements:

- ▶ **Property Investment:** Purchase off-plan real estate with a minimum value of EUR 250,000
- ▶ **Entrepreneurial Investment:** Make an entrepreneurial investment of not less than EUR 100,000 into a regional development fund

## Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ The main applicant must be at least 18 years of age,
- ▶ Have no criminal record

- ▶ May include his/her spouse, and dependent children under the age of 18, in the application
- ▶ Main applicant and family members to have European-wide health insurance
- ▶ Applicant is required to maintain a residential address in the local municipality during the entire investment period

## Key Benefits:

- ▶ Live and work in Germany
- ▶ High standard of living
- ▶ Excellent education & health care
- ▶ No language requirement
- ▶ Travel freely throughout the EU
- ▶ No need to continuously reside in Germany
- ▶ Residency extended to spouse & children
- ▶ Recognised route to German citizenship
- ▶ Brilliant business environment

After 8 years of holding on to the Residency permit in Germany, one becomes eligible to apply for citizenship.



**Application processing time:** 2-3 months  
**No minimum stay requirement**

# GREECE



**LOCATION:** Located in Southern Europe

**POPULATION:** 1,04,05,077

**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** Greek, English

**CURRENCY:** Euro

**CAPITAL:** Athens

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Athens International Airport

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Tourism, Shipping

Located in Southern Europe, Greece is strategically located at the crossroads of Europe, Asia, and Africa. As a member state of the EU, Greece offers its residents and citizens a number of reassuring benefits including high levels of safety and security, excellent education

opportunities, robust healthcare options and a high standard of living.

The Greece Residency by Investment Program was introduced by the Greek government in 2013 to enable investors to acquire residency in Greece by investing in real estate. The Greece Golden Visa Program is considered one of the most affordable residence-by-investment programs that provides access to Europe. Successful applicants and their families are able to benefit from visa-free access to Europe's Schengen Area within two months of applying. The residency permit is granted for five (5) years and it is renewable for as long as the property remains in the possession of the initial owner.

## INVESTMENT OPTIONS

Greece offers the most affordable residency program within Europe offering fast application processing in just 2 months. Investors can purchase real estate for a minimum of €250,000 or choose a Real Estate Lease or Timeshare option with the same investment threshold.

### OPTION 1

Real Estate Acquisition to the Minimum Value of €250,000

Residence permit granted for 5 years

The investor can invest in one or several properties to a total value of €250,000

The residence permit can be renewed for another 5 years each time, provided that the applicant still owns the property

### OPTION 2

Real Estate Lease or Timeshare to the Minimum Value of €250,000

Residence permit granted for 5 years

Lease for at least 10 years or invest in a timeshare for hotel accommodation or furnished tourist residencies in a combined tourist facility, as the above facility must be registered with Greek National Tourism Organization (GNTO)

Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ Provide a medical certificate
- ▶ No Criminal record
- ▶ Proof of health insurance coverage that is valid in Greece

- ▶ Not applicable to work, if choosing the real estate option

## Key Advantages

- ▶ Affordable Program
- ▶ Visa-free travel within Europe's Schengen Area
- ▶ Living costs are approximately 30% less than in other European countries
- ▶ Residence permits can be acquired within 30–60 days
- ▶ Unlimited expiry date of residence permit
- ▶ Opportunity to rent out the investment property
- ▶ Access to the same public health and education as Greek Citizens
- ▶ Residence applicable to the whole family (married spouse, children under 21 years old, and up to age 28 if they are enrolled in a Greek university and parents of the main applicant and spouse)
- ▶ As of December 2020, minors are allowed to submit an application for a Greek Golden Visa as a main applicant and include their parents as family members
- ▶ Eligibility to apply for citizenship after seven years of residence
- ▶ No requirement to live in Greece, prior to, during or after the application
- ▶ During current travel bans, an investor can now apply for a Golden Visa without having to visit Greece

**Application Processing Time:** Two months

**No Minimum Stay Requirement**

## Citizenship:

After residing in Greece for seven years, the applicant may apply for citizenship according to the Greek Nationality Code via the process of naturalization.



# GRENADA



**LOCATION:** Eastern Caribbean, South of Barbados

**POPULATION:** 112, 706

**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** English, French Patois

**CURRENCY:** East Caribbean Dollar (XCD)

**CAPITAL:** Saint George's

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Saint George's

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Exports, Tourism

One of the most magnificent islands in the West Indies, Grenada is also known as the 'Isle of Spice'. Grenada is famous for its wildly jagged mountain peaks, hidden coves, spice plantations, and lush verdant rainforests. The beaches are idyllic, with white or golden sand, palm trees, and the delicate aroma of the island's native spices.

The Citizenship by Investment Programme came into being in August 2013 and allows individuals and their families to obtain citizenship or permanent residence.

There are several qualifying options of investments to obtain Grenada Citizenship or Permanent Residence:

**The National Transformation Fund (NTF):** The National Transformation Fund (NTF) was established in 2013 as a means of transforming Grenada's economy into one that is ever more prosperous and independent.

- ▶ Single Applicant USD 150,000
- ▶ Main Applicant and Spouse USD 200,000
- ▶ Family of four members USD 200,000
- ▶ Family over four family members USD 200,000 and USD 25,000 per additional dependant after the third dependant

**Approved Real Estate Project:** The approved projects encompass real estate developments such as hotels, villas, and resorts and the applicants opting for the approved project (real estate) route must invest at least USD 220,000 as a co-owner or USD 350,000 and must keep the real estate for at least five (5) years following the grant of citizenship. Additional to this:

- ▶ Government fees of USD 50,000 and USD 25,000 per additional dependant after third dependant,
- ▶ Application fee of USD 1500 per person
- ▶ Due Diligence Fee of USD 5000 per person. If the dependant child is between 0 years – 16 years, there is no due diligence fee. In case the dependant child is between 17 years- 25 years the due diligence fee is USD 5000
- ▶ Processing Fee of USD 1500 per person. USD 500 in case the person is below 18 years

Key Benefits of Grenada's Citizenship by Investment Program:

- ▶ Minimal Processing Fees
- ▶ No requirement to reside in Grenada before or after citizenship is granted
- ▶ Well-known, stable and established investment environment
- ▶ Right to live and work in Grenada
- ▶ Rights associated with membership of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
- ▶ Dual Citizenship

- ▶ Eligibility to apply to the USA for a non-immigrant investor visa, due to the country's E-2 Investor Visa treaty
- ▶ Citizenship may be extended to family members, such as a spouse, dependent children, and dependent parents
- ▶ Grenada has no foreign income, wealth, gift, inheritance, or capital gains tax
- ▶ Incentive packages exist including corporate tax incentives, full exemption from import duties, tax relief benefits, and export allowance
- ▶ Grenadian citizens can travel without visa restrictions to more than 115 international and Commonwealth countries

Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ Hold no Criminal Record
- ▶ Provide no false information
- ▶ Should not pose national security risk to Grenada or any other country
- ▶ Not involved in any activity which could cause disrepute to Grenada
- ▶ Has not been denied a visa to a country with which Grenada has visa-free travel and who has not subsequently obtained a visa to the country that issued the denial
- ▶ Proof that the main applicant is at least 18 years old
- ▶ Proof of funds needed to make the required investments. The source of the funds should be legal
- ▶ A certificate by a medical practitioner, indicating that the main applicant and his or her applying family members are not suffering from any communicable disease and that they are otherwise in good health
- ▶ A Police Certificate



**Application Processing Time:** Approximately 3 or 4 months  
**No minimum stay requirement.**

# IRELAND



**LOCATION:** Western Europe  
**POPULATION:** 4,957,360  
**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** Irish, English  
**CURRENCY:** Euro  
**CAPITAL:** Dublin  
**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Dublin  
**MAJOR INDUSTRY:** Tourism

Ireland is an island nation on the westernmost edge of Europe. It is the continent's second largest island (after Great Britain). Ireland is also known as Emerald Isle for its wide expanses of lush, green fields. Ireland is a full member state of the European Union.

The Immigrant Investor Programme (IIP) was introduced by the Irish Government in 2012 to encourage inward investment for the creation of business and employment opportunities in the State. The IIP is designed to encourage investors and business professionals from outside the European Economic Area (EEA) to avail opportunities of investing and locating their business interests in Ireland and acquire a secure residency status in Ireland.

The programme offers four investment options to gain Residence in Ireland:

**Enterprise Investment:** Ireland Investor Visa candidates must invest into a qualifying Irish enterprise for at least three years. The enterprise can be an existing business, or it can be a new business started by the investor. The enterprise must be registered in Ireland, and its headquarters must be located in the country. The enterprise must also help the Irish economy by creating or maintaining local jobs.

- ▶ Minimum Investment: €1 million

**Investment Fund:** Candidates must invest into a qualifying investment fund for at least three years. The investment fund must have been pre-approved and regulated by Central Bank. All funds must be invested in Ireland and must represent equity stakes in Irish registered companies that are not quoted on any stock exchange.

- ▶ Minimum Investment: €1 million

**Real Estate Investment Trusts (REIT):** Candidates must invest in an Irish REIT that is listed on the Irish Stock Exchange or have already applied for listing for at least three years. A REIT is a listed company, used to hold rental investment properties. The aim of a REIT is to provide an after-tax return for investors yet avoids double taxation.

- ▶ Minimum Investment: €2 million

**Endowment (Donation Option):** A candidate must make a philanthropic donation to a project which is of public benefit to the arts, sports, health, culture or education in Ireland. Investors will receive no financial return or recoupment of the principal.

