



VISA IN MALAWI

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Visa means an endorsement or an entry in a passport or other travel document made by an immigration officer or any official of the government authorized to do so to indicate that the bearer thereof has been granted permission to enter or re-enter the country concerned. (Laws of Malawi CAP 15:03)

A visa in Malawi just grants permission to someone to enter into the country. Once it has been issued, it has to be used within the validity period from the date of issue. However, the validity of the visa is not the same as the authorized period of stay. The validity of the visa indicates the time period when entry is permitted into the country. Depending on the purpose of visit, a traveller who has a valid visa is granted a Visitors Permit (VP) or Business Visit (BV) at the point of entry valid for 30 days and can be extended up to 90 days. If the person decides to exit the country with the intention to return to Malawi, then he/*she* will need to acquire another visa on entry.

Holders of Temporary Employment Permits, Business Residence Permits, Students Permits and Permanent Residence Permits coming from countries that require a Visa to enter Malawi are exempted.

2.0 NATIONALITIES WHICH REQUIRE VISA TO ENTER MALAWI

Any country that require Malawians to buy visa except for;

- a. Nationals from the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) countries, *except for those countries that subject Malawians to a Visa within SADC;*

- b. Nationals from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) countries, **except for those countries that subject Malawians to a Visa within COMESA;**
- c. Diplomats accredited to Malawi;
- d. All Diplomatic and Service/Official Passport holders coming for official business, and
- e. Other ordinary Passport holders coming on official Government business.

3.0 VISA CATEGORIES IN MALAWI

3.1 Transit Visa

This is for the purpose of passing through Malawi to a destination outside Malawi. Validity of transit visa is **limited to 7 days in Malawi.** **A person in possession of a transit VISA cannot exit Malawi through the same port of entry. Where this happens the transit Visa will be upgraded to a normal Visa and the person will be charged normal visa rate accordingly.**

3.2 Single Entry Visa

In Malawi, single Entry visa means the traveller is granted permission to enter Malawi and apply for a visitors permit and the visa is canceled as soon as the holder enters Malawi. However, if a

traveller leaves Malawi just after making an entry, it means he has to buy another visa if he intends to enter Malawi again.

3.3 Multiple Entry visa

A multiple entry visa allows travellers to make multiple entries into Malawi within the validity of the visa.

3.4 Gratis visa

This is the visa which is issued for free to diplomats and government officials from countries that require visa to enter Malawi

The table below shows categories of Visas and applicable fees payable. Different rates apply for the same type of Visa depending on whether it has been paid for in Malawi or at a Malawi Diplomatic Mission:

CATEGORY	Within Malawi (US Dollars)	Malawi Diplomatic Missions (US Dollars)
Transit valid for 7 days	50	70
Single entry (to be used within 3 months from date of issue)	75	100
Multiple entry valid for 6months	150	220

Multiple entry valid for 12months	250	300
Gratis	Free	Free

4.0 ENTRIES INTO MALAWI

Entries into Malawi can be made at any land border or airport. A traveller is requested to present his or her traveling document to an Immigration Officer and if the traveller is coming from a country that requires visa to enter Malawi, then he will be required to buy visa and requested to state the number of days he wishes to stay in Malawi an endorsement of which is made in his/*her* passport. On the other hand if the traveller is coming from a country that does not require visa to enter Malawi then only the number of days and entry endorsement is made in the passport.

Travellers are strongly encouraged to obtain their visas well in advance at their nearest Malawi Diplomatic Mission to avoid unnecessary inconveniences at the port of entry. However, *in exceptional circumstances* the visas can be acquired on entry into Malawi. *A visa that is issued at the port of entry would have followed the normal application process where application forms are downloaded on the Malawi Immigration website and sent by email to the Immigration Department.*

In reference to the above statement, nationals from countries listed on 5.3 (Appendix) **MUST** obtain their visas in advance.

A Visa in Malawi applies to all Passport holders coming from countries that require a Visa to enter Malawi, and as long as children are holding their own Passports which is the practice presently, the Visa will apply to them as well.

Travellers to embassies within Malawi who are not in a category of diplomatic staff (who do not hold diplomatic passports) or are not on official business are not exempted from visa and visa payment.

5.0 APPENDIX

5.1 COUNTRIES WHOSE NATIONALS DO NOT NEED VISA TO ENTER MALAWI

A

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

B

BAHAMAS

BARBADOS

BELIZE

BOTSWANA

C

D

DOMINICA

F

FIJI

G

GAMBIA

GRENADA

H

HONG KONG

I

IRELAND

ISRAEL

J

JAMAICA

K

KENYA

KIRIBATI

L

LESOTHO

M

MALAYSIA

MAURITIUS

MOZAMBIQUE

N

NAMIBIA

NAURU

NORTHERN IRELAND

P**S**

SAMO (WESTERN)

