Changes in the rules for Schengen visa applications and increase of visa fees *Read more*

Due to changes in the Schengen regulations, new rules apply to the visa application process. At the same time visa fees increase. The most important changes are:

Extended application period
You can apply for your Schengen visa 6 months before your planned travel date (this was 3 months). Seafarers can apply 9 months in advance.

Increase of visa fees
The Schengen and Caribbean visa fees have been increased:

Visa type	Old fees in EUR	New fees in EUR
Schengen visa	60	80
Schengen visa child 6-12 years	35	40
Schengen visa child 0-5 years	Free of charge	Free of charge
Caribbean visa	35	80
Caribbean visa child 6-12 year	35	40
Caribbean visa child 0-5 years	Free of charge	Free of charge

Multiple-entry Schengen visa for regular travellers
Do you regularly travel to the Netherlands / Schengen area? Then you may qualify for a multiple-entry visa with a longer period of validity. You must meet a number of conditions:

- multiple-entry visa for 1 year: if you have received a Schengen visa 3 times in the past 2 years and used it correctly;
- multiple-entry visa for 2 years: if you have received a multiple-entry visa for 1 year in the past 2 years and used it correctly;
- multiple-entry visa for 5 years: if you have received a multiple-entry visa for 2 years in the past 3 years and used it correctly.

Decisions on the issuing of visa will be made on an individual basis. No rights can be derived from the above.

Biometrics / applying in person for Schengen visa applications
Did you provide biometric data (fingerprints and photo) within the last 59 months before your current application? Then someone else can submit your application for you. You do not have to appear in person.

Please note; it is not possible to verify if your biometric data are in the system at the time of application. It is therefore possible that you will be invited to come to submit them at a later moment. You may also be invited to come for an interview on an individual basis.