



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

Direzione Generale per gli Italiani all'Estero
e le Politiche Migratorie

SHORT-STAY VISA

(for up 90 days)

INFORMATION FOR FOREIGN NATIONALS

"Rights and duties of foreign nationals for short-stay in the Schengen Area"

For holders of a visa issued by Italy for:

Business; Medical care; Sports competition; Invitation; Self-employment; Self-employment/Entertainment field; Salaried employment; Salaried employment/Sports activities; Salaried employment/Entertainment field; Mission; Religious reasons; Research; Study; Transit; Transport; Tourism.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Pursuant to art. 2, paragraphs 6 and 9, art. 4 and 5 of [Legislative Decree n. 286 of 25 July 1998](#) (Consolidated text of provisions governing immigration and legislation on the condition of foreigners) and to art. 5 paragraph 8 bis of [President of the Republic Decree no. 394 of 1999](#) and art. 47, paragraph 1, letter i) of Regulation (EC) 810/2009 ([Visa Code](#)), the following should be noted:

A short-stay visa is an authorisation issued by a Member State for the purpose of transit through or stay in the territory of the Schengen States, not exceeding 90 days in any 180-day period. The visa issued can be:

- **USV "Uniform Schengen Visa" (type C)**, valid to enter and move freely in the territory of all countries that apply the **Schengen Acquis** ⁽¹⁾ in full.
- **LTV "Visa with Limited Territorial Validity" (type C)**, valid ONLY for the territory of the issuing State or exceptionally for the territory of several member States, but not for all of them.
- **ATV "Airport Transit Visa" (type A)**, allowing the holder to transit through the international transit area of a Member State's airport(s) only.
- Possessing a USV or a LTV does not confer automatic right of entry. Upon entering the Schengen territory, even if the person concerned is in possession of a USV or a LTV, border authorities can ask them to prove that the requirements for the issue of the visa have been met. Moreover, border Police are entitled to deny entry into the Schengen territory, even if they are in possession of a valid visa, if they deem that the conditions and requirements for entry into the Schengen territory set out in article 5 of the [Schengen Borders Code \(Regulation EC no. 562/2006\)](#) have not been met.
- Except for entry visas for paid or gainful activity, the [Directive of the Ministry of the Interior of 1st March 2000](#) established the criteria for defining the required financial means and quantifies the subsistence means to prove, under the conditions for entry into the Italian territory and the issue of the visa.
- Within eight (8) days from the date of entry into Italy, foreign nationals must comply with the obligations arising from the rules on the residence in the territory of the Member State, by applying for a residence permit or by declaring their presence according to their type of visa. Procedures are indicated in paragraph "Types of Visas".
- **Important:** The administrative expulsion order may be made against a foreign national who entered the territory of the Member State by evading border controls, or without having applied for a residence permit, or, when applicable, without having declared their presence within the given deadlines (unless the delay was caused by force majeure). Expulsion may also be adopted against a foreign national who, despite having legally declared their residence, overstays in the territory of the Member State.

¹

The countries that apply the Schengen Acquis in full are: Italy, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Hungary.

TYPES OF VISAS

1) **Medical care, Sports Competition, Invitation, Transit, Transport.**

For entries made for these purposes, applicants need to apply for a "Residence permit" directly at "Ufficio Immigrazione" (Immigration Office) of the relevant [Questura](#) (central police station).

2) **Self-employment; Self-employment/Entertainment field (artist); Mission; Religious purposes; Research; Salaried Employment/Entertainment field; Salaried employment/Sports activities;**

For entries made for these purposes, pursuant to the convention signed between the Ministry of the Interior and Poste Italiane SpA, applications for the issue of a "Residence permit" must be submitted by the applicant at accredited Postal Offices ("[Sportello Amico](#)"). Specific postal kits available at Postal Offices, at [Authorised institutions and Municipalities](#) should be used. When sending the application, the Postal Office will issue a receipt with two personal identification codes (userid and password) through which the applicant will be able to check the status of their application by connecting to "[Portale Immigrazione](#)". The Postal Office will also inform the applicant of the date of the appointment for photo-fingerprinting. The Questura will then inform the applicant when the residence permit can be collected.

3) **Salaried employment;**

For entries made for work purposes, including professional development (*but with the exception of entries for work activity in the sports and entertainment fields for which the procedures at point 2*), apply for the issue of the residence permit foreign nationals must first go to the S.U.I. (Sportello Unico per l'Immigrazione - Immigration One-Stop Shop) of the "Prefettura" with territorial jurisdiction to complete and sign the documentation requested and collect the residence permit application form. They will then need to send it to an accredited [Postal Office](#), as described in the above point 2).

