



**DIMAS**

**Departamento di Integracion,  
Maneho y Admision di Stranhero**

## POLICY MANUAL VISA

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# INDIVIDUAL: SHORT STAYS AND VISAS

## ENTRY ACCESS

### WHAT IS ENTRY ACCESS?

Entry access is the granting of permission to enter the island. Entry access is often paired with admission and can occur in two ways. Entry access and admission in terms of long term stays (meaning in terms of living or working in Aruba) or entry access and admission in terms of short term stays (as a tourist or business traveler).

## VISA

### WHAT IS A VISA/CARIBBEAN VISA?

The Caribbean visa has replaced the Aruban visa a few years ago<sup>1</sup>. This means that if the visa isn't limited by territory, it is valid for Aruba, but also for the other Caribbean parts of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. A visa in accordance with the admission policy, is an authorization on behalf of the minister responsible for foreign affairs to travel to Aruba and to request admission to Aruba upon arrival. Upon arrival, a visa must be valid for at least one day.

A visa does not give the carrier the right to be admitted, but is one of the requirements to be granted access and ultimately admission.

Two types of visas can be administered:

- a. A visa valid for a period of 180 days, with permission to travel to Aruba multiple times as long as each trip consists of a maximum of 30 consecutive days.
- b. A visa valid for a period of four years, with permission to travel to Aruba multiple times as long as each trip consists of a maximum of 30 consecutive days, and a total maximum of 180 days in one calendar year.

In principal, a visa is valid for the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. In case the visa indicates "valid for" T.B.G.V. (territorially limited valid visa), it is only valid for the country indicated as the main destination. The visa is for individuals with a nationality that require a visa to be admitted. The admission period is to be determined at the border.

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<sup>1</sup> On October 10, 2010 the Aruban visa was changed to the Caribbean visa.

## WHO NEEDS A VISA?

### NATIONALITIES THAT REQUIRE A VISA:

People that carry the nationality of one of the following countries need a visa to travel to Aruba:

Afghanistan	Georgia	Mauritania	Somalia
Algeria	Ghana	Micronesia	Sri Lanka
Angola	Grenada	Moldavia	Suriname
Armenia	Guinea	Mongolia	Swaziland
Azerbaijan	Guinea-Bissau	Mozambique	Syria
Bahrein	Guyana	Myanmar (former Burma)	Tajikistan
Bangladesh	Haiti	Namibia	Tanzania
Belarus	India	Nauru	Thailand
Belize	Indonesia	Nepal	Togo
Benin	Iraq	Niger	Tonga
Bhutan	Iran	Nigeria	Trinidad and Tobago
Burma (see Myanmar)	Ivory Coast	Northern Mariana Islands (Islands)	Chad
Bolivia	Jamaica	North Korea	Tunisia
Botswana	Yemen	Uganda	Turkey
Burkina Faso	Jordan	Uzbekistan	Turkmenistan
Burundi	Cape Verde	Oman	Tuvalu
Cambodia	Cameroon	East Timor / Timor Lester	Vanuatu
Central-African Republic	Kazakhstan	Pakistan	Venezuela (Venezuelans are required to have a visa for the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands from January 15, 2021)
China (People's Republic)	Kenya	Palau	United Arab Emirates
Comoros	Kyrgyzstan	Palestinian Authorities	Vietnam
Congo (Brazzaville)	Kiribati	Papua New Guinea	Zambia
Congo (Democratic Rep.)	Kuwait	Qatar	Zimbabwe
Cuba	Kosovo	Russia (Russian Federation)	South Africa
Djibouti	Laos	Rwanda	
Dominica	Lesotho	Saint Lucia	
Dominican Republic	Lebanon	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	
Egypt	Liberia	Solomon Islands	Territorial Entities
Equatorial Guinea	Libya	Samoa	
Eritrea	Macedonia	São Tomé and Príncipe	* Concerns territorial entities and authorities that are not recognized as a state by at least 1 Member State.
Ethiopia	Madagascar	Saudi Arabia	
Fiji	Malawi	Senegal	
Philippines	Maldives	Sierra Leone	
Gabon	Mali	Sudan	
Gambia	Morocco		
	Marshall Islands		

## VISA WAIVER

The following people that would usually be required to have a visa are exempt provided they<sup>2</sup>:

1. Hold valid residence permits for:
  - a. Another part of the kingdom of the Netherlands;
  - b. A country that is part of the Schengen agreement;
  - c. The united states of America;
  - d. Canada;
  - e. The United Kingdom;
  - f. Ireland;
  - g. Switzerland;
2. Hold a Bolivian, Venezuelan or Jamaican passport that has a valid (entry-)visa for the United States of America, Canada, a country that is part of the Schengen agreement, the United Kingdom or Ireland;
3. Travel to a different destination within 24 hours of their arrival in Aruba and are in possession of a valid ticket with reserved seats and the necessary documents for said travel (transit);
4. Arrive in Aruba by plane and will be boarding their cruise ship within a maximum of 24 hours or vice versa;
5. Cruise passengers that will disembark in Aruba for a period no longer than 24 hours
6. Holders of a diplomatic passport that possess the nationality of one of the following countries: Albania, Bolivia, Bosnia And Herzegovina, Indonesia, Jamaica, Macedonia, Malawi, Morocco, Moldova, Montenegro Ukraine, Pakistan, Peru, Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Thailand, Chad, Tunisia, Turkey Or The United Arab Emirates;
7. Holders of a service passport who have the nationality of Bolivia, Indonesia, Jamaica, Malawi, morocco, Peru, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey or the United Arab Emirates;

