

INCLUDES FREE SAMPLES, GUIDES & VISA INTERVIEW TIPS



# **SCHENGEN VISA THE EASY WAY**

OVER 2 MILLION FREE COPIES SOLD

FREE COPY. COPYRIGHTED.

Few years ago, Some of our friends in Europe invited us for a 30 day trip across Europe. We come from one of those countries where we need to have a visa for Europe. The resources we found online were not really helpful and we were so confused. This guide is a fruit of that endeavour .Since then we had provided Schengen visa consultation to 1000s of people online and with so many sucessful applications we decided to write this book.

we have tried to make this book as complete as possible by providing references, pre-filled Schengen application forms for reference, templates where you just need to fill in your information, questions you may be asked by the consulate and much much more . Our employees have been involved in over 100,000 successful Schengen visa applications and have contributed with tips and certain checklists which we are including here to make it easy for you.

Schengen visa is very easy and it is just a process, the visa consulates would really like to approve your visa and will not make it harder for you . But you need to ensure that you have all the documents necessary and in proper order. Otherwise getting your Schengen visa rejected can be a costly affair especially with expensive travel charges

## **SCHENGEN VISA - INTRODUCTION**

- What is Schengen visa ? Is there a Europe visa ? ----- 5
- Where to apply for Schengen visa ? ----- 6
- How to Apply for Schengen visa ? ----- 7
- How much does Schengen visa cost ? ----- 8

## **REQUIREMENTS OF SCHENGEN VISA**

- Filling the Schengen visa application form ----- 9
- Schengen visa requirements in summary ----- 10
- Photo requirements for Schengen visa ----- 11
- Passport requirements for Schengen visa ----- 13
- No - objection (NOC) & Leave letter for employees ----- 13
- No - objection (NOC) & Leave letter for students ----- 15
- Personal Cover letter (Travel itinerary) ----- 16
- Flight itinerary and reservations for visa ----- 17
- 5 reasons not to buy your flight & hotel ----- 18
- where to make flight and hotel bookings for your visa purpose ? ----- 19
- Travel insurance for Schengen visa ----- 21
- Schengen travel insurance in 5 steps ----- 22

## **SCHENGEN VISA INTERVIEW**

- Frequent interview questions ----- 24

## PLAN YOUR EUROPE TRIP

- Getting the best and possibly cheapest flights ----- 25
- Compare hotels for the best possible price ----- 26
- Airbnb and Hostelworld & Couchsurfing ----- 27
- Cheap travel within Europe ----- 28
- Eurail and Rail Europe . Is it worth the price ? ----- 28
- Tools to wanted across Europe ----- 29

## FAQ & USEFUL LINKS

- Questions and Answers ----- 30
- IMPORTANT WEBSITE LINKS FOR TEMPLATES, HOTEL AND FLIGHT  
BOOKING TO EUROPE ----- 32

## WHAT IS SCHENGEN VISA ? IS THERE A EUROPE VISA ?



After world war II, Europe came to it's senses and decided to put behind it's differences and build a common European market improve free trade among its countries. One of the initiatives was to create a borderless and visa free travel among its countries. So an agreement was signed between all the participating countries. This agreement is called Schengen agreement. It allowed people to bypass check points without stopping for verifications, citizens could now travel between borders harmoniously for work or leisure and overall created a smooth visa process.

What this means to you is that once you get Schengen visa, you are free to travel among all the countries which participate in the "Schengen Agreement"

There are 26 countries which are part of the Schengen States . These countries are illustrated below.

Please note that UK is not part of the Schengen Agreement. If you have plans to include UK in your trip, then you need to get a separate visa for UK



This scenario is a traveller's dream. Imagine having to get only one visa for the whole of Asia and then freely move among all the countries, Fancy a week in Thailand, Or want to travel to Singapore or Bali. You could travel anywhere you want as you please

But Schengen visa has it's own problems, If you are free to move among all countries, where do you apply for Schengen visa ? Let us suppose you are going to Malaysia, then it is obvious that you will be applying at the Malaysian consulate. But there is no separate "Schengen consulate" where you can apply for your Schengen visa.

## WHERE TO APPLY FOR SCHENGEN VISA ?

Even though Schengen visa is common to all the Schengen countries, you need to approach a specific country for granting your Schengen visa.

- **If visiting one Schengen country** – you must apply at the Embassy or Consulate representing the particular country of your destination
- **If visiting more than one Schengen country** – you must apply at the Embassy or Consulate representing the country of your main destination (the country of longest stay)

- **If visiting more than one Schengen country with equal stay duration** – you must apply at the Embassy or Consulate representing the Schengen country you will enter first
- **If you intend to stay in the Schengen area for over 90 days** you must apply for a residence permit, not a Schengen visa. Instructions are on the respective embassy/consulate's homepage

### HOW TO APPLY FOR SCHENGEN VISA ?

First check if VFS operates in your country . VFS is a global outsourcing country to which all the consulates have outsourced their visa processing task. Visit the VFS office after collecting all the documents needed for your visa . After you have submitted the documents, you will be given an appointment date for you to visit the consulate

If you don't have VFS operating in your country, then you can look for a consulate which you can approach.

