



Ambasciata d'Italia
Abu Dhabi - Emirati Arabi Uniti

UNIFORM SCHENGEN VISA FOR TOURISM FAMILY MEMBERS OF EU CITIZENS

Visa Type:	Uniform Schengen Visa (type "C") for tourism or National Visa (type "D") for family reasons
Duration:	up to 90 days (Uniform Schengen Visa) or from 91 up to 365 days (National Visa)
Entries:	1, 2 or multiple
Time limits to apply for the visa:	no more than six months before the intended travel date and no later than 15 calendar days before the intended travel date
Time limit to conclude the procedure:	15 days extendable to 45 under particular circumstances (art. 23 of the Visa Code)
Relevant regulations:	art. 14, 24 and Attachment II to the Regulation (EC) no. 810/2009 and subsequent amendments (Visa Code); Part II, paragraph 6 and part III of the Visa Code Handbook, as well as attachment 14 to the Handbook; Inter-ministerial Decree no. 850/2011, Attachment A, sections 10 and 19.

OVERVIEW

The Uniform Schengen Visa for tourism allows the holder to access the Schengen Area for tourism reasons for a short-term stay not exceeding 90 days within 180. However, applicants can submit their visa applications to the competent Italian Diplomatic-Consular Missions if Italy is the main destination of their trip, meaning that Italy is either the Schengen State where they intend to spend most days in the Schengen Area or the Schengen State of first entry. If the stay exceeds 90 days, the applicant shall apply for the National Visa (type "D").

Foreign family members of EU citizens may apply for either Schengen Visa for tourism (if the stay will not exceed 90 days within 180) or National Visa for family reasons (if the stay will exceed 90 days as it will be aimed at permanently moving to Italy in order to reunite with the Italian citizen).

Applicants (foreign citizens) applying for Schengen Visa for tourism shall prove:

- to accompany the EU citizen during a short-term trip not exceeding 90-days within 180. In this case, the applicant shall apply for the Uniform Schengen Visa (type "C") for tourism. For this purpose, the Visa Office will assess the declarations made in the cover letter signed by the EU citizen and the flight bookings under both the foreigner and the EU citizen's names;
- or
- to join the EU citizen at his/her accommodation in Italy for a stay not exceeding 90 days with 180. In this case, the applicant shall apply for the Uniform Schengen Visa (type "C") for tourism. For this purpose, the Visa Office will assess the declarations made in the cover letter signed by the EU citizen and the proof of accommodation (see the instructions in the section no. 10 in the checklist below).

Applicants (foreign citizens) applying for National Visa for family reasons shall prove:

- the intention to permanently move to Italy for a stay exceeding 91 days, in order to reunite with the EU citizen. In this case, the applicant shall apply for the D-Type National Visa for family reasons and, once in Italy, shall apply for the Italian Residence Permit by referring to the Police Headquarters (*Questura*) located in the Province of residence of the EU citizen, within 8 working days from the first entry. For this purpose, the Visa Office will assess the declarations made in the cover letter signed by the EU citizen, also proving his/her residence in Italy (see the instructions in the section no. 10 in the checklist below).

It is important to note that, pursuant to arts. 2 and 3 of the Directive 2004/38/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, **ONLY** the below-mentioned categories can benefit from the status of "family members" of EU citizen:

- a) the spouse;
- b) the partner with whom the EU citizen has contracted a registered partnership, on the basis of the legislation of a Member State, if the legislation of the host Member State treats registered partnerships as equivalent to marriage and in accordance with the conditions laid down in the relevant legislation of the host Member State;
- c) the direct descendants who are under the age of 21 or are in parent's care and those of the spouse or partner as defined in point (b);
- d) the direct relatives in the ascending line who are in children's care and those of the spouse or partner as defined in point (b).

The above-mentioned categories are entitled to priority and free-of-charge processing of their applications; they are exempt from submitting documentation proving their socio-economic and financial situation (indeed they are exempt from completing the boxes no. 21, 22, 31, 32 and 33 of the application form); they are exempt from the obligation to submit a travel health insurance certificate; only exceptionally, their travel document lasting more than 10 years may be accepted.

Foreigners who are not included in any of the above-mentioned categories of family members of EU citizens, or foreign family members of EU citizens who do not travel together with the EU citizen or their trip is not aimed at joining him/her, are not entitled to benefit from the above-mentioned privileges and can submit their tourism visa applications to the Embassy of Italy in Abu Dhabi by booking the



appointment on the BLS International website (<https://blsitalyvisa.com/abudhabi/>). In this case, visa applications will be processed like ordinary ones without any particularly favorable treatment.

The Visa Office will process only applications submitted no more than six months before the intended travel date and no later than 15 calendar days before the intended travel date. Applications submitted without compliance with the said time limits will be deemed unacceptable and immediately returned to the applicant by the BLS International's Staff. Furthermore, it must be noted that any fees paid to book the appointment will not be reimbursed.

