



Experience Seychelles



Workcation Retreat
ESCAPE • WORK • LEISURE



Introduction

A versatile destination with endless possibilities, Seychelles is not limited to being a place of relaxation, and experiences!

So, why not work from paradise?

Seychelles offers travellers an exotic escape where safety is the highest priority and supported by the country's strict yet flexible measures, put in place with the protection of its guests and locals in mind.

Benefits

- Under the program, you have access to an array of benefits:
- Long-term accommodation and access to their facilities at a discounted rate.
- Other basic accommodation requirements such as food, beverages, access to WIFI.
- Access to health care facilities and other essential services.

Who can apply?

Any visitor especially remote workers can apply, the only requirement is for the applicant to meet the criteria set by the Department of Health.

- Visitors from any country independent of vaccinated status although vaccination is a definite advantage.

- Applicants must provide a negative PCR test taken 72 hours prior to travel.
- For more information about safety measures and other important regulations.

Check out www.tourism.gov.sc

- However, if the test is positive, visitors will have to stay in the same property and carry further tests and treatments with the supervision and guidance of the Public Health Authority.

Are you a Remote Worker?

A remote worker is an individual who chooses to operate his/her duties outside of what is considered the traditional office.

Benefits of remote working

- Remote working poses significant benefits for an employer and the employee equally.
- Remote working offers greater flexibility and autonomy that enhances productivity.
- Remote working also allows employees to decide and control their base of operation and encourages better management of work-life balance.

Categories of remote workers

- Self-employed i.e. a company/business owner/freelancer.





The criteria and benefits for each category are outlined below.

Remote working for the employed (employees)

This category welcomes workers employed by foreign companies/businesses but will perform their duties in Seychelles. Specific benefits and criteria for this category are detailed below.

Criteria

- Valid passport holder.
- Provide documents as proof of being an employee.
- Provide proof of income or wealth
- Hold a valid medical and travel insurance policy.
- Needs to conform to Public Health Authority guidelines.

Benefits

- Minimum 1 month and a maximum 1 year of stay in Seychelles.
- 'Visitors Workcation Permit' (VWP) with a minimum administration fee.
- No tax and customs duty on work equipment.
- No personal income tax.
- Special deals and discounts are available.
- 'Workcation' permits can be extended to family members.
- The special discounted package extended to family members.
- Ability to visit and stay on a different island
- Engaging in local partnerships or employment for a participant under this category is not permitted.

Remote working for company/business owner (self-employed)

This type of remote working considers business owners that will oversee and manage their business whilst in Seychelles. The criteria and benefits for applicants under this category are listed below.

Criteria

- Valid passport holder.
- Provide documents as proof of being a business owner.
- Proof of source of income or wealth
- Hold a valid medical and travel insurance policy.
- Needs to conform to Public Health Authority guidelines.

Benefits

- Minimum 1 month and a maximum 1 year of stay in Seychelles.
- 'Visitors Workcation Permit' (VWP) with a minimum administration fee.
- No tax and customs duty on work equipment.
- No business tax.
- Special deals and discounts are available.
- 'Workcation' permits can be extended to family members.
- The special discounted package extended to family members.
- Ability to visit and stay on a different island





Workers under the self-employed category are not permitted to service the local community nor tourists in the country. Should they be interested, the visitor will have to follow the existing procedure by contacting the Seychelles Investment Board for guidance.

As stated above the criteria for all applicants under both categories are as follows:

- Must be a valid passport holder and must be a resident of countries permitted to visit Seychelles as defined by the Department of Health.
- Must provide documents as proof of being a business owner or an employee.
- Must show proof of source of income and or wealth.
- Must hold a valid medical and travel insurance policy.
- Must conform to Public Health Authority guidelines.

How to apply?

Gathering information

Interested visitors can access information on the program and list of participating certified establishments, destination management companies (DMC's), and other value-added service providers and local operators on the 'Seychelles Workcation Retreat' landing page as well as the Seychelles Tourism Board's website.

Destination information can be accessed from the Seychelles Tourism Board's website.

