

LICENSED AGENT PARTNER

Vanuatu Citizenship by Investment

A practical guide to eligibility, cost, timeline, and what to expect
— based on current 2026 program rules.

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Why Vanuatu

\$130,000

from, single applicant

90+

visa-free / eVisa
countries

0

residency days
required

No

interview or language
test

Vanuatu's citizenship by investment program, established under the Vanuatu Citizenship Act CAP 112, remains one of the fastest routes to a second passport available today. There is no requirement to relocate, and Vanuatu permits dual and multiple citizenship — you do not need to give up your current passport.

Read this before you apply: Since November 2025, all applicants and family members must attend an in-person biometrics appointment at a Representative Office in Vanuatu, Hong Kong, or Dubai (UAE). This is separate from any residency requirement — you still do not need to live in Vanuatu, but biometrics cannot be completed remotely. See page on Process for details.

Investment Options

Option	From	Structure
Development Support Program (DSP)	\$130,000	Non-refundable government contribution, single applicant
Other fund-based options	Varies	Structure and pricing change periodically — ask your licensed agent for current terms

Published figures for secondary investment options vary significantly between sources. We do not publish unverified pricing — your agent will confirm current terms for your specific case.

Additional fees to budget for

- Due diligence review: approximately \$5,000–\$5,500 per applicant
- ID card and birth certificate issuance: \$1,000 per person
- Biometrics appointment: \$1,000 (in Vanuatu) to \$3,000+ (Dubai or consular visit, plus travel costs if applicable)
- Agent and legal service fees: vary by provider

Budget accordingly: The advertised \$130,000 covers the government contribution only. Total cost including due diligence, biometrics, and service fees is typically higher — ask for a full, itemised quote before proceeding.

Application Process & Realistic Timeline

STEP 1 Eligibility check & document preparation	STEP 2 Application submitted for due diligence	STEP 3 Commission approval & investment payment	STEP 4 Biometrics appointment (in person)
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Government review of a complete application typically takes **30–60 days**. However, this figure covers Commission processing only. The realistic end-to-end timeline — including gathering documents, due diligence, and travelling for your biometrics appointment — is commonly **3 to 4 months** from your first consultation to passport in hand.

Example: An applicant who engaged an agent in January had police certificates ready in 6 weeks, due diligence clearance in 4 days, Commission review at their next scheduled meeting (10 days), then travelled for biometrics. Total time from consultation to passport: roughly 14 weeks.

What You'll Need

- Valid passport copy (all applicants)
- Birth certificate, and marriage certificate where applicable
- Police clearance certificate (no criminal record)
- Proof of source of funds
- Bank reference letter
- Passport-style photographs
- Curriculum vitae / résumé

Family Inclusion

A single application can include:

- Legally recognised spouse
- Children under 18
- Unmarried children aged 18–25 in full-time education
- Parents aged 50+ who are financially dependent on the main applicant

Age thresholds and eligibility rules can be updated by the Citizenship Commission — confirm current criteria with your agent.

Where a Vanuatu Passport Takes You

Vanuatu passport holders can access approximately 90–100+ destinations without a prior visa, on arrival, or via eVisa/eTA — figures vary by counting methodology, so treat any single number as approximate.

Regions with strong access include:

- **Asia:** Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, the Philippines
- **Caribbean:** The Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- **Pacific:** Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Solomon Islands
- **Other:** Russia (under a mutual visa waiver), and a number of African and Latin American states

Important: As of 2025, Vanuatu passport holders do NOT have visa-free access to the Schengen Area (suspended by the EU Council) or the United Kingdom (visa required since July 19, 2023). Entry requirements change periodically — always verify current rules before travel.

Tax Benefits

Vanuatu levies no personal income tax, capital gains tax, inheritance tax, or wealth tax. This makes citizenship attractive for entrepreneurs, investors, and holders of internationally diversified assets seeking a stable, tax-neutral base — though your existing tax residency obligations elsewhere are not automatically affected simply by holding a second passport. Consult a qualified tax advisor about your specific situation.

Vanuatu vs Other Programs

Program	From	Timeline	Residency
Vanuatu	\$130,000	30–60 days processing (~3–4 months end-to-end)	Not required (biometrics visit required)
Dominica	\$200,000	6–9 months	Not required
Grenada	\$235,000	4–6 months	Not required

Dominica and Grenada currently retain visa-free access to the Schengen Area and UK, unlike Vanuatu. Vanuatu remains faster and lower-cost at entry; Caribbean programs currently offer broader European mobility.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to give up my current citizenship?

No. Vanuatu allows dual and multiple citizenship, so you keep your existing passport.

Can my family apply together?

Yes. Spouse, children under 18 or in education up to 25, and dependent parents aged 50+ can be included on one application.

Is a visit to Vanuatu required?

Yes, for biometrics. Since November 2025, all applicants must attend an in-person appointment in Vanuatu, Hong Kong, or Dubai. There is no requirement to live in the country before or after.

What happens if my application is rejected?

Rejections are rare with correctly prepared documents. Government due diligence fees are generally non-refundable — ask your agent about exact terms before applying.

Speak with a licensed agent

Get a personalised eligibility assessment within 24 hours.

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