

• Visa Requirements for South Africa

Important information on South Africa's new immigration regulations:

Since early June 2014, the South African Department of Home Affairs has been gradually rolling out and implementing a raft of new immigration laws and regulations.

While many of the new laws are only of concern to those looking to live and/or work in South Africa, tourists planning recreational trips to South Africa from anywhere else in the world should take note of the following:

- 1.) The new immigration regulations for travelling with children
- 2.) The new biometric visas for those foreign nationals that require a visitor's visa for South Africa

The new regulations for biometric visas will be implemented as of 1st October 2014 and will be applicable to all travelers to and from South Africa from that day forth. The new regulations for travelling with children will be implemented as of June 1st 2015.

Travelling with Children

Under the new regulations, parents must provide an unabridged birth certificate for all travelling children under the age of 18; this must include details of both parents, even if both parents are travelling with the child. This applies to South Africans as well as foreign visitors to the country.

When children are travelling with guardians, these adults are required to produce affidavits from parents proving permission for the children to travel.

Parents are warned that unabridged birth certificates may take between six and eight weeks to complete.

For more detailed information on the new regulations for travelling with children, please click [here](#)

Biometric Visas

Whilst many foreign nationals can enter South Africa either for 30 or 90 days without a visa (most of Europe, South America and North America for example), there are a number of nationalities that require a visa to visit South Africa.

Under the new regulations, nationals from any such countries will be required to apply for a biometric visa; they will have to have their biometric data captured (e.g fingerprints and facial image) IN PERSON at their nearest South African embassy, consulate or visa centre, preferably in their country of origin.

To see a full list of the countries that will require a biometric visa to visit South Africa, please follow the link https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visa_policy_of_South_Africa

For any other queries or issues regarding the new regulations, contact your nearest South African embassy, consulate or visa centre.