The passport will not be returned until the final decision on the visa is adopted, taking into consideration that the whole procedure may be extended up to 15 days.

ONLY applicants holding a valid UAE Residence Visa issued in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi (Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and Al Dhafra regions) can apply at the Embassy of Italy in Abu Dhabi. Although the EU family member holds a UAE Residence Visa issued in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi or is registered in the Register of Italians living abroad (A.I.R.E.) in Abu Dhabi, the residence of the foreign citizen is always taken into consideration.

With regard to GCC citizens, since they do not hold the UAE Residence Visa, they can prove to reside/live within the Emirate of Abu Dhabi by submitting the below-listed documents:

- Salary and employment certificate attesting that the applicant lives and works in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi;
- *Tawtheeq* tenancy contract or property deed attesting that the applicant lives in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, together with the last three-month water and electricity bills under the applicant's name.

If the applicant does not work and is sponsored by his/her family member, the same above-listed documents related to his/her family member must be submitted.

Applicants are strongly advised to proceed as follows:

- Complying strictly with the instructions mentioned in this checklist and submitting all the documents listed below. However, the submission of a complete file does not guarantee the issuance of the visa.
- Explaining clearly the reason for the trip and the itinerary through the cover letter. Furthermore, applicants can request a specific duration for the visa, number of days and number of entries by submitting the related accommodation and round-trip flight bookings. However, the final decision in this regard will always be upon the Visa Officers' discretion.

It must be noted that the Embassy reserves the right to invite the applicant for a personal interview and/or to request additional documents if needed to properly process the application.

Although Schengen Visas allow the holders to enter all the Schengen States, travellers are highly recommended to comply strictly with the itinerary declared and the related accommodation and flight bookings submitted upon applying for visa, so that the information and bookings submitted can be deemed reliable (with regards to applicants obtaining a visa for a 90-day stay within 180, the itinerary and bookings submitted for the first trip counts).

1	Application form for Schengen Visa to be filled in and originally signed by the applicant.
2	No. 1 recent passport-size pictures (not older than 6 months) with white background.
3	Original passport. • <i>The passport shall be not older than 10 years (only exceptionally, travel documents lasting more than 10 years may be accepted);</i> • <i>The passport shall be valid at least 90 days from the date of expiry of the requested visa;</i> • <i>The passport shall contain two blank pages at least.</i>
4	Photocopy of the original passport.
5	Photocopy of the UAE Residence Visa issued in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi (Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and Al Dhafra regions). <i>With regard to GCC citizens who do not hold the UAE Residence Visa, they can prove to reside/live within the Emirate of Abu Dhabi by submitting the below-listed documents:</i> • <i>Salary and employment certificate attesting that the applicant lives and works in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi;</i> • <i>Tawtheeq tenancy contract attesting that the applicant lives in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi or property deed, as well as last three-month water and electricity bills under the applicant's name.</i> <i>If the applicant does not work and is sponsored by his/her family member, the same above-listed documents related to his/her family member must be submitted.</i>
6	Cover letter originally signed by the EU relative.



