

How to Obtain a Shared Values Visa to Russia

From MovetoRussia.com



Introduction

This guide serves as a general support log for your journey to obtain a Shared Values Visa in Russia. Please note that the process is complex, and simply following this guide does not guarantee that you will receive a Temporary Residence Permit in Russia, as the decision ultimately rests with the migration authorities.

Additionally, since the Shared Values Visa is available to 47 countries, we will not list the individual authorities for each country that you need to coordinate with, as it would make the guide overwhelming.

If, after reading through this guide, you find the application process daunting, remember that we also offer a premium service where we take you and your family through the entire application process step-by-step. You can reach out by sending a request at <https://movetorussia.com/request/>

Before we begin, let's consider...

The two most common reasons for failure to receive a Temporary Residence Permit:

1. Expiry of the “No Criminal Record” proof before the application is submitted:

The “No Criminal Record” document must be no older than 3 months at the time you submit your application to the migration office in Russia. Once you receive the document, it needs to be apostilled and translated into Russian, and you will need to travel to Russia and ensure that you have an appointment booked with the migration authorities—all within a 3-month window.

If you submit your documents in Russia just 1 day too late and fall outside the 3-month window, you will have to go back to square one and start over.



2. Different spelling of names in various documents:

The spelling of your name might differ between your passport and other documents, including the presence or absence of middle names. Additionally, the translation of your name into Russian might vary, especially if the translator did not pay close attention.

These discrepancies may lead the Russian Migration Authorities to view your documents as belonging to different individuals, and you should not expect leniency. It is imperative that the spelling is consistent across all documents you submit, or that you have supporting documents proving that you are indeed the same person.

To put it plainly—if your name is “John Doe,” that exact name, with no middle names, must appear consistently across all your documents. If one document has “John Doe” and another lists “John Patrick Doe,” this will be an issue that requires clarification through appropriate additional documents.

In such cases, you will have to return to your country and redo the documents to ensure compliance, wasting time and travel expenses.

Now that we have covered these two common pitfalls,...

Let's Jump In!

What is the Russian Shared Values Visa?

Program:

Russian Shared Values Visa, introduced by the Russian government in 2024.

Purpose:

Designed for citizens and permanent residents of select countries who share and uphold traditional Russian values.

Key Benefits:

- **Temporary Residence Permit (TRP):** Allows applicants to live and work in any region of Russia for three years.
- **No Quota or Exams:** No need for a migration quota or passing Russian language, history, and law exams.
- **Path to Permanent Residence:** Eligible to apply for a Permanent Residence Permit (PRP) after three years.
- **Citizenship Opportunity:** Potential to apply for Russian citizenship after five years.
- **Simplified Process:** The program removes several standard immigration hurdles, streamlining the application for residence.

Who Is Eligible to Apply?



Citizens or permanent residents of the following countries are eligible:

Europe:

- | | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| • Austria | • France | • Luxembourg | • Romania |
| • Albania | • Finland | • Malta | • San Marino |
| • Andorra | • Germany | • Monaco | • Slovenia |
| • Belgium | • Greece | • Montenegro | • Spain |
| • Bulgaria | • Iceland | • Netherlands | • Sweden |
| • Croatia | • Ireland | • North Macedonia | • Switzerland |
| • Cyprus | • Italy | • Norway | • United Kingdom |
| • Czech Republic | • Latvia | • Poland | • Ukraine |
| • Denmark | • Liechtenstein | • Portugal | |
| • Estonia | • Lithuania | | |

Americas:

- Canada
- United States

Asia-Pacific:

- Australia
- Japan
- New Zealand
- Singapore
- South Korea
- Taiwan (China)

Others:

- Bahamas
- Micronesia

You can read the official list released by the Russian Government on the 17th of September 2024 [here](#)

Step-by-Step Guide

STEP 1: Ensure you have a passport with sufficient validity

Ensure that you and your family members who plan to apply for the Shared Values Visa together have valid passports with enough time and space remaining.

We recommend that:

- Your passport's expiry date is at least 4 years from now.
- You have a minimum of 5 free pages left in your passport.

