

## DO I NEED A VISA TO GO ON HOLIDAY TO AUSTRALIA?

If you plan to visit Australia for 3 months and hold an European Union or Swiss passport you do not need to contact us or make an application for a visa at an Australian Embassy. All European Union and Swiss passport holders can apply online, free of charge for a 3 month visitor visa. This visa is called an eVisitor. If you hold a European Union or Swiss passport this is the simplest way to get a visa for your holiday.

## **eVisitor Visa**

The online application form is only available in English. If English is not your first language you may ask a friend or family member to complete the application on your behalf.

## Apply online: http://www.immi.gov.au/e\_visa/evisitor.htm

Once granted an eVisitor is subject to the following conditions: You must comply with your eVisitor conditions while in Australia. A breach of these conditions may result in your eVisitor being cancelled and you may have to leave Australia.

- You must not engage in any studies or training for more than three months.
- You must be free from tuberculosis at the time of travel to, and entry into, Australia.
- You must not have any criminal convictions, for which the sentence or sentences are for a total period of 12 months duration or more (whether served or not), at the time of travel to, and entry into, Australia.
- You must not work whilst in Australia. Limited volunteer work may be acceptable.

Australia's modern electronic visa system does not require you to have a visa label placed in your passport to confirm your immigration status and entitlements in Australia. When you check-in to fly to Australia, airline staff will use your passport to electronically confirm that you have authority to travel to Australia prior to boarding the aircraft.

It is recommended that you take out health and/or travel insurance for yourself and your family members each time you travel to Australia. You will not be covered by Australia's national health scheme, unless your country has a reciprocal health care agreement with Australia. Reciprocal medical arrangements exist with some countries.

If you are not able to use the eVisitor online application you may be eligible to apply for an ETA through your local travel agent.

## **ETA (Electronic Travel Authority)**

ETAs are similar to eVisitor visa. Both allow you to visit Australia for up to three months. The main difference between them is where you apply and how much they cost.

You can apply for an ETA through many travel agents worldwide. Travel agents usually charge a fee for this service. ETAs are available to the following European passport holders; Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK (British Citizen and British National Overseas), Vatican City.

Once granted an ETA is subject to the following conditions: You must comply with your ETA conditions while in Australia. A breach of these conditions may result in your ETA being cancelled and you may have to leave Australia.

- You must not engage in any studies or training for more than three months.
- You must be free from tuberculosis at the time of travel to, and entry into, Australia.
- You must not have any criminal convictions, for which the sentence or sentences are for a total period of 12 months duration or more (whether served or not), at the time of travel to, and entry into, Australia.
- You must not work whilst in Australia. Limited volunteer work may be acceptable

ETAs are electronic. There is no stamp or label attached to a passport. Airline check-in staff can electronically confirm if a passenger has authority to board a flight to Australia. ETAs are linked to the passport you applied with. If you get a new passport (or you intend to travel to Australia on a different passport) you must apply for a new ETA for that passport. If a new ETA is granted it will automatically cease any previous ETA Visa you held.

It is recommended that you take out health and/or travel insurance for yourself and your family members each time you travel to Australia. You will not be covered by Australia's national health scheme, unless your country has a reciprocal health care agreement with Australia. Reciprocal medical arrangements exist with some countries.