In some embassies, you are able to walk in at any time and submit the documentation meanwhile in some other you **MUST** make an appointment prior. So better make a call and confirm with the consulate.

Also many times, the consulate might not have any dates to book your appointment, it is better to call the consulate and book a date . But in any case for short-term Schengen visa, you cannot apply for appointment earlier than 4 weeks before your travel

[http://www.vfsglobal.com/about\\_us/our\\_network.asp](http://www.vfsglobal.com/about_us/our_network.asp)

## WHAT IS THE FEE FOR SCHENGEN VISA ? HOW MUCH DOES SCHENGEN VISA COST ?

Schengen visa is quite expensive when compared to other visas but it is worth it since one visa allows you to travel 26 countries . We have included the total cost it would take for us not just the visa fees including insurance, temporary flight & hotel bookings for visa purpose , printouts, and uber fees.

<b>Schengen visa consulate Fee.....</b>	<b>€ 60</b>
<b>VFS Processing FEE .....</b>	<b>€ 20</b>
<b>Travel insurance Cost for 20 days .....</b>	<b>€ 18</b>
<b>Temp. flight &amp; hotel bookings for visa purpose.....</b>	<b>€ 26</b>
<b>Printout cost for all the documents .....</b>	<b>€ 8</b>
<b>Uber cost for VFS office.....</b>	<b>€ 20</b>

=====

<b>Total Cost .....</b>	<b>€ 152</b>
-------------------------	--------------

We decided to get temporary flight and hotel bookings to ensure that if our visa is rejected, we don't lose all our money. You can ignore this if you don't care

Insurance is a mandatory requirement when applying for Schengen visa, further in other sections we have shown you how you can get flight hotel and insurance online for your visa application.



## FILLING YOUR SCHENGEN VISA APPLICATION FORM



Filling your Schengen visa application is very simple and easy. The fields are very easy to understand

You can download the Schengen visa application for short-stay from below link. Please note that this form can be typed online itself and then downloaded saving you the hassle of finding a pen or re-doing your visa application because of some mistakes you made while filling the form

[Schengen visa form download](#)

[Video guide on how to fill Schengen visa form](#)

[Sample pre-filled form](#)

That is it . Once you are done filling the form you can take print out of the form. Stick your photo on it and your Schengen visa form is completed.

We suggest you make copies of your filled form . When the consulate calls you for visa interview you can refer to it to make sure you have filled everything right .

If you have not yet booked your hotel, then wait till you have your hotel bookings ready before you have filled the whole form . In further sections we show you how you can get temporary hotel bookings for your visa process .



## SCHENGEN VISA REQUIREMENTS IN SUMMARY

Keep the below list of documents ready when you are applying for your Schengen visa

- Passport (Both new & old)
- Fully filled & signed application form
- 2 photos as per Schengen visa specifications
- Personal cover letter (Travel Itinerary/plan)
- Leave Letter/ NOC from employer
- Proof of financial status
- Proof of income tax paid for the latest year
- 3 months bank statement (Sometimes online not accepted better get it sealed and signed from the bank)
- Flight itinerary or reservation (if already purchased)
- Proof of Accommodation (Entire stay in Schengen Area)
- Travel insurance (for entire stay including repatriation)

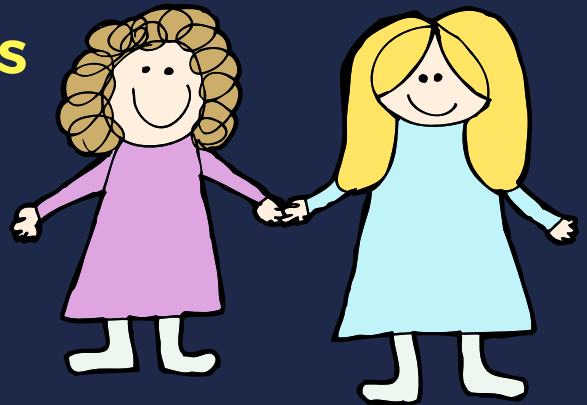
Additionally for minors,

- The minor's birth certificate
- The application form has to be signed by both parents
- In cases where one parent has full custody over the child, the family court order has to be attached.
- Certified copies of ID/passport of both parents.
- The notarized parental authorization signed by both parents or guardians is attached if the minor is to be travelling alone.

