

The Benefits of Dual Citizenship

- More Visa-Free Travel

Due to political circumstances, citizens of many countries find it difficult to travel abroad and are confronted with strict visa restrictions each time they want to enter a foreign country. A dual citizenship allows many more opportunities to travel without visa requirement.

- More options, more freedom, more opportunities

Among other things, having a second passport allows you to invest, bank, travel, reside, and do business in places that you could not before.

- A backup passport

Delays in passport renewal or loss of passport often become a serious embarrassment when you are leaving in an urgent trip or when you are travelling abroad.

- Tax Planning Aspects of Dual Citizenship

There is a growing tendency for many countries in increasing taxation for their citizens. Dual Citizenship allows more options in planning your legal taxation obligations.

- Independency from national movement restrictions

A second passport can be quite useful when a government decides to implement movement restrictions on its citizens. In times of war, army incorporation can also become unenforceable for a citizen with double nationality.

- Many alternatives to live and work

Having citizenship in another country gives you the legal right to live and work in that country and also in other alternative countries. For instance, EU citizens have the right to live and work in the 28 member countries.

- Personal Security

In times of political unrest, civil war, terrorism or other delicate situations, dual citizenship and a second passport, particularly from a small peaceful country can even save your life when travelling or searching for refuge. Many international business people and important personalities who are active worldwide consider an alternative passport as their best life insurance.

- Investment in the Future

In an unsettled, ever-changing world, acquiring a second citizenship is certainly a wise decision and a good investment for the future. Your additional citizenship of choice is valid for the whole life, your spouse and children can be included, and there is no need to give up your present nationality while you enjoy the benefits of a dual citizenship.

Comparison of main international dual residency programs

	← EU programs with immediate citizenship →			← EU Residence programs with Schengen privileges →			
COUNTRY	AUSTRIA	CYPRUS	MALTA	BELGIUM	PORTUGAL	SPAIN	GREECE
TYPE OF PROGRAM	CITIZENSHIP	CITIZENSHIP	CITIZENSHIP	RESIDENT PERMIT, LEADING TO CITIZENSHIP	RESIDENT PERMIT, LEADING TO CITIZENSHIP	RESIDENT PERMIT	RESIDENT PERMIT
PROGRAM BENEFIT	EU SETTLEMENT AND EXCELLENT VISA-FREE TRAVEL	EU SETTLEMENT AND EXCELLENT VISA-FREE TRAVEL	EU SETTLEMENT AND EXCELLENT VISA-FREE TRAVEL	NO MINIMUM STAY REQUIREMENT AND SCHENGEN TRAVEL	7 DAYS/YEAR STAY REQUIREMENT AND SCHENGEN TRAVEL	NO MINIMUM STAY REQUIREMENT AND SCHENGEN TRAVEL	NO MINIMUM STAY REQUIREMENT AND SCHENGEN TRAVEL
MINIMUM TIME TO QUALIFY FOR CITIZENSHIP	IMMEDIATE	IMMEDIATE	IMMEDIATE	5 YEARS OF RESIDENCE	5 YEARS OF RESIDENCE	LEGAL RESIDENT FOR 10 YEARS	LEGAL RESIDENT FOR 7 YEARS
APPLICATION PROCESSING TIMES	12-24 MONTHS	3-6 MONTHS	6-24 MONTHS	3-6 MONTHS	UNDER 6 WEEKS	TBD (OPENS IN Q1 2014)	UNDER 8 WEEKS
MINIMUM INVESTMENT	OVER €3 MILLION DIRECT INVESTMENT	1) €2 MILLION IN A SPECIAL COLLECTIVE REAL ESTATE PURCHASE SCHEME; AND 2) €500,000 DONATION TO THE RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY FUND	1) €650,000 DONATION TO NESDF; AND 2) €350,000 REAL ESTATE PURCHASE OR €16,000/YEAR RENT; AND 3) €150,000 ELIGIBLE STOCKS, BONDS OR DEBENTURES	INVESTMENT IN BUSINESS SET-UP	€500,000 REAL ESTATE OR €1 MILLION CAPITAL INVESTMENT	€500,000 REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	€250,000 REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT
EQUIVALENCY IN EUROS OF CAPITAL OUTLAY BY APPLICANT	MIN €3 MILLION	€2.5 MILLION	€1.15 MILLION	CASE BY CASE, BUT CAN BE NEGLIGABLE	MIN €500,000	MIN €500,000	MIN €250,000
TERM OF INVESTMENT	ACTIVELY INVEST	3 YEARS	5 YEARS FOR 2) AND 3)	5 YEARS	5 YEARS	INDEFINITE	INDEFINITE
PASSPORT VISA-FREE TRAVEL	168 COUNTRIES	151 COUNTRIES	163 COUNTRIES	171 COUNTRIES	170 COUNTRIES	170 COUNTRIES	167 COUNTRIES

	← EU non-Schengen →		← Outside EU →		
COUNTRY	IRELAND	UNITED KINGDOM	SINGAPORE	CANADA	USA
TYPE OF PROGRAM	ENTRY CLEARANCE VISA, LEADING TO INDEFINITE LEAVE TO REMAIN AND CITIZENSHIP	ENTRY CLEARANCE VISA, LEADING TO INDEFINITE LEAVE TO REMAIN AND CITIZENSHIP	PERMANENT RESIDENT PERMIT	PERMANENT RESIDENT VISA	2-YEAR RESIDENT VISA, LEADING TO A GREEN CARD
PROGRAM BENEFIT	NO MINIMUM STAY REQUIREMENT	EXPEDITED PATH TO ILR AND FAST PROCESSING	PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS AND EXPEDITED PATH TO CITIZENSHIP	IMMEDIATE PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS	RELATIVELY LOW COST TO A US GREEN CARD
MINIMUM TIME TO QUALIFY FOR CITIZENSHIP	5 YEARS OF RESIDENCE	5 YEARS OF RESIDENCE	2 YEARS OF RESIDENCE	3 YEARS OF UNINTERRUPTED RESIDENCE	5 YEARS OF "CONTINUOUS" RESIDENCE; 30 MONTHS OF PHYSICAL RESIDENCE
APPLICATION PROCESSING TIMES	UNDER 12 WEEKS	UNDER 8 WEEKS	8-10 MONTHS	24-48 MONTHS	12-18 MONTHS
MINIMUM INVESTMENT	€500,000 INVESTED IN AN APPROVED FUND OR €1 MILLION IN A GOVERNMENT BOND	€1 MILLION/5 YEARS; OR €5 MILLION/3 YEARS; OR €10 MILLION/2 YEARS; HELD IN GOVERNMENT BONDS OR STOCKS	SS\$2.5 MILLION IN GIP FUND OR IN A BUSINESS	C\$800,000 IN A GOVERNMENT BOND	US\$500,000 IN A "REGIONAL CENTRE" EB-5 FUND
EQUIVALENCY IN EUROS OF CAPITAL OUTLAY BY APPLICANT	MIN €600,000	MIN €1.2 MILLION	€1.45 MILLION	€ 540,000	€ 365,000
TERM OF INVESTMENT	5 YEARS	5 YEARS 3 YEARS 2 YEARS	5 YEARS	5 YEARS	5 YEARS
PASSPORT VISA-FREE TRAVEL	170 COUNTRIES	173 COUNTRIES	167 COUNTRIES	170 COUNTRIES	172 COUNTRIES

For further details in these programs or other international programs feel free to consult us.