

UNIFORM SCHENGEN VISA INFORMATION

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- The Schengen area covers 26 countries ("Schengen States") without border controls between them. These countries are:

Germany	Austria	Belgium	Denmark
Slovakia	Slovenia	Spain	Estonia
Finland	France	Greece	Hungary
Iceland	Italy	Latvia	Liechtenstein
Lithuania	Luxembourg	Malta	Norway
Netherlands	Poland	Portugal	Czech Republic
Sweden	Switzerland		

- The Embassy of Spain in Japan will be competent for examining and deciding on an application for a uniform visa if:

- Spain constitutes the sole destination of the visit(s).
- The visit includes more than one destination, but Spain constitutes the main destination of the visit(s) in terms of the length or purpose of stay.
- No main destination can be determined, but Spain is the first external border the applicant intends to cross in order to enter the territory of the Member States.

- Japanese passport holders can enter Spain without a visa for stays up to 90 days.

- Applicants shall pay a visa fee of 9,655 Yen. Children from the age of 6 years and below the age of 12 years shall pay a visa fee of 4,828 Yen.

- Applicants shall appear in person at the Embassy of Spain in Tokyo when lodging an application. Children under the age of 12 are exempt from the requirement to give fingerprints. Office hours are 9:30 to 12:30 except Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays. (Please check the Embassy's closing days at our webpage)

- No prior appointment is needed.

- Minors shall submit an application form signed by a person exercising permanent or temporary parental authority or legal guardianship.

- Applications shall be lodged no more than three months before the start of the intended visit. The application must, in principle, be submitted to the Consulate at least 15 days before the intended journey.

- Applications shall be decided on within 15 calendar days of the date of the lodging. That period may be extended up to a maximum of 30 calendar days in individual cases. Exceptionally, when additional documentation is needed in specific cases, the period may be extended up to a maximum of 60 calendar days. Visa fees are non-refundable.

- Mere possession of a uniform visa or a visa with limited territorial validity shall not confer an automatic right of entry.

- The Embassy of Spain may ask, furthermore, other documents considered necessary or even a personal interview with the applicant. Submitting all required documents does not guarantee, by itself, the approval of the visa request.

- If the visa is denied, the applicant will be notified by means of a standardised form which will state the reason for which the visa request was unsuccessful. In this situation, a Contentious-Administrative appeal can be lodged to the High Court of Justice (Tribunal Superior de Justicia) of Madrid within a term of two months from the date of notification. Appeals for reversal may be lodged with the Embassy of Spain in Japan within a term of one month from the date of notification of the denial of visa.

2. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Schengen application form duly filled out and signed.
- Passport (original and photocopy) valid for a minimum of three months after the expected visa stay and with at least two blank pages available. Passport issued more than ten years ago will not be admitted.
- Japanese Residence card (original and photocopy) valid for a minimum of 105 days after the expected visa stay.
- One passport size photograph in color, 4.0 x 3.5 cm in size, taken within the last 6 months to reflect your current appearance and in front of a plain white or off-white background.
- Confirmed reservation of your airline ticket (round-trip). Just a flight reservation is required. The itinerary must be stamped by the travel agency or airline, except e-tickets with ticket number included.
- A detailed hotel reservation or the original invitation letter from a family member or friend issued by the "Policía Nacional" in Spain. If you are part of a tour or a cruise, include a letter from your travel agent stating a complete itinerary of cities and hotels.
- Proof of Health and/or Travel accident insurance in the Schengen area or world wide stating that you are 100% covered for the full duration of your stay with no copays, coinsurance, or deductibles for a minimum coverage of 30.000€ (or its equivalent in yen) for medical emergencies and repatriation services.
- Letter of Employment stating your job title, length of time employed and annual salary. For professional or business trips the letter should also indicate the dates and purpose of your trip. If you are self-employed, please provide any supporting documents.
- In order to substantiate economic means, foreigners must demonstrate, mainly by bank statement covering the last three months, that they have sufficient means of support available in order to enter Spain. The minimum amount that must be substantiated is € 73.59 per person per day, with a minimum of € 662.3 or its legal equivalent in foreign currency. In the absence of bank account, proof of other assets has to be provided.

3. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS (IN ADDITION TO THE GENERAL REQUIREMENTS)

Tourism

- See general requirements.

Professional or business trips

- Invitation from a company or an institution to take part in meetings, conferences, etc., of a commercial, industrial or similar nature.

Scientific, sporting or religious nature or undertaken for other reasons

- Invitation from a company or an institution to take part in meetings, conferences, etc., of a commercial, industrial or similar nature.
- Entry tickets to trade fairs, congresses, conventions, etc.
- Invitations, tickets, bookings or programmes indicating, as far as possible, the name of the host organisation and the duration of the stay, or any other document indicating the purpose of the visit.

Medical reasons

- Official document of the medical institution confirming necessity for medical care in that institution.
- Proof of sufficient financial means to pay for the medical treatment.

Study or other types of training

- Certificate of enrolment at a teaching centre for the purposes of attending theoretical or practical training courses.
- Proof of sufficient financial means to pay for the course fees.

Visiting relatives and/or friends

- Letter of invitation from a private individual if the foreigner concerned is staying in their home, issued by the Police Station corresponding to their place of residence. Under no circumstances shall the letter of invitation replace the foreigner's accreditation of all other entry requirements.
- Proof of family ties with the host/inviting person.