In case of first time travellers, one must submit one of the following. Also you need to prove that you either have a job or running a business to come back to to improve your chances of getting the visa this can be,

- Income tax returns for the last three years
- Appointment letter
- Proof of legal entity of the company
- A reference letter from the employer
- In case the applicant is the owner of the company he/she is working for, the business registration, tax returns and the latest bank statement is to be attached.

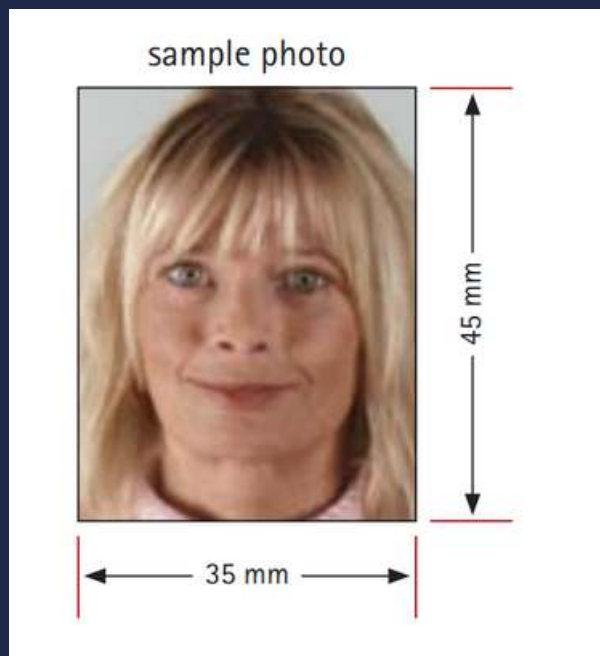
### STAYING WITH FRIENDS/ RELATIVES



If you are planning to stay with friends or relatives and they are handling your expenses, then they need to get a formal obligation letter signed from the local authorities or town hall . This means that they will need to be ready for a trip or 2 to the town hall to get this invitation letter from the gazetted officer . So if possible we suggest you go as a tourist rather than as a visitor and once your visa is approved you can go visit them as you please. We will further let you know how you can get flight and hotel bookings for your Schengen visa . Or you can visit [travelvisabookings.com](https://travelvisabookings.com)

- If your friend/relative is handling the expenses, then they need to provide attest a competent document from the town hall
- The formal invitation by the relative/friend residing in a Schengen country.
- If the applicant will be covering the expenses on his/her own, the relatives/friend's name, address and the copy of their passport or the resident permit

### PHOTO REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHENGEN VISA



For Schengen visa you need 2 photos, one stuck to your visa application and another to be submitted with your visa documents. You can just walk in to any photo studio and they will get it done for you in a hour. Just make sure that the photo has light background and does not match the color of your hair. Get some 10 copies just in case.

## PASSPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR SCHENGEN VISA



Before applying for Schengen visa, make sure that your passport has at least 3 months validity and has at least 2 empty pages for both entry and exit stamps.

You need to submit both any old passports also if you have one or more expired passports

## NO - OBJECTION CERTIFICATE & LEAVE LETTER FOR EMPLOYEES

Schengen visa requires that you provide a letter that addresses the visa officer that your employee has granted your leave for the duration of your travel and once you are back you will be resuming your current job . You can also attach your offer letter or salary slip as proof of your salary

**April 24, 2015**

**Visa Officer  
Canadian High Commission  
67-99 Field Road  
Ashland, KY 29374**

**Re: No Objection Certificate**

**Dear Sir / Madam:**

**This is with reference to Ms. Kylie Gromer, who has been working as a Sales Director at Kacy's Market since October 2008. Ms. Gromer has applied for a visa to visit Canada.**

**We would like to endorse the fact that our company has no objection to her travelling to Vietnam for a 3 month period (as she has sufficiently accumulated and earned holidays). The company has already sanctioned her leave request which can be availed at her discretion. We also validate the fact that Ms. Gromer is able to handle all her travelling and living expenses on her own. A proof of Ms. Gromer's annual income has been enclosed with this NOC.**

**Please feel free to contact me if any further information is required.**

**Sincerely,**

**(Signature)**

**Martin King  
Director, Kacy's Market  
782 Hilton Avenue, Ashland, KY 27363  
(000) 000-9991, martin @ kacymarket . com**

## NO - OBJECTION CERTIFICATE FOR STUDENTS



**VFS Germany,  
Prestige Atrium, 2nd Floor,  
Church Street, Bangalore-16**

**Re: No objection letter/ permission from school for James Miller's leave to travel to Italy**

**Dear Sir/Madam,**

**This letter is to Certify that Jame's Miller is a student in Cambridge University doing his MS in ComputerScience degree. He has expressed his desire to visit his relatives in Florence Italy and we as a board unanimously give permission for Mr. James Miller to do so. He will be travelling on 23, Aug 2014 and will return to our college and resume his degree on 31, Aug 2014 . There will be a special class held for him to make up for his lessons once he is able to come to the college. Mr. James has been an exceptional student and has always been keen to learn about architectures and ancient monuments. We hope he will learn from this trip.**

