

**VISA WAIVER PROGRAM**  
**Office of International Activities**

The **Visa Waiver Program** (VWP) enables citizens of certain countries to travel to the United States for tourism or business for 90 days or less without obtaining a visa. Not all countries participate in the VWP. Some restrictions apply to the program for citizens of VWP countries as well. For further information on how a country's eligibility for the visa waiver is determined, go to the State Department travel web site at:

[http://travel.state.gov/visa/tempvisitors\\_novisa\\_waiver3.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/tempvisitors_novisa_waiver3.html)

Currently 35 countries participate in the Visa Waiver Program. They are the following:

Andorra	Estonia	Italy	Monaco	Slovakia
Australia	Finland	Japan	the Netherlands	Slovenia
Austria	France	Latvia	New Zealand	South Korea
Belgium	Germany	Liechtenstein	Norway	Spain
Brunei	Hungary	Lithuania	Portugal	Sweden
Czech Republic	Iceland	Luxembourg	San Marino	Switzerland
Denmark	Ireland	Malta	Singapore	United Kingdom

If you are planning to travel to the United States, you should be aware of changes to visa policies that may affect your travel. These changes have come about since 11 September 2001 to increase the United State's ability to verify the identity of all travelers who enter the US each year.

A new automated system (**ESTA**) to screen passengers traveling to the U.S. under the VWP has now been implemented. Effective July 1, 2009, all Visa Waiver Program (VWP) emergency or temporary passports must be electronic passports (e-Passports) to be eligible for travel to the United States under the VWP. This includes VWP applicants who present emergency or temporary passports to transit the United States.

For more information on **ESTA** requirements, please visit:  
[http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/without/without\\_1990.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/without/without_1990.html)

For more information about the Visa Waiver Program and visa requirements in general to the United States, please visit: [www.unitedstatesvisas.gov](http://www.unitedstatesvisas.gov).

You can also visit these sites:

**Español:** <http://madrid.usembassy.gov/cons/nonimmigvwpimportantsp.html>

**Français:** <http://french.france.usembassy.gov/niv-exemption.html>

**Deutsch:** <http://www.us-botschaft.de/germany-ger/visa/index.html>

**Italiano:** <http://italy.usembassy.gov/visa/default-it.asp>

**日本語:** <http://japan.usembassy.gov/e/visa/tvisa-waiver.html>

**På norsk:** [http://norway.usembassy.gov/non-immigrant\\_visas.html](http://norway.usembassy.gov/non-immigrant_visas.html)

**Português:** [http://portugal.usembassy.gov/niv\\_waiver\\_program2\\_port.htm](http://portugal.usembassy.gov/niv_waiver_program2_port.htm)