

FAQ

Korea Electronic Travel Authorization (K-ETA)

Q1. What is K-ETA?

A. K-ETA (Korea Electronic Travel Authorization) is an online electronic travel authorization that visa-free foreign visitors need to obtain before entering the Republic of Korea for tourism, visiting relatives, participate in events or meetings, and business purposes other than profitable activities.

Q2. Who need to apply for K-ETA?

A. K-ETA is for nationals of 66 visa waiver countries and nationals of 46 designated visa-free countries. K-ETA is required for foreign nationals who intend to enter the Republic of Korea for tourism, visiting relatives, participate in events or meetings, and business purposes other than profitable activities.

- Please refer to 'K-ETA required countries' below.

1. Countries that concluded a visa waiver agreement with the Republic of Korea

Total 66 countries	
Asia (7)	Malaysia, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, Israel, Kazakhstan, Thailand, Turkey
Americas (25)	Guatemala, Grenada, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Commonwealth of Dominica, Mexico, Barbados, Bahamas, Venezuela, Brazil, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, Haiti, Antigua and Barbuda, El Salvador, Uruguay, Jamaica, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Trinidad and Tobago, Panama, Peru
Europe (30)	Greece, Netherlands, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Latvia, Russia, Romania, Luxembourg, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Malta, Belgium, Bulgaria, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain, Slovakia, Iceland, Ireland, Estonia, the United Kingdom, Austria, Italy, Czech Republic, Portugal, Poland, France,

	Finland, Hungary
Oceania (1)	New Zealand
Africa (3)	Lesotho, Morocco, Tunisia

2. Countries that are designated visa-free entry to the Republic of Korea

Total 46 countries	
Asia (10)	Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Macau, Japan, Kuwait, Hong Kong, Taiwan
Americas (7)	The United States, Canada, Guyana, Argentina, Honduras, Paraguay, Ecuador
Europe (11)	Monaco, Montenegro, Holy See, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, San Marino, Andorra, Albania, Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia
Oceania (13)	Guam, Nauru, New Caledonia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Palau, Fiji, Tonga, Tuvalu, Australia
Africa (5)	Republic of South Africa, Mauritius, Seychelles, Kingdom of Eswatini, Botswana

Q3. Is it mandatory to get a K-ETA when visiting Korea?

A. Yes. If a person, who is a national of a K-ETA required country, and does not have a K-ETA, he or she will not be allowed to board the flight or ship bound for the Republic of Korea.

Q4. What do I need to prepare to fill out the K-ETA application form?

A. You will need a valid passport, e-mail address, and a credit or debit card to pay the K-ETA application fee. If you are applying with your PC, instead of your mobile device, you will need an identification photo for uploading your facial image.

Q5. How long can I stay in Korea if I have a K-ETA?

A. Generally up to 90 days, but the allowed period of stay may differ by the nationality. Please check the below information.

Allowed Period of Stay by Country (Nationality)		
ALBANIA(30)	GUATEMALA(90)	PANAMA(90)
ANDORRA(30)	GUYANA(30)	PARAGUAY(30)
ANTIGUA-BARBUDA(90)	HAITI(90)	PERU(90)
ARGENTINA(30)	HOLY SEE(30)	POLAND(90)
AUSTRALIA(90)	HONDURAS(30)	PORTUGAL(90)
AUSTRIA(90)	HUNGARY(90)	QATAR(30)
BAHAMAS(90)	ICELAND(90)	REPUBLIC OF SERBIA(90)
BAHRAIN(30)	IRELAND(90)	ROMANIA(90)
BELGIUM(03M)	ISRAEL(90)	RUSSIA(60)
BOSNIA-HERCEGOVINA(30)	ITALY(90)	SAMOA(30)
BOTSWANA(90)	JAMAICA(90)	SAN MARINO(30)
BRAZIL(90)	JAPAN(90)	SAUDI ARABIA(30)
BRUNEI(30)	KAZAKHSTAN(30)	SEYCHELLES(30)
BULGARIA(90)	KIRIBATI(30)	SINGAPORE(90)
CANADA(06M)	KUWAIT(90)	SLOVAK(90)
CHILE(90)	LATVIA(90)	SLOVENIA(90)
CHINAP.R.(HONGKONG,90)	LESOTHO(60)	SOLOMON IS.(30)
CHINAP.R.(MACAO,90)	LIECHTENSTEIN(03M)	SOUTH AFRICA(30)
CHINA(TAIWAN,90)	LITHUANIA(90)	SPAIN(90)
COLOMBIA(90)	LUXEMBOURG(03M)	ST. KITTS-NEVIS(90)
COSTA RICA(90)	MALAYSIA(03M)	ST. LUCIA(90)
CROATIA(90)	MALTA(90)	ST. VINCENT(90)
CYPRUS(30)	MARSHALL ISLANDS(30)	SURINAM(03M)
CZECH(90)	MAURITIUS(30)	SWEDEN(90)
DENMARK(90)	MEXICO(03M)	SWITZERLAND(03M)
DOMINICA(90)	BARBADOS(90)	THAILAND(90)
DOMINICAN REP.(90)	MICRONESIA(30)	TONGA(30)
ECUADOR(90)	MONACO(30)	TRINIDAD-TOBAGO(90)
EL SALVADOR(90)	MONTENEGRO(30)	TUNISIA(30)
ESTONIA(90)	MOROCCO(90)	TURKEY(90)
ESWATINI(30)	NAURU(30)	TUVALU(30)
FIJI(30)	NETHERLANDS(03M)	U.A.E(90)
FINLAND(90)	NEW CALEDONIA(30)	UNITED KINGDOM(90)
FRANCE(90)	NEW ZEALAND(03M)	UNITED STATES(90)
GERMANY F.R(90)	NICARAGUA(90)	URUGUAY(90)
GREECE(03M)	NORWAY(90)	VENEZUELA(90)
GRENADA(90)	OMAN(30)	
GUAM(30)	PALAU(30)	