**Although we have given him the permission to endure this trip, his safety and well-being is of course the responsibility of his parents.**

**Please feel free to contact us if there is any further details to be furnished.**

**Sincerely,**

**Drew Dobsy  
Dean, MS CSC dept.  
Cambridge University,  
Greater London, England - 04**

## PERSONAL COVER LETTER/ TRAVEL ITINERARY



Schengen visa needs you to submit a document which contains your entire plan for your duration in the Schengen region. You need to provide your day to day plans (which is your itinerary) as well as an explanation of the documents that you would be submitting in that order . The visa officer will read your personal cover letter carefully before going through your other documents . You can download a sample for your personal cover letter from the below link

**Download personal cover letter for schengen visa**



## FLIGHT ITINERARY & RESERVATIONS FOR SCHENGEN VISA



It is a common misconception that you need to buy a flight ticket before you apply for schengen visa. Because the requirement wants you to have flight bookings before visa right ? Well then the consulate also say that you should not book your tickets in advance and they are not responsible for all the losses that you incur if your visa is rejected.

### **DO NOT BUY FLIGHT TICKETS BEFORE YOU GET YOUR VISA**

- Buy a refundable ticket (Not recommended unless you are very wealthy since refundable ticket costs atleast 40% more than regular ticket)
- Call the airlines and get a reservation
- Use any of the travel agents online who can provide the service

We have used [travelvisabookings.com](https://travelvisabookings.com) and have had no problem with their service so far click to visit their website

**VISIT [TRAVELVISABOOKINGS.COM](https://travelvisabookings.com)**

## 5 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD NOT BOOK FLIGHTS & HOTEL IN ADVANCE



### 1. LOSS OF MONEY IF YOUR VISA IS REJECTED

There is no guarantee that Schengen visa will be guaranteed, your visa could be rejected for a number of reasons and many might not even be your mistake, For ex France might decide to put all the visa on hold because of a terrorist attack . We don't feel comfortable in making a commitment for an expensive trip without having a confirmation that my visa will be guaranteed



### 2. NO FLEXIBILITY OF CHANGING YOUR TRAVEL PLAN

Making all your bookings in advance removes the fun of traveling on instinct . Imagine you apply for your visa and get to know that your favorite football team is visiting a city in your country, Can you change your plan and travel to that city ? Not unless you want to loose your money. We usually start our planning once our visa is confirmed not 2 months in advance of our travel.

### 3. REDUCED PROOF OF FINANCE WHEN SUBMITTING VISA APPLICATION

When in Europe, you need to show that you have at least EUR 80 per day for each day you stay in Europe **AFTER you make your flight and hotel bookings . And expect you to have another EUR 1500 as emergency expense**

If you are unable to show at least this much amount as your proof of sustenance your visa might not be granted. For someone who has limited funds, it makes sense to make their bookings after their visa is approved.

#### **4. IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO BACKPACK, THEN YOU CANNOT REALLY GO WHERE YOUR HEART TAKES YOU**



Visas are not backpacker friendly, One of my friends recollects how one visa officer insisted him to show proof of hotel bookings . The problem is he was travelling on a backpacking trip in a rented car across Iceland and had planned on staying in his tent when he got tired of driving. Finally he submitted a temporary hotel bookings from travelvisabookings and once he got his visa he made his own plans.

#### **5. VISA WILL BE GRANTED ONLY FOR THE DAYS MENTIONED IN THE PLAN .**

A common misconception is that many assume that your Schengen visa will be granted for 90 days . But Schengen visa is only granted for the days (including the dates) mentioned in your personal itinerary.

Ex - If you want to go to Germany for 10 days in June between 14th to 24 th Then your visa will be granted only for those days. If you overstay, then you would get travel banned.

So most of our clients add an additional buffer of 5 days on either days of their travel to their travel plans. Once they get their visa, then they have more flexibility to plan their trip or overstay if they want to which is lost when you commit to your plan.

## **WHERE TO MAKE FLIGHT AND HOTEL BOOKINGS FOR YOUR VISA PURPOSE ?**

You can make your flight & hotel bookings by using online services such as [travelvisabookings.com](https://travelvisabookings.com) . We have used their service more than once and we got the documents on time . There are also many other websites like them but we find them either very expensive or spin-offs of the same service.

### **[LINK TO BUY FLIGHT, HOTEL & INSURANCE FOR VISA APPROVAL ONLY](#)**

You can make your hotel bookings on many of the websites online such as [agoda.com](https://agoda.com). But you will need to submit your card and if you forget to cancel your bookings before time your card will be charged for one night as cancellation fee. So be aware of that if you want to go down this route.

