



**THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA  
VISA INFORMATION PACK**

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# 1. HOW TO APPLY VISA TO LATVIA?

**Foreign nationals apply for visas to the following authorities:**

- If a Latvian Embassy, Consulate, or Consulate-General is located in the country where the foreign person is lawfully resident.
- Visa applications for diplomatic and consular posts in Latvia must be made through third-party service providers Pony Express and VFS Global.

## 2. WHAT IS SCHENGEN VISA?



A Schengen visa is a short-term visa that allows its bearer to travel across the Schengen area. The Schengen region includes 26 nations ("Schengen States") with no border restrictions. Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland are among these nations.

**Schengen visa is an authorization granted by a Schengen State to:**

- a planned stay in the territory of the Schengen States for no more than 90 days in any 180-day period ("short stay visa")
- a transit via the international transit areas of Schengen airports ("airport transit visa")

### 3. TOURIST VISA (SHORT-STAY VISA)

This type of visa is for international visitors who intend to visit Latvia for tourism purposes, either through a tour or by arranging individual ticket and lodging arrangements.

#### *Required Documents:*

- A fully completed and signed online [application form](#)
- Passport (the time interval between the date of issuance and the date of visa application must not be more than 10 years, and the passport must be valid for at least 3 months as of the end date of the desired trip)
- A current passport photo (4x5 cm on a plain white backdrop)
- Flight reservations or other proof of planned transportation
- Hotel bookings or vacation arrangements must be documented

- Proof of suitable travel medical insurance that covers the whole duration of the intended stay, is valid for all Schengen countries, and covers any expenses related to urgent medical attention, emergency hospital treatment, accidental death, or medical repatriation. The bare minimum of coverage is 30.000 EUR. For a 15-day trip, the insurance should last the duration of the trip
- Proof of subsistence: for example, a bank account statement showing account turnover over the preceding three months; proof of regular income: for example, the latest three months' pay stubs (or similar)
- If the candidate is presently employed, an employer letter and/or leave authorization are necessary.
- Registration paper for SGK (social security)
- If the candidate works for or owns a private firm:  
a copy of the trade register bulletin and company registration in the chamber of commerce, tax statement
- A student certificate is required if the candidate is a student
- If the applicant is a minor/under the age of 18 and traveling alone or with one parent or legal guardian only, he or she must provide a notarized statement from his or her parents (this criterion does not apply if the parent traveling is a single parent or has sole parental authority)

! **Important Note:** For further information please [click here](#).

“The information may vary. It is therefore advised that you conduct your own research for up-to-date information.”

## 4. LONG STAY VISA (FOR ERASMUS-EXCHANGE STUDENTS)

**Turkish nationals must apply for a long-stay visa in order to travel to Latvia as part of an exchange program (Type - D).**

**Foreigners who need to stay in Latvia for more than 90 days in a 180-day period should apply for a long-stay visa (or a residence permit).**

### *Requirements:*

1. A fully filled and signed online application form
2. Passport (the time span between the date of issue and the date of visa application cannot exceed 10 years, and the passport must be valid for at least 3 months as of the end date of the desired trip)
3. A recent passport photograph (4x5 cm on a plain white backdrop)

4. Invitation letter authorized by the OCMA - Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs (mandatory requirement for erasmus exchange student) or an invitation letter that includes the following:
  - The name and registration number of the inviting party. The full name, surname, date of birth, and place of birth of the invited person
  - The purpose of the visit and the number of entries the address of the invitee's place of abode during his/her visit the signatories name, surname, and position
5. Flight bookings or other documentation of anticipated transportation
6. Proof of lodging for the duration of the expected stay
7. Proof of appropriate travel medical insurance covering the whole time of anticipated stay, valid for all Schengen States, and covering any expenditures arising from urgent medical attention, emergency hospital treatment, accidental death, or medical repatriation



8. Proof of adequate financial resources in the form of a letter from the student's home university confirming that the student has been awarded a scholarship. The minimal monthly cost for students to stay in Latvia is 500 EUR. If the university's sponsorship letter mentions a lower sum, further documentation demonstrating the availability of the missing amount for the duration of the stay in Latvia is necessary
9. If the applicant is a teacher or professor, a note from the employer and/or consent for leave are required
10. A social security registration card
11. Student certificate (Öğrenci Belgesi) if the candidate is a student
12. Students participating in the Erasmus+ program are free from paying the state charge
13. If the applicant is a minor/under the age of 18 and traveling alone or with one parent or legal guardian only:  
notarized statement from his/her parents and Apostille (this criterion does not apply if the parent traveling is a single parent or has sole parental authority)

**! Important Note:** For more information about visa types please [click here](#).

# 5. GENERAL APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

## *What Documents Are Required for a Schengen Visa Application in Latvia?*

A Latvian short-stay visa application requires the submission of numerous papers to the Latvian embassy/consulate in your place of residence. These documents are necessary to demonstrate that you satisfy the conditions for entering Latvian territory.