Q6. When do I need to apply for the K-ETA?

A. You should apply for the K-ETA at least 24 hours prior to boarding the flight or ship bound for the Republic of Korea.

Q7. How long does it take from submitting the K-ETA application to receiving the results?

A. The applicant can receive the results by e-mail, within 24 hours after completing the K-ETA application.

Q8. How much is the K-ETA fee? Can I get a refund if my application is refused?

A. K-ETA application fee is 10,000KRW (additional fees not included), and is non-refundable even if the application is denied. However, the application fee will be waived during the trial period from May 3 to August 31, 2021.

Q9. How do I pay for the K-ETA fee?

A. You can use debit cards or global credit cards such as VISA, Master, JCB, or Express.

Q10. How long is the validity period of a K-ETA?

A. The validity period of a K-ETA is 2 years from the date of approval. However, if the passport used for the K-ETA application expires in less than 2 years, that K-ETA approval will be valid until the passport expiration date.

Q11. In what cases do I need to re-apply for the K-ETA during the validity period?

A. Note that if there are any changes to your information (nationality, name, sex, date of birth, passport number, passport expiration date, infectious disease and criminal record) you are required to apply for a new K-ETA, even if the previous K-ETA is still valid.

Q12. Is there anything else I need to prepare when I am visiting Korea again within my K-ETA validity period?

A. Even if you are entering the Republic of Korea again within the validity of your K-ETA, you must update any changes to your purpose of entry, address

in Korea or contact information through the K-ETA website (My Application Status - e-Arrival Card) before entering Korea. The Ministry of Justice will not be responsible for any disadvantages caused due to failure of information update by the traveler.

Q13. I am from a K-ETA required country but I already have a valid Korean visa. Do I need to get a K-ETA?

A. No. If you have a valid Korean visa, you do not need to get a K-ETA.

Q14. I am from a K-ETA required country but I am a registered foreign resident in Korea. Do I need to get a K-ETA?

A. No. Residence Card holders (registered foreign residents) do not need to get a K-ETA.

Q15. Do flight or ship crew members need to get a K-ETA?

A. When a flight or ship crew member is entering the Republic of Korea as a crew member, that person does not need to get a K-ETA.

Q16. I want to travel to Jeju Island. Do I need to get a K-ETA?

A. No. Those who wish to travel directly only to Jeju Island do not need to get a K-ETA. If the traveler wishes to visit other places in Korea after visiting Jeju Island, that person needs to get a K-ETA before entry.

Q17. I am a transfer passenger. Do I need to get a K-ETA?

A. No. Transfer/transit passengers who are not entering Korea do not need to get a K-ETA.

Q18. I am a transfer passenger but I need to enter the Republic of Korea for my luggage connection. In this case, am I eligible for K-ETA exemption?

A. No. If you need to go through check-in process after entering for luggage connection, you need to get a K-ETA.

Q19. I have a valid ABTC. Do I need to get a K-ETA?

A. No. Valid ABTC holders will be able to receive their boarding pass without a K-ETA.

Q20. I am a diplomatic/official passport holder and I will visit Korea for official purposes. Do I need to get a K-ETA?

A. In principle, diplomatic and official passport holders are required to obtain a K-ETA. However, for those who requested for K-ETA exemption through relevant organizations in advance, and received approval from the Ministry of Justice, will not be required to get a K-ETA.

Q21. I am a member of the United States Forces Korea (USFK). Do I need to get a K-ETA?