- ▶ Minimum Investment: €500,000
- ▶ Group of 5 or more: Minimum investment of €400,000 per investor

Key Benefits of Investor Program:

- ▶ Visa free travel
- ▶ Dual Citizenship
- ▶ No requirement to learn English
- ▶ Full Stamp 4 visa provided for five years and renewed every five years, even after the investment period is closed and the investors' money is returned
- ▶ Residency requirement only 1 day per year

Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ Hold no Criminal Record
- ▶ Proof of Net Worth of €2 million
- ▶ Police Clearing Certificate of good character
- ▶ Provide no false information
- ▶ A medical Certificate for good health



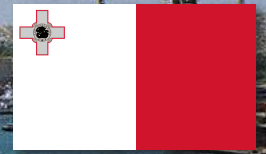
**Application Processing Time for Residence Permit:** 3-4 months.

**Minimum stay requirements:** 1 day per year for maintaining residence permit.

**Naturalization for Irish Citizenship:** The Immigrant Investor Programme does not provide naturalization for the citizenship. In order to apply for Irish Citizenship the applicants are required to be physically resident in Ireland for 12 months prior to the application and to be physically resident in Ireland for the next 4 of the preceding 8 years i.e. 5 years in total.



# MALTA



**LOCATION:** Central Mediterranean Sea, 80KM South of Italy

**POPULATION:** 4,41,955

**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** Maltese and English

**CURRENCY:** Euro

**CAPITAL:** Valletta

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Malta International Airport

**MAJOR INDUSTRY:** Tourism

Located right in the middle of the Mediterranean, the Maltese Islands are some of the richest in the region – promising diverse culture, a dynamic history, welcoming people and eclectic attractions. It is perfect choice for investors and expatriates looking to base themselves in a safe and stable country that has endless business opportunities.

Malta has been a member of the EU since 2004, and of the Schengen Area since 2007. It enjoys a stable political climate with a low risk of financial instability. In recent years, the Maltese government has actively sought to attract foreign capital with attractive incentives aimed at international investors and entrepreneurs. The government policy seeks to build on Malta's many existing strengths such as its strategic location, excellent international trade relations, a highly qualified and motivated english-speaking workforce, and a good quality of life including excellent healthcare and schools.

The Malta Residence and Visa Program (MRVP) is a fast track route for non-Maltese persons to acquire permanent residency for the entire family in the EU. Malta has also introduced a citizenship-by-investment option known as the Malta Individual Investor Program (MIIP).

MRVP Program requirements:

- ▶ An investment in government bonds of EUR 250,000 to be retained for a minimum period of five years
- ▶ A non-refundable government contribution of EUR 30,000 (EUR 5,500 of which is an advance government administrative fee)
- ▶ A property purchase of EUR 320,000 (EUR 270,000 in South Malta or Gozo), or a property lease of EUR 12,000 per annum (EUR 10,000 in South Malta or Gozo)

Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ Property and investments must be held for a minimum of five years.
- ▶ Applicants must have valid travel document.
- ▶ Applicants must have fully comprehensive EU health insurance.
- ▶ Applicants must receive an annual income of at least €100,000 arising outside Malta, or have capital of at least €500,000.

Benefits of the MRVP:

- ▶ Permanent residency in 3-4 months
- ▶ No tax on foreign income, no inheritance tax
- ▶ EU residence card granting visa-free travel across Europe's Schengen Area
- ▶ Entire family are eligible, spouses, children of any age as long as they are unwed and dependent parents and grandparents.
- ▶ Right to reside indefinitely in Malta
- ▶ Five years' permanent residence, renewable indefinitely
- ▶ Investment required only for first five years
- ▶ No residence requirement, prior or after residency has been granted
- ▶ PR-card holders have easy work permit process application.

**Application Processing Time:** 3-4 months  
**No Minimum stay requirement**

## MALTA INDIVIDUAL INVESTOR PROGRAMME

The Individual Investor Programme of Malta has been launched in 2014 and is being administered by the Malta Individual

Investor Programme Agency (MIIPA), which is responsible for processing incoming applications and carrying out necessary due diligence towards applicants. Through Individual Investor Programme Maltese government provides the possibility to attain Citizenship by Investment, thereby providing a gateway to access all the rights as a Maltese and European Union national.

## MIIP PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

Main applicant must:

- ▶ make a contribution of €650,000 to the Maltese Government, which is deposited in the National Development and Social Fund (NDSF);
- ▶ lease a property for a minimum value of €16,000 per annum, or purchase a property for a minimum value of €350,000, both in Malta and cannot be let or sublet; and
- ▶ acquire €150,000 worth of stocks, bonds, debentures, special purpose vehicles or other investment vehicles as may be identified from time to time by MIIPA.

Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ Above 18 years of age
- ▶ No Criminal record
- ▶ Be in good health
- ▶ Pass strict government due diligence checks
- ▶ Property and government bonds must be held for at least 5 years.
- ▶ Comprehensive documentation requirements.

Benefits of Malta Individual Investor Program

- ▶ First EU approved citizenship program
- ▶ Fast track residence cards within 1-3 weeks with Schengen mobility for 18 months
- ▶ The right to live, work and study in any of the 27 EU countries and Switzerland.
- ▶ Travel visa-free (or visa on arrival) to 182 countries, including the US, UK and Canada.
- ▶ World's strictest due diligence standards and vetting of applicants, thus ensuring only highly respectable applicants will be admitted.
- ▶ After 5 years, investments in government bonds and property can be released
- ▶ Reasonable contribution and an efficient application process.
- ▶ Malta is an attractive place to live or to own a second home and is strategically located with excellent air links.
- ▶ Tax Residency: Source & Remittance based taxation only. No wealth Tax. No asset Reporting. No inheritance Tax.

**Application Processing Time:** 14 months  
**No Minimum Stay Requirement**



# MAURITIUS



## LOCATION:

Indian Ocean, located off the eastern coast of Africa

**POPULATION:** 12,72,531

## LANGUAGES SPOKEN:

Mauritian Creole, English

**CURRENCY:** Mauritian Rupee

**CAPITAL:** Port Louis

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Mauritius

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Tourism, Agribusiness, Construction, Real Estate

Mauritius is an island nation off the eastern coast of Africa, with breathtaking natural parks, stunning beaches, lagoons and reefs. It has become an attractive destination for those seeking investment relocation, political and social stability, a high standard of living, modern infrastructure and efficient public services.

Mauritius is increasingly recognised as one of the leading African property markets for foreign investors. There has been rise in interest by foreign investors in recent years due to relaxing of the laws relating to buying property on the island. But these investors are not just buying properties in Mauritius, they are also buying residency through investment.

## Investment:

The purchase of a residential unit acquired under Property Development Scheme (PDS), the Integrated Resort Scheme (IRS) and Residential Estate Scheme (RES), approved and managed by the Economic Development Board, offers the right to residency in Mauritius to the purchaser and their family.

**PDS scheme** – The Property Development Scheme allows the development of a mix of residences for sale to non-citizens, citizens and members of the Mauritian Diaspora. The PDS is an integrated project with social dimensions for the benefit of the neighbouring community and allows for the development and sale of high standard residential units mainly to foreigners. A foreign buyer purchasing a villa under the PDS scheme for more than USD375,000, or its equivalent in any freely convertible foreign currency, is eligible for an RP for as long as the property is held.

**IRS scheme** - The IRS was introduced by the government of Mauritius in 2002 to open the property market to foreign buyers on a restricted basis and thereby encourage the construction and sale of high-end residential and resort property in designated locations. Non-citizens of Mauritius automatically become eligible to an RP if they acquire a property situated in an IRS with a minimum investment of USD375,000. The property owner and their family are able to reside in Mauritius for as long as the property is held.

**RES scheme** – The RES is designed to enable landowners to undertake property development on a smaller scale (not exceeding 10 hectares). There is no restriction on the minimum price for acquiring a property under the RES, so an RES property is often more affordable than IRS property. In cases where an RES property purchase price exceeds USD375,000, or its equivalent in any freely convertible foreign currency, the property owner and their family is eligible to apply for an RP for as long as the property is held.

Owners may rent out the property, become tax resident in Mauritius and face no restriction on the repatriation of funds or revenue raised from the sale or renting of the property. Mauritius has no capital gains tax, dividends or inheritance tax and a universal tax rate of 15%.

In a recent development, the holders of residency through property purchase and their spouses can seek employment in Mauritius or start their own enterprise without having to apply for the previously required work permit or investor/self-employment.

## Advantages:

- ▶ Political and Social Stability
- ▶ Preferential Access to Regional Markets
- ▶ Sound Macro Economic Management
- ▶ Good Governance and Efficient Public Services
- ▶ Modern Infrastructure and Telecommunications Services
- ▶ High Health Standards and Peaceful Living Conditions
- ▶ Pool of Qualified Professionals, Bilingual in English and French
- ▶ Highly Literate and Adaptable Labour Force
- ▶ Effective Private/Public Sector Partnership
- ▶ Mauritian citizenship after 2 years of residency which gives visa free access to the Schengen zone in Europe
- ▶ Spouse, dependent children (unmarried) under 24 years and parents (considered on a case-by-case basis), are eligible for a permanent residence permit
- ▶ Right to enter and re-enter the country any number of times

## No minimum stay requirement

**There are two options for obtaining citizenship or a second passport by investment:**

### Mauritian Citizenship by Investment:

This scheme offer foreigners the chance to acquire Mauritian citizenship by making a non-refundable contribution of USD 1 million to the Mauritius Sovereign Fund. Investors can include their spouse and dependent children for an additional non-refundable contribution of USD 100,000 per passport.

