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General information on Schengen visa

A Schengen visa enables a foreigner to travel to and between all countries of the Schengen area, unless the area of validity is limited in the visa sticker itself: Austria, Belgium, 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.

1. You have to apply for your Schengen visa at the Embassy of your **MAIN destination**. If the main destination cannot be determined, responsibility for issuance of the visa lies with the Schengen state of first entry.

Main travel destination	Visa Application Centre	Embassy Address and Contact Information
France* Portugal Spain Monaco	Schengen Visa Application Centre Level 6, East Tower, World Trade Centre, Colombo 1 Tel: 011-4690801 info.francesl@vfshelpline.com www.vfs-france.com	Embassy of France Rosmead Place, Colombo 7 Tel.: +94-11-2639 400 Fax : +94-11-2639 402 www.ambafrance-lk.org
Germany Austria Estonia Hungary Latvia	Schengen Visa Application Centre Level 6, East Tower, World Trade Centre, Colombo 1 Tel: 011-4690801 Fax: 011-4541142 info.germansl@vfshelpline.com www.vfs-germany.com	Embassy of Federal Republic of Germany 43, Temple Lane, Colombo 3 Tel.: +94-11-2580 431 Mob.: +94-77-3541017 (appointments: Tuesday 2 -3.30 pm) Fax: +94-11-2584 104 www.colombo.diplo.de
Italy Greece Malta	Schengen Visa Application Centre Level 6, East Tower, World Trade Centre, Colombo 1 Tel: 011-4690801 info.italysl@vfshelpline.com www.italy-vfs.com	Embassy of Italy 55, Jawatta Road, Colombo 5 Tel.: +94-11-2588 388 Fax: +94-11-2588 622 www.ambcolombo.esteri.it
The Netherlands** Belgium Luxemburg Poland Slovenia	For Appointments/information: Consular Call Centre Tel.: 011-2510200 col-ccc@minbuza.nl	Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands 25, Torrington Avenue, Colombo 7 Tel.: +94-11-2510200 Fax: +94-11-250 2855 www.hollandinsrilanka.org col-ca@minbuza.nl
Norway*** Denmark Finland Iceland Sweden	Schengen Visa Application Centre Level 6, East Tower, World Trade Centre, Colombo 1 Tel: 011-4541770 and 011-4690801 info.norwaysl@vfshelpline.com http://www.vfsglobal.com/norway/srilanka/contactus.html	Royal Norwegian Embassy No. 49, Bullers Lane, Colombo 7 Tel.: +94-11-5608700 Fax: +94-11-5608791 www.norway.lk
Switzerland Liechtenstein	For Appointments/information: Visa Call Centre Tel.: 011-269 12 20 col.visa@eda.admin.ch	Embassy of Switzerland 63, Gregory's Road, Colombo 7 Tel.: +94-11 269 12 20 Fax: +94-11 269 12 00 www.eda.admin.ch/colombo

Travellers to the Czech Republic, Lithuania and Slovakia must apply at the competent Embassy outside of Sri Lanka.

2. The mere possession of a visa does not confer an automatic right of entry. Visa holders are requested to present proof that they fulfil the entry conditions at the Schengen border. They should especially carry valid passport with valid visa, proof of purpose of trip, proof of sufficient finances etc. and must not be a danger to the public order, internal security, public health or international relations.
 3. The purpose of a proposed visit cannot be altered once the visa has been issued.
 4. It is recommended that you apply as early as possible. The application cannot be lodged earlier than three months before. Please bear in mind that there may be waiting times for appointments of up to two weeks.
 5. Applications shall be processed within 15 calendar days of the date of lodging of an admissible application. In individual cases, notably when further scrutiny is needed or in cases of representation, this period may be extended up to 30 calendar days. When additional documentation is needed, the period may be extended up to 60 calendar days.
 6. When the application is admissible, the Embassy will stamp your passport. This stamp has no legal implications.
 7. Nationals or specific categories of nationals of the following countries are subject to prior consultation or information: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, D.R. Congo, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, North Korea, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Vietnam, Yemen, Palestinians, Uzbekistan, Refugees, Stateless Persons.
- * The French Embassy also processes visas for the French Overseas Territories and for Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Monaco, Senegal, Djibouti and Togo
- ** The Embassy of the Netherlands also processes visa for Aruba, Curacao, Sint Maarten and the isles of the Netherlands Caribbean area.
- *** The Norwegian Embassy also processes applications for visas to Svalbard/Spitzbergen.