### TRAVEL INSURANCE FOR SCHENGEN VISA



Let's face it, We would be really stupid if we did not take travel insurance when we are travelling abroad where we are not covered. But just to make sure, Schengen visa make sure that you don't enter Europe without a travel insurance .

- Must at least cover €30,000.
- Medical and hospitalisation charges must be covered in all the Schengen countries
- Repatriation expenses to transfer the remains to your home country.
- Emergency medical evacuation
- \$0 deductible expense(mandatory)
- You must be covered for the entire duration of your stay.

#### WHAT IS \$0 DEDUCTIBLE INSURANCE ?

A policy deductible is the dollar amount of covered expenses that a client will be responsible for paying in the event of a claim. For any insured claim, covered expenses are first applied to the extra-provincial health care benefits as provided for by the client's provincial health insurance plan.

**What this means is that you will need to provide an amount from your pocket before you claim your insurance.**

## SCHENGEN TRAVEL INSURANCE IN 5 STEPS

Travel insurance for your trip can be brought from the following [visitorscoverage.com](https://visitorscoverage.com)

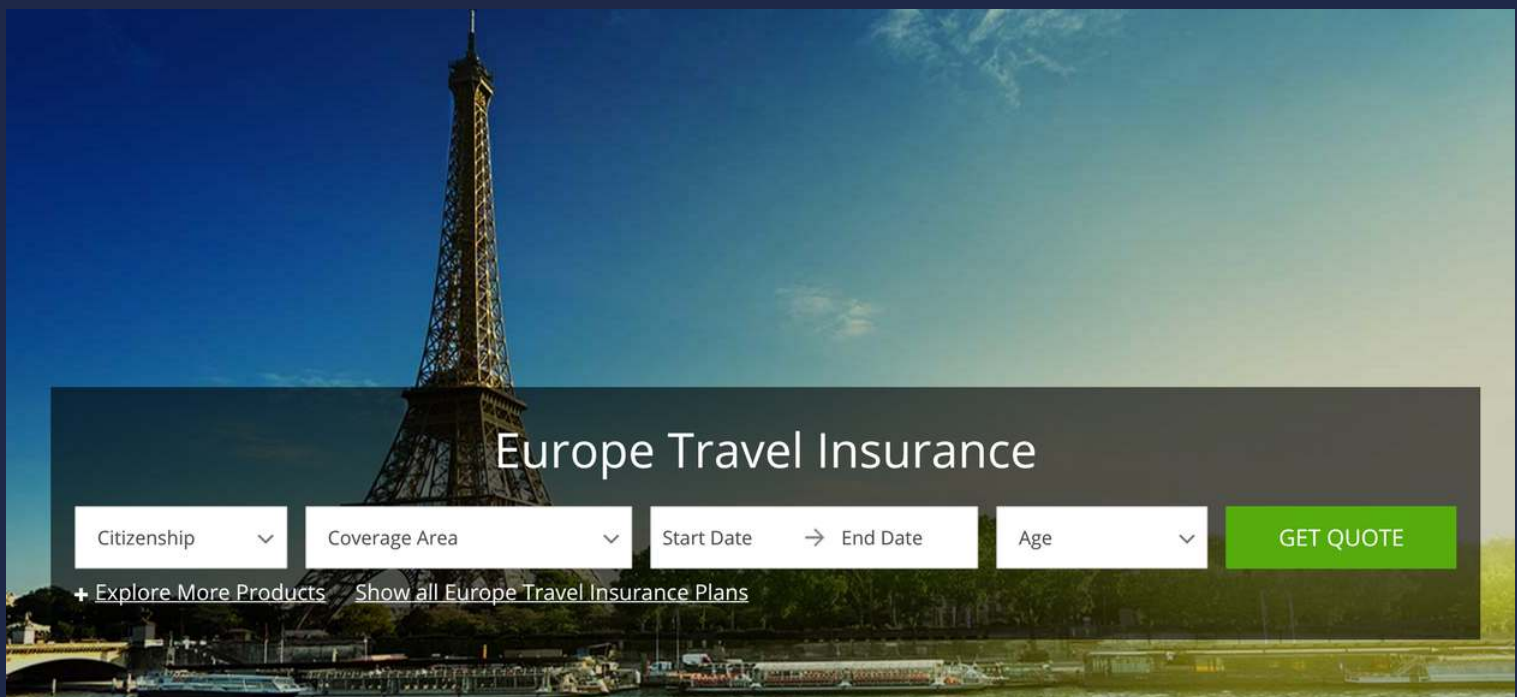
They are a marketplace for insurance and you can pick from any of the insurance offerings . What's more if your visa gets rejected you will be fully refunded your insurance amount . Below we explain how you can buy insurance from them

### 1. CLICK BELOW LINK FOR INSURANCE WEBSITE

[visitorscoverage.com](https://visitorscoverage.com) (insurance affiliate link)

### 2. ENTER YOUR DETAILS TO GENERATE QUOTE FOR YOUR PROFILE

This will take you to their insurance quote page. Since insurance cost usually depends on the applicant's age and the total number of travelling days.