### Mauritian Passport by Investment :

This scheme offer foreigners the chance to acquire a Mauritian passport by making a contribution of USD 500,000 to the Mauritius Sovereign Fund. Investors can include their spouse and dependent children for an additional non-refundable contribution of USD 50,000 per passport.

The only difference between the USD 1 million and the USD 500,000 schemes appear to be that a million grants citizenship while the other affords a passport. The USD 500,000 scheme gives the investor a chance to be naturalized as a citizen of Mauritius if resided in Mauritius for a continuous period of not less than two years preceding the date of the application.



# MONTENEGRO



## LOCATION:

Southeastern Europe on the Balkan Peninsula, with a coastline at the Adriatic Sea

## POPULATION:

628,094

## LANGUAGES SPOKEN:

Montenegrin, Serbian, Bosnian, Albanian, and Croatian

## CURRENCY:

Euro

## CAPITAL:

Podgorica

## NEAREST AIRPORT:

Podgorica and Tivat

## MAJOR INDUSTRY:

Tourism

With one of the fastest growing economies in the Balkans, Montenegro has established itself not only as a world renowned holiday destination, with some of the finest beaches and superyacht marinas, but also as a strategic destination for some of the world's most important industries. A country that is multinational

and multilingual, and enjoys a mild Mediterranean climate, beautiful scenery, and a low cost of living.

Montenegro unveiled its Citizenship by Investment Programme (CIP) to the public in October 2019 with the aim of encouraging and facilitating foreign direct investment and increasing economic activity in the country. Montenegro's citizenship by investment program is one of the best value options for a second passport right now, coupled with fast application processing time and the most affordable route to obtaining a European passport.

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The Montenegro Citizenship-by-Investment Program requires applicants to make a defined economic contribution to Montenegrin society through an investment in a government approved development project, and a capital contribution to a fund designated by the government for the advancement of under-developed areas.

There are two investment options;

### Option 1: Investment from €350,000

- ▶ Non refundable contribution of €100,000 to Montenegro's governmental fund
- ▶ Investment of €250,000 into a property located on the northern or central part of Montenegro (except Podgorica)

### Option 2: Investment from €550,000

- ▶ Non refundable contribution of €100,000 to Montenegro's governmental fund
- ▶ Investment of €450,000 into a property located on the coast or in Podgorica

## APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS:

- ▶ Minimum 18 years of age

- ▶ No Criminal Record
- ▶ Not a citizen of any EU member state
- ▶ Provide evidence of the origin of the money used for payment and investment

## BENEFITS OF MONTENEGRO CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM

- ▶ Montenegro's passport ranking is 42nd in the world
- ▶ Visa-free access to 122 countries including the Schengen zone, Singapore, Hong Kong and Russia
- ▶ Right to stay in any EU country for 90 days in each half a year period.
- ▶ Citizenship in a country that is an official EU candidate country with planned accession as EU member by 2025
- ▶ E-2 Treaty with the USA- Option to relocate and operate business in the US
- ▶ Favourable tax regime: Montenegro has one of the lowest personal income tax rates in the world, fixed at just 9-11%
- ▶ Full citizenship granted to the applicant, spouse and children including financially dependent children over 18 years old.
- ▶ Citizenship in a member state of the European Monetary Union, the NATO Alliance, OSCE, and the WTO
- ▶ Citizenship of a country with Political and economic stability



**Application Processing Time:** 3 Months

**Minimum Stay Requirement:** Citizens are not obliged to live in Montenegro either before or after receiving the Citizenship.

# NEW ZEALAND



**LOCATION:** Southwestern Pacific Ocean

**POPULATION:** 48,36,289

**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** English, Maori (New Zealand sign Language)

**CURRENCY:** New Zealand Dollar

**CAPITAL:** Wellington

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Auckland

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Tourism, Food Processing, Agriculture

New Zealand is one of the world's most stable, safe, secure and well-governed nations. It is an attractive destination for investment, business, and raising a family. The country is consistently ranked in the top 10 in terms of protecting investors, starting a business, and ease of doing business. New Zealand offers a great work-life balance,

with world-class education and healthcare systems.

Business and investor visas are for investors who want to gain residence and can contribute to New Zealand's economy to live in New Zealand. One can do this by investing in New Zealand business or government.

There are two investor categories:

- ▶ Investor 1 (minimum investment NZ\$10 million for at least three years) and
- ▶ Investor 2 (minimum investment NZ\$3 million for at least four years).

## Investor 1 resident visa

- ▶ An applicant must invest NZD 10 million in New Zealand over a three-year period in order to apply for New Zealand residence under this program.
- ▶ There is no maximum age limit, no language requirement, and no business experience requirement.

## Investor 2 resident visa

- ▶ This visa is applicable to experienced businesspeople aged 65 years or younger, who have a minimum of NZD 3 million in available funds or assets. A points-based system is used to assess eligibility for Investor 2 resident visas.
- ▶ Applicants must invest at least NZD 3 million in an acceptable investment in New Zealand, to be held for four years.
- ▶ Applicants are required to have an English-speaking background or an International English Language Testing System test report with an overall band score of three or more, or they should be competent users of English.

Applicants can include their spouse and dependent children aged 24 years and younger in their applications

**Investment Options:** If one is applying for an Investor 1 or 2 Resident Visa, he must invest money in an acceptable investment.

Acceptable investments must:

- ▶ be able to make a commercial return
- ▶ be invested in New Zealand
- ▶ be invested in New Zealand dollars
- ▶ be invested in legal enterprises or managed funds
- ▶ have the potential to contribute to New Zealand's economy
- ▶ not be for personal use, for example, home, boat or car.

An applicant has the choice of investing in the following acceptable investments:

- ▶ New Zealand government bonds or local authorities, bonds issued by New Zealand registered banks

- ▶ Equity in New Zealand firms, public/private.
- ▶ Managed funds where the amount invested relates wholly to New Zealand companies
- ▶ New residential property developments, which are regularly approved by competent authorities
- ▶ Some commercial properties
- ▶ Philanthropic Investments

**Applicant Requirements:**

- ▶ Provide a police report and be of good character
- ▶ Provide a medical certificate
- ▶ Applicant must be 65 years old or younger, unless applying to Investor(1)
- ▶ Investor (1) needs to spend only 44 days in NZ in each of the final 2 years of the 3-year investment period
- ▶ English language requirements apply unless applying for Investor 1 Visa
- ▶ Possess at least 3 years of business experience, unless applying to Investor(1)
- ▶ Investor (2) must spend 146 days per year in New Zealand

**Application Processing Time ( Investor 1):** 90 days

**Minimum Stay:** 88 days over 3 years

**Application Processing Time ( Investor 2):** 8 months

**Minimum Stay:** 438 days over 4 years

## New Zealand Citizenship:

Applicants who have previously obtained residence under either of the resident visa programs, Investor 1 or Investor 2 are eligible for New Zealand citizenship when they have spent at least 1,350 days in New Zealand during the preceding five years, with at least 240 days of physical presence in each year.



## Key Advantages:

- ▶ High standards of living, multicultural population, and low population density
- ▶ Political, social, and economic stability
- ▶ Solid legal system based on English law
- ▶ Strong tax treaty network with a large number of counter parties

# PORTUGAL



**LOCATION:** Southwestern Europe  
**POPULATION:** 1,01,86,233  
**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** Portuguese, English  
**CURRENCY:** Euro  
**CAPITAL:** Lisbon  
**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Lisbon, Porto, Faro  
**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Tourism, Textiles, Clothing, Dairy Products

Portugal is one of Europe's oldest countries, Portugal is known for its rich natural resources, highly literate population, export-orientation, and diversified industries and also boasts a rich historical and architectural heritage. It has a high level of security, making it one of the world's most globalized and

peaceful nations. It enjoys a rich and diverse culture, Mediterranean climate, and a safe and stable setting, ideal for raising families, conducting business or travelling.

Portugal has an efficient process by which non-EU citizens may obtain a residence permit based on investment via its five-year Portugal Golden Residence Permit Program. The residence permit allows free circulation in Europe's Schengen Area and requires an average stay of only seven days per year in Portugal over this period, which can also count towards citizenship eligibility after five years.

There are several qualifying options for Portugal Golden Residence Permit program:

#### Capital transfer:

- ▶ EUR 1 million transfer into a Portuguese bank account or approved investment options
- ▶ EUR 350,000 for research activities \*
- ▶ EUR 250,000 in support of the arts or maintaining national cultural heritage\*
- ▶ EUR 350,000 for acquiring units of investment funds or venture capital funds committed to the capitalization of companies incorporated under the Portuguese law, with a maturity of at least five years and with at least 60% of the investment portfolio in companies with a head office in Portugal

#### Real estate:

- ▶ Applicants may acquire property valued at €500,000 or more\*, or
- ▶ Applicants may acquire property valued at €350,000 or more for properties more than 30 years old or located in urban regeneration areas designated for refurbishing\*, or

#### Business:

- ▶ Creating a minimum of 10 jobs\*
- ▶ EUR 350,000 for the incorporation or increase of the share capital of a company registered in Portugal, creating or maintaining a minimum of five permanent jobs, for a period of three years

\*The threshold will be reduced by 20% should the funds be committed to a low population density area, defined as less than 100 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup> or with a GDP per capita below 75% of the national average.

