



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

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

LONG-TERM VISA (D)

(over 90 days)

INFORMATION FOR FOREIGN NATIONALS

"Rights and duties of foreign nationals for long-term entries and stays in Italy"

For holders of visas issued by Italy for: **Adoption; Medical care; Self-employment; Salaried-Employment; Salaried-Employment/sport activities; Salaried-Employment/entertainment field (artists); Salaried-Employment/maritime; Mission; Family reasons; Religious reasons; Elective Residence; Research; Re-entry; Study; Study/University; Study-Apprenticeship; Study-Vocational Training; Working Holiday; Voluntary work.**

GENERAL INFORMATION

In accordance with the Italian law on the communication to, and entry and stays of, foreign nationals in Italy, pursuant to Art. 26 ad 9, Art 4 and 5 of Legislative Decree of 25 July 1998, n. 286 (consolidated act of the regulations concerning immigration and the laws on the condition of foreign nationals), in accordance with art. 5, comma 8-bis of the Decree of the President of the Republic n. 394 of 199 and, with regard to entry and circulation within the Schengen area, in accordance with art. 47, comma 1 letter i) of EC Regulation N. 810/2009 (Visa Code), the following is communicated:

A long-term entry visa (or long stay) is an authorisation issued for an intended stay in the territory of the State for a duration which exceeds 90 days. All non-EU citizens who intend to stay for whatever reason in any state which is a member of the European Union must be in possession of a Long Stay Entry Visa, which can have a duration of 91 to 365 days. Possession of a Long stay visa foresees and entails the following:

- **VN "National Visa" (type D)**, this is a long-term visa (or long stay) which is issued by one of the Member States in accordance with its own internal legislation or that of the European Union. It is valid for a stay of more than 90 days in the territory of the Country which issued it.
- The Police Authorities are entitled to refuse entry to any foreign national into the territory of their State, also if that foreign national is in possession of a valid visa, in the case that the foreign national in question does not meet the entry conditions and requirements for entry into that State, as stated in Art 4 of Regulation (EC) no. 562/2006 (Schengen Borders Code) concerning the border crossings, which is the remit of the relevant police Authorities.
- With the exception of entry for stays referring to fully paid and remunerated activities or of entries that refer to an independent discipline of reference pertaining to the economic means required, the directive of the Ministry of the Interior of 01.03.2000 sets forth the criteria for the definition of the economic means required for entry into Italian territory and subsistence there, and for the issuing of the visa. The table is available for your reference in the Embassy/Consulate, or can be consulted at the following link <http://www.poliziadistato.it/articolo/226/>.
- **Regulation EU 265/2010** extends the principle of the equivalence between a residence permit and a visa for short-term stays issued by the Member States that fully implement the **Schengen Acquis**¹.
The national visa for a long term duration therefore has the same validity as the residence permit with regard to the free circulation of the visa holder within the Schengen area, and so, the holder of a national long stay visa issued by a Member State is allowed to circulate and reside in other Member States for 90 days out of every 180 days during the validity of the visa, under the same conditions as the holder of a residence permit, provided that the conditions of entry (Schengen Borders Code) are met.
- The foreign national, although in possession of a long-term visa (Long stay VN type D) if he or she exercises his or her right of free circulation within other member states for 90 days of every 180 days, during the validity of his or her visa, or

¹ Countries which apply the Schengen Acquis in its entirety : Italy, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Hungary.

residence permit, in application of the principle referred to in EU [regulation 265/2010](#), that foreign national is still required to refer to the authorities of the other Member State in which he or she stays, for information on the procedures to be followed regarding the declaration of his or her own presence and in respect of the rules relating to a short-term stay in the territory of that State.