! Step 1 is Considered Complete When:
You have a passport with more than 4 years before expiry and at least 5 free pages available.

STEP 2: Find your closest working Russian consulate

You will need to establish contact with your nearest Russian consulate for two primary reasons:

1. Visa Requirement

You will need a visa to enter Russia, as the actual documents for the Temporary Residence Permit must be submitted to the Migration Authorities in Russia. To obtain a visa, you will have to apply through the Russian consulate and visit them in person, unless you use professional service companies that can handle the visa application process on your behalf or can utilize the unified electronic visa solution at <https://evisa.kdmid.ru/> if your country is eligible.

2. Documentation Clarification

You will need to ask the Russian consulate specific questions regarding your required documentation.

To find your closest Russian consulate:

1. Go to the [Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs website](#)
2. Switch to your preferred language, such as English.
3. Scroll down until you find the map feature — type in your country.
4. After selecting your country, a list of embassies and consulates will appear on the right-hand side. Look for a consulate that is geographically close to you.
5. Click on the consulate for contact details, and you will find the address, phone number, and email address.

6. It might be a good idea to call the consulate first to confirm that they are operational.

! **Step 2 is Considered Complete When:**
You have located the closest Russian consulate and established contact.

STEP 3: Understand what “No Criminal record” papers are required and the timeline for them

You will need to obtain the “No Criminal Record” documents and have them apostilled in compliance with the requirements of the Russian authorities.

Do make sure to check with the Russian Consulate exactly what kind of “No Criminal Record” document is required.

An apostille is a way to verify the authenticity of foreign documents. It is sufficient to certify a document for any country that is part of the Apostille Convention.

Important Note: If you do not have a Russian visa and your travel itinerary ready by the time that your criminal record is apostilled, it is very likely you will run out of time before you will be able to submit your documents in Russia and will have to redo everything.

! **Step 3 is Considered Complete When:**

- You have confirmed the type of “No Criminal Record” document from your country is required by the Russian authorities through inquiries at the Russian Consulate.
- You understand the timeline for obtaining the “No Criminal Record” document and secure an apostille on it.
- You are confident that the spelling of your name in the “No Criminal Record” document matches your passport.

STEP 4: Get your documents prepared and translated into Russian

The two documents you need to apply for a Temporary Residence Permit that you must bring from your home country are:

- Your passport
- Your “No Criminal Record” document with a valid apostille

We also strongly recommend you bring the following (however, those are not required for the application):

- Your birth certificate with a valid apostille
- If you plan to apply for a job in Russia — documents that prove your education (University diploma, etc.)

If you are traveling as a family and bringing children, you will also need:

- Your **marriage certificate**
- The **birth certificates of your children**
- A “**No Criminal Record**” document for any child above 14 years old

Important Note: Some local translation services may work directly with the Russian Consulate, allowing the translation to be validated directly by Russian authorities. This approach is preferable and often cheaper than seeking the services of a notary.

All documents must be translated into Russian. This can be done in your country, but the translator’s signature must be authenticated by a notary. Alternatively, you can have the translation done in Russia.

It is very important that the spelling of names is consistent across all documents. If there are discrepancies, supporting documents should explain them.

! Step 4 is Considered Complete When:
You have gathered all the documents and either have a certified translation done in your country or plan to complete it upon arrival in Russia, just ensure you have reserved sufficient time for translation service.

STEP 5: Obtain your Visa to Russia

Any visa expect for the transit visa would do. Consider that the process in Russia can take a very long time, especially if you attempt it without professional help.

! Step 5 is Considered Complete When:
You have received your Russian entry visa.

STEP 6: Travel to Russia

You will need to travel to Russia, to apply in person at the region where you want to reside. This is quite cumbersome as even booking hotel is often not possible, using the western cards, often no cellular connection is present when arriving. This is why MovetoRussia.com is meeting up all the clients personally at the airport, should you choose to work with our services.

Migration card

When traveling into Russia, you will need to fill out a migration card and leave a copy with border

security. The other copy stays with you and must be presented when you exit Russia — make sure not to lose it.