The residence permit is valid for a period of one year after issue and renewable for two subsequent periods of two years.

#### Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ Provide proof that investment funds originate from abroad
- ▶ Hold no criminal record
- ▶ The main applicant's property is not frozen within the boundaries of the EU
- ▶ Pay application and processing fees where applicable
- ▶ Enter Portugal for the first time on a valid Schengen visa
- ▶ Meet or exceed the minimum stay requirements. (Seven days for the first year, 14 days for subsequent two-year periods.)

#### Key advantages of Portugal Golden Residence Permit:

- ▶ Visa-free travel within Europe's Schengen Area
- ▶ The right to live, work, and study in Portugal
- ▶ Eligibility to apply for citizenship after five years as a legal resident while keeping other citizenships
- ▶ Entire Family are eligible, spouses, dependent children and parents
- ▶ Low physical presence requirement (seven days during the first year of residence and fourteen days for the two subsequent years)
- ▶ Excellent healthcare system, international and Portuguese schools and universities
- ▶ High quality of life and low crime rate
- ▶ Attractive taxation system: Option to become a "non-habitual resident" of Portugal for tax purposes, thereby paying little or no tax for 10 years
- ▶ Let out your property and gain potential returns on your investment



**Application Processing Time:-** 3- 8 months

**Minimum Stay Requirement:** Seven days during the first year of residence and fourteen days for the two subsequent years.

# SAINT LUCIA



**LOCATION:** Caribbean Sea

**POPULATION:** 183,918

**LANGUAGE SPOKEN:** English

**CURRENCY:** East Caribbean Dollar (XCD)

**CAPITAL:** Castries

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Saint Lucia

**MAJOR INDUSTRY:** Tourism

Saint Lucia is an island country in the Caribbean Sea. St. Lucia is a member of the United Nations, CARICOM, OECS, and the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union. The natural beauty of the island makes it a popular tourist destination, with attractions including the rain forest, national

parks, botanical gardens, a world heritage site, gorgeous Caribbean beaches, and even a drive-in volcano.

The island nation attracts foreign business and investment, especially in its international banking and tourism industries.

Launched in 2016, St Lucia has the newest citizenship by investment programme in the Caribbean. St Lucia's programme is an amalgamation of the best practices from its surrounding islands and provides a wide range of benefits for investors and locals alike.

There are several Investment Options for citizenship in St. Lucia:

**Government Bond Investment:** Citizenship of Saint Lucia can be attained by making an investment in Government Bonds. The bonds are non-interest bearing, must be registered and remain in the name of the applicant for a five-year holding period from the date of first issue.

- ▶ Sole applicant: USD 500,000
- ▶ Applicant with spouse: USD 535,000
- ▶ Applicant with spouse and up to two other qualifying dependents: USD 550,000
- ▶ Each additional qualifying dependent, of any age: USD 25,000

In addition to this, non-refundable administration fee and due-diligence fee is also applicable

**National Economic Fund Investment (NEF):** NEF is established to receive investments to fund Government sponsored projects. Investors are required to pay USD 100,000 one-time for the fund against lifetime citizenship. Donation to the fund is the cheapest, fastest and easiest investment for citizenship in Saint Lucia.

- ▶ Main applicant: USD 100,000
- ▶ Applicant with spouse: USD 140,000
- ▶ Applicant with spouse and up to two other qualifying dependents: USD 150,000
- ▶ Each additional qualifying dependent, of any age: USD 25,000
- ▶ Each qualifying dependent in addition to a family of four (family includes a spouse): USD 15,000

In addition to this, processing fee and due-diligence fee is also applicable.

**Real Estate Investment:** The Citizenship Investment Programme is an option for investors in approved real estate projects under the following categories:

- ▶ high-end branded hotels and resorts
- ▶ high-end boutique properties
- ▶ any other project that the Minister, on recommendation of the Saint Lucia Citizenship by Investment Board and after consultation with Cabinet, considers necessary

Minimum Investment under Government Approved projects: USD 300,000. The property must be owned and maintained for a minimum of 5 years after citizenship has been granted.

In addition, administrative fee and due-diligence fee is also applicable.

**Pre-Approved Enterprise Project:** Citizenship can be attained by making an investment either independent or joint, in a pre-approved enterprise project.

**Option 1: Sole Applicant:**

Minimum investment of USD 3,500,000 and create at least 3 permanent jobs.

**Option 2: Joint Venture (More than one applicant)**

Minimum investment of USD 6,000,000 (with each applicant contributing a minimum of USD 1,000,000) and create at least 6 permanent jobs.

In addition, due-diligence and administrative fee is also applicable.

Key Benefits of St. Lucia's Citizenship by Investment program:

- ▶ No residence requirements
- ▶ Fast processing time
- ▶ No requirement to travel to Saint Lucia during the application process.
- ▶ Visa-free travel to around 145 countries and territories
- ▶ Right to hold dual citizenship
- ▶ Citizenship for life, with the right to live and work in the country
- ▶ No tax on worldwide income
- ▶ Entire family are eligible

Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ Hold no Criminal Record
- ▶ Proof of Age
- ▶ Proof of Investments
- ▶ Police Clearing Certificate
- ▶ Provide no false information
- ▶ Has not been denied a visa to a country with which St. Lucia has visa-free travel agreements
- ▶ A medical Certificate for good health



**Application Processing Time:** 3 months

**No minimum stay requirement.**

# SINGAPORE



**LOCATION:** South East Asia  
**POPULATION:** 58,66,859  
**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** English, Malay, Mandarin Chinese  
**CURRENCY:** Singapore Dollar  
**CAPITAL:** Singapore  
**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Singapore  
**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Tourism, Financial, Transportation

Singapore is considered as one of the world's best places to live and is considered to be the best Asian city due to its excellent infrastructure and public services. It is also one of the wealthiest countries in the world in terms of GDP per capita and

has taken over as the most competitive economy globally.

It is a multiracial and multicultural community. The country is politically stable and economically prosperous, with a reputable education system and highly reliable healthcare system. Singapore has a friendly tax regime and over recent years has continued to introduce tax regulations favouring foreign investors.

Global Investor Program (also known as the Singapore Investment Visa) is designed to attract wealthy foreign entrepreneurs and investors who wish to make Singapore their home. It is one of the Singaporean government's objectives to attract talent to the country for residence and work.

## THE SINGAPORE GLOBAL INVESTOR PROGRAM

The Global Investor Program (GIP) is a Permanent Residency scheme specially designed for wealthy investors who wish to relocate to Singapore. Launched by the Economic Development Board and the Ministry of Manpower, this Program is targeted at individuals and entrepreneurs who wish to invest in Singapore businesses. The GIP outlines the minimum investment required on the basis of which an investor along with his family can apply for PR in the country. The main criteria on the basis of which a GIP application is approved is the applicant's business record and entrepreneurial background. Additionally, the applicant must invest in industry sectors specifically outlined in the program such as Energy, Healthcare, Automotive, Natural Resources, Media & Entertainment, etc.

### In order to be eligible, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

1. **Investment:** The applicant is expected to invest a minimum of \$2,500,00 into either a GIP-approved fund or a new (existing) company
2. **Background:** The applicant must have a minimum of three-year entrepreneurial and business track record and must provide the audited financial statements of his or her company for the last 3 years.
3. **Shares:** The investor must hold at least 30% of shares if the company belongs to privately-owned entities
4. **Turnover:** The applicant has to prove his company's turnover is at least \$200 million SGD during the last year before the application and at least \$200 million SGD turnover a year (on average) during the last 3 years

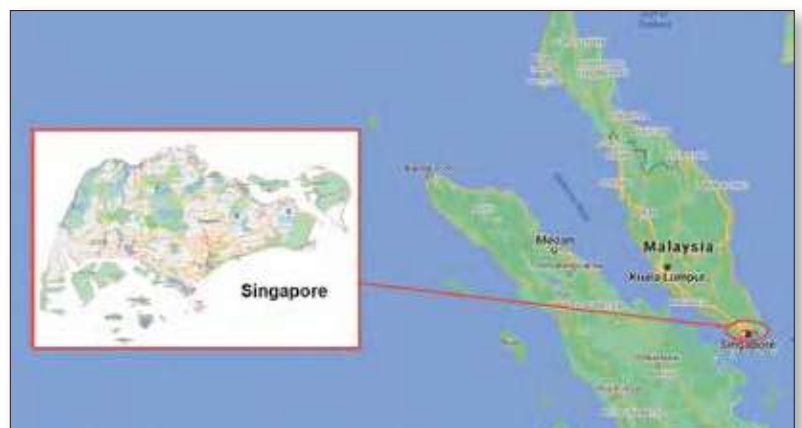
5. **Investment into new or existing companies:** The applicant is required to provide the government with a full business plan for the next 5 years and fulfil this planned investment within the first 5 years after the visa's issuance.
6. **Milestones:** At the end of the 2nd and 4th year of the planned investment, the applicant must provide the audited financial statements of his company.

### The GIP offers two investment options:

- ▶ Option A- an investment of at least SGD 2.5 million in a new business entity or expansion of an existing business operation
- ▶ Options B- an investment for SGD 2.5 million in one of the GIP-approved funds

### Advantages of GIP Investors

1. **Singapore Permanent Resident for family members:** The investor and his spouse and unmarried children (younger than 21 years old) are entitled Singapore permanent residence right after qualifying for the GIP.
2. **Immigration opportunity:** The GIP is the perfect solution for those who seek for direct Permanent Resident Scheme in Singapore
3. **Family:** Parents can be relocated to Singapore under the Long Term Visit Pass
4. **Citizenship:** If everything goes smoothly, after 2 years the investor and his immediate family can convert their Permanent Residence visa into citizenship (under the condition the investor is ready to renounce their present citizenship).
5. **Favorable tax laws**



**Application Processing Time:** 9- 12 months

**Singaporean Citizenship:** After two years of permanent residence in Singapore, it is possible to apply for Singaporean citizenship.