- On the official website of the [European Union](#), you may furthermore refer to the European legislation, in different languages, on entry into the Schengen territory and freedom of circulation for short stays, including Regulation EC562/2006 ([Schengen Borders Code](#))
- On the websites of the [Ministry of the Interior](#), the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation](#), the [State Police](#), the [Immigration Portal](#) and the [Italian Postal Services](#), you may obtain more detailed information relating to the rules, procedures and disciplines on immigration, concerning entry visas and residence permits.
- Any further information not provided within this notice or at the above-mentioned websites, may be requested, directly, when you have entered the national territory, or by referring directly to the [Ministry of the Interior](#) or to the relevant [Police Headquarters](#) competent for matters of immigration and residency.
- In accordance with Italian legislation, an expulsion order can be issued to any foreign national who has entered the territory of the State by avoiding border controls, or has stayed in the territory of the State in the absence of an official communication, or without requesting permission to stay within the determined period (unless this delay is due to unforeseen circumstances), or if the residence permit was revoked, annulled or refused, or if it was allowed to expire for more than 60 days and a renewal was not requested.
- Within eight working days of entry into Italy, the foreign national must fulfil the obligations of the laws on residence in the territory of the State by submitting a request for a Residence Permit relevant to the purpose of the visa, in the following ways:

TYPE OF VISA

1) **Adoption, Self-employment, Salaried employment/Sports activities, Salaried employment/Entertainment field (artists), Salaried employment/maritime, Mission, Religious reasons, Elective residence, Study (all types), Study- Apprenticeship, Study-Vocational Training.**

For stays made for these purposes, by virtue of the convention stipulated between the Ministry of the Interior and the Italian Postal Services SPA, all requests for residence permits must be submitted by the person concerned by sending the request for the permit to the authorised Post Offices ([Sportello Amico](#)), using the relevant kit available in those post offices. [Authorised institutions and Municipalities](#) (see “Ricerca Struttura”) will provide, **free of charge** and within their institutional remit, information, consultancy and assistance to the foreign national on how to correctly complete the requests to be sent. When the form is sent, the Post Office will issue a receipt bearing two personal identification codes (userid and password) which can be used by the person concerned to follow the state of the application by logging on to the [Immigration Portal](#). The Post Office will also provide the person concerned with an appointment date at which time photo-dactyloscopic records will be obtained. The Police Headquarters will subsequently inform the person concerned when the residence permit will be provided.

2) **Salaried Employment, Research and Family reasons**

For stays for the purposes of **employment** (articles 22, 24, 27 or 27 quater of [Legislative Decree of 25 July 1998 n. 286](#)), **Scientific research** (article 27 ter of Legislative Decree of 25 July 1998, n. 286) or **Family reasons**, the foreign national must first of all attend the “Sportello Unico” for Immigration (S.U.I) of the Prefecture which is territorially competent and which issued the initial authorisation/nulla osta for the issue of the visa, to fill out and sign the required documentation and to collect the residence permit request form. This must then be sent personally to the authorised Post Offices ([Sportello Amico](#)), using the relevant kit available in those post offices. [Authorised institutions and Municipalities](#) (see “Ricerca Struttura”) will provide, free of charge and within their institutional remit, information, consultancy and assistance to the foreign national on how to correctly complete the requests to be sent. When the form is sent, the Post Office will issue a receipt bearing two personal identification codes (userid and password) which can be used by the person concerned to follow the state of the application by logging on to the [Immigration Portal](#). The Post Office will also provide the person concerned with an appointment date at which time photo-dactyloscopic records will be obtained. The Police Headquarters will subsequently inform the person concerned when the residence permit will be provided.

Note: for further information on the European legislation and on the specific rights and benefits deriving from the stay see “Carta blu UE/Blue Card”, link: [European Blue Card](#) and [Polizia di Stato](#).

Note: for entries due to Research, which refers to a particular category of persons who are particularly qualified, the foreign researcher usually receives further assistance directly from the Italian research institution or university where the research

activity will be carried out. Often a dedicated relations and reception service is provided in these institutions to assist in expediting the administrative paperwork required for the stay. Once in Italy, the foreign researcher is invited to make contact with the host institution/university to see if this service is available there.

3) Family reasons (family members of an EU citizen)

If you are a family member of an Italian citizen or a citizen of the Union and request a **“Residence permit as a family member of a citizen of the European Union”**, you can choose to submit your request directly to the [Police Headquarter](#) which is territorially competent for the place of residence of the family member who is an Italian citizen or a citizen of the Union. Alternatively, the request for the residence permit may be submitted through an authorised Post (Sportello Amico) Office

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