	The cover letter must be addressed to the Visa Office of the Embassy of Italy in Abu Dhabi, detailing the travel dates, the itinerary and the visa duration request, as well as the address of the place where the applicant will lodge. In order to benefit from the status of family member of EU citizen, it shall be attested in the cover letter that the foreign citizen will be travelling together with the EU citizen, or will be reaching him/her at his/her place of residence in the EU, or will permanently move to Italy in order to reunite with him/her in Italy and will lodge at his/her accommodation.
7	Kinship certificate (both photocopied and original). - With regard to spouse of EU citizen, the following must be noted: - If the applicant is married to an Italian citizen WHO IS REGISTERED in the Register of Italians Living Abroad (AIRE - Anagrafe degli Italiani Residenti all'Estero), the Self-declaration duly filled in and signed by the Italian citizen shall be submitted, together with the cover letter (see no. 6); - If the applicant is married to an Italian citizen WHO IS NOT REGISTERED in the Register of Italians Living Abroad (AIRE - Anagrafe degli Italiani Residenti all'Estero), the marriage certificate issued by the competent Italian Municipality shall be submitted, together with the Self-declaration duly filled in and signed by the Italian citizen and the cover letter (see no. 6). <u>The marriage certificate must not be older than 6 months;</u> - If the applicant is married to a citizen of a EU member State other than Italy, he/she must submit the marriage certificate, both original and photocopied, <u>not older than 6 months</u>, to be translated into Italian by a legal translator accredited in the UAE. If the certificate is older than 6 months, the applicant must submit a recent declaration (not older than 6 months) issued in English by the Diplomatic-Consular Mission of the related EU Member State accredited in the UAE, attesting that the marriage has been registered by the competent Government Authorities of the EU State and the applicant and the EU concerned citizen are still married. - With regard to ascendants and descendants, birth certificates attesting names of both the parents and children shall be submitted bearing the consular legalization or the apostille. <u>All the kinship certificates, if issued by Authorities of extra-EU States, must be legally translated into Italian and legalized by the competent Italian Diplomatic-Consular Mission accredited in the country where the certificate has been issued. If the certificates have been issued by authorities headquartered in States party to the 1961 Hague Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents, the Apostille to be applied on the certificates can substitute the above-mentioned legalization requirements. For this purpose, the applicant must refer to the competent Government Authorities of the State where the authority which issued the certificate is headquartered.</u> All the kinship certificates must be submitted both original and photocopied, as well as legally translated into Italian language by a translator accredited in the UAE. For this purpose, kindly refer to the link below: https://ambabudhabi.esteri.it/it/servizi-consolari-e-visti/servizi-per-il-cittadino-italiano/albo-consolare-e-altri-servizi/elenco-traduttori-giurati-accreditati-presso-il-ministero-della-giustizia-emiratino/
9	Photocopies of passport and UAE Residence Visa of the EU citizen.
10	Proof of accommodation. The accommodation can be proved as follows: - Confirmed official hotel booking; - or - Invitation letter consisting in a declaration made by the host, confirming that the foreign citizen will lodge at his/her accommodation in Italy. The accommodation's full address, the host's phone number and the dates of stay of the foreigner must be mentioned. Photocopies of the host's passport and Italian ID shall be submitted. If the accommodation is rented by the host, the rental agreement must be attached, duly legalized by the competent Government Authorities. If the host owns the accommodation, the following documents shall be attached alternatively: - Photocopy of the property deed; - or - Photocopy of the cadastral certificates issued by the Italian Revenue Agency (Agenzia delle Entrate); - or - Photocopy of the certificate of registered residence issued by the Italian Ministry of Interior. If the applicant intends to travel also to other Schengen States in addition to Italy, based on the declarations made in the cover letter, the proof of accommodation, such as confirmed hotel bookings in each State to be visited, shall be submitted. If the applicant is a minor, his/her full name must be mentioned on the hotel and flight bookings together with the accompanying parents'.
11	Round-trip flight booking. If the applicant is a minor, his/her full name must be mentioned on the hotel and flight bookings together with the accompanying parents' full names.



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	<i>If the applicant intends to travel also to other Schengen States in addition to Italy, based on the declarations made in the cover letter, flight/train bookings related to the trips to the other States shall be submitted.</i> <u><i>The flight ticket of the EU family member must also be submitted in order to prove that the applicant will be travelling together with him/her.</i></u> IMPORTANT: the Visa Office will process only applications submitted no more than six months before the intended travel date and no later than 15 calendar days before the intended travel date. Applications submitted without compliance with the said time limits will be deemed unacceptable and immediately returned to the applicant by the BLS International's Staff. Furthermore, it must be noted that any fees paid to book the appointment will not be reimbursed.
12	If the applicant is a minor (below the age of 18), direct descendant of the foreign spouse of the EU citizen, the following is required: • Photocopy of passport and UAE Residence Visa of both the foreign parents (or legal guardians); • The parent who is not accompanying the minor has to contact the Italian Consular Office accredited in the State where he resides in order to fill in and sign the Consent Form (see for reference Assenso rilascio visti figli minori) in the presence of the Consular Officer in charge and get his/her signature on the Form legalized. • If the parent not accompanying the minor passed away, the death certificate must be submitted. Death certificates must be either apostilled pursuant to the 1961 Apostille Convention or duly legalized by the competent Italian Diplomatic-Consular Mission accredited in the State where the death certificate was issued. • Photocopied and original birth certificate bearing names of both the parents, duly legalized by the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The certificate must be legally translated into Italian or English language by a legal translator attested in the UAE. No birth certificate is required if the full name of both parents/legal guardians are mentioned (in English) in the applicant's passport. • Minor's full name must be mentioned on the hotel and flight bookings together with the accompanying parent's full name. Important: <u>originals and/or certified copies will be returned if a copy is provided.</u>

DECLARATION:

I understand that failing in submitting a complete set of ALL the above-listed documents may result in the refusal of my visa application. However, the submission of a complete file does not guarantee the issuance of the visa.

I understand that the Embassy of Italy reserves the right to request additional documents whether needed to properly process the application.

I understand that the time needed to process my visa application might be extended up to 15 days (45 days under particular circumstances pursuant to art. 23 of the Visa Code).

I, the undersigned, declare that I have read the information on the protection of personal data concerning the issuance of an entry visa in Italy and in the Schengen Area (General Data Protection Regulation/GDPR (EU) 2016/679, art.13) available on the website of the Embassy of Italy in Abu Dhabi.	Initials:
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E-mail address (capital letters)	Mobile number
Place and date	Applicant's signature