

Published based on [Foreign Entry Requirements: Everything You Should Know About Passports And Visas](#)

Foreign Entry Requirements: Everything You Should Know About Passports And Visas

People who are considering traveling overseas are often faced with a problem. What's the difference between a passport and a visa? This is a concern to be taken seriously, as one cannot be substituted from the other. As an example, a [United States passports renewal](#) is considerably easier to obtain than visa renewals. It's important to know and recognize the difference between the two so you know exactly what you need to do and what sort of paperwork to acquire when traveling to another country.

Visas

A visa is a physical stamp or a sticker that gets placed in your passport upon arrival to a country. This mark is placed in your passport by a representative official of the country you're traveling to, and it simply means that the holder of the passport is authorized to visit that country. These are generally shown upon entrance to a foreign country, and many countries actually require you to get a visa in order to enter the country.

On the down side, the rules dealing with visas are not set. Visas are required by some countries, while other countries do not require them. And to top it all off, the rules keep changing. You may need a visa one day and a week goes by and you won't need a visa. The cost of a visa can differ significantly from country to country and since the countries have no competition in issuing visas, end up charging ridiculous fees.

There are various types of visa. They differ according to the type of visit you are doing. There are three main categories. First the business trip. Next are tourist trips and the final is transitory trips. There are some other types of visas that relate to international travel, but the three mentioned cover most travel.

Passports

A passport is an official document that states and verifies one's identity and country of origin. These are needed in order to both enter and leave a country and are a necessary part of international travel plans. A passport is obtained in your native country from passport agencies with a [United States passport application](#).

Passports don't specifically allow you to enter the country, but it promises protection while abroad and allows you to return to the country that issued the passport. You probably won't ever have to deal with these details, but they're good to know. A passport is the only universally recognized form of identification, making them your lifeline when you travel to different countries.

Passports are valid for ten years if you are over sixteen and only five years if you are under sixteen, while a visa's period of validity varies greatly. A visa can be valid for as long as ten years or as short as just the duration of your trip. Once the visa expires, you will require a new one in order to be able to get into the country again. The same goes for passports. Once your passport is expired, a new one is needed before you can go abroad again.

Traveling abroad can be an adventure. I have had some of the greatest times of my life overseas. To make things easy you can get your [U.S. online passport renewal](#) right on the internet. Find a travel agent to help you with your passport application. These steps require very little work so you can get your show on the road!

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