

Norway

Visa Regimes

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Norway

Norway, with its population of just over 5 million, is one of the three Scandinavian countries. It is ranked as one of the best countries to live in and has one of the lowest crime rates in the world.

In recent years, Norway has repeatedly been ranked as 'the best country to live in' by the United Nations Human Development Report. This annual ranking is based largely on average levels of education and income, combined with life expectancy, but also factors such as human rights and cultural freedom. Norway is also rated high for its literacy rate, educational levels and material wealth. In addition, Norway has one of the best welfare systems in the world, making sure that people who are unemployed or unable to work are given support so that they can lead dignified lives. Norway also has one of the lowest crime rates in the world.

Norway is a long country located in Northern Europe – with borders to Sweden, Finland and Russia on the east side, and an extensive coastline facing the North Atlantic Ocean on the west side. Here the climate is wet and mild compared to the east and the north, where winters are colder and longer.

The major cities in Norway are located along the coastline: the capital Oslo is Norway's largest city, with about 620.000 inhabitants. Other major cities are Bergen and Stavanger in Western Norway, Trondheim in the middle part and Tromsø in the North.

There are 5.2 million people living in Norway. About 32 per cent of the population have higher education. Like Sweden and Denmark, Norway has grown to become a multicultural country. Today, 33 per cent of the population in Oslo are immigrants or Norwegian-born to immigrant parents. In the country as a whole, a bit over 16 per cent are immigrants or Norwegian-born to immigrant parents.

Embassy of Norway in Islamabad

The bilateral, diplomatic relations between Norway and Pakistan are good.

Norway recognized Pakistan as a sovereign state in 1947, shortly after its foundation. For many years, Norway only had an honorary consulate general in Pakistan, located in Karachi. However, in 1976 an embassy was established in Islamabad, headed by an acting ambassador (chargé d'affaires).

Norway's first resident ambassador in Islamabad, Mr Jan Erik Leikvang, arrived in 1995. Today, Norway has honorary consulates in both Karachi and Lahore, in addition to the Embassy in Islamabad.

Norway and Pakistan have close people-to-people relations. Immigration to Norway from Pakistan started in the late 1960s. However, since 1975, immigration has mostly been allowed only in cases of family reunification or family establishment. Today there are nearly 40,000 persons living in Norway who were either born in Pakistan or both of whose parents were born there.

Most of the Pakistani diaspora in Norway hails from Kharian and elsewhere in the district of Gujrat. They are well integrated in Norwegian society. E.g. their education level and home ownership are close to or above the Norwegian average. Notably many second-generation Norwegian-Pakistani women attend higher education. Quite a number have attained prominent positions in Norwegian political and professional life.

Address: 7th Floor Centre, Serena Business Complex
Khayaban-e-Suhrawardy,
G-5/1, Islamabad.

Telephone: +92 (0) 51 849 7700

E-mail: emb.islamabad@mfa.no

The Embassy is open Monday to Thursday from **8:00 am to 4:00 pm**.
Fridays the opening hours are **8:00 am to 1:00 pm**

Visitor's visa

A visitor's visa allows you to stay in Norway or other countries in the Schengen area for up to 90 days over a period of 180 days.

Citizens of Pakistan and Afghanistan are required to have a visitor's visa to go to Norway. Pakistani citizens holding an official or diplomatic passport are not required to have a visa when they travel to Norway. The Norwegian Embassy in Abu Dhabi is responsible for processing applications from Pakistan.

1. Before you apply

- You should apply well in advance and at the latest 15 days before you plan to travel. You can submit your application up to three months before your planned departure.
- We recommend that you do not buy your ticket until a visa has been granted.
- Before you can hand in the required documentation, you must register your application online. When you come to hand in your documentation, you will be asked to provide fingerprints.
- You may be asked to provide additional documentation or to come for an interview.

In order to apply for a visa from Pakistan you must either be a citizen of Pakistan or Afghanistan, or legally reside here.

In Pakistan applicants for visas submit their applications at visa application centers run by an external service provider, VFS Global. Please note that it may take up to 15 days to get an appointment to hand in your visa application.

VFS Global will send the visa application by courier mail to the Norwegian Embassy in Abu Dhabi which is responsible for the further processing.

