

IMMIGRATION ACT
(Cap. 25:02)

IMMIGRATION (VISA) REGULATIONS, 2014
(Published on 23rd May, 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 is 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.

Countries
which do not
require visa

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.

Exemptions

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 carriere* 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.

Application
for visa

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. 25 of 2014 is hereby revoked.

Laissez-passez.

Revocation
of Statutory
Instrument
No. 25 of
2014

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 (5))



SCHEDULE 3
Fees
(regulation 7 (2))

TYPE OF VISA	AMOUNT (BWP)
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)	as per the official assignment up to 4 years
Official Visa (OV)	as per the official assignment up to 2 years
Employment Visa (EV)	6 months Volunteers, up to 1 year or as per the assignment
Business Visa (BV)	up to 1 year
Investment Visa (IV)	up to 5 years
Tourist Visa (TV)	up to 1 year
Visitor's Visa (VV)	3 months or up to 2 years for dependents of residents
Study Visa (SV)	up to 6 months
Transit Visa (TRV)	1 week or up to 3 years for transporters and tour operators

MADE this 6th day of May, 2014.

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