The migration card is a simple form, available in both Russian and English. It is provided free of charge at the entry point and is usually distributed by the airline during your flight.

- Side A is taken at Arrival.
- Side B must be presented at Departure.

Transporting funds

If you plan to bring cash to Russia, we recommend bringing USD. You can also do EUR but just make sure you don't bring them directly from EU to Russia, for example through Estonia. There is a risk that the Estonian authorities will not allow you to do it.

If the total sum is under \$10,000, it does not need to be declared, and you can safely pass through the “green corridor” upon arrival.

If transporting over \$10,000 in cash, you must go through the “red corridor” and declare it. Failure to do so could result in confiscation of funds and a hefty fine.

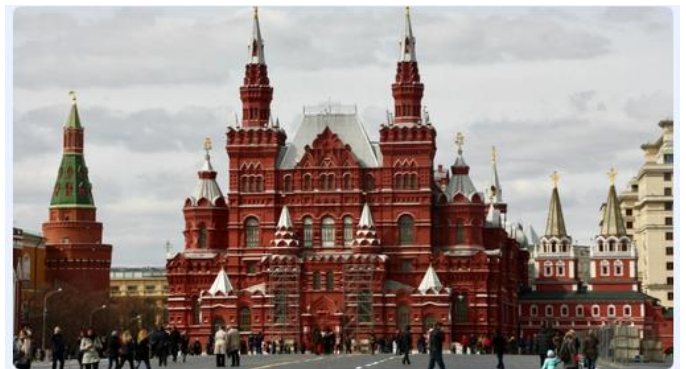
There are ways to transfer funds to Russia through international banking systems, but this requires special financial infrastructure. We offer this service to our premium clients.

! Step 6 is Considered Complete When:
 You have arrived and checked in to your hotel, retained your migration card slip, and are ready to get a good night's sleep.

STEP 7: First Days in Russia — Practical Tasks to Complete

Now that you've woken up and it's your first day in Russia, there are some practical tasks you may want to get done:

- Get your local SIM card.
- Set up a local bank account and acquire a debit card.
- Exchange the currency and deposit it into your bank account.
- Figure out your transport options.
- Complete your government registration.
- Get a Social Security Number



The task above usually can take several weeks but with MovetoRussia.com support, we complete it in one day.

! Step 7 is Considered Complete When:

- You have exchanged your remaining currencies at a good rate.
- You have secured your mobile SIM card and local phone number.
- You have opened your bank account and received your bank card.
- You have resolved your logistical issues with either taxis or public transport.

STEP 8: Get your Medical check passed

You will need to present proof that you have passed the medical tests together with your Temporary Residence application. The tests check for the following diseases:

- HIV
- Tuberculosis
- Leprosy
- Syphilis, and other venereal diseases.



Medical Tests to Be Conducted

1. Blood samples:

- General blood work
- HIV
- Syphilis

2. Urine samples:

- General test
- Express test for narcotics

3. Chest X-ray:

- For tuberculosis detection

The standard procedure for the medical check usually follows these steps:

1. Submit your blood and urine for general clinical analysis.
2. Visit a Dermatovenerologist, a specialist in skin diseases and sexually transmitted infections, for a visual inspection and to request the HIV and syphilis blood tests.
3. Submit your blood for HIV and syphilis testing.

4. Make a repeat visit to the Dermatovenerologist to receive your certificate stating that you are free of HIV and syphilis.
5. Undergo a chest X-ray to confirm you do not have tuberculosis.
6. Visit a Narcologist for a visual inspection and a general discussion about narcotics and alcohol consumption.
7. Submit an express urine test for narcotics.
8. Make a repeat visit to the Narcologist to receive confirmation that you do not have substance abuse problems.
9. Obtain your general blood work and urine analysis results.
10. Visit a Therapist who will provide a medical summary and issue a comprehensive medical clearance certificate.

**The process can take up sometimes up to 10 days and needs to be pre booked.
The actual medical institutions varies per region.**

! Step 8 is Considered Complete When:
You have successfully passed your medical check and have the necessary documentation to prove it.

