



LATEST UPDATES

Malaysia Welcomes Business Travellers

Following the latest media press released by Malaysia Investment Development Authority (MIDA) on 3 March 2021, with effect from 3 March 2021, business travellers who wish to enter Malaysia may now apply for the entry permission via Safe Travel Portal through the dedicated [portal](#). The portal is a critical component of the One Stop Centre (OSC) initiative that has been set up by the Malaysian Government effective 2 October 2020 to ease the movement of business travellers by expediting their entry to do business in Malaysia and it is represented by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA), Ministry of Health (MOH) and Immigration Department of Malaysia (IMI) to ensure the legitimacy and health status of business travellers before they enter into Malaysia.

Safe Travel Portal is applicable for both Short and Long Term Business Travellers and consists of information and advisory services to facilitate business travellers' entry into Malaysia.

Short Term Business Travellers

Business travellers who are not holding any passes and intend to stay in the country for 14 days or less. They may be considered for exemption from mandatory quarantine subject to the approval of the OSC Committee and adherence to strict Standard Operating Procedures. They will be assigned a dedicated Liaison Officer throughout their stay until the day of departure and they are only allowed to move around with their approved daily itinerary plan.

The Short Term Business Travellers categories: -

1. Potential investors seeking to do business in Malaysia
2. Existing investors, namely business owners, board members, executives and associates of companies in Malaysia (without Employment Pass)
3. Business customers for product qualification and validation before commercial production
4. Technical experts for ad-hoc emergency cases to serve single or multiple customers across Malaysia

Short Term Business Travellers are required to submit an online application 14 days in advance of planned travel. Decision will be made known within 3 working days. For those travellers mentioned above that wish to stay more than 14 days, may also apply for Social Visit Pass under Long Term Business Travellers category.

Long Term Business Travellers

Business travellers who hold valid passes as below and intend to stay in the country for more than 14 days. They will be subject to mandatory quarantine as per the MOH guideline.

The Long Term Business Travellers categories: -

1. New/Existing expatriates stranded abroad, namely active holders of Employment Pass and Residence Pass-Talent
2. New/Existing foreign technical experts stranded abroad with Professional Visit Pass (PVP)
3. Frequent foreign business travellers (Exit & Return), including Regional Establishments (RE), Regional Operations (RO) and Principal Hubs (PH) representatives
4. Permanent Resident (PR) Pass Holders
5. Malaysia My 2nd Home (MM2H) Social Visit Pass Holders
6. Frequent Malaysian business travellers (Exit & Return)
7. Social Visit Pass Holders

All business travellers are subject to entry visas (if applicable) from the respective Malaysian Embassy or High Commission/ Consulate General Offices abroad before their departure to Malaysia.

Commentary:

Any non-Malaysian who wishes to enter Malaysia is required to obtain an entry permission from the Director General of Immigration. This Safe Travel Portal is linked to the existing [MyEntry](#) portal. What is new now is the differentiation between short term business travellers (up to 14 days stay in Malaysia) or long term business travellers (more than 14 days stay in Malaysia).

Interesting to note from our further clarification with MIDA:-

1. Existing Employment Pass holders who wish to return to Malaysia (for business visits only) may opt for the short term / long term business traveller category. If their return is for long-term employment purposes, the option is to apply under long term business travellers (more than 14 days stay in Malaysia) category in the MyEntry portal only.
2. Technical Experts for ad-hoc emergency cases category are allowed to serve single or multiple customers across Malaysia under the short term business travellers (up to 14 days). This appears to have a wider access to varied customers compared to a Professional Visit Pass holder who is restricted to one contract/project with one company.

We would caution the income tax implication of business visitors into Malaysia who exceed 60 days in a calendar year.

Your next step

If you have any questions or require any assistance on the above, please contact our Global Employer Services (GES) team to find out how we can help you.

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Best regards,

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