

IMMIGRATION ACT  
(Cap. 25:02)

IMMIGRATION (VISA) REGULATIONS, 2014  
(Published on 28th March, 2014)

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SCHEDULES

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred on the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs by section 60 of the Immigration Act, the following Regulations are hereby made —

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Immigration (Visa) Regulations, 2014. Citation
2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires — Interpretation  
“authorised officer” means a person authorised by the Minister to issue a visa;  
and  
“holder” means the person to whom a visa is granted and who is the holder of a valid travel document.
3. Subject to regulation 6, no document shall be a travel document for the purposes of the Act unless it contains, or has annexed to it, a valid and current visa issued in accordance with these Regulations. When visa required to enter Botswana
4. (1) A visa shall be — Types of visas
  - (a) a diplomatic Visa
  - (b) an official visa;
  - (c) an employment visa;
  - (d) a business visa;
  - (e) an investment visa;
  - (f) a tourist visa;
  - (g) a visitor’s visa;
  - (h) a study visa;
  - (i) a transit visa; or
  - (j) an emergency visa.

(2) A diplomatic visa shall be a visa authorising the holder of a diplomatic passport, on diplomatic duty, to enter Botswana on such number of occasions and for such periods as may be endorsed on the visa by the authorised officer.

(3) An official visa shall be a visa authorising the holder of an official passport, on official duty, to enter Botswana on such number of occasions and for such periods as may be endorsed on the visa by the authorised officer.

(4) An employment visa shall be a visa authorising the holder, for purposes of employment, to enter Botswana on such number of occasions and for such periods as may be endorsed on the visa by the authorised officer.

(5) A business visa shall be a visa authorising the holder, for purposes of business, to enter Botswana on such number of occasions and for such periods as may be endorsed on the visa by the authorised officer.

(6) An investment visa shall be a visa authorising the holder, for purposes of investment, to enter Botswana on such number of occasions and for such periods as may be endorsed on the visa by the authorised officer.

(7) A tourist visa shall be a visa authorising the holder, for purposes of tourism, to enter Botswana on such number of occasions and for such periods as may be endorsed on the visa by the authorised officer.

(8) A visitor's visa shall be a visa authorising the holder, for purposes of attending a social event or visiting relatives, to enter Botswana on such number of occasions and for such periods as may be endorsed on the visa by the authorised officer.

(9) A study visa shall be a visa authorising the holder, for purposes of study, to enter Botswana on such number of occasions and for such periods as may be endorsed on the visa by the authorised officer.

(10) A transit visa shall be a visa authorising the holder to pass through Botswana in transit to some other countries and shall be valid for such period as may be endorsed on the visa by the authorised officer.

(11) An emergency visa shall be a visa authorising the holder, on emergency grounds, to enter Botswana on such number of occasions and for such periods as may be endorsed on the visa by the authorised officer.

5. No visa shall be required by a national of a country listed in Schedule 1 who is the holder of a valid passport issued in that country unless the Minister, by notice published in the *Gazette*, declares that such person is required to obtain a visa.

6. (1) The following persons shall not require a visa —

- (a) travellers by air when the traveller holds a through ticket to a destination outside Botswana and passes through Botswana in direct transit; and
- (b) such persons or class of persons as the Minister may from time to time exempt.

(2) No visa shall be required by holders of Interpol e-passports or by members of the Diplomatic Service of foreign states or by foreign consular officers *de carrere* accredited to Botswana.

(3) A person who holds a travel document other than a full national passport shall not be exempted from obtaining a visa.