4) **Business; Tourism; Study;**

For entries made for such purposes, pursuant to [art. 1 of Law 68/2007](#), the resident permit is not required. Foreign nationals will however need to declare their presence in one of the following ways:

- A) For foreign nationals coming from countries that do not apply the Schengen Agreement, the obligation to make a declaration of presence is fulfilled when the border stamp is affixed (Schengen uniform stamp) on the travel document at border control (Please double-check it is stamped).
- B) Foreign nationals coming from countries that do apply the Schengen Agreement must submit their "[declaration of presence](#)" within 8 days from entry at the [Questura](#) of the province where they reside, by using the approved form.
- C) For those staying at hotels, copy of the declaration signed by the foreign national and made before the hotelier constitutes the declaration of presence. A copy of the declaration will be given to the foreign national who will have to show it every time it is requested by police and security officers.

PLEASE NOTE:

On the institutional websites of the [Ministry of the Interior](#), the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation](#), the [Polizia di Stato](#), the [Portale Immigrazione](#) and the [Poste Italiane](#), you can find more detailed information connected with the regulations on immigration, relating to visas, residence permits and declarations of presence, as well as a list of Postal Offices ([Sportello Amico](#)), of [Patronati and Comuni](#) (see page "Ricerca Strutture" - "Search institutions") authorised to complete the postal kit for the submission of the residence permit application, including the addresses of the relevant [Questure](#).

Please note that the procedures set out above refer to the rules and procedures relating to legal residence in the Italian territory. Foreign nationals who although in possession of a Uniform Schengen Visa or a Limited Territorial visa valid for more Member States, exercise the right to free movement and residence in authorised Member States, shall be required to obtain information from the authorities of the other Member State where they are going on the procedures to follow for the declaration of residence and compliance with the residence rules that apply in the territory of that State.

On the website of the [European Union](#) you can consult the public European Regulations (in different languages) on entry into the Schengen territory and free circulation, amongst which Regulation (EC) 810/2009 ([Visa Code](#)) and Regulation (EC) 562/2006 ([Schengen Border Code](#)).

Any other information not expressly covered in this Notice or on the above institutional sites may be requested throughout Italy directly from the [Ministry of the Interior](#) or the relevant [Questure](#), that are competent for migration or residence matters.

USEFUL PHONES NUMBER AND WEBSITES (extended addresses of web links quoted in the texts of the document):

- Legislative Decree no. 286 of 25 July 1998: <https://www.normattiva.it/ricerca/semplice>
- President of the Republic Decree no. 394 of 1999: <https://www.normattiva.it/ricerca/semplice>
- Law 68/2007: <https://www.normattiva.it/ricerca/semplice>
- Regulation (EC) no. 810/2009 (Visa Code): http://maenet/media/download/34795/CELEX_02009R0810-2024
- Regulation (EC) no. 562/2006 (Schengen Borders Code): <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/399/oj/eng>
- Regulation (EU) no. 265/2010: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/HU/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32010R0265>
- Directive of the Ministry of Interior of 1 March 2000 (means of subsistence):
 - https://www.esteri.it/it/servizi-opportunita/ingressosoggiornoinitalia/mezzi_finanziar
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Relations:
 - <https://www.esteri.it/it/>
- Ministry of Interior (ways of entry): <https://www.interno.gov.it/it>
- Ministry of Interior (offices and contacts): <https://www.interno.gov.it/it>
- Questure: <https://questure.poliziadistato.it/>
- Polizia di Stato (State Police): <https://www.poliziadistato.it/articolo/view/10617/>
- Portale Immigrazione (Immigration Web Portal): <https://www.portaleimmigrazione.it/ITA/index.html>
- Poste Italiane: <https://www.poste.it/guida-rilascio-e-rinnovo-permesso-di-soggiorno/>
- Sportello Amico: <https://www.poste.it/guida-rilascio-e-rinnovo-permesso-di-soggiorno/>
- Authorised institutions and Municipalities: <https://www.portaleimmigrazione.it/ITA/index.html> (see “Ricerca Strutture”)
- Declaration of Presence: <https://www.poliziadistato.it/articolo/dichiarazione-di-presenza>

USEFUL NUMBERS	
National emergency numbers in Italy	
112 Carabinieri: emergency number	113 Polizia di stato (Police): emergency number
117 Guardia di Finanza (Fiscal and Customs Police): emergency number	115 Fire Brigade: emergency number
118 Health emergency / First aid	1530 Coast Guard
1515 Environmental emergency / Fire prevention services – State Forestry Corps	0637518261-2 Telefono Rosa (Pink helpline), for the prevention of violence against women
114 Child emergency helpline. Service managed by Telefono Azzurro (Sky blue helpline - only from a landline telephone number)	1 96 96 Telefono Azzurro (Sky blue helpline – free child helpline)
800 025 777 Telefono Arcobaleno (Rainbow helpline – for the prevention of any form of child abuse)	1522 Prevention of violence against women
1500 Emergencies for public health	06 36225 Unità di Crisi del Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Crisis Management Unit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation)
Useful numbers in Italy	
1518 CIS: For information on Italian roads and motorways (real time information on traffic and road conditions)	803116 Roadside assistance
170 National and international calls through an operator	803160 Poste italiane (Italian Postal Service) – information
892021 Ferrovie dello Stato – Trenitalia (Italian State Railways)	800.137.079 Abandoned pets