# SPAIN



**LOCATION:** Located in extreme southwestern Europe

**POPULATION:** 4,67,61,136

**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** Spanish, English

**CURRENCY:** Euro

**CAPITAL:** Madrid

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Madrid Barajas Airport, Barcelona Airport

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Tourism, Automotive

Spain boasts the world's 14th largest economy and regularly ranks highly for standard and cost of living and quality of life. Spain's world-class beaches, mouth-watering cuisine, rich culture and high living standards are attractive prospects for relocation.

The Spanish Golden Visa Program offers a range of investment options such as

purchasing a property, making a bank deposit, investing in business, or in government bonds. The most popular option is a real estate investment into property in Spain. In order to maintain the residence permit, the investor needs to maintain their investment for a minimum period of five years.

## Investment Options:

- ▶ Real Estate: Purchase real estate with a minimum value of €500,000
- ▶ Bank Deposit: Issue a bank deposit of at least €1,000,000
- ▶ Investment: Invest €1,000,000 in shares of Spanish businesses
- ▶ Government Bonds: Contribute €2,000,000 in government bonds
- ▶ Business Investment: Start a business in Spain that generates employment, contributes to technological and/or scientific innovation, or has a strong socio-economic impact

## Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ The applicant must be over 18 years old
- ▶ The applicant must be a non-EEA citizen
- ▶ The applicant must possess a clear criminal record
- ▶ The applicant must not be on the nation's list of undesirable people
- ▶ The applicant must hold valid medical insurance and an official health certificate
- ▶ The applicant must not have previously been refused visas or entry into the Schengen zone
- ▶ The applicant must have enough funds to reside in Spain
- ▶ The applicant must make a qualifying investment and provide proof of the respective financial investment

## Key Advantages of Spain Residence Permit:

- ▶ **Fast processing times:** It is possible to acquire the Spanish residence permit within 60 days from the time the Golden Visa application is submitted
- ▶ **Travel visa-free:** Since Spain is an EU member, when obtaining the golden visa, one can travel visa-free to 26 countries as part of the Schengen zone
- ▶ **EU rights:** Obtaining a Spanish residency permit means one can live, work and study in Spain
- ▶ **Family residency plans:** Spouse and children under the age of 18 are guaranteed residency permits. Other family members can also obtain residency, provided paperwork is presented, showing they are the legal dependents
- ▶ **Easy renewal:** The temporary residence permit can be easily renewed and one has to visit Spain once a year in order to maintain the permit
- ▶ **Donation-free:** No donation is required as it is an investment-only program that provides many different investment options
- ▶ **Access to property market:** Obtain right to buy and invest in property throughout EU



**Application Processing Time:** 60 days

**No Minimum Stay requirement for retaining or renewing the Spanish residency visa permit.**



# ST. KITTS AND NEVIS



## LOCATION:

Eastern Caribbean Sea

**POPULATION:** 53,329

**LANGUAGE SPOKEN:** English

**CURRENCY:** East Caribbean Dollar (XCD)

**CAPITAL:** Basseterre

**NEAREST AIRPORT:**  
Basseterre and Nevis

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Tourism, Real Estate, Financial Services

St. Kitts and Nevis, a two island nation is an exclusive Caribbean destination having natural beauty, tropical temperatures, clear blue waters having a rich history with varied influences from different cultures. The twin islands offer almost year-round sunshine and a diverse range of landscapes. The main economic

drivers are tourism, real estate, and financial services.

The Citizenship-by-Investment Program of St. Christopher (St. Kitts) and Nevis was established in 1984, making it the longest established program of this kind in the world.

There are several Investment Options to obtain St. Kitts and Nevis Citizenship:

**Sustainable Growth Fund (SGF):** The Sustainable Growth Fund (SGF) is the newest investment channel under St. Kitts and Nevis' CBI Programme, introduced by Prime Minister Timothy Harris himself in March, 2018. It is the most secure and straightforward route to second citizenship in St. Kitts and Nevis.

Benefits of SGF:

- ▶ The SGF offers the most straightforward route to citizenship
- ▶ It's a discrete channel where your privacy is ensured
- ▶ Your second citizenship is for life, meaning that it can be passed down to future generations
- ▶ No mandatory travel or language requirements
- ▶ Increased global mobility with visa-free and visa-on-arrival access to over 150 countries
- ▶ You will gain citizenship of a country with a low tax regime including no income, inheritance or gift tax

To obtain citizenship in St. Kitts and Nevis, an applicant must make a contribution to the SGF. Family members including spouse, children, parents and grandparents can be included in the application.

- ▶ Single applicant: a non-refundable contribution of USD 150,000 is required
- ▶ Main applicant with up to three dependents (a spouse and two children): a non-refundable contribution of USD 195,000 is required
- ▶ Additional dependents, regardless of Age: USD 10,000

In addition, a non-refundable due diligence and processing fees of USD 7,500 for the main applicant and USD 4,000 for each dependent of the main applicant who is over the age of 16 years.

**Real Estate Investment:** Applicants may qualify for citizenship through an investment in a pre-approved real estate project, including hotel shares, villas, and condominium units. The minimum real estate investment required by law is USD 200,000 (resalable after 7 years) or USD 400,000 (resalable after 5 years) for each main applicant.

In Addition to this non-refundable due diligence and processing fees is also paid. These fees amount to USD 7,500 for the main applicant, and USD 4,000 for each dependent of the main applicant who is over the age of 16 years.

On approval in principle of an application made through a real estate investment, a Government fee applies, as follows:

- ▶ Main applicant: USD 35,050
- ▶ Spouse of the main applicant: USD 20,050
- ▶ Any other qualified dependent of the main applicant regardless of age: USD 10,050

Key Benefits of St. Kitts and Nevis Citizenship by Investment Program:

- ▶ No residence requirements
- ▶ Citizenship-by-descent is available to future generations
- ▶ Dual citizenship is allowed by the nation
- ▶ There is no minimum stay required
- ▶ Visa free travel for over 150 countries including all EU countries, Switzerland, Canada, United Kingdom and Ireland
- ▶ Free to live and work in St. Kitts as a citizen
- ▶ Tax free – no income, inheritance or wealth tax
- ▶ No requirement to travel to St. Kitts & Nevis during the application process

Applicant Requirements:

- ▶ Hold no Criminal Record
- ▶ Proof of High Personal Net Worth
- ▶ Police Clearing Certificate
- ▶ Provide no false information
- ▶ Has not been denied a visa to a country with which St. Kitts and Nevis has visa-free travel agreements
- ▶ A medical Certificate for good health



**Application Processing Time:** Approximately 4 months. There is also "The Accelerated Application Process (AAP)" that enables to get the citizenship in 60 days.

**No minimum stay requirement.**

# SWITZERLAND



**LOCATION:** Central Europe  
**POPULATION:** 86,77,011  
**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** German and French, English  
**CURRENCY:** Swiss Franc  
**CAPITAL:** Bern  
**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Zurich and Geneva  
**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Tourism, Insurance, Chemicals, Banking

Switzerland is one of the most immigrant-friendly countries in Europe and one of the most sought-after by businessmen due to its world-class financial system, very high standard of living, excellent education and health care, and great political

stability. It is one of the most developed countries in the world, with the highest nominal wealth per adult.

It is a member of the Schengen zone, ensuring visa-free travel for residents and their families. Its residence permit program is aimed at educated and wealthy individuals, and grants residency permit in just 2-4 months.

There are different types of residence categories in Switzerland, and a distinction is made between EU or European Free Trade Association (EFTA) citizens and non-EU or non-EFTA nationals.

Non-EU citizens is granted a residence permit on the basis of retirement, investment or business purposes.

Requirements for Non-EU/EFTA nationals (under cantonal lump sum taxation for retirees)

- ▶ Adequate financial resources : Applicant must have an annual revenue of at least CHF 600,000 depending on the canton of choice
- ▶ Adequate health insurance
- ▶ Adequate residential space : Rented or purchased residence in Switzerland
- ▶ Applicant must not have a work in Switzerland under this program
- ▶ First time residence in Switzerland: Foreigner shouldn't have resided in Switzerland for the last 10 years
- ▶ Must be above 55 years of age and prove adequate financial means
- ▶ Persons applying for this program need to produce long list of identification documents, besides having clean criminal record and good moral character

\*The annual tax is based on the applicant's expenditure (usually computed five times of annual rent)

Requirements for Non-EU/EFTA nationals (Investors/Swiss company formation)

- ▶ Minimum investment of CHF 1,000,000.00 turnover of the company
- ▶ Applicant must not have a work in Switzerland under this program.
- ▶ First time residence in Switzerland: Foreigner shouldn't have resided in Switzerland for the last 10 years.
- ▶ Persons who apply for this program should be above 18 years of age.

- ▶ Persons applying for this program need to produce long list of identification documents, besides having clean criminal record and good moral character

Applicants must comply with the following requirements:

- ▶ Main applicant must be 18 years and over.
- ▶ Clean criminal record and no breaches of immigration or other laws.
- ▶ Good character.
- ▶ Relevant qualification and experience.
- ▶ Availability of funds if applying as a self-sufficient person.