### 3. SET DEDUCTIBLE TO \$0 AND SELECT TRAWICKINTERNATIONAL

Set the deductible component to \$0, this will increase the cost of the insurance but it Schengen visa accepts only 0 deductible insurance . Also select trawick international only since it is the only one which gives you visa letter which you need to submit as insurance proof for schengen visa

The screenshot displays two insurance plans side-by-side. The first plan, 'Atlas International' by HCC MIS, has a deductible of \$250 and costs \$12.64 for 8 days. The second plan, 'Safe Travels International - Cost Saver' by Trawick International, has a deductible of \$250 and costs \$12.96 for 8 days. Red circles are drawn around the plan name and the \$250 deductible for the second plan, indicating the selection process.

Plan Code	Plan Name	Provider	Coverage Amount	Deductible	Coverage Type	Price (8 days)	Features	Action
AI	Atlas International	HCC MIS	\$ 50,000	\$ 250	Comprehensive	\$12.64	Acute onset, Medical Coverage During Travel, Renewable & Cancelable	BUY NOW / Compare
STI-CS	Safe Travels International - Cost Saver	Trawick International	\$ 50,000	\$ 250	Comprehensive	\$12.96	Acute onset, Medical Coverage During Travel, Cancelable	BUY NOW / Compare

That is it , fill the information asked and make the payment the insurance will be sent to your email in 10 minutes. The insurance document asks you to select one country, pick the one in which you have scheduled your interview . Trawick covers the insurance in all the countries of the Schengen state and it would be mentioned in the letter that you get.

## SCHENGEN VISA INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Most of the consulates will not call you for an interview and if everything is in order you should get your visa in 5 to 10 days. But some consulates need to collect your bio metric fingerprints or would like to interview you . Nothing to worry about thy would mostly ask you what you have written in your personal cover letter itself. We have compiled the list of questions you are most likely to be asked

- Why you wish to go to this country ?
- For how long would like to visit?
- When you will be traveling?
- How much do you earn? Do you pay income tax?
- What is the objective of your visit?
- What will you do on your return?
- How much will your visit cost?
- Who will pay for your visit?
- Are you married? If yes, what does your spouse do? For how long have been married?
- Do you have any children? If yes, how old are they, what do they do and where are they?
- Do you have any close family or friends in the Schengen area.? If yes, when did you meet the last time?
- Where do you stay?
- What is your educational qualification?
- How will you travel from one place to another?
- How do you guarantee me that you will come back?
- Which company do you work for?
- What does your company do?
- What is your profession?
- What is your role in the company?
- How many years of total experience you have?
- For how long are you employed with your current employer?
- For how long were you employed with your previous employer?
- Could you please show me your company profile and tax returns?
- How many employees are there in your company?
- Explain your current project to me.



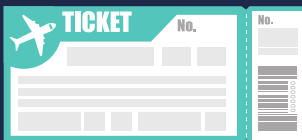
## PLANNING YOUR EUROPE TRIP



Congrats !!! if you have made this far then you must have got your Schengen visa approved . So now it is time to plan your Europe trip. This section we have compiled a list of tips to book the best possible flight and hotels.

**ALWAYS CHECK FOR FLIGHTS AND HOTELS IN INCOGNITO OR PRIVATE MODE**

## GETTING THE BEST & POSSIBLY THE CHEAPEST FLIGHT



When it comes to booking flights two tools stand out . Both might not give you the cheapest flight possible but will give you a fair price with awesome comparison tool and allowing you to plan your trip based on the price of a ticket

## Google flights

Best search tool (because Google !!!) with quick comparison of dates and prices. Also has a very good suggestion tips. Also in the map view ("Explore" option) you can select a particular destination and have the price pop up . Very useful

But the price is sometimes on the higher side.

[Link for Google Flights](#)

[Excellent video on Google flights](#)

## Momondo - Best search engine for flights

Consistently provides the lowest price for most flights. Also has convenient features for price based searches, cheapest quickest or the best flight for your trip . Since momondo compares the flight prices accross many othe websites, it is more like an aggregator than providing their own system.

[link to mommondo.com](#)

## GETTING THE BEST PRICE AND OFFERS ON HOTELS

Unlike flights, usually the difference between hotel prices among websites will usually be about \$10 bucks. But still it does not hurt to make use of aggregator website to see if a decent deal is in place.

