

**Chandrawat
& Partners**



IMMIGRATION TO BHUTAN

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Introduction



Bhutan, often referred to as the "Land of the Thunder Dragon," is a fascinating and alluring nation tucked away in South Asia's eastern Himalayas. Bhutan is a very unique country on the international scene, known for its pristine natural beauty, rich cultural legacy, and novel way of assessing national wealth through Gross National Happiness (GNH). Bhutan, home to about 800,000 people, is well known for placing a significant emphasis on environmental preservation and sustainable development. This is demonstrated by Bhutan's lush forests, variety of wildlife, and dedication to maintaining carbon neutrality.

Ancient monasteries and dzongs, which are essential to the nation's spiritual and cultural character, are set against a gorgeous backdrop of the country's breathtaking landscapes, which range from snow-capped peaks to green valleys. Bhutanese culture is largely shaped by Buddhism, which also has an impact on the nation's traditions, celebrations, and everyday activities.

System of immigration

Bhutan's immigration policy is distinguished by its historical background and distinctive cultural identity, which have been changed throughout the years by many waves of migration. Bhutanese society has been shaped by five main waves of human migration, including two ancient and three more modern ones since the 19th century. Bhutan's immigration policy is distinguished by its historical background and distinctive cultural identity, which have been changed throughout the years by many waves of migration. Bhutanese society has been shaped by five main waves of human migration, including two ancient and three more modern ones since the 19th century.

Bhutan's current citizenship rules and practices, which are heavily influenced by Ngalop social values and are strongly related to the monarchy, are a result of recent immigration. The Lhengye Zhungtshog (Council of Ministers), Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs, and Department of Immigration are in charge of implementing these laws.

Indian, Bangladeshi, and Maldivian nationals may be eligible for an entry permit or a visa upon arrival for entry into Bhutan, depending on their individual circumstances. Thai and Swiss nationals with official or diplomatic passports are exempt from needing a visa, but those with regular passports must apply for one upon arrival and have it stamped by immigration officials at the port of entry.

Anyone looking for work in Bhutan must have a current work visa, which is normally good for one year and must be renewed when a passport expires. For the duration of their service, dependent expatriates are permitted to bring their spouses and children to Bhutan.

Bhutan also runs a tourist online visa/permit system, where authorized Bhutanese tour operators can apply for tourist visas and permits. Bhutanese visas and entry permits are issued by the Department of Immigration, under the supervision of the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs, and are subject to verification and approval. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for checking and approving visa applications for those connected to international organizations, those on business trips on behalf of their sending countries, and people the Kingdom of Bhutan finds interesting.



Different purposes for which a person can immigrate

Bhutan is a popular destination for immigrants for several strong causes. Employment is an important aspect that attracts people from a variety of backgrounds, including nations like India, Nepal, the USA, Australia, and Thailand. Many people looking for new professional horizons are drawn to Bhutan's workforce by the attraction of the chances available there. Another crucial factor is familial links, since some people move to Bhutan as dependent relatives of Bhutanese residents or for marriage-related reasons, strengthening their ties to the nation.

Another important factor in Bhutanese immigration is education. Young people in significant numbers look for educational opportunities overseas so they can expand their academic horizons beyond the confines of their native country. Government service has also traditionally been a factor in immigration; in the past, candidates had to fulfil conditions such as ten years of residency and five years of government employment, with the exception of wives of Bhutanese nationals. This criterion has helped to control and guarantee adherence to the nation's governance.

Bhutan also accepts the dependents of expatriates since it values maintaining family unity. For the duration of their assignment, spouses and kids of expats are permitted to join them in Bhutan, promoting a sense of support and camaraderie among expatriate workers. The overall dynamic nature of Bhutan's immigration landscape, shaped by a wide spectrum of personal, professional, and familial objectives, is highlighted by these numerous motivations.

Non-direct or other routes of immigration



There are other options that bring potential and promise for individuals who are serious about moving to Bhutan. These detours give people a way to investigate the prospect of settling in this fascinating and culturally rich country.

Marriage to a Bhutanese National: Foreigners who marry Bhutanese nationals may be qualified for immigration, giving them a route to plant roots in the nation.

Dependent Family Members: Spouses, kids, and other dependent family members of Bhutanese citizens may also be given the chance to immigrate. This clause acknowledges the significance of ties to one's family in determining one's sense of identity.

Employment: There may be opportunities for certain foreigners to immigrate to Bhutan to work there. However, it's significant to note that applying for both a work permit and a residence permit can be challenging, highlighting the nation's dedication to controlling its labour supply.

