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lietuvą

**Great to see  
you again!**



# MARRYING A FOREIGN NATIONAL

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Registering a foreign  
marriage in Lithuania



VIDAUS REIKALŲ  
MINISTERIJA

Lithuanian citizens returning from abroad often bring their significant other to live in Lithuania. Time and again, we get queries on how to properly register a marriage obtained abroad or how to get married in Lithuania. Here you will find the essential information on the arrangements for both procedures and what documents are required for them.

Do you have any questions about returning to or coming to live in Lithuania? Visit the Migration Information Centre's "I choose Lithuania" website at [renkuosilietuva.lt](http://renkuosilietuva.lt), ask burning questions using our live chat, by giving us a call or dropping an email and we will be happy to respond.

#### Photograph by Ieva Avulytė

The leaflet uses works of creative Lithuanians - photographs that capture modern day life and naturalness.

## Contacts

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# GETTING MARRIED

## GETTING MARRIED IN LITHUANIA

- #1 A marriage application needs to be filed with a civil registry office (*located at where either of the people getting married or their parents has/ have declared their residence*). Both people must be present in person when submitting the application. An application may also be submitted on the MEPIS system via the E-Government Gateway website at [epaslaugos.lt](http://epaslaugos.lt), by post or courier services. The marriage will be registered at least 30 days after the date of application.

### Documents to accompany the application:

- #1 identity documents;
- #2 birth certificates or birth records (*this requirement is optional for Lithuanian residents, but mandatory for any citizens coming from abroad*);
- #3 a proof of payment or a receipt confirming that the public fee has been paid (*these documents are not required if the application was submitted online and the payment was made via the E-Government Gateway*);
- #4 a foreign national must present a document issued by a competent authority in their home country to confirm that there are no obstacles to the marriage. If a foreign national is divorced or widowed, they must also provide a document to prove divorce or the death of their spouse. (More information <http://www.infolex.lt/ta/347835:str15>).

- #2 Foreigners, except for citizens of the Member States of the European Union and the European Free Trade Association, must also submit documents confirming their legal stay in the Republic of Lithuania. If the civil registry office has doubts about the legal stay of a foreigner in the Republic of Lithuania, it shall apply for a query on confirmation to the State Border Guard Service under the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania.

## REGISTERING A FOREIGN MARRIAGE IN LITHUANIA

- #1 For a foreign marriage to be valid in Lithuania, it must be added to the marriage register. You can have this done by completing an application at a civil registry office in Lithuania (their contacts by districts can be found at [mepis.registrucentras.lt/web/mepis/kontaktai](http://mepis.registrucentras.lt/web/mepis/kontaktai)) or at Lithuanian diplomatic missions abroad (their contacts by countries in an alphabetic order can be found at [urm.lt/default/lt/embasycontacts](http://urm.lt/default/lt/embasycontacts)).



- #2 Documents to be presented to register a marriage (*they may be submitted by either of the spouses*)

- #1 an identity document;
- #2 a marriage certificate issued by a foreign public authority, legalised or certified with an Apostille and translated into Lithuanian.



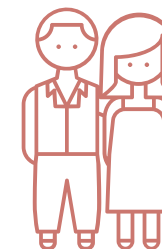
**NOTE.** Documents issued in Russia, Latvia, Estonia, Ukraine and Moldova do not require legalisation or certification, but they must be translated.



- #3 If either of the spouses is a divorced or widowed foreign national, there is an additional requirement to provide a document issued by their home country's competent authority to prove their divorce or the death of their spouse.



**IMPORTANT!** Marriage does not entitle a foreign national to stay legally in Lithuania, but they may apply for a residence permit when they get married.



## APOSTILLE CERTIFICATES AND LEGALISATION PROCEDURE

- An Apostille may be obtained from a competent authority in the country of issue (*for instance, in Lithuania, documents are certified with an Apostille by the notaries public*) or at a diplomatic mission abroad. A list of countries eligible for document certification with an Apostille can be found on the back of this leaflet.
- Documents issued in the countries that are not on the list must be legalised (double certification). First, the issued document will have to be legalised by a competent authority (as a general rule, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) or a diplomatic mission of the issuing country. Then the document needs to be translated into Lithuanian and legalised by the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

# COUNTRIES ELIGIBLE FOR DOCUMENT CERTIFICATION WITH AN APOSTILLE

## EUROPE

Ireland  
Albania  
Andorra  
Armenia  
Austria  
Azerbaijan  
Belarus  
Belgium  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Bulgaria  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Greece  
Iceland  
Spain  
Italy  
United Kingdom  
of Great Britain and  
Northern Ireland  
Montenegro  
Cyprus  
Croatia  
Poland  
Liechtenstein  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg  
Republic of North  
Macedonia  
Malta  
Republic of Moldova  
Monaco  
Netherlands

Norway

Portugal

France

Romania

Georgia

San Marino

Serbia

Slovakia

Slovenia

Finland

Sweden

Switzerland

Hungary

Germany

## ASIA

Bahrain

Brunei Darussalam

India

Israel

Japan

Kazakhstan

China (Hong Kong)

China (Macao)

Kyrgyzstan

Republic of Korea

Mongolia

Oman

Tajikistan

Turkey

Uzbekistan

## AFRICA

Botswana

Burundi

Liberia

Malawi

Morocco

Mauritius

Namibia

South Africa

Sao Tome and Principe

Seychelles

Eswatini

Tonga

## OCEANIA

Fiji

Cook Islands

Marshall Islands

Niue

Samoa

Vanuatu

## Australia

## New Zealand

## United States of America

## SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA

Antigua and Barbuda

Argentina

Bahamas

Barbados

Belize

Brazil

Chile

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

Grenada

Honduras

Colombia

Costa Rica

Nicaragua

Mexico

Panama

Paraguay

Peru

El Salvador

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Saint Lucia

Saint Vincent and the

Grenadines

Suriname

Trinidad and Tobago

Uruguay

Venezuela

An up-to-date list of  
countries can be found  
at [cutt.ly/7fFDYs0](https://cutt.ly/7fFDYs0).