## Booking.com

A giant in the hotel booking industry whom you cannot give a miss. booking.com has the largest inventory and most often the best deals that you could find. With free cancellations on most hotels, you can have a sense of security when you are booking hotels.

[Link to booking.com - GET \\$30 off on your next purchase\)](#)

### Agoda.com

Agoda is another great resource to book hotels, especially in Asia where their inventory is the best. Agoda is again another company owned by booking.com itself. But they operate as a separate entity. You cannot go wrong in choosing any of the services.

[Link to Agoda.com](#) - Includes discount of \$30 on next purchase

## TRAVELLER LEVEL 2 - HOSTELS AND COUCH SURFING

Hotels certainly aren't cheap, and we hate spending money on a room if we are only going to be in for a few hours. After all, it's just a place to sleep (and steal soap). It's why we mostly avoid hotels – we don't think they are a good use of money. I would much rather stay in a hostel or Airbnb, which cost less, have more social interaction, and don't make you feel as removed from the destination you're staying at. We always feel hotels are so isolating like a concrete bubble keeping out the place you're visiting. Although you can get excellent hostels in the above mentioned websites, there are a couple of websites which especially are into hostels.

### Hostelworld.com

The best hostel accommodation site out there with the largest inventory, best search interface, and highest availability. We use them for all my hostel bookings. And, since they bought their competitor Hostelbookers.com, they are the biggest game in town.

[Link to hostelworld.com](#)

### AirBnB.com

Another good accommodation alternative, this site connects with homeowners who rent out their homes/apartments to you. You'll get all the comforts of home, the chance to stay in a local, non-touristy part of where you are going, and pay a fraction of the cost of a hotel room.

[Link to airbnb.com](#) (Get \$25 off on your first booking)

## TRAVELLING IN EUROPE IN TRAINS

There was a time when booking train made sense financially. But that time has is long gone . Most of the trains in Europe adopts airline price model where it is cheaper to book early but as the day comes close it becomes more expensive. Also all the night trains need you to reserve your seat in advance and there is a charge associated with that as well which is around €10 - 50 . With plenty of budget airlines and cheaper busses connecting across Europe, You are better off ignoring the train .

But there are countries where the train journey itself is part of the experience like Switzerland, you can take train passes to those if you like . Trains passes can be brought from the below websites

[raileurope.com](https://www.raileurope.com)

Interrail (or Eurail) pass is a travel document that allows you to travel in Europe BY TRAIN. The idea is that you have just one ticket (your pass) and unlimited amount of options to travel in Europeans countries at any time your pass is valid!

Depending on the type of your pass, it can be a pass that allows you to travel in only one specific country of your choice, or it can be an unlimited travel of 28 European countries in a specific period of time. You can find some excellently researched articles from Nomadic matt with cost comparisons and others

[Link to raileurope.com](https://www.raileurope.com)

[Nomadic Matt's articles on Eurail](#)

## BUS TRAVELLING ACROSS EUROPE

Europe has world class bus network between all the Schengen countries which allows you to travel long distances in style most of the buses which provide free onboard WiFi, power sockets, comfortable seats and ample legroom. They even have onboard toilets built in . Bus journey is usually the cheapest when travelling. Two of the best bus services are

[Flixbus.com](https://www.flixbus.com)

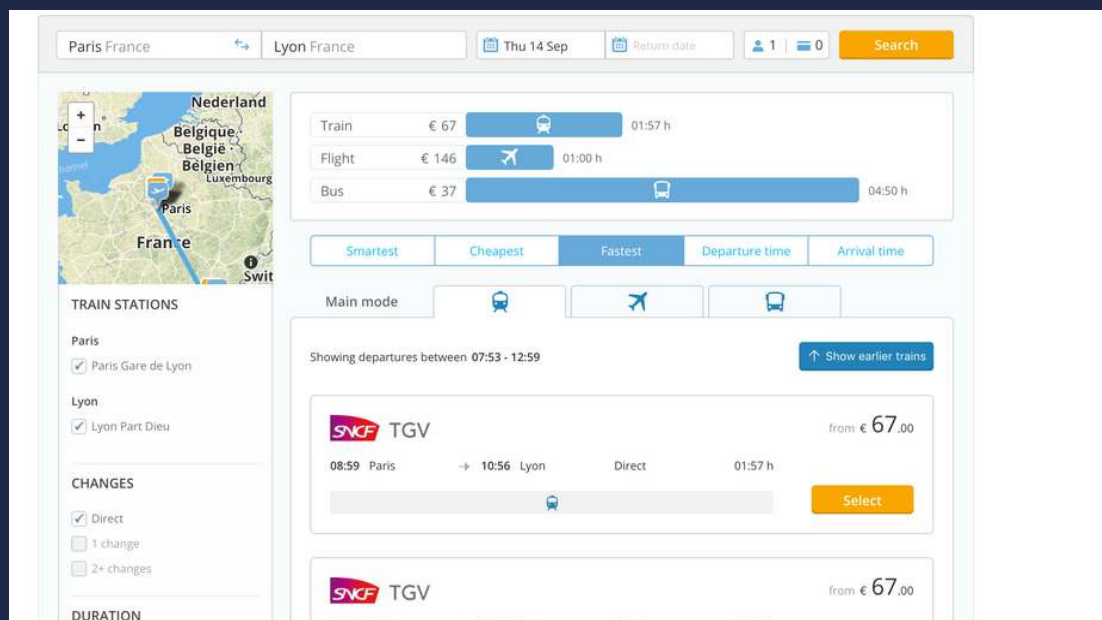
[Eurolines.com](https://www.eurolines.com)

