



## **CROSSING THE POLISH BORDER**

### **General Information**

Citizens of the European Union, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Switzerland can stay and work in Poland for up to three months using just their ID cards or passports. Those who plan to stay for more than three months must [register their stay in the Voivodeship Office \(Urząd Wojewódzki\)](#) in the region they will reside in, no later than the day after the three-month period ends.

Citizens from non-EU countries can enter Poland with one of the following:

- Visa-free entry
- A residence card or visa from another Schengen country
- A visa for Poland
- Short-term mobility for researchers (intra-EU mobility)

You may stay in Poland according to the terms of these documents. If you wish to stay longer, you must legalize your stay by obtaining a residence permit (residence card).

- **VISA-FREE MOVEMENT**

Some countries have visa-free access to Poland due to agreements on visa-free travel. This means that if you're a citizen of one of these countries, you can enter Poland with just a valid travel document. However, keep in mind that your total stay in the Schengen Area cannot exceed 90 days within a 180-day period, although there are a few exceptions to this rule.

For more detailed information on visa-free travel, please visit [the Office for Foreigners website](#).

- **RESIDENCE CARD/VISA ISSUED BY ANOTHER SCHENGEN COUNTRY**

You can enter Poland for up to 90 days within each 180-day period based on a visa or residence card issued by another Schengen country. These 90 days can be used all at once or spread over multiple visits.

However, if you plan to visit Poland for work purposes (such as scientific research, a delegation, a conference, teaching, etc.), your document must allow you to do so (for instance, you cannot work in Poland with a tourist visa). You may also need a work permit.

For more details, please visit [the Office for Foreigners website](#).

- **VISA TO POLAND**

Visas for Poland are issued by Polish Embassies or Consulates. If you need a visa to enter Poland, it's important to contact the nearest Polish Embassy or Consulate in your home country or current country of residence as soon as possible. Inquire about the application process and required



documents. The Embassy or Consulate is your final source of information, as requirements may vary by country.

If you are traveling with others, it's advisable to apply for visas for everyone at the same time, even if they plan to join you in Poland at a later date.

Visas can be issued for either multiple or single entries.

For more detailed information about visas to Poland, visit [the Euraxess website](#).

### **Types of Visas:**

You can apply for different types of visas based on the purpose and duration of your stay:

- **Schengen "C" Type Visa:** This visa is for stays up to 90 days within each 180-day period, either in specific Schengen countries or the entire Schengen Area, depending on your planned stay. The visa can be valid for up to 5 years, but your stay cannot exceed 90 days within that period.
- **National "D" Type Visa:** This visa allows you to stay in Poland for up to 365 days, depending on the duration of your stay. It also permits travel to other Schengen countries for a maximum of 90 days within a 180-day period.

There are several visa types depending on your purpose, such as work, study, scientific research, development work, or tourism. Keep in mind that you cannot work in Poland with a tourist visa or a visa for visiting family or friends.

### **How to Apply for a Visa to Poland:**

1. **Contact your local Polish Embassy or Consulate:** Inquire about the visa application process and required documents.
2. **Register online:** Visit to begin your application: <https://secure.e-konsulat.gov.pl>
3. **Fill in the visa application form.**
4. **Prepare the required documents:** Depending on the purpose of your stay, you may need different documents to support your application. Common documents include:
  - Hosting agreement, work contract, scholarship agreement, or admission document to a study or PhD program
  - Proof of sufficient financial resources
  - Proof of health insurance valid in Poland
  - Address of stay in Poland
  - Travel document (e.g., passport)
  - Recent photograph
  - Visa fee (typically 80 euros)
  - Documents proving family ties, if traveling with family (e.g., marriage and birth certificates)



For a complete list of required documents, please contact the Embassy/Consulate.

The visa processing time should not exceed 15 days. You are allowed to stay in Poland legally until your visa's expiration date.

- **SHORT TERM MOBILITY OF RESEARCHERS (INTRA-EU MOBILITY)**

Foreign researchers who hold a residence permit or long-term visa (with the annotation “researcher”) issued by any European Union country can travel to other EU countries, including Poland, to conduct part of their scientific research for up to 180 days within any 360-day period. This rule, known as short-term mobility for researchers, also applies to their family members.

However, researchers must inform the Polish Office for Foreigners about their planned visit at least 30 days before arriving in Poland.

For more information on short-term mobility for researchers, please visit [the Euraxess website](#).

Important information – Useful links:

- [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland](#)
- [Office for Foreigners](#)
- [Małopolska Provincial Office - Voivodeship Office in Krakow](#)
- [www.euraxess.pl](http://www.euraxess.pl)