SEYCHELLES

SOUTH AFRICA

ST. KITTS NEVIS

ST. LUCIA

ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

SWAZILAND

T

TANZANIA

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

TUVALU

U

UGANDA

Z

ZAMBIA

ZIMBABWE

5.2 NATIONS WHOSE NATIONALS NEED VISA WHEN COMING TO MALAWI

A

AFGHANISTAN

ALBANIA

ALGERIA

AMERICAN SAMOA

ANDORRA

ANGOLA

ANGUILLA

ANTARCTICA

ARGENTINA

ARMENIA

ARUBA

ASCENSION ISLAND

AUSTRALIA

AUSTRIA

AZERBAIJAN

B

BARRAIN

BANGLADESH

BELARUS

BELGIUM

BENIN

BERMUDA

BHUTAN

BOLIVIA

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

BOUVET ISLAND

BRAZIL

BRITAIN

BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY

BRUNEI

BULGARIA

BURKINA FASO

BURUNDI

C

CANADA

CAMBODIA

MANEROON

CAPE VERDE

CAYMAN ISLAND

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

CHAD

CHILE

CHINA (ROC) TAIPEI

CHRISTMAS ISLAND

COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS

COLOMBIA

COMOROS

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
(KINSHASA)

CONGO, REPUBLIC OF BRAZAVILLE

COOK ISLANDS

COSTA RICA

IVORY COAST

CROATIA

CUBA

CYPRUS

CZECH REPUBLIC

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

D

DENMARK

DJIBOUTI

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

E

EAST TIMOR TIMOR-LESTE

ECUADOR

EGYPT

EL SALVADOR

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

ERITREA

ESTONIA

ETHIOPIA

F

FALKLAND ISLANDS

FAROE ISLANDS

FINLAND

FRANCE

FRENCH GUIANA

FRENCH METROPOLITAN

FRENCH POLYNESIA

FRENCH SOUTHERN TERRITORIES

G

GABON

GEORGIA

GERMANY

GHANA

GIBRALTAR

GREECE

GREENLAND

GUADELOUPE

GUAM

GUYANA

GUATEMALA

GUERNSEY

GUINEA

GUINEA-BISSAU

H

HAITI

HEARD AND MC DONALD ISLANDS

HOLY SEE

HONDURAS

HUNGARY

I

ICELAND

INDIA

INDONESIA

IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)

IRAQ

ISLE OF MAN

ITALY

J

JAPAN

JERSEY

JORDAN

K

KAZAKHSTAN

KOREA, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S
REP.(NORTH KOREA)

KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH KOREA)

KUWAIT

KYRGYZSTAN

L

LAO, PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC

LATVIA

LEBANON

LIBERIA

LIBYA

LIECHTENSTEIN

LITHUANIA

LUXEMBOURG

M

MADAGASCAR

MACAU

MACEDONIA, REPUBLIC OF

MALI

MALDIVE ISLAND

MALTA

MARSHALL ISLANDS

MARTINIQUE

MAURITANIA

MAYOTTE

MEXICO

MICRONESIA, FEDERAL STATES OF

MOLDOVA, REPUBLIC OF

MONACO

MONGOLIA

MONTENERGO

MONTSERRAT

MOROCCO

MYANMAR, BURMA

N

NEPAL

NETHERLANDS

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

NEW CALEDONIA

NEW ZEALAND

NICARAGUA

NIGER

NIGERIA

NIUE

NORFOLK ISLAND

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

O

OMAN

P

PAKISTAN

PALAU

PALESTINIAN NATIONAL AUTHORITY

PANAMA

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PARAGUAY

PERU

PHILIPPINES

PITCAIRN ISLAND

POLAND

PORTUGAL

PUERTO RICO

Q

QATAR

R

REUNION ISLAND

ROMANIA

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

RWANDA

S

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

SAUDI ARABIA

SAN MARINO

SENEGAL

SERBIA

SINGAPORE

SIERRA LEONE

SLOVAKIA (SLAVAK REPUBLIC)

SLOVENIA

SRI LANKAN

SOLOMON ISLAND

SOMALIA

SOUTH GEORGIA AND SOUTH

SANDWICH ISLANDS

SAINT HELENA

SPAIN

ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON

SUDAN

SURINAME

SVALBARD AND JAN MAYEN ISLANDS

SWEDEN

SWITZERLAND

SYRIA, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

T

TAJIKISTAN

THAILAND

TIBET

TIMOR-LESTE (EAST TIMOR)

TONGA

TOGO

TOKELAU

TUNISIA

TURKEY

TURKMENISTAN

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

U

UKRAINE

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

U.S. MINOR OUTLYING ISLANDS

URUGUAY

UZBEKISTAN

V

VANUATU

VENEZUELA

VEITNAM

VIRGIN ISLANDS (U.S.)

W

WALLIS AND FUTUNA ISLANDS

WESTERN SAHARA

Y

YEMEN

Z

5.3 COUNTRIES WHOSE NATIONALS MUST HAVE A VISA IN ADVANCE TO ENTER MALAWI

1. AFGHANISTAN
2. BANGLADESH
3. BURKINA FASO
4. BURUNDI
5. CENTRAL AFRICA REPUBLIC
6. CAMEROON
7. CHAD
8. EGYPT
9. ETHIOPIA
10. IRAQ
11. IRAN
12. KHAZAKHSTAN
13. LEBANON
14. LIBYA
15. MALI
16. NIGERIA
17. PAKISTAN
18. PALESTINIAN NATIONAL AUTHORITY
19. RUSSIA
20. RWANDA
21. SOMALIA
22. SUDAN
23. SOUTH SUDAN
24. SYRIA
25. TUNISIA

- 26. TURKEY
- 27. UKRAIN
- 28. UZBEKSTAN
- 29. YEMEN