## TOOLS TO WANDER ACCROSS EUROPE

Finding your way across Europe is not that difficult . It is easy and simple when you use these apps

### Goeuro.com

This tool is god sent when planning a trip in Europe. Simply enter the two cities and it provides you the cost, travel time and the availability of busses, trains or flight ALL in the same window. You can then pick either the cheapest, fastest or the smartest choice. This is excellent tool and we can't recommend this tool enough



### CityMapper.com

While goeuro.com helps you navigate between cities, citymapper helps you wander within them,

This navigation tool displays public-transit info, such as cost and live departure times of buses and trains. It will even tell you the best section of the train to find a seat. Use the Share ETA function to let friends follow your route in real time.

## FAQ & LINKS

### Will Schengen visa be granted for 90 days ?

NO !! Although Schengen short stay visa will be granted for a maximum of 90 days, you will get visa only for the number of days you mention in your travel itinerary and for those dates only. So once you submit the plan it is inflexible

For ex - If you plan to travel to europe between Sept 30 to Oct 2 then you will get visa for 4 days only and for the dates mentioned above.

So be aware of that and always mention atleast 3 to 4 days buffer between start and end days to stay safe. Make use of temporary flight and hotel bookings

### What to do when there is no appointment dates not available in the country I want to travel ?

Before you begin making your plans, call the consulate or the VFS office to confirm if there are slots available for your appointment. If there are no slots then you can change your consulate by staying in another country for more days than initially planned. Once you get your visa you are free to take the next train to where ever you want to go after you clear immigration

### Do I need to pay cancellation charges for the flight and hotel bookings I make with travelvisabookings ?

No. Once you purchase a plan that is all you will pay. They will automatically cancel the bookings once the consulate calls them and confirms. You will not pay any more charges

## FAQ & LINKS

### **Will my insurance cost be refunded if I don't travel ?**

We cannot speak for all other insurance vendors, but the one mentioned in this ebook, you will get full refund if you cancel your insurance policy before you travel.

### **Will my visa cost be refunded if I don't travel ?**

Your visa cost will not be refunded if you are not granted your visa. The application charge that is collected by both VFS and consulate is just to look at your application. But you can get the refund for flight & hotel, insurance and other docs if your visa is rejected

### **What happens if i over stay after my visa has expired ?**

You can approach the local authorities to extend your visa, but an extension is granted only in the worst of circumstances. If you do not get an extension and overstay your visa, then you will be travel banned !!!

### **Can I apply for Schengen visa from a resident country of which I am not the citizen of ?**

Yes . You can approach the consulate or the VFS office in your resident country and apply for your visa . For example an Indian can apply for Schengen visa from UK or US

## IMPORTANT WEBSITE LINKS FOR TEMPLATES, HOTEL AND FLIGHT BOOKING TO EUROPE

[Check if VFS operates in your country](#)

[Download Schengen visa application form](#)

[Video explaining how to fill Schengen visa form](#)

[Sample pre-filled Schengen form](#)

[Download personal cover letter for schengen visa](#)

[Buy flight and hotel bookings including insurance](#)

[Buy insurance for Schengen visa](#)

[Google Flights](#) - Best flight comparison tool

[Momondo.co.uk](#) - Best flight deals

[Booking.com](#) - Best hotels and hostels

[Agoda.com](#) - Best hotels and hostels

[Hostelworld.com](#) - Biggest inventory of hostels in Europe

[Airbnb.com](#) - Get \$50 off on first booking

[raileurope.com](#) - To buy train tickets to Europe

[Nomadic matt's article on Europe trains & Eurail Pass](#)

[Europe bus tickets](#) - [Flixbus.com](#)

[eurolines.com](#) - Bus to Europe including london

[goeuro.com](#) - Excellent tool to know the cost of flight, bus and train travel in Europe

[citymapper.com](#) - tool displays public-transit info, such as cost and live departure times of buses and trains.