

Republic of South Africa



About South Africa

Capital City:

- Pretoria – administrative
- Cape Town – legislative
- Bloemfontein – judicial

Monetary Unit:

- Rand [ZAR]

11 Official Languages

Main Exports:

- Minerals & metals
- Gold
- Motor vehicles & parts
- Diamonds

Our Immigration Services in South Africa

Visitor's Visas and Work-Seeker's Permits

– Guidance and assistance with visa applications for business visitors and individuals with job offers filed with the South African Consulates abroad

Business Permit Applications to Establish a Business or Investment – For Foreign nationals who will invest R2.5 million in cash or capital contribution

Work Permit Applications – For foreign nationals who will transfer to South Africa as an intra-company transferee, as individual who possess exceptional skills, or under the quota scheme

Temporary and Permanent Residence Permits – Other forms of residence permit applications filed with the Department of Home Affairs

The South African Economy

South Africa has the African continent's largest economy. This two-tiered, mixed economy consists of a formal and informal sector. The formal sector is equivalent to other developed countries and is made up of mining, manufacturing, and agriculture. Home to approximately 50.5 million people, is full of natural resources and a well-developed financial, legal, communications, energy, and transportation sector. South Africa's stock exchange is the 18th largest in the world. Its modern infrastructure supports the distribution of goods to major urban centers throughout the region.

South Africa experienced much economic growth from 2004 to 2007 as it reaped the benefits of macroeconomic stability and a global commodities boom. By 2009, growth rates fell to -1.8% due to the global economic recession. 2010 showed some signs of recovery with a Growth Domestic Product (GDP) of 3%.

Host of the 2010 FIFA World Cup, South Africa spent much on transportation infrastructure to accommodate the 3.18 million fans who attended. Billions of dollars were spent to upgrade international airports and national roads. Additionally, buses (Bus-rapid transit) and an urban rapid railway system (Gautrain) were integrated into South Africans infrastructure. The tournament proved to be a success, making it the third most successful World Cup in FIFA history. This success was translated into 0.5% GDP growth for 2010.

South Africa's major trading partners include China, Germany, the United States, Japan, and the United Kingdom. South Africa is a member of the Southern African Customs

Union (SACU) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC). In August 1996, South Africa signed a regional trade protocol agreement with its SADC partners.

Source and for detailed information about South Africa's Economic Outlook, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/6eklkz6>

Business Travel to South Africa

Foreign nationals who wish to travel to South Africa for business should ensure their passports are valid at least thirty days after their intended departure from South Africa. Business visas may be required for travel to South Africa for 90 days or less.

Business travelers may enter South Africa to perform a variety of non-remunerative activities while in South Africa, including professional and commercial activities such as consultations, negotiations, business meetings, marketing, and product promotion activities, and conferences. Business activities for compensation are prohibited.

U.S. and Canadian citizens, as well as many EU-state passport holders, may enter South Africa without a visa for business purposes as indicated above. If the stay will involve more than simple business meetings, a visa may be required. The South African Department of Home Affairs maintains an updated list of foreign entry requirements per country at the following web site: <http://tinyurl.com/26lejag>

Living in South Africa

Located at the southern tip of Africa, South Africa is a vast country with an extremely diverse population as well as geography. South Africa is famous for its wine and its gold

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production. Cape Town, Johannesburg, and Pretoria make up some of the major cities in South Africa.

As the capital of Western Cape Province, Cape Town offers well-kept historic buildings, booming businesses, and an inner-city crime that has come under much control. Travelers wishing to escape the city, may visit Kruger National Park, which offers many biking and hiking trails.

South African Business Culture

South Africans are transnational and do not need to establish long-standing personal relationships before delving into business affairs. Being a diverse country, there are major differences in communication styles depending on the person's cultural heritage. Although casual attire in the business setting is gaining in popularity, during the first meeting a more conservative approach will prove to be more successful. Men should wear dark colored conservative suits, whereas women should wear elegant businesses dresses or suits.

South African Work Permit Process

1

Application for Work Permit submitted to the Department of Home Affairs. Types include:

- Quota Permit Work
- Work Permit (Extraordinary Quota)
- General Work Permit
- Work Permit (General Quota)
- Work Permit (Exceptional skills)
- Work Permit (Intra company transferee)

2

Temporary Residency Permit issuance, visa affixed at Consulate abroad

How Goel & Anderson can assist your organization in South Africa

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 South Africa. 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 post-entry process; and tracking key expiration dates. Personal representation at the South African Embassy or Consulate abroad and Local Police or Immigration Department may be available.

Generally, only locally registered entities may sponsor foreign nationals for work permits in South Africa. Thus, if your company's South African office 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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