STEP 9: Apply for the Temporary Residence Permit

The procedure for applying for a temporary residence permit varies from region to region.

Required Documents for Submission

Once all the documents have been submitted and accepted, they should include:

- **Passport** and a notarized translation of it.
- **Certificate of No Criminal Record** with apostille and a notarized translation.
- **Migration Card**, which you received when passing through Russian border control.
- **Notification of Registration for Migration**, which must be completed within 6 working days after entering Russia. If you stay at a hotel, the hotel will handle this registration automatically.
- **Medical certificates** from an authorized Russian clinic confirming you are free from HIV, syphilis, tuberculosis, or drug use.
- **Temporary Residence Permit Application** — two copies.
- **Photographs** — four color or black-and-white photos (35 x 45 mm), without retouching.
- **Receipt of Payment for the State Fee** for the Temporary Residence Application.

Do note that all the paperwork is done in Russian.

Important Note: It’s only at the submission stage that you will find out, if you have gathered the documents correctly – then your application will be accepted. If there are some errors on some documents or something is missing, your application will not be accepted, and you will need to get them back when you have the documents done.

Quite often, the key documents, like the criminal record “expire” before you ever arrive to the migration center – and thus, everything needs to be redone from step one.

MovetoRussia.com have a 100% success rate in assisting our clients to submit their applications, this is why people choose to work with us, to save time and money of traveling to Russia multiple times in order to try to “get it right”.

! Step 9 is Considered Complete When:
Your Temporary Residence Permit application has been successfully submitted to the Migration Authorities in Russia.

STEP 10: Wait for approval

After submitting your application, you will need to wait for approval.

This process typically takes around 4 months on average.



! Step 10 is Considered Complete When:
A decision has been made on your Temporary Residence Permit.

STEP 11: Receive Your Temporary Residence Permit

If the decision on your Temporary Residence Permit (TRP) is positive, you will need to visit the Migration Centre in person to receive your permit, which will be applied to your passport.

If you have traveled outside of Russia during the waiting period, you must obtain a new entry visa to legally re-enter the country. After returning, visit the Migration Centre to collect your TRP.



Tips for Collecting Your Temporary Residence Permit

We strongly recommend arriving early in the morning, as TRPs are issued based on a “live queue” system. If you arrive in the afternoon and there are many people waiting, your turn might not come up before the center closes at 20:00, and you will have to return the next day.

! Step 11 is Considered Complete When:
You have received your Russian Temporary Residence Permit in the region of your choice.

Congratulations!

You are now legally permitted to **live and work** in the region where your TRP is valid for the **next 3 years**. You are also free to **travel in and out of Russia** without additional restrictions.

Welcome to Russia!



Premium Service

Navigating the steps to obtain a Temporary Residence Permit in Russia can be complicated, even if one does speak Russian, but could be just daunting if one does not and have never visited Russia.

We offer a Premium Service for clients seeking personalized support and guidance. Our team is equipped to assist you across all regions in Russia with the following services:



Pre-Travel Guidance

Ensuring all your documentation is in order before you travel to Russia.



Visa Assistance

Helping you obtain your Russian entry visa.



Travel Planning & Accommodation

Assisting with itinerary planning and reserving accommodations in Russia.



Airport Pickup & Transport

Arranging transportation from the airport to your hotel.



Residence Registration Support

Helping you register with the authorities upon arrival — a mandatory step.



Practical Arrangements

Setting up a Russian bank account and acquiring a local SIM card.



Medical Check Assistance

Accompanying you through the mandatory medical check and advising on the most efficient clinics.



Legal Paperwork Support

Ensuring all paperwork is correctly filled out to apply for the Temporary Residence Permit (all legal applications are in Russian).



Application Submission Assistance

Accompanying you to submit your application to the Migration Authorities.



Financial Transfer Guidance

Advising on the best methods for transferring funds to Russia.

**Want to receive a free individual consultation,
specifically regarding your case?**

Reach out to us on

<https://movetorussia.com/request/>