

This country is a proud member of the Schengen agreement, facilitating seamless travel within the Schengen Area comprising 26 European countries. Schengen Area allows for borderless travel between 26 countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. Spouses and children (under 21) of EU/EEA citizens may qualify for a visa fee waiver when travelling with or joining the EU/EEA family member, provided the necessary relationship documentation is presented. Visa policies are subject to change.

Passport - Cannot be older than 10 years and must be valid for at least 3 months from date of return with 2 valid, blank and consecutive pages. For NonS.A. Passports, please provide a valid South African permit (at least 6 months from the date of return). Copies of previous Schengen visas that have been issued in last 3 years to be submitted.

Application form - All necessary fields to be completed. The form must be signed by the applicant.

Complete and sign third party authorization form.

Color ID Photos - Two recent (2) Colour ID photos taken within the past 6 months as required by Schengen Standards. Must have a neutral expression, mouth closed and nothing covering the eyes, ears or forehead. Photos with red eyes from a flash will not be accepted. Please see website for further specifications. Please make sure to write your name behind the ID Photos.

Travel Insurance (SS) Please provide the Certificate pages of your travel insurance (Schedule of benefits, policy wording or claim form is not required). The Certificate page must display name of insured person, policy number, amount of cover (minimum ? 30,000) and duration of cover. An applicant's insurance should cover the full period of travel. Insurance must cover Worldwide or the entire Schengen area (even if Italy is the sole destination). Insurance must provision for evacuation, repatriation and emergency transportation

Proof of Accommodation (SS) It is essential to have 100% accommodation for the entire period of stay in the Schengen area, therefore all confirmed bookings of hotels / apartments / rentals / backpacker's are necessary. The applicant's name needs to appear on the accommodation bookings. If booked by a 3rd party and your name does not feature on the confirmation, please have the person who made the booking provide a copy of their I.D./Passport and a letter confirming that you are their guest. Applicants visiting Italian Citizens or temporary residence holders in Italy must have a Host Declaration/Lettera D?Invito form (Download from our website and completed by their host and accompanied by copy of their I.D./passport/permit (if the owner is non Italian and owns property in Italy, please have them add a proof of residence such as Title Deeds, telephone accounts or recent utility bills from the last 3 months that clearly features that person's name.)

Round Trip flight reservation in applicants name (specifying each entry into and exit from the Schengen area and proving transport to Italy) if travelling to more than one Schengen country proof of all internal means of transport (flight, train, bus, car rental, etc) is required. Important: It is advised not to pay for any reservations before you receive the visa. If you do not receive your visa on time, or if your visa is refused, the Consulate of Italy cannot be held responsible in any way for any losses encountered.

Most recent 90-day? salary bank? accounts statement (current/cheque? account) with the original ink bank stamp on each page (must reflect 30 euros per day). NO CREDIT CARD STATEMENTS ACCEPTED. Dependents who are sponsored will require a letter from their parent or spouse accompanied by a copy of their bank statements and ID. For Non-SA-Passport Holders, please provide original bank letters and statements. Copies will not be accepted.

Employment letter (on company letterhead and signed) confirming position, salary, leave approval dates and guarantee of return to South Africa. Freelancers to provide proof of work done (eg: agreements with prospective/current clients, receipts, etc). Self-employed individuals to provide company registration documents containing the passenger's name, SARS registration, a letter from an accountant, etc. STUDENTS are to provide a signed letter on the institution's letterhead identifying the passenger as per the passport, grade/course of study, confirmation of leave of absence from an institution, and confirmation that the passenger will commence studies on return to South Africa. Doctors and lawyers to provide proof of registration to the relevant board.

Professional invitation letter- Lettera d'invito per Affari - A Lettera di invito per affari is an OFFICIAL LETTER OF INVITATION from a company/organization in Italy on the OFFICIAL LETTERHEAD of said company/ organization. The letter needs to reflect the exact text presented on the LETTERA D'AFFARI form on our website (Please download from our website). Please note that all business letters should be accompanied by the Italian Chamber of Commerce documents (Visura Camerale) to qualify for a business visa. Please also enclose proof of Identification of the inviting person.

THE ITALIAN COMPANY MUST ALSO EMAIL THE INVITATION TO THE CONSULATE VISA OFFICE AT : visa.johannesburg@esteri.it - The host is required to furnish the traveler with proof of sending the email to facilitate seamless check-in and processing on the scheduled appointment day. Failure to provide this documentation would necessitate rescheduling, incurring additional costs for the applicant.

Seaman - Copy of maritime employment contract. Copy of vessel's/boat registration certificate. (Normally includes vessel's berth, tonnage, crew size, engines etc.) Intended boat itinerary showing the course/route the boat will take. Official letter signed by Italian Port Captain (Capitaneria di Porto) with port stamp confirming where the ship/vessel/cruise liner is or will be docked in Italy. This document MUST be included (No exceptions).

Proof of residence - Can be a recent utility bill, bank statement or telephone account from the last 3 months that features the name of applicant and the physical address. If residing with a 3rd party, please attach to the proof of residence, a copy of their I.D. as well as a signed letter confirming that you reside with them.

Copies of all previous Schengen visas

The processing time for Schengen visas depends on each individual case. However, applicants should always apply minimum 15 working days before the intended journey. Therefore, it's always best to double-check at the time of application to prevent disappointment. Do not confirm or pay for your air ticket until the visa is issued.

Cost - Kindly contact the office for a detailed quotation. Prices may vary due to exchange rate. Visas Zone charges a service fee.