## The Advantages of the Swiss Residency Programme

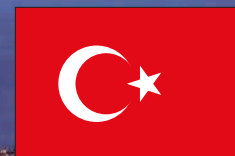
- ▶ Spouse & Children under 18 can be included.
- ▶ Quick processing time of 2-4 months between submission and receiving residency
- ▶ Applicant is not required to declare worldwide income and assets
- ▶ As soon as residence permit is granted, applicant and his family will have full visa-free access to all 26 countries of the Schengen area in Europe
- ▶ The opportunity to invest in or purchase of real estate property in Switzerland without prior approval of Swiss authorities.
- ▶ Opportunity to Obtain Swiss Citizenship after 12- 15 years (the decision to grant citizenship is totally at the discretion of the Swiss government and is not guaranteed).



**Permanent Residency is granted after 10 years of living in Switzerland. Naturalisation applications can be made after 12 years of legal and continuous residence in the country**

**Application processing time: 2-4 months**

# TURKEY



**LOCATION:** Located mainly on the Anatolian Peninsula in Western Asia, with a smaller portion on the Balkan Peninsula in Southeastern Europe

**POPULATION:** 84,465,804

**LANGUAGE SPOKEN:** Turkish

**CURRENCY:** Turkish Lira

**CAPITAL:** Ankara

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Istanbul

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Agrofood, Construction, Textile, Tourism and Steel

Turkey is one of the most historically, politically, and economically important nations in the world. It is one of the fastest growing economies in the world with an average annual GDP growth rate of 5.5%. Turkish economy has more than tripled over the past 16 years. It is driven by a robust domestic market

and entrepreneurial private sector which has spurred investments and exports. Turkey is widely considered to be a great country for doing business. A large number of multinational corporations' view Turkey as the perfect place to open a head, or regional office, because of its strategic location, excellent logistics, and favourable tax policies.

Turkey officially announced citizenship by investment program in Sep 2018 to encourage foreign investment and boost growth in real estate sector. It has emerged as a new haven for the biggest citizenship by investment program in the world in 2020 . It remains cheapest real estate citizenship program in the world.

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

The following are the main ways in which investors could qualify for Turkish citizenship:

- ▶ Purchase an immovable real estate asset of \$250,000, or more, and hold onto it for a minimum of 3 years (the value of the property must be approved by the Capital Markets Board), or;
- ▶ Create jobs for at least 50 Turkish citizens, or;
- ▶ Deposit \$500,000, or the Lira equivalent into a Turkish bank account, and keep it there for a minimum of 3 years, or;
- ▶ Invest a minimum of \$500,000 into a Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT), for at least 3 years, or;
- ▶ Purchase \$500,000, or TL equivalent of government bonds, and hold onto for at least 3 years

## APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS:

- ▶ Make a qualifying investment in Turkey
- ▶ Hold the investment for a minimum of 3 years
- ▶ Have a clean criminal record
- ▶ Not have entered or stayed illegally in Turkey
- ▶ Obtain health insurance coverage

## TURKEY CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT PROGRAM BENEFITS:

- ▶ Popular real estate investment program
- ▶ Rental income and option to re-sell the property in 3 years
- ▶ Visa Free access to 110+ countries including Singapore, Japan, Qatar and South Korea
- ▶ Option to relocate to the UK and establish your business as a Turkish business person
- ▶ Fast track passports for family within 3 months
- ▶ No interview or language tests
- ▶ No residence requirements
- ▶ Inclusion of dependent children under the age of 18. Adopted children can be included
- ▶ E-1/E-2 visa treaty with United States
- ▶ Dual citizenship unrestricted in Turkey
- ▶ Interesting program offering Govt bonds and bank deposit option for citizenship
- ▶ Right to vote and hold Govt offices
- ▶ Citizenship is permanent and passed down to future family generations
- ▶ Simple and easy application process



**Application Processing Time:** 3- 6 months

**Minnum stay requirement:** Residing in Turkey for particular period of time before or after acquisition of Turkish Citizenship by Investment is not obligatory.

# UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



**LOCATION:** Southeastern region of the Asian continent

**POPULATION:** 9,932,763

**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:** Arabic, English

**CURRENCY:** AED

**CAPITAL:** Abu Dhabi

**NEAREST AIRPORT:** Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Sharjah

**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:** Oil & Gas, Real Estate and Tourism

Located in the southeastern region of the Asian continent, the UAE is a constitutional federation of seven emirates: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ras Al Khaimah, Ajman, Umm Al Quwain, and Fujairah. The UAE is a politically and economically stable country and holds the 25th position globally in Global Competitiveness Report 2019 by World Economic Forum.

In 2019, the UAE implemented a new system for long-term residence visas. The new system enables foreigners to live, work and study in the UAE without the need of a national sponsor and with 100 per cent ownership of their business on the UAE's mainland. These visas will be issued for 5 or 10 years and will be renewed automatically.

## 10 YEAR VISA

**Applicants need to invest at least AED 10 million in public investments.**

The investments may be in the following forms:

- ▶ A deposit of at least AED 10 million in an investment fund inside the country
- ▶ Establishing a company in the UAE with a capital of not less than AED 10 million
- ▶ Partnering in an existing or a new company with a share value of not less than AED 10 million
- ▶ Having a total investment of not less than AED 10 million in all areas mentioned, on condition that the investment in sectors other than real estate is not less than 60 per cent of the total investment

### Conditions for a 10 year visa

Granting a visa is subject to the following conditions:

- ▶ The amount invested must not be loaned
- ▶ The investment should be retained for at least three years
- ▶ There should be a financial solvency up to AED 10 million

Visa can be extended to include business partners, on the condition that each partner contributes AED 10 million

The long-term visa can include the spouse and children, as well as one executive director and one advisor

## 5 YEAR VISA

**The applicant must invest minimum AED 5 million in the real estate property.**

### Conditions for a 5 year visa

- ▶ The investor must invest in a property of a gross value of not less than AED 5 million. This investment can be in more than one property also
- ▶ The amount invested in real estate must be fully paid and not mortgaged

- ▶ The property must be retained for at least three years
- ▶ Person must be inside UAE

## 3 YEAR VISA

**The applicant must invest minimum AED 1 million in the real estate property.**

### Conditions for a 3 year visa

- ▶ The investor must invest in a property of a value of not less than AED 1 million
- ▶ In case the property is mortgaged, 50% of the property value or at least 1 million to be paid to the bank. NOC letter in Arabic along with mortgage bank statement is required to proceed with the visa application
- ▶ Husband and wife can participate in one property and the value of the property should be AED 1 million or more. In this case the marriage certificate is required

## RETIREMENT VISA

**The applicant must invest minimum AED 2 million in the real estate property.**

### Conditions for a retirement visa

- ▶ The applicant must invest minimum AED 2 million in the real estate property. This investment can be in more than one property also
- ▶ The amount invested in real estate has to be fully paid and not mortgaged
- ▶ The applicant must be 55 years old and above
- ▶ Person must be inside UAE

### Requirements:

- ▶ No criminal record
- ▶ Good conduct certificate from Dubai Police
- ▶ POA will be required in case the application will be submitted on behalf of the investor
- ▶ In case the property is mortgaged, under 3 years visa, NOC has to be provided in Arabic along with the bank statements
- ▶ Health Insurance is required under 5 years and retirement visa



# UNITED KINGDOM



## LOCATION:

Northwest Europe

**POPULATION:** 68,013,429

## LANGUAGE SPOKEN:

English

**CURRENCY:** Pound Sterling

**CAPITAL:** London

## MAJOR INDUSTRIES:

Tourism, Construction, Media, Banking, Insurance, Finance

Located in the Northwest coast of Europe, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also referred to as UK or United Kingdom is a political union made of up of four countries, England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Its capital, London, is regarded as the cultural hub and the financial heart of Europe.

The United Kingdom with its world-class education, living standards and travel links, makes it one of the most desirable countries in the world.

Options for UK Residency by Investment:

**The UK Tier 1 Investor Visa:** The program offers temporary residence status leading to permanent residency and potentially citizenship for high net worth individuals and all immediate family members, including spouse and children under the age of 18.

Minimum Investment of £2 million in UK corporate bonds, share capital, or loan capital in active and trading UK registered companies other than those principally engaged in property investment. This allows the investor for settlement in the UK after 5 years.

Accelerated settlement can be achieved by upping the investment amount: five million pounds gets settlement after three years, and ten million pounds allows settlement after just two years

- ▶ Investment of £2 million – eligibility for indefinite leave to remain after 5 years in the UK
- ▶ Investment of £5 million – eligibility for indefinite leave to remain after 3 years in the UK
- ▶ Investment of £10 million – eligibility for indefinite leave to remain after 2 years in the UK

The Tier 1 Investor category has the shortest Investor Immigration application processing time amongst the G8 countries.

**ILR and UK Citizenship:** After 5 years of continuous residency in the UK is achieved, the investor and the family members can apply for Indefinite Leave to Remain in the UK (ILR). One year after the ILR status is granted, the investors can apply for British Nationality.