A. No. According to the 'Agreement under Article IV of the Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States of America and the Republic of Korea, regarding Facilities and Areas and the Status of United States Armed Forces in the Republic of Korea (SOFA)', members of the United States Armed Forces (USFK service members) do not need to get a K-ETA. Note that you will need to present your DOD ID card instead of your passport upon check-in for issuance of your boarding pass.

Q22. Do dependents of members of the United States armed forces and members of the civilian component need to get a K-ETA?

A. Yes. In principle, dependents of USFK members and members of the civilian component are required to obtain a K-ETA. However, those who request K-ETA exemption through the competent authorities of the United States to the Ministry of Justice, and receive approval, they may be exempt from the K-ETA requirement.

Q23. Do I need to get a K-ETA every time I visit Korea?

A. No. Once you are approved of a K-ETA, you do not have to apply for 2 years. However, if the passport used for the K-ETA application expires in less than 2 years, that K-ETA approval will be valid until the passport expiration date.

Q24. Does my identification photo (face image) for my K-ETA application have to be the same as my passport photo?

A. No. It does not have to be the same photo, but should comply with the following conditions.

- Should be in color
- Should be in image file such as JPG
- Image size less than 100KB
- Pixel density less than 600x600
- No accessories such as hats, scarves, or sunglasses
- Recommend less colorful patterned clothing
- Full face, front view (75% of the image), eyes should be open looking straight at the camera

Q25. How long does it take to apply for a K-ETA?

A. It will take approximately 10 minutes.

Q26. How will my photo and personal information that were provided upon application for the K-ETA be used?

A. Information provided for the K-ETA application is collected in accordance with Article 7-3 (Electronic Travel Authorization) of the Immigration Act and Article 8-3 (ETA Issuance Criteria) of the Enforcement Regulations of the Immigration Act. Collected information will be stored in the Immigration Control Information System, and may be disclosed to other government agencies of the Republic of Korea in accordance with relevant domestic laws and regulations.

Q27. What happens if I submit false information on the K-ETA application?

A. In case of submitting false information, the K-ETA approval will be refused or cancelled, and that person may be subject to penalties or face entry restriction according to relevant Korean laws.

Q28. What do I do if I made a mistake on the application form?

A. Before submitting your application, you will be able to correct any mistakes that you made.

Q29. I received K-ETA approval with incorrect information. Will I be allowed to enter Korea?

A. You may face disadvantages such as entry denial. Please re-apply for your K-ETA.

Q30. How can I check my K-ETA results?

A. K-ETA approval results are sent to the e-mail address which the applicant provided upon application. You can also check your K-ETA approval status with your application number on the K-ETA official website.

Q31. If I have a K-ETA, am I allowed to work in Korea?

A. No. You cannot engage in profitable activities in Korea with a K-ETA. You must obtain a separate visa that allows you to work and participate in employment activities in Korea.

Q32. I am travelling with a friend, can we apply for K-ETA together?

A. Yes. One applicant can apply for up to 30 people, such as family members, and can proceed with the K-ETA payment as well. The K-ETA results for each person will be sent to the applicant's e-mail. Each applicant can also check the K-ETA approval status with the application number and passport

number on the K-ETA official website.

Q33. My K-ETA application was disapproved. What can I do to enter Korea?

A. You should visit a Korean Embassy (or Consulate) located in your jurisdiction and apply for an entry visa.

Q34. Can I fill out the K-ETA application in any language?

A. No. Only English is available for filling out the K-ETA application. The questions on the application form is available in English and Korean.

Q35. Where can I ask questions about K-ETA?

A. You can make inquiries online with 4 languages (Korean, English, Thai, and Russian) through the K-ETA official website 'Ask Us'.

Q36. During the current COVID-19 situation, who can apply for K-ETA and enter Korea?

A. Due to the COVID-19 situation, 91 countries out of 112 K-ETA required countries have been suspended visa-free entry. Therefore, as of May 2021, K-ETA will be implemented to nationals of 21 countries that can enter Korea without a visa. The 21 countries are as below.

* Guyana, Guam, New Caledonia, Nicaragua, Commonwealth of Dominica, Mexico, Monaco, Malta, the United States of America, Barbados, Holy See (Vatican City State), Venezuela, San Marino, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Kitts-Nevis, Slovenia, Ireland, Andorra, Albania, the United Kingdom, Palau
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※ K-ETA eligible countries are subject to change based on the COVID019 situation. Please check the website announcements for details.

Q37. During the COVID-19 situation, do I still need to submit a negative PCR test result after I receive a K-ETA?

A. During the COVID-19 situation, quarantine related documents such as

negative PCR test results are required even if you receive K-ETA approval.