Applying for a 'Visitors Workcation Permit'

To participate in the program, visitors will require to apply for a 'Visitors Workcation Permit' (VWP) as early as 60 days before entering the country and no later than two weeks from the date of arrival in Seychelles on www.seychelles.govtas.com.

Once, the VWP is validated, they will be able to complete their application for entry in Seychelles by applying to the 'Health Travel Authorisation (HTA). A one-time fee of € 45 is applicable for the application.

In the application process for a 'Visitors Workcation Permit' visitors will need to produce the following documents:

- A letter of employment or proof of ownership of a business (stating nature of occupation as well);
- Valid passport (with six months validity).
- A provisional onward ticket for the duration of the visit.
- Provisional proof of confirmed accommodation.
- Proof of sufficient funds for the duration of the stay.
- Valid passport (typically one which has six months validity);

PCR Testing

Before applying for a 'Health Travel Authorization', applicants must have conducted and have a valid negative PCR Test result of not more than 72 hours. Visitors must obtain their PCR test certificate, they can now proceed with the application on www.seychelles.govtas.com





Applying for a 'Health Travel Authorisation'

Once, visitors have received their 'Workcation Visitors Permit' (VWP), the next step is to apply for a 'Health Travel Authorisation (HTA) on www.seychelles.govtas.com

For this, visitors will need to provide the following documents

- A negative PCR test certificate;
- A valid passport;
- A return flight ticket;
- Hotel/residence booking vouchers;
- Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate;
- Health insurance coverage for Covid-19;

Applicants will also need to have in-hand details of their credit or debit card details, to complete the payment process. A one-time fee of 45 euros is applicable for the application of the VWP and HTA combined.

If the application is successful, the applicant will receive a unique THA document that will feature the 'Seychelles Workcation Retreat' program logo, ID number as well as a colour coded in amber. The unique ID that visitors will receive through the HTA will allow visitors to access the various offers provided by the suppliers locally. Furthermore, the ID will facilitate the identification of visitors in person as well as through the 'encounter app' which is an extension of the travel authorisation app. The offers will be subject to the length of stay booked in Seychelles. Terms and conditions will apply (e.g. minimum advanced payment of stay) to reduce abuse.

General Pre – Travel Conditions

Refer to the Seychelles Visitor Travel Advisory for more information on Pre – Travel Procedure- www.tourism.gov.sc

Immigration Formalities

The 'Seychelles Workcation Retreat' program allows visitors to stay up to 365 days in the country. Under this program, the visitors will obtain a special 'Workcation Visitors Permit'. The immigration formalities for Seychelles are the normal routine as per other countries. Visitors will have to present their documents to the Immigration Officer and if satisfied with the documents provided, the Immigration Office will stamp the visitor's passport allowing entry into the country. To facilitate this process, visitors are encouraged to carry in-hand all documents that were submitted for authorisation of entry into the country on www.seychelles.govtas.com.

Standard procedures apply for the exit of the country.

Temporary Importation

Visitors under the 'Seychelles Workcation Retreat' program are automatically being exempted from paying tax and customs duty on work equipment as well as personal effects. This provision is granted for up to one year and subject to the completion and submission of the Temporary Importation Form as well as adherence to the terms and conditions for a 'Temporary Importation Permit'.



Applying for a Temporary Importation Permit

Visitors are encouraged to use the services of a clearing agent for their ‘Temporary Importation’ permit.

Damaged Goods

In the eventuality that equipment is damaged whilst travelling to Seychelles, applicants should inform the 1) the airline representative and 2) the Customs Officer at the airport of the damaged goods. An assessment of the goods and documentation processes will follow. This process is necessary as the documents obtained will be required at point of departure by the visitors.

Travelling with medications

Pharmaceutical products in significant quantities can be considered as restricted goods, requiring a permit. Please refer to the Seychelles Revenue Commission's website for a list of restricted goods.

Accommodation

Visitors joining the ‘Seychelles Workcation Retreat’ program must book and lodge in establishments that are licensed, certified by the Public Health Authorities, and be accredited to the program. The list of accredited establishments can be accessed on the Seychelles Workcation Retreat Landing Page for visitors to view. For packages visitors are encouraged to contact: Overseas Tour Operators and Travel Agents; Local Destination Management Companies (DMC's).