Countries  
which  
do not  
require visa  
Exemptions

7. (1) A person wishing to obtain a visa shall make an application to an authorised officer and shall produce to the officer —
- (a) a fully completed Form 1 set out in Schedule 2;
  - (b) a certified copy of the passport showing validity period of not less than six months and photograph of the bearer;
  - (c) two coloured passport size photos (40mm x 30mm);
  - (d) a letter from the host or accommodation bookings;
  - (e) a re-entry permit to the country where he is ordinarily resident if such a permit is required by that country; and
  - (f) such other information as may be required.
- (2) An application under subregulation (1) shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee set out in Schedule 3 or the equivalent thereof in round figures in the currency of the country in which the visa is obtained, being a country in which a Botswana Mission is situated:
- Provided that no charge shall be made for visas issued to nationals of countries which do not charge fees for visas issued to Botswana nationals.
- (3) An authorised officer may approve or reject an application for a visa and notify the applicant in writing.
- (4) A person affected by the decision of the authorised officer under subregulation (3) may lodge a new application after the expiry of three months immediately after the date of the rejection.
- (5) A visa shall be in Form 2 set out in Schedule 2.
- (6) No visa fee shall be payable —
- (a) by diplomatic officers of foreign governments, the United Nations or other international organizations travelling on official business;
  - (b) by nationals of countries which do not charge visa fees to Botswana nationals; and
  - (c) by servants of persons mentioned in regulation 6 (2) and holders of a diplomatic visa when travelling alone on their way to or from posts at which they are or have been employed.
- (7) A visa issued out under regulation 7 (5) shall be valid for a period stipulated under Schedule 4.
8. A *laissez-passez* issued by an international organisation recognised by the Government of Botswana shall be sufficient proof establishing the nationality and identity of the applicant for the purposes of regulation 7 (1).
9. Statutory Instrument No. 32 of 1967 is hereby revoked.

Application  
for visa

laissez-passer

Revocation  
of No. 32 of  
1967

SCHEDULE 1

Countries Which Do Not Require Visas From Botswana  
(regulation 5)

All commonwealth countries (except Bangladesh, Ghana, India, Nigeria, Pakistan and Sri Lanka)  
Angola  
Antigua & Barbuda  
Argentina  
Australia  
Austria  
Bahamas  
Bahrain  
Barbados  
Belgium  
Belize  
Brazil  
Brunei Darussalam  
Bulgaria  
Cameroon  
Canada  
Cuba  
Chile  
Costa Rica  
Croatia  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Dominica  
Dominican Republic  
Estonia  
Finland  
France  
Gambia  
Germany  
Greece  
Grenada  
Guyana  
Holy Sea  
Hong Kong  
Hungary  
Iceland  
Ireland  
Israel  
Italy  
Jamaica  
Japan  
Kenya

Kiribati  
Kuwait  
Latvia  
Lesotho  
Liechtenstein  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg  
Malawi  
Malaysia  
Maldives  
Malta  
Mauritius  
Mexico  
Monaco  
Mozambique  
Namibia  
Nauru  
Netherlands  
New Zealand  
Norway  
Oman  
Papua New Guinea  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Poland  
Portugal  
Qatar  
Republic of Ireland  
Romania  
Russia  
Saint Kitts & Nevis  
Saint Lucia  
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  
Samoa  
San Marico  
Saudi Arabia  
Seychelles  
Sierra Leone  
Singapore  
Slovak Republic  
Slovenia  
Solomon Islands  
South Africa  
South Korea  
South Sudan  
Spain  
Swaziland  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Tanzania

Tonga  
Trinidad & Tobago  
Turkey  
Tuvalu  
Uganda  
United Arab Emirates  
United Kingdom  
USA  
Uruguay  
Vanuatu  
Venezuela  
Yugoslavia  
Zambia  
Zimbabwe





FORM 2  
(regulation 7 (6))



SCHEDULE 3  
Fees  
(regulation 7 (2))

<i>TYPE OF VISA</i>	<i>AMOUNT (BWP)</i>
Diplomatic Visa (DV)	Gratis
Official Visa (OV)	Gratis
Employment Visa (WV)	500
Business Visa (BV)	700
Investment Visa (IV)	1500
Tourist Visa (TV)	500
Visitor's Visa (VV)	3 months and below 500 Above 3 months 1000
Study Visa (SV)	500
Transit Visa (TRV)	500 for up to 3 months, 1000 For beyond 3 months
Emergency Visa (EMV)	1500

SCHEDULE 4

Validity Periods for Visa  
(*regulation 7 (7)*)

*TYPE OF VISA*

*VALIDITY*

Diplomatic Visa (DV)  
Official Visa (OV)  
Employment Visa (EV)

as per the official assignment up to 2 years  
as per the official assignment up to 2 years  
6 months  
Volunteers, up to 1 year or as per the assignment

Business Visa (BV)  
Investment Visa (IV)  
Tourism Visa (TV)  
Visitor's Visa (VV)  
Study Visa (SV)  
Transit Visa (TRV)

up to 1 year  
up to 5 years  
up to 1 month  
3 months or up to 2 years for dependents of residents  
up to 3 months  
1 week or up to 3 years for transporters and tour operators

MADE this 26th day of March, 2014.

HON. EDWIN J. BATSHU,  
*Minister of Labour and Home Affairs.*