For Investments of £5 and £10 million, after 5 years the applicant can apply for British Citizenship

Key Benefits:

- ▶ Fast processing time of about 3-4 weeks
- ▶ Residence for the entire family
- ▶ Corporate bonds and equities investments are recoverable following a five-year or less holding period, during which time it can produce income

## UK Citizenship Requirements:

- ▶ The total number of days spent outside the U.K. for the entire five-year qualifying period should not exceed 450 days (i.e. three months of every year, or 75 percent of one's time). Should not be absent from the country for no more than 90 days (three months) in the 12 months preceding the application
- ▶ Hold ILR for at least 12 months
- ▶ Pass the Life in the UK Test
- ▶ Pass English language test (B1, ESOL etc)
- ▶ Be physically present in the UK on the date of application 5 years ago
- ▶ No criminal record
- ▶ Secure 2 British citizens as references

**UK Tier 1 Innovator and Start-Up Visa:** The British government in 2019 launched two other new visa categories aimed at attracting entrepreneurs, the Innovator Visa and the Start-Up Visa. The Innovator Visa was launched in March 2019 to “enhance the UK’s offer to overseas entrepreneurial talent” and is aimed at more experienced





business people while less-experienced investors seeking investment immigration were encouraged to apply for the Start-Up Visa.

The Tier 1 Innovator Visa requires a minimum investment amount of 50,000 GBP allocated into the business.

The applicant must be granted an endorsement letter from a Home Office-approved endorsing body. The applicant must also have English language skills at the requisite level (at least CEFR level B2)

An Innovator Visa is valid for three years, during which time the applicant is allowed to bring over family to the UK and start a new business. In order to obtain settlement, the applicant must seek for an endorsement following an assessment of the viability and growth of the business. If the endorsement is granted, the applicant may obtain Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) in order to gain the right of permanent residency in the UK, and eventually apply for British citizenship following six years of continuous residence in the UK.

Requirements for Tier 1 Innovator Visa:

- ▶ Be granted an endorsement letter from a Home Office approved endorsing body
- ▶ Show they can support themselves as well as any dependents without recourse to public funds
- ▶ Have access to at least 50,000 GBP that can be invested in the business
- ▶ Demonstrate evidence that the application will not fail “general grounds for refusal” criteria
- ▶ Have English language skills at the requisite level

Key Benefits:

- ▶ Residence for family members
- ▶ No work or study restrictions for dependents

**The UK Representative of Overseas Business:** The UK Representative of Overseas Business Visa offers temporary residence status leading to permanent residency and potentially citizenship for qualifying individuals and all immediate family members, including spouse and children under the age of 18. No minimum investment required making it the most affordable option. The Representative of Overseas Business category is geared towards attracting senior executives and managers of an existing overseas company to enter the UK in order to set up the company’s first UK office, branch, or subsidiary.

Key Benefits:

- ▶ No Investment
- ▶ Residence, work and study freedom for the family members
- ▶ Easy Process
- ▶ International Business Environment
- ▶ Only the main applicant needs to meet residence

requirements of 185 days in the UK every 12 months over 5 years in order to apply for permanent residence. Upon receiving permanent residence, the applicant’s spouse and children are eligible for permanent residence automatically

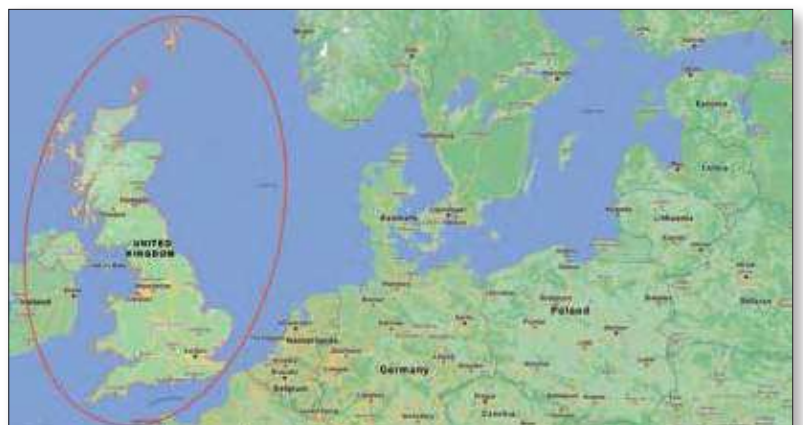
Requirements for Overseas Business Visa:

- ▶ There must be a senior employee of an overseas company that does not currently have a UK branch, subsidiary or other representative in the UK
- ▶ The applicant must have been recruited overseas by the overseas company
- ▶ The parent company must grant the applicant full authority to take all operational decisions on its behalf in the UK.
- ▶ The UK entity that will be set up must carry out the same type of business as the overseas company
- ▶ The applicant must have a proven positive track record in the same or closely related field of work
- ▶ The applicant cannot be a majority shareholder (own 50% or above) of the parent company of the proposed UK business

Citizenship Process: Once the ILR is granted the applicants are eligible for permanent settlement in UK.

Requirements for Citizenship:

- ▶ Hold ILR for at least 12 months
- ▶ Be absent from the UK for less than 450 days over the past 5 years
- ▶ Pass English language test (B1, ESOL etc.)
- ▶ Pass the Life in the UK Test
- ▶ Be physically present in the UK on the date of application 5 years ago
- ▶ No criminal record
- ▶ Secure 2 British citizens as references



# USA



**LOCATION:** North America  
**POPULATION:** 331,695,705  
**LANGUAGE SPOKEN:** English  
**CURRENCY:** Dollars  
**CAPITAL:** Washington D.C.  
**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:**  
Healthcare, Construction,  
Education, Tourism

United States of America, is a nation of 50 states, covering North America. The United States of America is the world's third largest country in size and nearly the third largest in terms of population. The U.S. economy is the world's largest in terms

of gross domestic product, and also the most technologically powerful. The country's most significant exports are computers and electrical machinery, vehicles, chemical products, food, live animals and military equipment. The U.S. also has the world's largest coal reserves.

The country is home to some of the top universities in the world, including Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The U.S. often takes a leading role in international organizations, and was a founding force behind institutions such as the United Nations, NATO and the World Bank.

## OPTIONS FOR USA INVESTMENT PROGRAMS:

**EB-5 Program:** The EB-5 Visa is the U.S. Green Card available for foreign investors under the USCIS Immigrant Investor Program. The EB-5 Visa and the Immigrant Investor Program were created by Congress in 1990 to stimulate the U.S. economy through job creation and capital investment by foreign investors.

After investing a minimum amount of USD 900,000, the applicant and the family (spouse and any unmarried children under 21) is eligible to receive a conditional green card for two years.

After two years, if the applicant has maintained the investment and created at least ten jobs, the conditional status is removed and the applicant is eligible to apply for a permanent green card.

## Requirements for EB-5 Program:

- ▶ The EB-5 investor must contribute a minimum amount of USD 900,000 in a new U.S. business that creates or preserves a minimum of 10 new U.S. jobs.
- ▶ The investor is required to have a role in the management or policymaking of the company that he or she invested in. Limited partnerships and certain limited

liability companies have been general recognized as appropriate investment vehicles under the EB-5 Program

- ▶ Lawful source of funds
- ▶ Each EB-5 investor must generate at least ten (10) new full-time jobs as a consequence of his or her investment. The ten (10) new jobs need to be created within approximately 2 years from the date the investor obtains lawful permanent resident status in the United States
- ▶ The investor's investment must be subject to the risk of losing all or part of the money invested

## EB-5 Immigration Process:

- ▶ Once the EB-5 investor selects a USCIS-approved Regional Center investment, the EB-5 investor along with the eligible family members files an I-526 petition requesting conditional residency. Due diligence is done, if approved, the EB-5 investor applies for a conditional green card through a consulate interview or an adjustment of status (if he or she is already in the U.S. on another visa). If approved, the EB-5 investor and eligible family members receives a conditional green card that is valid for two years
- ▶ Within the final 90 days of the two-year period of conditional residency, the EB-5 investor and the family files the I-829 petition to remove the conditions on the two years conditional green card
- ▶ Upon approval of the I-829 petition, the EB-5 investor and his or her qualified family members become lawful permanent residents and can ultimately choose to become U.S. citizens after five years





#### EB-5 Visa Benefits:

- ▶ One of the fastest methods to gain permanent residency in the United States
- ▶ Freedom to live and work anywhere in the United States
- ▶ Education benefits including admission to Universities at US resident costs
- ▶ No visa sponsor requirements
- ▶ No H-1B work visa needed for employment
- ▶ Potential for U.S. citizenship after minimum five years of established permanent residency in the United States
- ▶ Family members of EB-5 investors receive green card
- ▶ Travel to 186 countries through visa free/visa on arrival travel

**US Citizenship:** Applicants who are permanent green card holders for at least 5 years can apply for US citizenship.

#### Requirements for US Citizenship:

- ▶ No criminal record
- ▶ Have been a lawful permanent resident for at least 4 years and 9 months
- ▶ Have continuous residence in the U.S. as a Green Card holder for at least five years immediately preceding the application
- ▶ Have lived within the state, or USCIS district with jurisdiction over the place of residence, for at least three months prior to the application
- ▶ Be physically present in the U.S. for at least 30 months out of the five years (60 months) immediately preceding the application
- ▶ Reside continuously within the U.S. from the date of application for naturalization up to the time of naturalization
- ▶ Be able to read, write and speak English, and have knowledge and an understanding of U.S. history and government (civics)

**E-2 Visa Program:** An E2 treaty investor visa is a non-immigrant visa reserved for foreign entrepreneurs of countries that have a Treaty of Trade and Commerce with the United States. E2 investor visas allows foreign investors to enter and work inside of the United States based on a substantial investment in a bona fide enterprise.

Qualified treaty investors will be allowed a maximum initial stay of two years. Requests for extension of stay may be granted in increments of up to two years each.

