



## DO I NEED AN AIRPORT TRANSIT VISA?

### Step 1: Do I need an airport transit visa?

Nationals of the following countries<sup>1</sup> require an airport transit visa (category A) for transit at a German airport:

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- India
- Iran
- Iraq
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Mali
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Somalia
- South Sudan
- Sri Lanka
- Sudan
- Syria
- Turkey

### Step 2: Is an airport transit visa sufficient for my trip?

An airport transit visa is not sufficient if

- change of terminals at the airport is required.
- Luggage collection to recheck in for onward flight.
- stay exceeds 24 hours
- the German airport has no International Transit Area<sup>2</sup>.

The airline(s) can provide information about these questions.

Should one of the above apply please apply for a Schengen visa.

### Step 3: Do I benefit from an exception to the Airport Transit requirement?

If you fall under one of the following categories you do not need an airport transit visa (Art. 3 Visa Code):

- holders of a valid uniform visa, national long-stay visa or residence permit issued by a Member State of the European Union;

---

<sup>1</sup> certain exceptions apply to Jordan and Turkey

<sup>2</sup> Only five airports in Germany have an International Transit Area enabling you to transit without formally entering the Schengen area. You can find them on our website.



Last updated: Januar 2021

- third-country nationals holding the valid residence permits issued by Andorra, Canada, Japan, San Marino or the United States of America guaranteeing the holder's unconditional readmission;
- third-country nationals holding a valid visa for a Member State or for a State party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area of 2 May 1992, Canada, Japan or the United States of America, or when they return from those countries after having used the visa;
- family members of citizens of the Union as referred to in Article 1(2)(a);
- holders of diplomatic passports;
- flight crew members who are nationals of a contracting Party to the Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation.

Nevertheless please check upfront with your airline to avoid any inconvenience as every airline has its own terms of transportation.

#### **Step 4: What do I have to do now?**

In case you benefit from an exemption, we wish you a good flight!

In case you decide to apply for a Schengen or airport transit visa please follow the information on our website: <https://port-of-spain.diplo.de/tt-en/service/-/2204418>

If you have already obtained a Schengen or airport transit visa within the last 59 month, you can submit your visa application via a courier service of your choice (please note: there is no guarantee that the copying process of your fingerprints will be successful). Please make sure that your application includes the following documents:

- signed application form
- all required documents Original and copy (in case Originals need to be returned)
- visa fee: approx. 100\$US cash or credit card details (copy front and back of card and an authorization letter and full address under which the card is registered with the bank). Please note that the change can only be returned in TTD.
- your passport
- a pre-paid airway bill with your account number visible (9 digits) to enable the Embassy to return your passport with visa attached.