

The Republic of Turkey



About Turkey

Largest city/Financial center:

- Istanbul

Capital city:

- Ankara

Monetary Unit:

- Turkish lira

Major Language:

- Turkish

Main Exports:

- Clothing & textiles
- Fruit & vegetables
- Iron & steel
- Motor vehicles & machinery
- Fuels & oils

Our Immigration Services in Turkey

Business Travel – Single and Multiple Entry Tourist Visas are issued by Local Border Police Authorities (“sticker visas”) or Turkish Embassies & Consulates

Work Permits for Foreign Nationals – The Turkish Ministry of Labor & Social Security grant Work Permits

Residence Permits for Foreign Nationals – The Foreigners’ Branches of the Local Police Departments grant Residence Permits

The Turkish Economy

Home to approximately 72 million people, Turkey has the 15th largest economy in the world. Its geographical position, bordering the Black Sea, between Bulgaria and Georgia, and bordering the Aegean Sea and the Mediterranean Sea, between Greece and Syria, makes it a popular tourist destination and key political influence in the region.

Turkey has been a member of NATO since 1952 and has been part of the EU Customs Union since 1996. Turkey has been a candidate to enter the European Union since 1999 and started its accession negotiations in 2005.

The IMF’s recent World Economic Outlook (WEO) listed Turkey as amongst the emerging European economies with the highest GDP growth rate. The WEO forecasts Turkey’s economy will expand by more than 4% next year.

For detailed information about Turkey’s Economic Outlook, visit the Investment Support Agency’s website at: <http://tinyurl.com/3tvdjki>

Business Travel to Turkey

Foreign nationals who wish to travel to Turkey for business should ensure their passports are valid for at least six months. Most stays for business/tourism purposes will be limited to 90 days but the admission period may be shorter based upon frequency of travel and nationality. Business travelers may engage in meetings and negotiations but are not permitted to engage in commercial activities or work in Turkey.

The Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs maintains a updated list of foreign entry requirements per country at the following website: <http://tinyurl.com/d77umk>
Most EU-state passport holders may obtain sticker visas upon arrival at a Turkish airport. Foreign nationals who require a visa to enter Turkey should plan to apply for their visa at least 30 days in advance. For a list of Turkish Embassies and Consulates abroad, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/2bhmtmp>

Living in Turkey

Turkey has become an increasingly attractive market for foreign investors and boasts a growing population of expatriates. The expatriate community is diverse, with many countries represented, including France, Germany, India, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Most housing developments are modern and offer amenities such as markets, parks and playgrounds. Public and other transportation options in Turkey’s major cities are plentiful and taxis are generally available.

There are a number of international schools where the curriculum is carried out in major European languages as well as other languages such as Arabic, Japanese, or Chinese.

Turkey has a comprehensive telecommunications network that is undergoing expansion, particularly in mobile-cellular services.

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Turkish Business Culture

Business dress is conservative. Business hours are between 9–noon and 2–5, Monday–Friday. Ramadan is observed as a holiday and businesses are typically closed during this time.

Turks prefer to do business with people they know. When first meeting a business contact, expect the appointment to be social rather than business-oriented.

Although English is widely spoken, printed business materials should be provided in English as well as Turkish.

Turkish Work Permit Process

- 1** Foreign National's Work Visa Application is Submitted at the Turkish Embassy or Consulate Abroad
Host Company's Work Permit Application is submitted to the Turkish Ministry of Labor & Social Security within 10 days of visa application submission
- 2** Once the Work Permit & Work Visa Applications are approved (approximately 30 days), the foreign national will be asked to return to the Turkish Embassy/ Consulate for visa fee payment & issuance
- 3** Foreign national must apply for Residence Permit at the Foreigner's Branch of the Local Police Department within 30 days of their arrival in Turkey

How Goel & Anderson can assist your organization in Turkey

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 Turkey. 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 Turkish Embassy or Consulate abroad and Local Police Department may be available.

Generally, only locally registered entities may sponsor foreign nationals for work permits in Turkey and limitations on the number of foreign workers may apply. Thus, if your Turkish 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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