

Kingdom of the Netherlands



About the Netherlands

Capital City:

- Amsterdam

Monetary Unit:

- Euro (€)

Major Language:

- Dutch

Main Exports:

- Machinery & Equipment
- Fuels & Chemicals
- Telecommunications Equipment

Our Immigration Services in the Netherlands

Business Travel – Guidance and assistance with applications for business visas via the Dutch Embassy or Consulate

Work Permit (twv) and Labour Migrant applications – For foreign nationals who will come to the Netherlands to work as an employee filed with the Public Employment Service

Highly Skilled or Knowledge Migrant – For highly skilled and educated foreign workers who will make a contribution to the Dutch knowledge economy & whose salaries meet a set threshold

Residence Permits – For non-EU foreign nationals who will stay in the Netherlands for more than 90 days & submitted to the Immigration and Naturalization Service

The Dutch Economy

A founding member of the European Union and home to nearly 17 million people, the Netherlands is located in Northwestern Europe and the Caribbean. The Netherlands is one of the world's leading business locations, serving as a "gateway to Europe" for North American firms like Abbott Laboratories, Boeing, Cisco Systems, Eastman Chemical, Medtronic, Reebok, and Starbucks.

Although keenly impacted by the global economic crisis in 2008 and 2009, the Dutch economy regained growth by the end of 2009. Deloitte's economic outlook for 2011 reported sales in Dutch industry rose by 14% in the 4th quarter of 2010 compared with a year earlier. The value of exported goods and services returned to its peak in 2008.

The capital market interest rate (most recent ten-year Dutch State Loan) averaged 2.9% in the 4th quarter but reached 3.2% in January 2011. Inflation rose to 1.7% in the 4th quarter and to 2% in January. There were 8% fewer business failures during the 4th quarter of 2010 than a year previously. <http://tinyurl.com/3s6xhoo>

For more information about foreign investment in the Netherlands, visit the web site at: <http://www.nfia.com/>

Business Travel to the Netherlands

The Netherlands is a key European transportation hub and popular destination for business and tourism. It is a member of the European Union and party to the Schengen Agreements. Based upon the Schengen Agreements, individuals with passports issued by member states are currently permitted to travel without passports

and visa controls within Schengen territory (<http://tinyurl.com/3gphy7s>). Foreign nationals who are not members of the Schengen territory must present a passport and may require a visa for entry to the Netherlands. Further, there is a strict, cumulative limit of 90 days within a 180-day period that an individual may spend as a visitor within the Schengen Area.

Thus, foreign nationals who are not part of the Schengen area or otherwise exempt from presenting a passport for admission and wish to travel to the Netherlands for business should ensure their passports are valid for at least six months beyond the intended dates of stay and contain at least two blank visa pages. EU and U.S. citizens generally are not required to obtain a visa in advance of business travel within the 90 day limitation. Visa nationals should plan in advance to secure their visa from a Consulate abroad prior to entry. The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs maintains an updated list of foreign entry requirements per country at the following web site: <http://www.mfa.nl/en/>

As a business visitor entrant, working activities must be limited to market research, liaison work, negotiation or making contracts, site visits, holding internal business meetings/briefings and other related activities that do not generate revenue or charge expenses to the host entity. Generally, for those activities that do generate revenue or charge expenses to the host entity, work may be performed without work permission from the Dutch authorities if the activities are limited to one of the following categories: (i) installation/adaptation of software, or provide instructions in that respect, supplied by the employer (who cannot be Netherlands based) for a maximum period of 12 consecutive weeks within a 36 week period; (ii) business meetings/

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visiting, seminars/participating in discussions (and similar activities) for a maximum period of 4 weeks within a 13 week period.

Living in the Netherlands

Studies show the Dutch live longer and in better health. This is mainly attributed to a complex and comprehensive public health care system. The standard of living is high and unemployment is relatively low.

Nearly 8,000 multinational companies have their European headquarters in the Netherlands. For this and many other reasons,

it is considered a preferred expatriate post and most foreigners will work and live in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, or The Hague. The society is considered open and tolerant, welcoming to individuals of a variety of nationalities and religions.

Dutch Business Culture

Dutch businesspeople are regarded as well organized, direct and efficient. Promptness to business meetings is essential. Small talk is not necessary for commencing a business meeting and negotiations are typically straightforward.

Dutch Work Permit Process

1

Test of the labour market, if required, and application for the work permit

2

Unless exempt, application for a temporary residence permit (MVV) at Dutch Consulate abroad, which permits the holder to enter the Netherlands

3

Upon entry to the Netherlands, application for residence permit which will enable the foreign national to live in the Netherlands

How Goel & Anderson can assist your organization in the Netherlands

Organizations that wish to employ foreign workers abroad require an immigration service provider with a record of successfully coordinating and delivering global, business immigration services for multinational organizations. Goel & Anderson practices exclusively in the field of immigration to assist your company with the recruitment, hiring, and retention of foreign workers across the globe, including the Netherlands. We understand that time and resources are valuable to your business and that staffing an international project can be critical to your business' reputation and success. We are committed to efficiently delivering business immigration solutions that combine broad global coverage with a depth of local expertise.

We carefully select co-counsel who share our service and compliance-oriented approach to meet the needs of organizations doing business in the global marketplace. Our Global Immigration Practice group and local counsel work closely together to ensure comprehensive business coordination and seamless delivery of services. Our immigration services include end-to-end processing, including: Work Permit and Visa Application preparation and filing; detailed guidance on the visa stamping

and residence permit application process; and tracking key expiration dates. Personal representation at the Dutch Embassy or Consulate abroad and local immigration offices (IND) may be available.

Generally, the most streamlined and efficient work authorization process is available to foreign nationals whose services are required to strengthen the Dutch economy and for multinational organizations that have a related Dutch office. Thus, if your company anticipates engaging foreign talent, an early analysis of immigration options and strategies, as well as a thorough understanding of the sponsorship obligations, will better position your project for success. We also understand that despite careful planning, emergent issues can arise. We are well positioned to assist your business to address unexpected business requirements. Because global immigration matters do not occur within a vacuum and the law is infrequently static, we seek local experts who may also assist with a range of related legal services, including corporate formation, contracts, employment agreements, licensing, and transactions and who will advise of changes in policy and procedures.

With headquarters outside of Washington, DC in Reston, Virginia and operations in Pune, India, Goel & Anderson is an immigration firm that is international in scope and personal in nature. We are known as a firm that is highly professional and also highly human. We offer clients extensive experience and a comprehensive understanding of all areas of business, employment, and family-based immigration law worldwide.

For more information about our Global Immigration Practice and services, please contact Jill Marie Bussey at jill.bussey@goellaw.com or +1 703.796.9881.

*Goel & Anderson, LLC does not engage in the practice of law within India. All services in India are provided by our affiliate, G&A Immigration Services Private Limited.

The information contained in this document is intended for informational purposes only, is general in nature, and does not constitute legal guidance.



Innovative Approaches to Immigration Law

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