

Digital Nomad Visa: Visa and residence for digital nomads



# Visa and residence permit for international remote workers

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#### What is it?

In both cases, it authorizes foreign professionals to reside and work remotely from Spain through electronic means, either on a self-employed basis or as employees of companies located outside Spanish territory. Both categories are regulated by **Law 14/2013**, of **27 September**, on support for entrepreneurs and their internationalisation, and they facilitate the attraction of international digital talent.

## General requirements

- For citizens of a third country, i.e., not citizens of the EU, EEA, or Switzerland
- Employment or professional relationship:
  - You can apply as an employee or as a freelancer.
    - Employment contract or professional activity with a foreign company.
    - The company must have been in operation for at least 1 year.
    - The employee or freelancer must prove **at least 3 months** of prior employment or professional relationship.
- Income:
  - Most of the income must come from work or professional activity carried out abroad.
  - Up to 20% of income may come from work or professional activity carried out for Spanish companies.
- Qualification or professional experience:
  - University degree or equivalent, or, a minimum of 3 years of relevant work experience.
- Sufficient financial means (must come from working income): minimum gross monthly income of
  €2,762.66 / €33,151.92 gross per year (subject to adjustment by the Administration) plus an
  additional percentage for dependent family members.

#### Who benefits?

- Foreign professionals who work remotely for companies located outside Spain.
- Immediate family members of the remote worker: spouse or legal partner, children under 18 or dependent adults, and dependent ascendants.



### Steps to follow



#### Prepare all the necessary documentation.



#### Submit the application:

- This may be done through the Spanish Consulate in the country of origin (visa) or directly from Spain (residence permit), provided the individual is in a situation of legal stay or residence.
- If done from Spain, the procedure is processed by the Unidad de Grandes Empresas y Colectivos Estratégicos (UGE-CE).



Payment of the administrative fee.



#### **Decision:**

- Spanish Consulates abroad have 10 working days to make a decision, although this period is often extended.
- The UGE-CE has 20 business days to respond.
- If there is no response from the UGE-CE within this period, positive administrative silence
  applies (i.e., the request is deemed to have been accepted).

## Deadlines and duration

- Initial visa: up to 1 year.
- Residence permit: up to 3 years.
- Renewal: The residence permit can be renewed for periods of 2 years.

### **Advantages**

- Fast and simplified procedure.
- Promotes the support of family members.
- Allows access to the special tax regime (Beckham Law) with tax advantages for employees working for a company outside Spain.
- After 5 years, you can apply for long-term residence.
- It is taken into consideration when applying for Spanish nationality by residence.





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