Education: Students who want to pursue academic endeavours in Bhutan may be able to immigrate to do so.

Dependents of Expatriates: Bhutan welcomes the inclusion of dependents, such as spouses and children, in the expatriate community because it understands the value of maintaining family unity.

Types of visas

Tourist Visas: For travellers who are not citizens of India, Bangladesh, or the Maldives, tourist visas are an essential part of Bhutan's immigration procedure. These permits are applied for online with the help of authorized Bhutanese tour companies. Travellers with tourist visas can discover Bhutan's breathtaking scenery, colourful customs, and rich culture while supporting the nation's sustainable tourism business.

Business visas: For anyone visiting Bhutan for business, a business visa is required. Entrepreneurs, investors, and professionals from all over the world have been drawn to Bhutan by its expanding economy and burgeoning industries. Their interaction with Bhutan's business community is facilitated through business visas, which fosters cooperation and economic growth.

Student visas: A crucial part of Bhutan's immigration policy, student visas allow people who want to study there to do so. Bhutanese educational institutions provide a distinctive educational experience that enables foreign students to become fully immersed in the local culture while obtaining essential skills and information.

Diplomatic Visas: Those visiting Bhutan on official diplomatic business must have a diplomatic visa. These visas make it easier for Bhutan and other countries to connect diplomatically, fostering global cooperation and diplomacy.

Dependant Visas: Dependent visas are available to visitors to Bhutan who are travelling with dependent relatives. Dependent visas make sure that families may stay together and benefit from life in Bhutan, whether they are visiting loved ones or joining family members who are already there.

Employment Visas: For anyone travelling to Bhutan for employment-related reasons, employment visas are a crucial need. As Bhutan's economy expands, it draws labourers, professionals, and workers from all over the world. Employment visas guarantee the right to work legally in Bhutan, promoting economic growth and advancing the country.

Licences and other documentation

Visa for Bhutan All travellers to Bhutan, unless they are citizens of India, Bangladesh, or the Maldives, must get a visa from Bhutan. Tourists who have booked their vacation through an authorized Bhutanese tour operator are eligible to apply for these visas, which are only handled in Thimphu, the country's capital. Visa applications are easily downloaded from the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs (“MoHCA”) website to get the process started.

An essential first step is to complete the visa application form. The MoHCA website offers a form that can be downloaded that contains all the information required for processing visas.

Passport: To begin the application procedure, you [D1] must have a copy of your passport. Your passport must be valid for at least six months after the time you plan to spend in Bhutan.

Photographs: Submission of recent passport-size photographs, typically totaling two in number, is a standard requirement to accompany your application.

HIV/AIDS Test Results: Applicants who intend to stay in Bhutan for a period longer than two weeks are required to submit the results of any HIV/AIDS tests they had recently had. Alternatively, to ensure everyone's safety and well-being, Bhutanese officials might give the exam as soon as they arrive.

Travel and Medical Insurance: The Royal Insurance Corporation of Bhutan provides unique travel and medical coverage designed only for tourists to the nation. When making vacation plans, it's a good idea to get detailed information about this insurance policy.



How we can help?

Our team of professionals can conduct comprehensive market research to help businesses understand their target audience, industry trends, and potential competitors.

Our experts can help set clear objectives, outline actionable steps, and identify opportunities for growth and expansion.

Our team can conduct risk assessments to identify potential threats and vulnerabilities within a business. They can then recommend risk mitigation strategies to safeguard against adverse events.

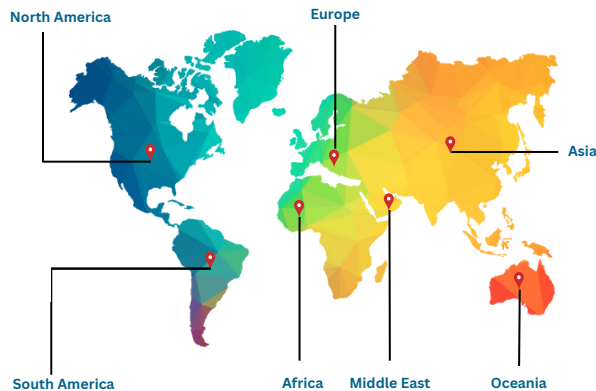
Our team offers advice on the optimal legal form for an enterprise, such as a corporation, partnership, limited liability company ("LLC"), or sole proprietorship.

Our team describes the legal and tax implications of each option and assists in picking the best option based on objectives and circumstances.

Our team can investigate and identify any licenses, permissions, or registrations required for the client's specific area or industry. The business assists with the application process and ensures that the organization complies with all legal criteria.



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