



Mobility: Immigration alert

October 2023

Costa Rica

Increased period of authorized stay for visa-exempt business visitors and other non-residents

Executive summary

Effective 11 September 2023, business visitors and other non-residents who do not require a visa for admission to Costa Rica based on their nationality are eligible to enter the country for up to 180 days, up from 90 days previously.

Key developments

Visa-exempt nationals who are granted an initial period of stay of less than 90 days are eligible for one extension of up to 90 days, for a cumulative period of stay of no more than 180 days. Visa-exempt nationals who are granted an initial stay of 90 days or more are not eligible to extend their stay.

Visitors and other non-residents who require a visa to enter Costa Rica (i.e., "visa nationals") remain eligible to enter Costa Rica for up to 30 days. However, those who are granted an initial period of stay of less than 30 days are eligible for one extension for a cumulative period of stay of no more than 90 days.

Impact on employers

These changes are expected to benefit employers who seek to send their employees to Costa Rica for business travel.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

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