2. Gathering the necessary documentation

- The checklist gives an overview of the documents you need to hand in to start the application process.
- If you want someone to act on your behalf in connection with your application, you must authorize this person to do so. Please visit the UDI website for more information and the relevant form: Power of Attorney.
- Applicants are required to hand in all the necessary documents depending on the purpose of the journey. Please note that if you do not hand in all the documents, your application may be rejected.
- The applicant has to hand in all the documents in clear, readable A4 format paper. Documents with staples, pins or glue will not be accepted. If any of your documents are not in A4 format, please hand in a copy of the document in A4.
- If any of your documents are an original (such as nikkah namah, birth certificate etc.) you will have to provide a copy in A4 format in addition to the original document.
- Click on the links below for the relevant supporting documents you need to provide with your application.

Questionnaire for Schengen Visit Pakistan
Checklist Business Visa
Checklist family and friends Pakistan
Checklist tourist visa Pakistan
Checklist-visa-EUEEA-family-members
Family Tree Forms Pakistan (Self, parents and in-laws)

3. Online registration & payment

- Before you can hand in your passport and other documentation, you must register your application in the Application Portal. If this is the first time that you are registering an application in the portal, you will first need to create a user account.
- Register your application in the Application Portal <https://selfservice.udi.no/en-gb/>
- Once you have registered, you will receive confirmation by email, with a cover letter attached. The cover letter will confirm that you have filled in the application form and paid the fee. You need to print this letter and submit it together with the other required documentation.

Application fees

- The visa fee is EUR 60. Children under six years do not pay a fee. Children from the age of six years and below the age of 12 years shall pay a visa fee of EUR 35. Please visit the UDI website for information about other groups exempted from the visa fee.

Please note that you pay the fee when registering the application in the portal. Applicants exempted from the visa fee requirement will have the fee refunded.


Service fee at the Visa Application Centre

- In Pakistan applications are received by an external service provider, VFS Global, which charges a service fee. Please note that an additional courier fee will also be added.

Optional services provided at the Visa Application Centre

- Certain additional services offered by VFS are not included in the service fee. Please note that these services are optional. For more information please visit the VFS Global website.

4.Hand in your documents

- You must bring with you:
- A printout of the confirmation of registration from the Application Portal
- The checklist and the documents listed on it
- Your passport (must be valid for at least three months after your planned departure from the Schengen area)
- Photograph (must comply with international standards)
- Your travel health insurance policy
- You should be covered for at least EUR 30 000, including expenses in connection with repatriation for medical reasons, treatment in medical emergencies and/or emergency hospital treatment, and death
- Your insurance should be valid in all Schengen countries
- It should cover the whole of your planned stay in the Schengen area
- It should as a rule be purchased in your home country. If this is not possible it may be purchased in another country.
- We will contact you if we need more information. The application process will start once all the required documents have been submitted.
- You can hand in your application and the required documents here:
- There are three Visa Application Centres where you can hand in your application. Please note that you are required to book an appointment to hand in your application. You can book online through the VFS Global website or by calling the VFS helpline, +92 (0) 518439383 
- There may be up to 15 days waiting period to get an appointment to hand in your application.

- **Islamabad**

14-B Sadiq Plaza

G-9 Markaz

Islamabad

- **Lahore**

20 Ex American Centre Building

Opposite Ganga Ram Hospital

Queens Road

Lahore

- **Karachi**

Bahria Complex IV

4th Floor

Main Chaudhary Khaliq UZ Zaman Road

Gizri, Clifton

Karachi

5.Processing time

The processing time for applications is normally up to 15 calendar days. In some cases, applications are sent to the Directorate of Immigration (UDI), and the processing time for these may be up to 30 days. In exceptional cases UDI may take up to 60 days to make a decision.

Applicants in Pakistan will in most cases get the result of their application within 15 days after the embassy in Abu Dhabi has received the application. If we have to ask you for additional documents or information it will take more time to process your application.

6.Result of your application

- You will be notified by email or telephone from the VFS centre when your application has been processed.
- The result can be picked up at the Visa Application Centre, where the application was submitted.
- If you have been granted a visa, a sticker will be placed in your passport. Please check the duration of stay specified on the sticker. The duration of stay indicates how many days you are allowed to stay in the Schengen area.
- If your application has been rejected, you will receive a written explanation as to why it was rejected. You can appeal the decision.

7.On arrival

When you cross the border into the Schengen area, you will have to present:

- your passport with the visa sticker
- proof that you have enough money to support yourself during your stay (e.g. cash or a credit card). If you have a guarantee form, you should also bring a copy of this with you.
- documentation showing the purpose of your visit, such as an invitation, hotel reservation, etc.
- a return or round-trip ticket if you are visiting the Schengen area for tourist purposes or private reasons

You may be asked to provide fingerprints by the border control officer, in which case these will be compared with the fingerprints provided when you applied for your visa.