*The following are the statutory papers that you must present in order to satisfy the Latvia visa requirements:*

1. Form for obtaining a Latvian visa. Fill out the application form for a Latvian short-stay visa with all of the necessary information. Don't forget to sign it after you've printed it.
2. Two images that are identical. The images should be no more than three months old and shot in accordance with the Latvian Schengen visa application photo standards
3. Your valid passport

“This page has been prepared to provide general information about *the Latvia Visa* application documents; however, the information may vary. It is therefore advised that you conduct your own research for up-to-date information.”

4. Printed copies of your prior visas (if applicable)
5. Travel health insurance for Latvia. Valid across the Schengen area, covering health-care expenditures up to €30,000, including transportation back to your home country in the event of serious sickness or repatriation in the event of death
6. Evidence of travel arrangements:
  - Itinerary for a round-trip flight. If you want to go to Latvia by air, you must submit documentation proving that you have a scheduled trip to and from Latvia. This paper should include flight numbers, dates, and your contact information
  - Ticket for a bus or rail
  - When driving an automobile. Car registration, insurance, and return travel tickets (ferry or Eurotunnel) with the car's registration number and driver's license
4. Accommodation documentation

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- Proof of sufficient financial resources for the duration of your stay in Latvia. You must demonstrate to the Latvian embassy/consulate where you submit your application that you have at least 14€ for each day you want to spend in Latvia. If you want to remain for 30 days or longer, you must certify to having at least 430 for the duration of your stay
- A cover letter is required. A personal letter in which you describe why you want to visit Latvia, how long you want to stay, when you plan to leave, and other pertinent information
- Proof of citizenship

! **Important Note:** For foreign nationals who are not on the aforementioned list, including Turkish citizens, the application is handled within 7 to 10 working days from the date the Embassy receives it.

! **Important Note:** For further information please click the following link:

<https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/latvia-visa/#what-documents-are-required-for-a-latvia-schengen-visa-application>

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# SPECIFICATIONS FOR PHOTOGRAPHS

*A photograph submitted with a visa application must meet the following requirements:*

- It must be a recent photograph (dated max 6 months old)
- Must be a color image printed on regular photographic paper and sized between 35 and 45 mm Full face shot straight forward 30 mm from tip of chin to top of hair
- Photographed against a white backdrop
- Without sunglasses and without a cap or other head covering, unless religiously required
- Toned or reflective glasses should not be worn with spectacles
- The eyeglass frame may not completely cover the eyes

! **Important Note:** To see some examples about specifications for photographs please click the following link: [420 X 297](#)  
[Fotomatrix 2007 sc1 \(vfsglobal.com\)](#)

## 6. VISA FEES

*For erasmus+ program there have no payment. But other services may take some payments such as:*

- Aside from the visa cost, each application will be charged a 25 Euro service fee
- All payments must be made in Euros and in cash
- No payments are refundable
- Courier is an optional service that will cost 12 Euro
- Credit cards are not accepted for payment
- Please keep in mind that payments using 500 Euro bills are not accepted at Visa Application Centres

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## 7. WHERE SHOULD I APPLY FOR THE VISA?



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Visa applications for the Latvia can be made through *VFS Global*.

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E-mail: [info.lvtr@vfshelpline.com](mailto:info.lvtr@vfshelpline.com)

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[Apply for a visa | vfsglobal](#) 

## 8. LATVIA IN TURKIYE

### HONORARY CONSULS OF LATVIA IN ISTANBUL



**Address:** Eski Bagdat Caddesi, Camlik (Kozalak) Cikmazi No.1, Kucukyali, Maltepe 34840, Istanbul, Türkiye

**Telephone:** +90 216 519 75 00 / +90 216 519 75 01 / (90) 532 321 6881 (emergency phone number)

**Fax:** +90 216 519 75 02

**E-mail:** [istanbul@congenlatvia.com](mailto:istanbul@congenlatvia.com)

**Website:** [Honorary Consul General and Honorary Consuls of Latvia \(mfa.gov.lv\)](http://mfa.gov.lv)

### ANKARA EMBASSY OF LATVIA IN TURKIYE

**Address:** Reşit Galip Caddesi, No.95 G.O.P. Çankaya, Ankara, Türkiye

**Telephone:** +90 312 405 6136 (general inquiries) / +90 312 405 6138 (consular inquiries)

**Fax:** +90 312 405 6137

**E-mail:** [embassy.turkey@mfa.gov.lv](mailto:embassy.turkey@mfa.gov.lv) / [consulate.turkey@mfa.gov.lv](mailto:consulate.turkey@mfa.gov.lv) (consular issues)

**Website:** [Embassy of Latvia in Turkey \(mfa.gov.lv\)](http://mfa.gov.lv)



# FOR YOUR INFORMATION,

This general information package has been put together to help you with your visa applications.

It is, however, the **applicants' responsibility** to keep up with current information and to carry out his/her process.

If you have any questions, please contact us at the email address listed below:

[vize@altinbas.edu.tr](mailto:vize@altinbas.edu.tr)

<https://global.altinbas.edu.tr/>

