



High Commission of India  
Canberra

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Tourist Visa:**

Tourist visas are generally issued for a period of six months with multiple entry. **These rules have recently been changed;** according to the latest instructions, if a foreign national applies for a Tourist Visa frequently i.e. with in one month of expiry of the previous visa, the processing time of the Tourist visa would be longer in such cases and may take up to 45 days from the date of application.

Long Term Tourist visas are issued for a period up to 5 years to the nationals of France, Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Belgium, Finland, Spain, Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Mexico.

A 10 year Tourist visa is available only to US nationals.

According to the latest guidelines, it is stipulated that there should be a gap of at least 2 months between two visits of foreign nationals who are issued with Tourist Visas. The stay on each visit should not exceed 180 days in the case of UK nationals, and 90 days in the case of nationals of the other countries entitled to a long term tourist visa.

In case a visit to India is to be made within this 2 month period, special permission would be required. After processing such cases an endorsement would be made on the passport permitting two to three entries, depending on the detailed itinerary and supporting documents (ticket bookings) submitted by the applicant. A fee equivalent of A\$25 would be charged for this service. In all such cases, the applicant should register with the Foreigners Regional Registration Officer (FRRO) within 14 days of arrival in India. Immigration authorities in India have also been delegated with this power.

For more information please visit the website of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) [www.mha.gov.in](http://www.mha.gov.in) and [www.vfs-in-au.net](http://www.vfs-in-au.net) website of our Visa Service provider.

**All Tourist visas are non extendable and non convertible.**

**Tourist Visa on Arrival:**

It has also been decided to issue Tourist Visa on Arrival to applicants of five countries, namely Finland, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand and Singapore.

A Tourist Visa on Arrival would be valid for 30 days with a Single entry and would be available only at airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata.

A Tourist Visa on Arrival is allowed for a maximum of two times in a calendar year, with a minimum gap of two months between each visit.

A fee of US\$60/- or equivalent in Indian rupees would be charged from all applicants including children.

It should be noted that the Tourist Visa on Arrival should not be resorted to as a matter of routine. It is only for applicants of these countries, who are unable to apply for a regular visa at an Indian Mission due to some reason.

As far as possible, the usual Tourist Visa should be applied for.

Canberra  
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