As long as your visa is valid, you can travel around freely in the Schengen area, or in the specific Schengen countries covered by the visa. If you leave the Schengen area, for example to visit the UK or Svalbard, you will need a multiple entry visa.

Residence permit

Citizens of Pakistan and Afghanistan need a residence permit in order to work or to take up residence for longer than 90 days. **This includes work, studies, au pair and family immigration.**

The Directorate of Immigration (UDI) normally processes applications for a residence permit.

1.Before you apply

Find out what type of residence permit you need, e.g. in connection with work, studies, family immigration or to stay in Norway as an au pair. You will find information on the different types of residence permit on UDI's website.

In order to apply for a residence permit to Norway from Pakistan, you must either be:

- a citizen of Pakistan
- a citizen of Afghanistan with a valid visitor visa or residence permit for Pakistan

Applicants with other nationalities can only apply if they hold a residence permit for Pakistan and have had this for at least the last six months.

In Pakistan applicants for residence permits submit their applications at visa application centers run by an external service provider, VFS Global. Please note that you are required to book an appointment to submit your application. There may be up to 15 days waiting period to get an appointment with the visa application center.

2.Gather the necessary documentation

You must gather all the documents in the relevant checklist on UDI's website. Some of the documents must be provided by your contact person in Norway; others you will have to obtain yourself.

If you want someone to act on your behalf in connection with your application, you must authorize this person to do so. Please visit the UDI website for more information and the relevant form: Power of Attorney.

3. Online registration and payment

- Before you can hand in your passport and other documentation at the embassy or consulate, you must register your application in the Application Portal. If this is the first time that you are registering an application in the portal, you will first need to create a user account.
- Register your application in the Application Portal <https://selfservice.udi.no/en-gb/>
- Once you have registered, you will receive confirmation by email, with a cover letter attached. The cover letter will confirm that you have filled in the application form and paid the fee. You need to print this letter and submit it together with the other required documentation.
- Once you have registered, you will receive confirmation by email, with a cover letter attached. The cover letter will confirm that you have filled in the application form and paid the fee. You need to print this letter and submit it together with the other required documentation.

Application fees

- Please visit the UDI website for information about the fees.
Please note that you pay the fee when registering the application in the portal.


Service fee at the Visa Application Centre

- In Pakistan applications are received by an external service provider, VFS Global, which charges a service fee of 30 euros. For more information visit the VFS Global website

Optional services provided at the Visa Application Centre

- Certain additional services offered by VFS are not included in the service fee. Please note that these services are optional. For more information please visit the VFS Global website. http://www.norwaypakistan.vfsglobal.com/Additional_Services.html

4.Handing in the documents

- You must bring all the documents listed in the checklist with you. You will find a link to the checklist in the email that is sent when you have registered your application in Application Portal. We will contact you if we need more information. Your application will then be sent on to UDI for processing.
- You can hand in your documents here:
- There are three Visa Application Centres where you can hand in your application. Please note that you have to book an appointment to hand in your application. You can book online through the VFS Global website or by calling the VFS helpline, +92 (0) 518439383 
- There may be up to 15 days waiting time to get an appointment to hand in your documents.

5.Processing time

Applications for a residence permit are processed by UDI. You will find information about the processing time on UDI's website.

6.Result

- You will be notified by email or telephone when your application has been processed.
- The result can be picked up at the Visa Application Centre where the application was submitted.
- If you have been granted a residence permit, a sticker will be placed in your passport to allow you to travel to Norway. You will be contacted when you can collect your passport. Please do not book tickets until you have been granted an entry visa.
- If your application has been rejected, you will receive a written explanation as to why it was rejected. You can appeal the decision.

7.On arrival

- When you cross the border into the Schengen area, you will have to present:
- your passport with the entry visa sticker (if you need an entry visa)
- documentation showing the purpose of your stay
- Once you know when you will be arriving in Norway, you need to make an appointment with the police in order to obtain a residence card. You must pre-book this appointment, normally through the Application Portal, and the appointment has to be either during the first seven days you are in Norway, or the first available appointment you can find.
- More information on residence cards, including how to book an appointment

NB: The source of information for this document is the official website of the Norwegian Embassy in Pakistan.

<https://www.norway.no/en/pakistan/services>