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<sup>2</sup>There used to be an exemption for children that have not yet reached the age of twelve and are traveling under supervision of a parent or guardian. As of November 1, 2016, this exemption is no longer part of the visa handbook.

8. Holders of a laissez-passer issued by the world bank, the IMF, the united nations or its specialized organizations;
9. Crewmembers of ships that dock in Aruba or aircrafts that land in Aruba and do not pose a threat to the public order, the safety of Aruba or the kingdom of the Netherlands, for a maximum period of 48 hours.
10. Common list of third countries whose nationals are exempt from the visa requirement by member states that apply the Schengen acquis completely.

Albania Andorra Antigua And Barbuda Argentina Australia Bahamas Barbados Bosnia and Herzegovina Brazil Brunei Darussalam Canada Chili Colombia Costa Rica Dominica El Salvador Georgia Guatemala Grenada Hong Kong	Honduras Israel Japan Kiribati Macao Malaysia Marshall Islands Mauritius Mexico Micronesia Moldavia Monaco Montenegro North Macedonia New Zealand Nicaragua East Timor Panama Paraguay Palau	Peru Saint-Kitts And Nevis Saint Lucia Saint-Vincent and the Grenadines Solomon Islands Samoa San Marino Serbia Seychelles Singapore Tonga Trinidad and Tobago Tuvalu Uruguay Vanuatu Vatican CITY United Arab Emirates United States	United Kingdom (As of The Brexit Date) South Korea British Citizens Who Are Not Nationals Of The United Kingdom Of Great Britain And Northern Ireland For The Purposes Of Community Law. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• British Nationals (Overseas)</li> <li>• British Overseas Territories Citizen</li> <li>• British Overseas Citizen</li> <li>• British Protected Persons</li> </ul>
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## VISA REQUEST AND ISSUANCE PROCEDURE

### *HOW AND WHERE CAN A VISA BE REQUESTED?*

Tourists that require a visa must request and have the visa in their possession before traveling to Aruba. In principle, a visa must be requested personally at an embassy or consulate (diplomatic missions) of the Kingdom of the Netherlands or an appointed EDV (external service provider eg in Haiti and the Dominican Republic). In some countries, the embassy will accept that a recognized travel agency submits the request on behalf of their client.

For more information about requesting a visa, and for information about the opening hours and making an appointment, one can contact the embassy or consulate of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in one's home country. One can also find more information on the website of the concerning embassy or consulate. The addresses and websites of diplomatic missions of the Kingdom of the Netherlands can be found by country through the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, <https://www.nederlandwereldwijd.nl/>.

## CARIBBEAN CARPET

People who travel to the Caribbean frequently, ship crew members, travel groups or people with privileged passports (bonafide business people), can use the Caribbean Carpet program to be granted a visa. If they meet the requirements, they will be issued a visa with a maximum validity of four years with an unlimited number of entries (but in accordance with the permitted period of stay as a tourist).

The Caribbean Carpet is designed for frequent travelers to the Caribbean, meaning you must have requested at least 2 Caribbean visas in the last 5 years.

### *FOR WHICH TRAVEL GOALS CAN YOU USE THE CARIBBEAN CARPET?*

- Maritime industry / water sports / sailing or ship work
- Business trip / investment;
- Timeshare stays or organized group travel,
- Travel groups led by an organization that takes full responsibility. Aruba must give advanced permission for a meeting or exhibition to take place;
- Travel for medical reasons.

For the application form as well as additional information regarding the Caribbean Carpet, please consult the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, <https://www.nederlandwereldwereld.nl/>.

## EMERGENCY AND/OR URGENT VISA

In special cases, if the application for a regular visa is not feasible due to an emergency or urgent situation, a coordinated faster delivery can take place (upon request and with the approval and a solvency review by the national authorities), locally (if there is an embassy in the country of departure) or a letter containing a visa waiver will be issued.

An assessment of the level of emergency and / or urgency involved will be done on a case-by-case basis. The Department of Foreign Relations and DIMAS will intervene to arrange a faster coordinated delivery.

## CANCELLATION OR WITHDRAWAL OF A VISA

A visa that has already been issued can be revoked or canceled if there is a valid reason. In such cases, the tourist can no longer enter Aruba using that visa. If they still want to enter Aruba, they will have to revisit the Embassy or EDV to apply for a new Caribbean visa.