

Visa for visiting family and friends

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General information:

- The applicant (Namibian citizen or foreign citizen with a valid residence permit for Namibia) can
 apply for a short term visa for visiting family and friends to Germany. The German Embassy in
 Windhoek also represents various other Schengen countries, please check our website for the
 updated list.
- Please note that the application has to be submitted **personally** and only **by appointment at the German Embassy.** It cannot be submitted earlier than 6 months before the date of travel.
- The application will usually be **processed within 15 days** upon submission of the complete visa application. Therefore, applicants are strongly encouraged to apply well in advance of their actual travel dates.
- If the travel date is imminent or lies within two weeks of the application date, please postpone the trip. In general, the German Embassy is not able to expedite the process.
- The **visa application fee** is the <u>equivalent of EUR 80.00</u> **in NAD.** This non-refundable fee is payable in cash or by credit card when applying.
- Each applicant must submit a separate and complete set of the documents.
- Original documents must be submitted with 1 simple copy.
- Further documentation may be requested in each individual case.
- Please see our website for additional information: Website of the German Embassy Windhoek (www.windhoek.diplo.de)

Please read the following checklist, fill in the application form completely and provide the original documents plus 1 simple copy (only <u>complete</u> applications can be processed!)

Submission of the following documents does **not** guarantee that a visa will be granted.

Please sort the documents exactly in the following order:

- 1 duly completed visa application form
 - please open the online application form Videx (www.videx.diplo.de)
 - fill it in fully and correctly in English or German
 - download the completed form as a PDF-file, then
 - print it
 - date and sign it
- 1 recent passport photograph according to biometric specifications
- Original passport or travel document valid for at least 3 months after the intended date of departure from the territory of the Schengen area. The passport/travel document must contain at least two blank pages and must have been issued within the last 10 years.
- Provide a copy of a) the passport data page, b) previous Schengen visas within last 3 years and c) valid USA/UK visas if available.
- For non-Namibian citizens: Proof of legal residence in Namibia, which allows reentering Namibia
 upon the end of the journey. Original plus 1 copy of Permanent Resident card and re-entry
 permit.
- A letter of invitation from the person the applicant is visiting in Germany, which may take the form of sponsorship or private accommodation. The invitation letter should include the address, period of stay and contact information of the host. If applicable, a confirmation that the cost is covered by the host is needed. The invitation letter together with a copy of the German passport / ID / resident permit of the inviting person has to be submitted along with the application form. For the period the applicant is not staying with the host while in Germany and / or travelling to other Schengen countries a travel itinerary including hotel accommodation reservation or similar confirmation of accommodation for the entire trip in the Schengen area (no final booking needed).
- A reservation for a round-trip airline ticket with the applicant's name (no final booking needed).
- Travel/medical insurance (coverage for medical expenses/repatriation/pre-existing: EUR 30,000, valid for the entire Schengen area for the duration of the applicant's planned stay). It is a requirement that claims against the insurance company must be recoverable in a Member State. The insured party, policy validity period, geographical coverage and schedule of benefits must be mentioned in the policy schedule/certificate.
- An original letter from the applicant's employer confirming employment, duration of recruitment, status, income and upcoming granted leave.
 - Students must provide proof of enrolment at an educational institution. An **original letter** from the school, signed and dated (with permission of absence or confirmation of school holidays) is necessary.
- Self-employed applicants must provide an **original** current printout of business registration.
- Proof of the applicant's financial circumstances (original 3 months of bank statements or fixed deposit statements) from a local account. Statements need to have a bank letter head with the name of the account holder and need to be originally stamped by the bank. Online transaction records without account holder's names and not on bank letter head are not accepted or an original formal obligation letter (Verpflichtungserklärung) of the sponsor (if applicable).

For **minors** (below 18), generally both parents / legal guardians must apply in person (with the child) and must sign the application form personally at the German Embassy in Windhoek on the booked appointment. The unabridged birth certificate needs to state the name(s) of the parents.