#### Investor Requirements for E-2:

- ▶ Be a national of a country with which the United States maintains a treaty of commerce and navigation
- ▶ Have invested, or be actively in the process of investing, a substantial amount of capital in a bona fide enterprise in the United States

- ▶ Be seeking to enter the United States solely to develop and direct the investment enterprise
- ▶ This is established by showing at least 50% ownership of the enterprise or possession of operational control through a managerial position or other corporate device

#### E-2 Visa Benefits:

- ▶ Expeditious processing: U.S. E-2 visa can generally be obtained within 3 months
- ▶ Unlimited number of extensions
- ▶ Investor's spouse and dependent children under 21 years old may be included
- ▶ Investor's spouse can apply to work anywhere in the U.S.
- ▶ Free high-school education for children in the U.S. with E-2 visa and in-state college tuition rates
- ▶ E-2 can have the potential to be converted to EB-5 over the course of time
- ▶ Investor and dependents may spend time in the U.S. without being subject to world-wide income tax
- ▶ The E-2 visa allows foreign investors to establish and run a company in the US



#### Some of E-2 visa treaty countries:

- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 1. Grenada   | 7. Ireland         |
| 2. Turkey    | 8. Montenegro      |
| 3. Bulgaria  | 9. Spain           |
| 4. Australia | 10. Switzerland    |
| 5. Canada    | 11. United Kingdom |
| 6. Germany   | 12. Georgia        |



# VANUATU



**LOCATION:**  
South Pacific Ocean  
**POPULATION:** 3,09,654  
**LANGUAGES SPOKEN:**  
Bislama, English  
**CURRENCY:** Vanuatu Vatu  
**CAPITAL:** Port Vila  
**NEAREST AIRPORT:**  
Port Vila  
**MAJOR INDUSTRIES:**  
Agriculture, Cattle, Tourism

Vanuatu is a South Pacific Island Archipelago, situated North East of Australia – three hours flight time from Sydney, and a little over two hours from Brisbane. A Commonwealth Nation, Vanuatu has been fully independent since 1980. Comprising some 83 Islands, of which 65 are populated, Vanuatu spans almost 1300 km North to South.

Vanuatu, consistently rated as one of the “Happiest Countries on Earth”. It’s location, people, pristine environment, and natural beauty render this as truly one of the Planet’s last undiscovered “gems”.

Vanuatu is becoming rather well known, not only as a highly desirable destination for tourists but also as a leading choice for investors and those seeking Citizenship-By-Investment (CBI). Also known as the Vanuatu Citizenship Development Support Program (DSP), it offers simple and fast-tracked application process with no requirement for a physical presence in the country.

## Investment Requirements

To obtain citizenship through the Vanuatu Citizenship Program, applicants are required to make a non-refundable contribution (donation) to a local development fund. The purpose of these funds is to support infrastructural development and promote economic growth in the region. The invested amount varies depending on the number of applicants.

Non-refundable contribution from \$130,000

- ▶ \$130,000 – for a single application
- ▶ \$150,000 – married couple application
- ▶ \$165,000 – married couple with 1 child
- ▶ \$180,000 – married couple with 2 children

The DSP program pricing consists of both a donation and mandatory fees, both of which are set by the government and are required to be adhered to.

## Applicant requirements

- ▶ Applicants must provide proof of funds no less than \$250,000
- ▶ Applicants must have a clean criminal record

- ▶ Be over 18 years old when applying, and under 65 years old at the time of lodging application

## Key Benefits

- ▶ Visa-free access to around 129 countries, including Schengen Area and UK
- ▶ Fast processing (around 45-60 days)
- ▶ No language requirement
- ▶ No requirement to visit or to reside in order to obtain the Citizenship
- ▶ Hereditary Citizenship
- ▶ Oath Swearing Ceremony in convenient locations
- ▶ Bitcoin payment accepted
- ▶ Safe program with pre-approval before transferring the full investment amount
- ▶ The whole process of alternative citizenship acquisition is strictly confidential
- ▶ No personal taxation; no wealth taxes, inheritance taxes, gift taxes or income taxes.
- ▶ Citizenship can be granted to spouse / children, dependent children in education, parents and grandparents



**Application processing time:** 1- 2 months

**No physical residence or visit is required**

## OTHER INFORMATION

Country	Temperature	Cost of Living Ranking	Economy	Income Tax		Ease of Doing Business Rank	Political Stability
				Corporate	Individuals		
<b>Antigua and Barbuda</b>	Highest: 29.33°C Lowest: 23.16°C	NA	Tourism	25%	0%	113	Parliamentary Democracy under a Constitutional Monarchy
<b>Australia</b>	Highest: 29.86°C Lowest: 12.53°C	118	Tourism, Financial, Healthcare, Energy	30%	45%	14	Federal Parllimentary Constitutional Monarchy
<b>Austria</b>	Highest: 20.08°C Lowest: -11.08°C	54	Energy, Tourism, Food, Agriculture	25%	55%	27	Federal Parliamentary Republic
<b>Bulgaria</b>	Highest: 25.06°C Lowest: -6.90°C	180	Metallurgic, Machinery and Equipment, Tourism	10%	10%	61	Parliamentary Republic
<b>Canada</b>	Highest: 14.80°C Lowest: -28.74°C	94	Agriculture, Energy, Tourism	26.50%	33%	23	Federal Parliamentary Democracy under a Constitutional Monarchy
<b>Cayman Islands</b>	Highest: 30.19°C Lowest: 21.17°C	NA	Tourism, Financial, Technology, Maritime	0%	0%	NA	British Overseas Territory
<b>Cyprus</b>	Highest: 29.79°C Lowest: 7.03°C	166	Tourism, Exports, Shipping	12.50%	35%	54	Presidential Republic
<b>Dominica</b>	Highest: 28.90°C Lowest: 22.94°C	NA	Agriculture, Tourism, Manufacturing	25%	35%	111	Parliamentary Republic
<b>Georgia</b>	Highest: 22.97°C Lowest: -8.59°C	203	Tourism, Agribusiness	15%	20%	7	Semi-Presidential Republic
<b>Germany</b>	Highest: 22.34°C Lowest: -9.30°C	82	Automobiles, Energy, Tourism	30%	45%	22	Federal Parliamentary Republic
<b>Greece</b>	Highest: 28.43°C Lowest: 1.22°C	138	Tourism, Food, Textiles	24%	44%	79	Parliamentary Republic
<b>Grenada</b>	Highest: 29.16°C Lowest: 24.16°C	NA	Exports, Tourism	28%	28%	146	Parliamentary Democracy under a Constitutional Monarchy
<b>Ireland</b>	Highest: 18.09°C Lowest: 0.27°C	46	Tourism, Pharmaceuticals, Food & Beverages	12.50%	40%	24	Parliamentary Republic
<b>Malta</b>	Highest: 29.08°C Lowest: 8.40°C	NA	Tourism, Financial Services, Manufacturing	35%	35%	88	Parliamentary Republic
<b>Mauritius</b>	Highest: 27.74°C Lowest: 19.24°C	173	Agro Industry, Tourism, Real Estate	15%	15%	13	Parliamentary Republic
<b>Montenegro</b>	Highest: 24.23°C Lowest: -6.52°C	NA	Tourism	9%	9%	50	Parliamentary Republic
<b>New Zealand</b>	Highest: 17.70°C Lowest: 3.34°C	123	Agriculture, Tourism, Trade	28%	33%	1	Constitutional monarchy with Parliamentary Democracy
<b>Portugal</b>	Highest: 25.79°C Lowest: 4.25°C	106	Tourism, Textiles, Fishing	21%	48.00%	39	Semi-Presidential Republic
<b>Saint Lucia</b>	Highest: 28.54°C Lowest: 22.68°C	NA	Tourism, Agriculture	30%	30%	93	Parliamentary Democracy under a Constitutional Monarchy
<b>Singapore</b>	Highest: 28.88°C Lowest: 24.03°C	5	Exports, Tourism, Finance	17%	22%	2	Parliamentary Republic
<b>Spain</b>	Highest: 26.03°C Lowest: 1.72°C	87	Automotive, Tourism, Agriculture, Energy	25%	45%	30	Parliamentary Constitutional Monarchy
<b>St.Kitts and Nevis</b>	Highest: 27.28°C Lowest: 21.78°C	NA	Tourism, Agriculture, Real Estate	33%	0%	139	Federal Parliamentary Democracy under a Constitutional Monarchy
<b>Switzerland</b>	Highest: 21.09°C Lowest: -8.81°C	8	Tourism, Exports, Insurance, Banking	14.84%	40%	36	Federal Republic
<b>Turkey</b>	Highest: 26.27°C Lowest: -4.52°C	156	Agrofood, Construction, Tourism, Textiles	22%	40%	33	Presidential Republic
<b>UAE</b>	Highest: 37.75°C Lowest: 15.74°C	23	Natural Resources and Energy, Tourism, Real Estate	55%	0%	16	Federation of Monarchies
<b>United States</b>	Highest: 23.01°C Lowest: -7.58°C	6	Healthcare, Construction, Technology, Imports & Exports	21%	37%	6	Federal Republic
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Highest: 17.29°C Lowest: -1.47°C	19	Finance, Construction, Agriculture, Tourism	19%	45%	8	Parliamentary Constitutional Monarchy
<b>Vanuatu</b>	Highest: 26.33°C Lowest: 20.48°C	NA	Agriculture, Tourism, Cattle	0%	NA	107	Parliamentary Republic