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lietuva

**Great to see  
you again!**



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# **LIVING IN LITHUANIA AS A FOREIGN NATIONAL**



VIDAUS REIKALŲ  
MINISTERIJA

Without doubt, time spent abroad can affect not only professional skills or economic capacity, but personal life too.

Lithuanians living abroad find their partners there and create families. So often they no longer return to Lithuania alone, but bring a family member or a partner who is not a Lithuanian citizen with them. The reason behind allowing such persons reside in Lithuania depends on a variety of circumstances. Here you will find a summary of information on how foreign nationals may come to and live in Lithuania.

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 Aistė Bugenytė

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

#### Contacts

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## SHORT STAY IN LITHUANIA

### EU/EEA AND SWISS NATIONALS

Nationals of the EU/EEA member states (*Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein*) and Switzerland may come to and stay in Lithuania for 3 months without any additional travel documents required.



### NATIONALS OF THIRD COUNTRIES SUBJECT TO VISA-FREE TRAVEL

Nationals of third countries subject to visa-free travel may come to Lithuania without a visa (*with an identity document only*) and stay here for up to 90 days. The countries subject to visa-free travel to Lithuania include Ukraine, Australia, Canada, USA, Argentina, New Zealand and others. A full list of such countries can be found on the Migration Department's website at [migracija.lt](http://migracija.lt).



### NATIONALS OF THIRD COUNTRIES NOT SUBJECT TO VISA-FREE TRAVEL

If a country is not subject to visa-free travel, nationals of this country must apply for a travel document (a visa) at a Lithuanian diplomatic mission abroad before they come to Lithuania.

A list of documents to be presented can be found at [migracija.lt/pateikiamu-dokumentu-sarasas](http://migracija.lt/pateikiamu-dokumentu-sarasas)

#### You may submit the application and supporting documents:

- #A in person at the Migration Department's local office;
- #B in person at a Lithuanian diplomatic mission or a consular office;
- #C through an authorised person or alternative representative at the Migration Department's local office;
- #D electronically.

## LIFE IN LITHUANIA

EU citizens intending to stay in Lithuania for more than 3 months must apply for an EU citizen's certificate (*ES piliečio teisės laikinai gyventi pažymėjimas* or *ES piliečio šeimos nario leidimo laikinai gyventi kortelė*). It is issued on the basis of the following grounds:

- #1 a person is employed/self-employed in Lithuania;
- #2 a person has sufficient means to support themselves and their family members and a valid proof of health insurance;
- #3 a person is a student/pupil/intern or is enrolled in vocational or professional training;
- #4 a person is an EU citizen's family member (and is coming to be with/along with them);
- #5 a person is an EU citizen's family member who retains the right of temporary residence in Lithuania.

### EU CITIZENS

Supporting documents (proof of employment, study, family, business, etc.) will have to be submitted to the Migration Department's local office of the foreign national's intended residence to be declared.



A decision will be taken no later than within 30 days.



The certificate is valid for 5 years.

## LITHUANIAN CITIZENSHIP BY NATURALISATION

#### Prerequisites:

- #1 a person has been lawfully resident in Lithuania for the past 10 years (*or 7 years if married to a Lithuanian citizen*);
- #2 a person is entitled to permanent residence in Lithuania at the time of application;
- #3 a person has passed the national language and the Lithuanian Constitution exams;
- #4 a person has a legitimate source of income;
- #5 a person is stateless, renounces their citizenship of another country in writing or loses their previous citizenship when acquiring Lithuanian citizenship;
- #6 a person has not committed any international crimes or crimes against Lithuania, or any serious crimes before coming to Lithuania.

# THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS

Foreign nationals intending to live in Lithuania must have one of the three documents: a national (D) visa or a temporary/permanent residence permit.

## NATIONAL (D) VISA

A foreign national holding a national (D) visa may come to Lithuania and stay here for up to 12 months.

### A visa is issued to a foreign national who:

- is a student;
- is a professional athlete or a coach;
- is a professor or a researcher;
- is a seasonal worker;
- is a seafarer;
- is a journalist accredited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- is a person holding a work permit or on the list of occupations that are exempt from work permits;
- has applied for a residence permit to be issued/replaced;
- falls under other categories of persons with the intended purpose of arrival of long-term residence in Lithuania.

## WHERE TO APPLY

An application for a national (D) visa must be submitted to a Lithuanian diplomatic mission or (where a person is lawfully present in the Republic of Lithuania) to the Migration Division of the Vilnius, Kaunas or Klaipėda Police Headquarters and the Migration Department.

### PROCESSING PERIOD

A visa will be issued within 15 calendar days.

**IMPORTANT!** Submission of documents does not entitle to a lawful stay in Lithuania.

## TEMPORARY RESIDENCE PERMIT

Temporary residence permits are issued to foreign nationals **other than EU citizens**. They are generally issued for a period of **one or two years**, but may also be issued for a shorter period.

**A temporary residence permit may be issued for work, family, business or study purposes or because of Lithuanian origins.**

## WHERE TO APPLY

An application for a temporary residence permit needs to be submitted to a Lithuanian diplomatic mission or the Migration Department's local office of the foreign national's intended residence to be declared.

### PROCESSING PERIOD

An application is processed within 4 months under the standard procedure or 2 months under the expedited procedure. This period may be shorter under certain circumstances.

## PERMANENT RESIDENCE PERMIT

It is a document that gives a foreign national the right of permanent residence in the Republic of Lithuania and certifies the foreign national's permanent residence status. Permanent residence permits are issued for **5 years** with a possibility of renewal at the expiry.

A permit is issued to a foreign national who comes to Lithuania to live with a family member that is a Lithuanian citizen. The permit may be issued to a person who is entitled to reinstatement of Lithuanian citizenship or who has continuously lived in Lithuania for 5 years holding a temporary residence permit.

## WHERE TO APPLY

An application for a permanent residence permit needs to be submitted to the Migration Department or the Migration Department's local office of the foreign national's declared residence.

### PROCESSING PERIOD

An application is processed within 4 months under the standard procedure or 2 months under the expedited procedure.

**A list of documents to be presented can be found at [migracija.lt/pateikiamu-dokumentu-sarasas](https://migracija.lt/pateikiamu-dokumentu-sarasas)**