



Orange Carpet Visa Facility

South Africa

The Netherlands is committed to promoting sustainable trade and investment with South Africa. In support of which, the Netherlands Embassy in Pretoria would like to roll out the “orange” carpet for frequent business travellers to the Netherlands by offering companies a simplified visa application process - the Orange Carpet Visa Facility (OCVF).

**ORANGE
CARPET**



Orange Carpet Visa Facility

Benefits

A long-term multiple-entry visa will be issued if the requirements are met;

The OCVF is available for all employees, including their immediate family members (spouse and children under 18 years of age);

Exemption from having to provide confirmed flight reservations, hotel reservations and proof of financial means;

No prior appointment is necessary.

Eligibility

Dutch organisations that have a branch/subsidiary in South Africa or vice versa;

South African organisations that have a long term, substantial (business) relationship with an organisation in the Netherlands.

Registering for the Orange Carpet Visa Facility.

To join the OCVF, you are kindly requested to fill out the OCVF application form and send it, together with the required documentation mentioned therein, to pre-ea@minbuza.nl.

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Applying for a visa under the Orange Carpet Visa Facility.

Once you have applied for OCVF membership (see above) and you have been accepted into the OCVF-program, your staff may apply for a visa via the External Service Provider. While no appointment is required, it is advised to schedule an appointment online for even further efficiency,

The following supporting documents must be submitted with your application:

One fully completed and signed visa application form;

One passport photo (for specifications see the link);
Valid passport of the applicant (valid at least three months upon leaving the Schengen area);
Payment of visa fee;

Copy of international medical insurance policy, including medical emergency evacuation cover (equivalent to EUR 30,000), corresponding to the (desired) period of stay;

A recommendation/support letter from your company, signed by (one of) the designated OCVF contact person(s). The letter should clearly state that the applicant is an OCVF beneficiary; the OCVF registration number; what the purpose and destination of the trip is and the requested visa duration.

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Please Note

Improper use of visas can affect the decision on and the validity period of new visas.

By participating in the OCVF, you guarantee the return of the traveller and you are able and willing to vouch financially for all costs that might occur during or following the stay of abovementioned visa applicants in all Schengen countries, when they are travelling on a visa that has been obtained via the OCVF.

Please be informed that on arrival at any Schengen border, the local immigration authorities have the right to ask you to show your (legalized) invitation, proof of sufficient financial means (cash or a valid credit card), a hotel reservation (in case of a business trip) and a medical travel insurance. If you cannot provide them with this information, you might be refused to enter the Schengen area by the local immigration authorities.

The OCVF does not apply when your main destination in Europe is not in the Netherlands. Your main stay determines which Schengen country should issue your visa. This is a legal directive following the Schengen Visa Code and can thus not be deviated from.

The Consular Department may request additional documents and/or decide on different validity periods for visas.

In case of minor children (younger than 18 years) that are accompanying the employee on his/her business trip, the following additional documents have to be attached to the applications of the children:

A written consent form from both parents and/or the parents' signatures on the application form.

A copy of the parents' passports.

The OCVF does not apply to clients or business partners of your company.

The OCVF can be cancelled at any time by either party by written notification.

If the person desires to stay longer than 90 days (long stay) within the Schengen area or the Netherlands for business purposes, the short-term visa is not valid. For this purpose one has to apply for a permit for provisional sojourn (or MVV), which will be processed through the Embassy, but decided upon by the Immigration and Naturalization Services (IND) of the Ministry of Justice & Security in The Netherlands. For more details pertaining to the MVV procedures please, visit the website of the Ministry of Justice & Security: ***www.ind.nl***.



Further information

Please do not hesitate to contact us via ***pre-ea@minbuza.nl*** for further information and questions on the OCVF.

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