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Consulate General
of the Russian Federation
In New York

РУССКИЙ

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GENERAL VISA INFORMATION

Travel to Russia requires an entry visa. The Consulate General of Russia in New York issues different categories of visas to Russia based upon the purpose of the trip and the duration of stay in Russia.

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In general, it's recommended that US citizens apply for **3-year multiple business, private, humanitarian and tourist visas** (please have a look at the correspondent visa type information).

1. Completed visa application signed by the Applicant only. Incomplete visa application forms shall not be processed.
Application available online at <https://visa.kdmid.ru>
All questions in the application form should be answered. If a question is not applicable to the applicant, he should put "N/A".
Each application form must be signed by the visa applicant personally.
2. Valid national passport (original only and it should have at least two clear visa pages). It must be valid no less than six months after the visa expiration date. Holders of travel documents such as: Permit to Re-Enter the United States of America, Travel Document, etc. must submit valid Permanent Resident Card (an original and a copy).
3. One picture of an applicant. [Russian visa photo specifications](#)
4. Money Order or Certified Bank Check made out to the Russian Consulate in NYC for visa processing. Please note that we do not accept cash, credit or debit cards, personal or company checks.
5. Invitation to Russia from a host person or organisation.

Dear Applicants, when applying for a Russian visa please be advised that

- In order to expedite and improve visa obtaining process as well as for security concerns the Russian Consulate General in NYC is no more processing visa applications by mail, starting from June 1, 2010.

- Non-US citizens should also provide proof of legality of their stay in the USA (US Resident Alien status, form I-94) when applying for a visa.
- Applicants who used to be citizens of the USSR or the Russian Federation and emigrated from the USSR or from Russia must submit one of the documents which confirms that they are no longer citizens of the Russian Federation (so called "Visa to Israel" or stamp in their passport saying that they left for "permanent residence abroad" before February, 06 1992 or official document certifying that their Russian citizenship was renounced), otherwise the applications will not be accepted.
- In accordance with Russian laws citizens of the Russian Federation regardless of any other citizenship they may have, must travel to Russia on valid Russian documents only.
- Visa processing starts only after the Russian Consulate General has collected all necessary documents.
- Visa processing fee is not refundable.
- Type of visa or dates of entry/departure can not be changed or extended. If your travel plans have changed after the visa issuance you have to reapply for a new visa.
- After you received your visa, please check all the data indicated in it and, if necessary, return it to the Consulate for corrections. The Russian Consulate General will not be responsible for any mistakes in the visas, which were not brought to our attention prior to your departure from the US.
- Any visa applicant may be interviewed by the consular officer, if necessary.
- Processing time, requirements and fees are subject to change without notice.
- In certain cases the Russian Consulate General is entitled to consider visa applications as long as it necessary. Visa can be denied if the Consulate has serious reasons to believe that an applicant's entry into or stay in the territory of the Russian Federation will not be desirable.
- Please be advised that person can not have two valid visas in one passport. In this case the first visa is to be cancelled.

INFORMATION FOR EU PASSPORT HOLDERS

On the 1st of June, 2007 the Russia-EU Visa Facilitation Agreement came into force and according to its provisions visa processing fees are changed for the citizens of the following countries:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Hungary, Greece, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Germany, Finland, France, Czech Republic, Sweden, Switzerland, Estonia.

Citizens of these countries should submit national medical insurance certificate valid for Russia or guarantee of medical coverage from a Russian hosting organization for all period of stay. Medical insurance certificate should contain Russian contact phone number for emergency or assistance.

However these provisions are not valid for the countries which did not sign the Agreement: the United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark, Iceland and Norway.

Holders of diplomatic passports of the countries mentioned above do not need a visa to enter Russia for 90 days.

The fees are:

- For all types of visa (including multiple entry) for 10 days processing - \$50
- For all types of visa (including multiple entry) for urgent (3 days) processing - \$100

- **Russian Visa Photo Specifications**

- **General Information**

- The photograph must be a full-face view in which the visa applicant is facing the camera directly, with eyes open
- The photograph must have been taken within the last six months
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- **Photo Size**

The photo for each visa applicant submitted must measure:

- 35 mm X 45 mm (1 3/8" X 1 3/4") with the head centered in the frame.
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- **Photo Appearance**

- The applicant should not look down or to either side, and the face should cover about 50 percent of the photo area.
- Side or angled views are NOT accepted.
- Lighting should be such that there are no distracting shadows on the face or background
- The photos must be clear, well defined and taken against a plain white or light-colored background
- In general, the applicant's head, including both face and hair, should be shown from the crown of the head to the tip of the chin on top and bottom and from hairline side-to-side.
- Sunglasses or other wear which detracts from the face are not acceptable unless required for medical reasons (an eye patch, for example).
- Group photos are NOT acceptable. As a separate visa is issued to each qualified applicant, a photo of each applicant is required
- Your face must be square to the camera with a neutral expression, neither frowning nor smiling, and with your mouth closed
- Photocopied photographs are NOT accepted.
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- **Attaching the Photo**

- Glue the one photograph to the application in the designated space (a double-sided adhesive tape could be used). Do not staple photograph.
- Do not enclose photographs in glassine or other types of envelopes.