

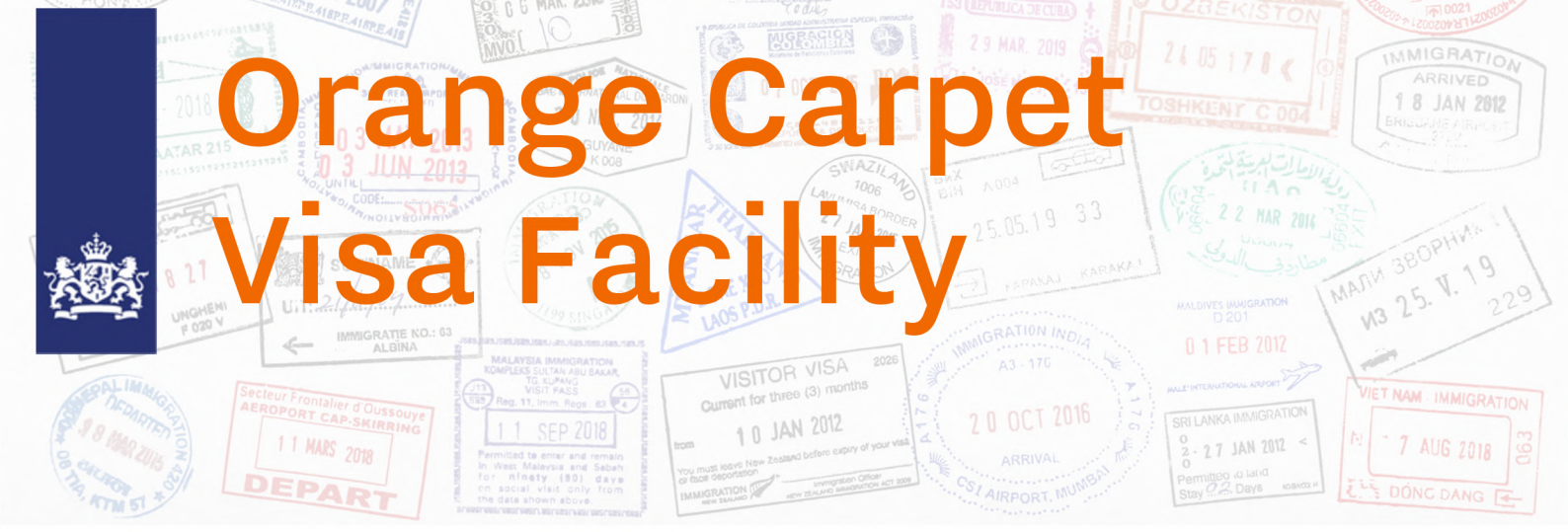


# Orange Carpet

## Visa Facility South Africa

The Netherlands is committed to promoting sustainable trade and investment with South Africa. In support of which, the Dutch Missions in South Africa (in Pretoria and Cape Town) have rolled out the “**ORANGE**” carpet for frequent business travelers to the Netherlands by offering companies a simplified visa application process **the Orange Carpet Visa Facility (OCVF).**





# Orange Carpet Visa Facility

## Benefits

- ✓ A long-term, multiple-entry visa will be issued if the requirements are met.
- ✓ The OCVF is available for (a select group of) employees, including their immediate family members (spouse and children under 18 years of age).
- ✓ Exemption from having to provide confirmed flight and hotel reservations as well as proof of financial means.

## Eligibility

- ✓ Dutch organisations that have a branch/subsidiary in South Africa or vice versa.
- ✓ South African organisations that have a long term, substantial (business) relationship with an organisation in the Netherlands.
- ✓ Activities and sectors mentioned in [WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control](#) and the [FMO exclusion list](#) do not qualify for support from the Dutch government, and are therefore not eligible for OCVF.
- ✓ The Dutch government supports Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in international business and expects companies to operate according to the [Guidelines of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development \(OECD\)](#).
- ✓ For more information on CSR also see [Netherlands Enterprise Agency](#).



