



Park Avenue Synagogue תל אביב

## A Jewish Journey to Russia

November 2019

### Russia Visa FAQ

Updated May 29, 2019

- I. Required Documentation for Both Approaches
- II. Helpful Tips for Russian Visa Application
- III. Applying through the Russian Consulate
- IV. Applying through ECVO concierge service

#### **I. Required Documentation for Both Approaches**

To apply for a Russian Visa you will need the following documents:

- Completed and signed VISA application,
- Passport
- Two passport-standard photographs,
- Invitation letter (provided either by Da'at for Russian Consulate or ECVO for their process)
- and a full itinerary, including hotel confirmation, which you may be asked to present.

Your passport must have two blank pages with the word "VISA" on top. Please note that your passport needs to be valid at least six months after your departure for this trip to Russia. Finally, you will need to provide your passport for two to four weeks; you should plan accordingly, especially if you are traveling in the summer.

To request an invitation letter, please call Da'at's customer service center immediately at (888) 811-2812. Da'at previously asked trip participants to reach out to them no later than 04/15/2019.

#### **II. Helpful Tips for Russian Visa Application**

Here are some helpful tips, based on questions from PAS' congregants, with filling out the online Visa application on the Russian consulate's website that is required for both options to get the Visa.

1. When you get to the "Visa" details section, you should be aware to answer the following questions accordingly:
  - The answer to Purpose of Visit is "TOURIST."
  - The answer to Visa category and type is "COMMON TOURIST."

2. When you get to the “Visit” details section, you should answer the following questions accordingly:
  - The answer to “Which institution are you going to visit?” is “None.”
  - When the application asks you to input the Itinerary you input two city names: MOSCOW and SAINT PETERSBURG.

When the application asks you “Do you plan to stay anywhere?” The answer is “YES” and you will need to provide the addresses of our hotels:

- Type of place of visit: Hotel  
Hotel name: FOUR SEASONS  
Address: ULITSA OKHOTNYY RYAD, MOSKVA, RUSSIA, 109012  
Telephone: +7 499 339-80-00
- Type of place of visit: Hotel  
Hotel name: FOUR SEASONS  
Address: VOZNESENSKY AVE, 1, SANKT-PETERSBURG, RUSSIA, 190000  
Telephone: +7 812 339-80-00

3. For the “last visit” details section, here are some helpful tip when listing countries that you have visited within the past 10 years:
  - If the custom stamp is inelible, do not include it on the list
  - And do not list more than 15 countries.

If you are applying through the Russian consulate you will click “Save & Submit.” If you are applying through ECVO, you will hit save but will *not submit the application*. This will allow ECVO to go back and edit your Visa application. Save your Application ID number for ECVO.

### **III. Applying Through the Russian Consulate**

To apply for a Russian Visa through the Russian consulate, you will first need to complete the online application. The link for the application is: [visa.kdmid.ru](http://visa.kdmid.ru). You, of course, will need the documents mentioned.

After you complete the online application, you will need to make an appointment at the Russian consulate. The link to make an online appointment is: <http://new-york.kdmid.ru/queue-en/>. Currently, we just learned there that there are no available appointments to get a Visa from the Russian consulate in New York City (as of 05/22/2019). The nearest appointment to get a Visa from the Russian consulate in Washington D.C. is 07/01/2019 (as of 05/22/2019).

The cost of a multiple entry, tourist visa (the one you will be applying for) is \$160. The processing fee for each visa is \$30. At the time of your appointment, you will also need a money order to the Russian consulate.

#### **IV. Applying Through ECVO Concierge Service**

Why use ECVO concierge service? You will not need to make an appointment and/or go to the Russian consulate. All you need to do to get your Russia Visa is to mail your completed online application, itinerary, US passport, two passport-standard photos, and your completed ECVO questionnaire (see questionnaire attached). They will take care of the rest.

They will be able to go in and edit your online application for you if there are any errors. The process takes about 15 business days. The total cost for a multiple entry visa is \$339. You will have to also pay for return shipping (\$25-\$55).

It is recommended that you scan over your completed packet to prepare ECVO for its arrival. You can send an email of the scanned packet to [visa@ecvotours.com](mailto:visa@ecvotours.com)

Fill out the simple questionnaire and state that you are applying for a TOURIST VISA with MULTIPLE ENTRIES.

**Please type in the following into your online visa application for tourist organization only if you are using ECVO Tours as a visa expeditor.**

The Answer is: Travel Company

Name of Organization: OOO ATLANTA

Address: 3/4 PYATNITSKAYA STREET, BLDG., 2ND FLOOR, MOSCOW, 115035, RUSSIA

Reference number: 017328 Confirmation number: 909123

If you have questions about the ECVO process, please feel free to reach out to Antoly Shifman at [visa@ecvotours.com](mailto:visa@ecvotours.com).

We at PAS are looking forward to traveling with you to Russia!