

IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES

Visa

Travelers must have a valid passport and an onward plane ticket for a 30-day Visitor's Visa to be issued. Prior to expiration, an extension of the Visitor's Visa can be sought at any of the district Immigration Offices. Citizens from the, U.S.A., British Commonwealth (except India), Mexico, CARICOM, Costa Rica, Austria, or nationals of a member state of the European Union do not require a visa. All other countries require a visa to visit Belize.

Any Belizean Consulate or Embassy can issue a visa prior to your visit. If there is no Belizean Consulate or Embassy in your country, it can still be obtained through the nearest British Embassy.

Permanent Residence

An individual can apply for permanent residence after legally residing in Belize for a minimum of one year. The fee for residency ranges from USD\$187.50 to USD\$1,562.50 depending on the nationality of the applicant.

Nationality / Citizenship

To acquire citizenship, applicants should have permanent residence and be a resident for a minimum of five years in accordance with the Belizean Nationality Act of 1981. There is also a provision for the registration of minor children along with the applicant.

Work Permits

Applications for work permits can be obtained from the Department of Immigration. The Director of Immigration, after a review period of approximately six weeks, recommends the approval of the permit.

Department of Immigration & Nationality

Bliss Parade

Belmopan City

Cayo District, Belize

Tel: 501-822-2611/3860/2423

Fax: 501-822-2662 Email: insbze@btl.net or gmurillo@btl.net