Accommodation Package Categories

The accommodation will be categorised according to their level of service related to the program and will consist of three categories:

- Basic; tourist accommodation with access to its facilities and WIFI for an additional fee.
- Premium; tourist accommodation with access to its facilities, availability of a basic workspace and free high-speed WIFI within the unit.
- Premium plus; tourist accommodation with access to its facilities, availability of ergonomic workspace and free high-speed WIFI within the property.

All accommodations in the workcation programme are health certified and have discounted rates.

Internet and Other Telecommunications Services

Visitors participating in the program may access the internet at their establishments depending on the category they choose, which includes: basic, premium, and premium plus. Visitors are also encouraged to obtain their mobile and data packages when in the country.



Packages for internet and other telecommunications-related services will be provided by the 3 main telecommunications companies in the country. Visitors will be required to contact the suppliers directly. Please refer to the Seychelles Workcation Retreat Landing Page for the partner's contact details.

Purchasing of data and sim cards

Telecommunications service providers are stationed at the International Airport to service guests with SIM cards upon arrival. Visitors can also purchase data boosters in most of the local shops around the islands at their convenience.

Insurance Coverage

Visitors must ensure that they obtain a valid travel and health insurance package that offers coverage for covid-19 eventualities before they travel to Seychelles. Proof of this document may be required when making bookings with Tour Operators, Travel Agents, or local DMC's.

Flights

Visitors are encouraged to either contact the airline partners directly or their overseas Tour Operators and Travel Agents for flight rates.

Other Local Services

- The program offers special rates for add-on and essential services for visitors whilst in the country. To obtain the special rates, visitors must produce their THA document to suppliers.

- The list of other services include.
- Health care services (clinics, optician, and dental services).
- Land transfer service (taxi services).
- Boat transfer services (ferry services between the islands).
- Domestic flight services (airplanes and helicopter services).
- Restaurant services.
- Financial services (banks).
- Entertainment services (bars, nightclubs, cinema, casinos, etc...).
- Grocery shopping services.
- Grooming services (hairdresser and barbers).
- And others

Close Friends and Family Members

Family Relatives

Family relatives (spouses, children, parents) of workcation participants, desiring to take part in the program can join the participants as ordinary visitors provided they meet the requirements stated at 1) and submitting birth and/or marriage certificates (as applicable).

Close Friends

Close friends are also welcome on the program. To participate they will be required to follow the same procedures and submit a separate application.

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Visitors already in the country

Visitors already in the country, desiring to take part in the program should express such desire to the Department of Immigration & Civil Status (DICS) which will carry out the initial assessment prior to referring the applications to the SIB/Department of Tourism.

Education and Schooling

Parents are encouraged to contact the schools at the initial stage of preparation beforehand. The list of private schools and contact can be found on the landing page.

Working Space for rental

Workspaces are available for establishments in the premium and premium plus category that includes a table and chair to encourage remote working. If visitors prefer not to choose an establishment in these two categories, other means of workspace are available for rent in the country. Please refer to the Seychelles Workcation Landing page for the list of workspace businesses available.

Health Care

Health care facilities are available on the islands. Visitors can choose from either servicing from a government or a private clinic. Visitors will be required to produce their travel and 'Seychelles Workcation' program documents when visiting the health centre. Please refer to the Seychelles Workcation Landing page for the list of local healthcare providers.

Safety

Seychelles is considered a safe destination and its people value the safety of its visitors. Below are the procedures to be followed if encountering any safety-related issues. Contact your establishment owner. Visit the nearest police station.

COVID-19 Safety Regulations

Please visit the Ministry of health's website on www.health.gov.sc for information related to measures in place concerning the coronavirus pandemic.

Transportation

Transfer of visitors must be done by authorised transport and visitors must at all times follow instructions provided by the operators. Visitors are not authorised to use public buses. Physical distancing must be maintained at all times.

Why not pack your bags and leave the stress of big cities behind to work from paradise?

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