# **Keene Luxury Travel's Guide to Passports & Visas**



For easy navigation, feel free to click one of the subjects listed below to hop directly to that page.

Passports | Visas

### **Yellow Fever Waiver**

Information for a Medical Waiver for Yellow Fever shot can be found on the CDC's website at CDC International **Regulation and Certificate Requirements** 

### **Visiting Canada - Important Information**

We are advising all of our clients that are on a voyage including Canadian ports of the following information regarding Canadian entry requirements

### **Proper Documentation While Visiting Canada:**

- U.S. citizens ARE NOT required to obtain a Canadian Visa.
- If you are not an American citizen to verify if your nationality requires a Canadian visa, please visit the following Canadian Immigration Website
- Canadian officials will not permit guests to remain onboard while in a Canadian port without proper documentation, so you will be denied boarding if the visa is not presented at the pier at the time of your scheduled cruise departure. To learn more — click here.
- If you are a Non-U.S. or Non-Canadian citizen, you will be denied boarding without compensation if you do not hold the proper VISA documents

#### Past Criminal Convictions may deny you entry to Canada:

- The Canadian Government is strictly enforcing entry requirements and as a result some U.S. and Canadian citizens with past criminal records or convictions may be refused entry into Canada.
- Almost all convictions including DWI and DUI (Driving While Intoxicated and Driving Under the Influence) and petty crimes and misdemeanors may render a person inadmissible to regardless of how long ago they occurred.
- It is recommended that persons who have been charged in the past or who have past convictions, no matter how petty or small, obtain the necessary documents before attempting to enter

To learn more about applying for these documents we strongly recommend you visit the following website for details — click here.

Regent Seven Seas Cruises does not have control over such matters. If guest is denied entry into for whatever reason no refunds will be forthcoming.

## **Passport Regulations**

New regulations for passport applications began on **April 1, 2011**. For first-time applicants or **those who have lost** their passports.

As of Friday, April 1, the U.S. Department of State now requires the full names of the applicant's parent(s) to be listed on all certified birth certificates to be considered as primary evidence of U.S. citizenship for all passport applicants, regardless of age. Certified birth certificates missing this information are no longer acceptable as evidence of citizenship.

We can already see this causing problems for some travelers. Remember, if you can't present the fully-completed birth certificate, you can submit a combination of "Early Public Records," which include the following:

- Baptismal certificate
- Hospital birth certificate
- Census record
- Early school record
- Family bible record
- Doctor's record of post-natal care

Early Public Records are not acceptable when presented alone.

#### Who needs a birth certificate?

The Department of State requires that all first-time passport applicants, anyone who has lost their passport and anyone under the age of 16 use a birth certificate to obtain a passport.

Want to know the full procedure? Visit the State Department's website, here.

It is the policy of Regent Seven Seas Cruises to require passports for all travelers for all voyages, regardless of guests' nationality or ports of call and countries visited. This includes U.S. citizens, traveling to or from Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean and Bermuda to have a passport to enter or re-enter the United States. Please obtain or renew your passports early. Additionally, it is required that all passports be valid 6 months after the disembarkation date.

### **HOW TO OBTAIN OR RENEW A PASSPORT**

For detailed information on obtaining or renewing a passport, please visit the State Department's web site at: www.travel.state.gov

Additionally, you may visit the following independent companies for passport instructions and application assistance.

- Passport and Visas website at www.passportsandvisas.com
- Visa Central (a CIBT company) website at www.visacentral.com/rssc

### **Travel Documentation and Health Advisory**

In order to travel abroad, a valid passport is required for all U.S. and Canadian citizens. Passport Cards or a copy of a passport are not accepted. Most countries require that passports be valid for at least (6) months beyond the date of your return to the U.S. or Canada. Passports must have sufficient empty pages for visas that are required during the cruise. World Cruise travelers are recommended to have six (6) empty pages. Please obtain or renew your passports early. For more information on obtaining or renewing a U.S. passport, visit the State Departments web site at: <u>Travel.State.Gov</u>. Passport instructions and application forms can also be downloaded from the Visa Central website at www.visacentral.com/rssc.

PLEASE NOTE: As of January 1, 2016, U.S. passport holders will no longer be able to add additional visa pages to passports. Passport holders in need of additional pages will need to renew their passport prior to sailing. It is the policy of Regent Seven Seas Cruises to require passports for ALL travelers for all voyages, regardless of guests' nationality and ports of call and countries visited.

These are the visa requirements for U.S. and Canadian passport holders who reside in the United States only. Guests holding non-U.S. passports should check with their local country's consulates or Visa Central for their individual requirements. Entry requirements are subject to change at any time without advance notice from various governments. Please review the information to determine which countries require a visa and how those visas may be obtained. If you are a U.S. or Canadian passport holder residing in the U.S. and an independent visa is required, guests may download and print visa applications for any upcoming Regent Seven Seas cruise on Visa Central's website.

Visa requirements must be verified and obtained approximately 90 days prior to sailing. Required visas by cruise may be found at www.visacentral.com/rssc.

Log on to Visa Central: and if doesn't automatically populate with the Regent Seven Seas Cruise account then enter 75010 in the upper right-hand corner where it says "Account #/Log-In Code" and then click Sign In, this will take you to the Regent homepage.

It is the responsibility of each guest to obtain the proper Visas, Passports and Inoculations for their cruise. Keene Luxury Travel and Regent Seven Seas cruises will provide information only, but be aware that individual countries have been known to change regulations without notice.

Immunizations and health requirements vary by country. As these may also change without notice, we suggest you consult with your physician or local health department or visit the travel section of the website for the Center for <u>Disease Control and Prevention</u> for the latest information.

Please remember it is extremely important to secure your visa prior to arrival for embarkation. Guests who deviate their embarkation or disembarkation port from the scheduled itinerary should research the foreign entry/exit requirements for that country. Regrettably, Regent Seven Seas Cruises will, due to government regulations, have to deny boarding to any guest who fails to have the appropriate visas, inoculations and travel documentation.

## **Top Visa Destinations**

#### **Australia**

All guests must obtain an ETA (Electronic Travel Authority) when entering Australia. This applies to embark/debark and in transit guests. Visit Visa Central or Visit the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs.

### China

All guests will need to discuss their travel itinerary with their visa provider. Depending on how many ports visited or pre/post land packages are included, guests will need either a single, double or multiple entry visa. See information for Regent's preferred provider at Visa Central

Hong Kong: No visa will be required when you embark/debark here, UNLESS you are participating in a mainland China pre/post land package.

### India

All guests will need to discuss their travel itinerary with their visa provider. Depending on how many ports visited or pre/post land packages are included, guests will need either a single, double or multiple entry visa. See information for Regent's preferred provider at Visa Central. Regent is accepting either the evisa or the tourist visa.

### Russia

If you are only participating in shore excursions arranged by the cruise line, you will NOT be required to obtain a Russian visa in advance of sailing. If you intend to travel independently, you must apply or a Russian visa prior to departure. For voyages calling on St. Petersburg, Russia - The Russian government and local officials have instituted a time-slot entry system for tour operators and tour guides to control traffic flow and prevent congestion at the port. Per regulations, private tours that have been arranged outside of Regent Seven Seas Cruises may not depart until 90 minutes from the ship's arrival time (valid only for the first day of ship's stay). Thus, guests traveling on independent arrangements will not be permitted to disembark until 90 minutes after the ship's arrival.

### Visa Quick Check

Does your destination require a visa? - Check on Visa Central