

Most tourists travelling to Vietnam will require an entry visa, regardless of how long they plan to stay in the country. However, citizens from some countries can receive a short-term visa exemption. The Tourist [Visa for Vietnam](#) must be issued before arrival and the typical visa is valid for 30 or 90 days. This is the most popular style of visa used by travelers to Vietnam. In some rare cases, the visa begins to expire from the day it is issued, so it is a good idea to get your visa as close as possible to your intended arrival date.

More a pre-arranged visa than a real visa on arrival, these visas are arranged through a travel agent in Vietnam who obtains a "Letter of Approval" from the Vietnamese immigration department. This letter is copied to you and to the international airport you're planning on using and when you arrive at the airport your visa should be ready to go.

There's a wide range of prices and length visas available (up to six months, multiple-entry) and a near endless number of Vietnamese travel agents who'll happily arrange the visa for you -- Google something like "[Vietnam visa on arrival](#)" to find about four squillion agents to choose from.

- Tourist visa can be valid from 30 days up to 90 days with single or multiple entry.
- Normally, the Vietnamese visa can be applied no earlier than 6 months prior to date of departure and the applicant can enter Vietnam anytime from proposed date of entry. However please note that, the visa will be expired exactly from the date as given.
- The original passport which must have longer validity than the visa by at least six months.
- Visa fees are various and depend on the length of stay, number of entry and purpose a trip. Please contact the Consulate General of Vietnam in Sydney for further information. All payments are non-refundable.
- For the applicant who wish to collect the passports by mail: please enclose a pre-paid return envelope with clear self-address. To avoid a situation when passports might not reach back the applicants before the needed date, please spare plenty of time for the post-delivery forth and back. All applications should be sent in one envelope.

You must provide your actual signed passport, including one copy of the personal information page of your passport. Your passport must:

- Be valid for the next six months
- Have at least one blank visa page (amendments and endorsement pages cannot be used to fulfill this requirement)
- Not be frayed, torn, separating, or altered in any other way

Please note that photo requirements are strictly met by the applicants. We require two passport-size (5cmx5cm) photographs that meet basic specifications such as the face of the applicant should cover about 60-70 percent of the photo area; both ears, neck, and shoulders should be clearly visible; the head must be centered within the frame and the photo should present full face, front view and eyes open; the background should be plain white colored without borders with contract colored clothes (not white clothes) and photos with dark, busy, or patterned backgrounds or shadows on the face or on the background will not be accepted.

Processing of the application will start from the date of submission at the Consulate and not from the date of its entry online. Validity of visa starts from the date of issue and not from the date of entry into Vietnam.

The main thing to watch for are visas that start running out from the day they are issued. Although this situation is increasingly rare, it does still occur, so be sure to check beforehand. Visa application forms often request an entry point and entry date. In our experience, these

have been flexible, but we've heard anecdotal stories of people saying they'll be entering on one day, showing up a few days early and being turned away -- this has not been our personal experience though. On weekends and late hours, don't be surprised if you're asked to pay a dollar or so in "overtime" -- don't expect a receipt! Be sure that you're stamped into Vietnam for the correct length of stay.

Applicants Under the Age of 18

Minors traveling alone or with one parent or legal guardian must provide an original notarized letter from the absent parent or guardian approving the minor's travel. The non-traveling parent(s) or guardian(s) must also provide a copy of his or her identification. The visa applicant may sign their visa application form. If a parent or guardian decides to sign the visa application form, then they need to indicate their relationship with the visa applicant next to their signature, ex: "Mother", "Father", "Legal guardian".