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EDITION**

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MAURITIUS

an expat's guide

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an expat's guide

Editorial

A dream at your doorstep!

Do you dream of a new life, a happy retirement, or are you ready to invest in an expatriation project? The pearl of the Indian Ocean, Mauritius, offers many opportunities. Mauritius' idyllic landscapes and tropical climate are captivating, its pluralistic culture from Africa, Asia, and Europe is fascinating, its growing economy is remarkable, the kindness of the population is welcoming, and the island's stability reassuring. Mauritius attracts skilled foreign professionals and investors dreaming of combining a pleasant living environment with professional opportunities and tax benefits, as well as providing retirees with the perfect place to spend the rest of their lives.

The Expat Guide of Expat.com provides you with useful and concrete information and advice to help you achieve your expatriation goals, whether alone or with your family.

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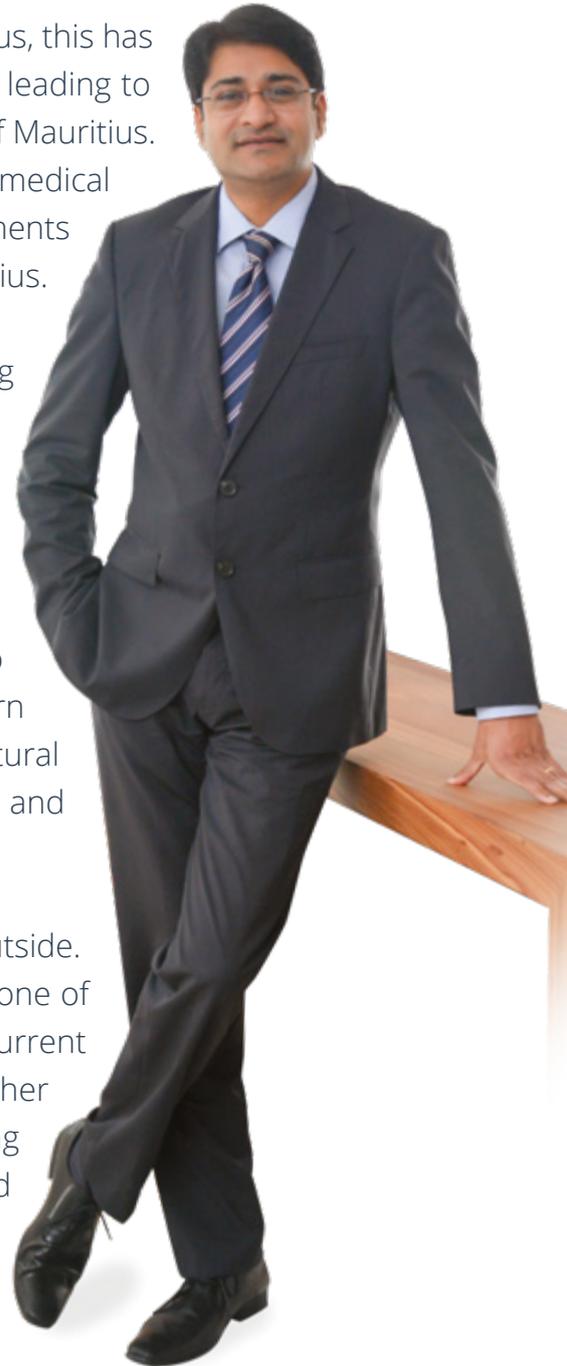
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INTRODUCTION

We live in a constantly evolving and changing world. In Mauritius, this has led to an expansion of our travel routes via air and sea, thus leading to a large influx of expatriates relocating to the beautiful island of Mauritius. Whether they're moving here for work, studies, leisure, medical treatments, business, or retirement, these new travel developments and opportunities have greatly and positively impacted Mauritius.

Mauritius has been able to navigate its way out of depending solely on one source of economy, expanding its resources to include technology, education, renewable energy, ocean economy, and even the finance sector, by working with a qualified, multi-ethnic, and multi-cultural workforce. The number of expats in Mauritius is an indication of the island's progressive culture and its attractiveness. We are happy to welcome foreigners to our island as this also allows us to learn about other places around the world and expand our cultural knowledge, and even contribute to technological advances and innovations in Mauritius.

Our mission at BOI is to facilitate business investments from outside. Obtaining a work permit or a residence permit for retirees is one of the perks of investing. Additionally, our knowledge regarding current economic trends only helps in guiding the process, whether it's directly related to the business, jobs, goals, or organising conferences. At BOI, we offer professional advice, relevant and effective solutions to your issues, and personalised services in order to help you move towards your desired goals and future that you desire.



Board of Investment
Mauritius

Ken Poonoosamy,
Managing Director
Board of Investment



expat.com

The social network for expatriates



Devoted to immigration, Expat.com is the largest support network for expatriates. It provides free information and advice to those who live, or wish to live abroad.

A real platform for multilingual communication, its first and foremost mission is to share a realistic vision of life abroad through guides on expatriations, interactive forums, and directories of expatriate blogs. It is an interactive website where any one of our members can ask for help, and contribute and share their experience



Created by expatriates for expatriates and with a strong active community in full expansion, Expat.com is the go-to expatriate network on the web!