# Orange Carpet Visa Facility

Application to the OCVF is a two-step process:

## Step 1

**Apply for membership with the Embassy** | This is free of charge

- a. You have to submit an application form | Wet signature is required
- b. Authorised signatory document | Wet signature is required
- c. CIPC Registration
- d. KVK Registration | See OCVF Application Form

- ☒ You will receive a protocol number if the application is successful.
- ☒ Upon receipt of your protocol number you may proceed to Step 2.

## Step 2

**Applying for a visa under the Orange Carpet Visa Facility**

Once you have applied for OCVF Orange Carpet membership and you have been accepted into the OCVF-program, you, and if applicable, your staff may apply for a visa, via VFS.

### Supporting Documents for Visa Application with Orange Carpet Visa Facility

The following supporting documents must be submitted to VFS with your visa application:

- ☒ One (1) fully completed and signed visa application form;
- ☒ One (1) passport photo (See [Schengen Photo Specifications](#));
- ☒ One (1) valid applicant passport;  
(valid for at least three months upon leaving the Schengen area)
- ☒ Copy of international medical insurance policy, including medical emergency evacuation cover (equivalent to EUR30.000), corresponding to the (desired) period of stay;
- ☒ A recommendation/support letter from your company, signed by (one of) the designated OCVF contact person(s). The letter should clearly state that the applicant is an OCVF beneficiary; the OCVF registration number; what the purpose and destination of the trip is and the requested visa duration.
- ☒ \* A visa fee will be payable to VFS upon submission of your visa application.



It is the **responsibility of the OCVF member company** to inform the Embassy of any changes in authorised signatories prior to submitting a new visa application with VFS. A new authorized signatory form has to be requested from [pre-trade@minbuza.nl](mailto:pre-trade@minbuza.nl)



It is not the duty of the Embassy to follow up on changes in signatories of companies once visa applications have been submitted.



Should a **supporting company letter** be submitted with visa application documents and said letter is **signed by an unauthorized signatory**, this will result in the **immediate forfeiture of OCVF membership** and will the **visa application/s be denied**.





# Orange Carpet Visa Facility

## Points of Attention

- ❗ Improper use of visas can affect the decision on and the validity period of your visas.
- ❗ By participating in the OCVF, you guarantee the return of the traveler and you are able and willing to vouch financially for all costs that might occur during or following the stay of the visa applications in all Schengen countries, when they are travelling on a visa that has been obtained via the OCVF.
- ❗ Please note on arrival at any Schengen border, the local immigration authorities have the right to ask you to show your (legalized) invitation, proof of sufficient financial means (cash or a valid credit card), a hotel reservation (in case of a business trip) and a medical travel insurance. If you cannot provide this information, you might be refused to enter the Schengen area by the local immigration authorities.
- ❗ The OCVF does not apply when your main destination in Europe is not in the Netherlands. Your main stay determines which Schengen country should issue your visa. This is a legal directive following the Schengen Visa Code and can thus not be deviated from.
- ❗ The Consular Department may request additional documents and/or decide on different validity periods for visas.
- ❗ In case of minor children (younger than 18 years) that are accompanying the employee on his/her business trip, the following additional documents have to be attached to the applications of the children:
  1. A written consent form, from both parents and/or the parents' signatures on the application form;
  2. A copy of the parents' passports.
- ❗ The OCVF does not apply to clients or business partners of your company.
- ❗ The OCVF can be cancelled at any time by either party by written notification.
- ❗ If the person desires to stay longer than 90 days (long stay) within the Schengen area or the Netherlands for business purposes, the short-term visa is not valid. For this one has to apply for a permit for provisional sojourn (or MVV), which will be processed through the Embassy, but decided upon by the Immigration and Naturalization Services (IND) of the Ministry of Justice and Security in the Netherlands.

For more details pertaining to the MVV procedures visit [Ministry of Justice and Security](#)



# Orange Carpet Visa Facility

For any questions or further information on the

Orange Carpet Visa Facility

email [pre-trade@minbuza.nl](mailto:pre-trade@minbuza.nl)

## Registration for OCVF

2 step process before visa is issued.

1. Join OCVF with registration
2. Application for visa

To join OCVF you are kindly requested to fill out the application form and send it with the required supporting documentation to [pre-trade@minbuza.nl](mailto:pre-trade@minbuza.nl)

