



## **Travelling to Pakistan**

French nationals traveling to Pakistan require a visa unless their visit is for business purposes. For tourism and other types of visas, French travelers must submit a visa application. The process requires several essential documents, including a valid passport, a completed visa application form, proof of travel (such as a round-trip ticket), details of accommodation, the visa fee as per the type of visa, and any additional documents that may vary depending on the specific visa category.

The visa application can be completed entirely online through the official portal at <a href="https://visa.nadra.gov.pk/">https://visa.nadra.gov.pk/</a>. Applying for an e-visa is the simplest and most convenient method for French travelers, with most applications approved within 15 days. The e-visa permits a stay in Pakistan for up to 30 days, making it an ideal option for those traveling for tourism or short-term visits.

For French business travelers, Pakistan offers additional flexibility. France is listed as a Business Visa List (BVL) country, and to encourage foreign investment, the Pakistani government grants 5-year multiple-entry business visas to businessmen from BVL countries. Most importantly, French nationals applying for a business visa are eligible for a visa on arrival, allowing them to skip the pre-arrival application process.

While Pakistan offers straightforward visa procedures, French travelers should be aware of potential challenges at airports, such as flight delays, long waiting lines, and language barriers. It is not uncommon for local airlines to experience sudden cancellations and delays, often with limited information provided by airport or airline staff. Business travelers should factor in these possible disruptions when planning their trips.

For French nationals visiting Pakistan for business, it is advisable to have contact details for local business partners or hosts who can assist in navigating any potential challenges. Additionally, travelers should ensure they are familiar with local business etiquette, including the importance of formal introductions, exchanging business cards, and respecting cultural norms during meetings.

When traveling to Pakistan, security is an important consideration, particularly for business travelers. While major cities such as Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi are generally safe for foreign visitors, certain regions, particularly near the Afghan border and areas in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, may pose higher security risks. Travelers are advised to stay informed about local security conditions, avoid unnecessary travel to high-risk areas, and follow guidance from local authorities. It is recommended to hire reputable local transport services and stay in secure accommodations. For updated information on security and travel advisories, French nationals can refer to the French government's travel advisory for Pakistan at Conseils aux Voyageurs - Pakistan.