The Island of Mauritius



Geographic location

Mauritius is located in the southern hemisphere, in the south-eastern part of the Indian Ocean, north of the tropic of the Capricorn, 20° South Latitude and 57° Longitude East. Mauritius is part of southern Africa. The island represents about 91% of the total area of the Republic of Mauritius, covering 1 865 km². Its entire area is 2,040 km² which integrates several islands, islets and dependent coral reefs, including Rodrigues Island (10th district of Mauritius) and the archipelagos of Saint-Brandon and Agalega. Mauritius has about 330 km of coast, surrounded by a blue lagoon, which is itself protected by a barrier of coral reefs.

[Google Maps – Mauritius](#)

The Mascarene Archipelago

The island is part of the Mascarene archipelago which includes Mauritius, Reunion, and Rodrigues. This archipelago is the result of underwater volcanic eruptions. Only Reunion still records volcanic activity through its volcano, known as the “Piton de la Fournaise”. In Mauritius, we find traces of an inactive volcano at Trou aux Cerfs.

Capital, cities, and villages

The city of Port Louis was founded by the Governor Mahé de la Bourdonnais. He undertook the development of the port to accommodate ships in a harbour sheltered by a mountain range. The capital of Mauritius, Port-Louis, is home to the Government House as well as the main governmental and financial institutions. It is the business hub of Mauritius, and the city with the greatest number of inhabitants. However, the island has other towns such as Curepipe, Quatre-Bornes, Beau Bassin, Rose Hill, and Vacoas Phoenix. These are the main towns, which branch off into smaller villages.

Approximate distances from Mauritius:

- 226 km to Reunion Island
- 1,132 km to Madagascar
- 3,318 km to the East African coast
- 5 110 km to India
- 7,722 km to Australia
- 7,941 km to China
- 9,400 km to France

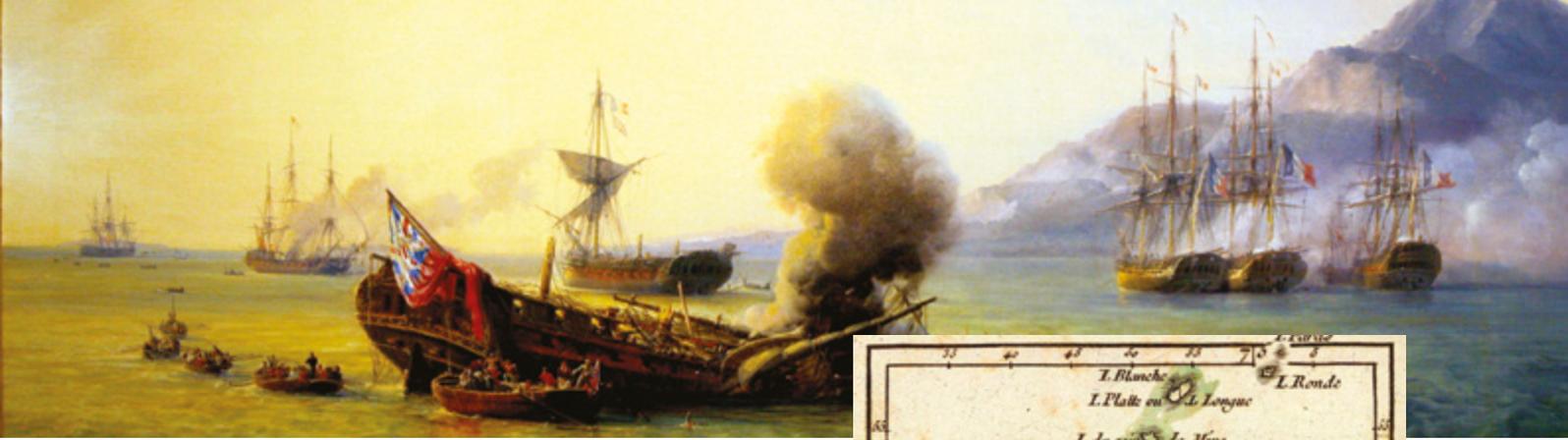
The island is divided into ten districts:

- Black River
- Flacq
- Grand Port
- Moka
- Pamplemousses
- Plaines Wilhems
- Port Louis
- Rivière du Rempart
- Savanne
- Rodrigues

Nine are located on the main island (Mauritius). The tenth district is Rodrigues Island, a dependency of the Republic located 550 km northeast of Mauritius. Since 12th October 2002, Rodrigues enjoys an autonomous status.

Good to know

Depending on the sectors of activity, some contractors and entrepreneurs will need to obtain authorisation from the District Council or Municipality prior to starting anything.



History

In the 5th century, Arab sailors visited the island and named it Dina Arabi.

1507: The Portuguese discovered it and in turn, and named it Iha do Cirné.

1598: The Dutch landed on the island, and named it Mauritius in honour of Prince Maurits of Nassau. A few years later, the island became a point of replenishment and supply for ships on the Indian Ocean Route. The Dutch exploited the forests — mainly the ebony trees — and introduced the sugar cane industry.

1721: The French arrived and renamed the island “Isle de France”. The slaves worked in estates managed by the French. Pirates and privateers looted the English ships which were sailing towards India.

1735: The rise of the island is marked by the arrival of Governor François Mahé de La Bourdonnais who developed the Port, founded Port Louis, and built an arsenal. The Governor then actively participated in the crop development on the island.

1810: After an uphill battle, the British took possession of the island.

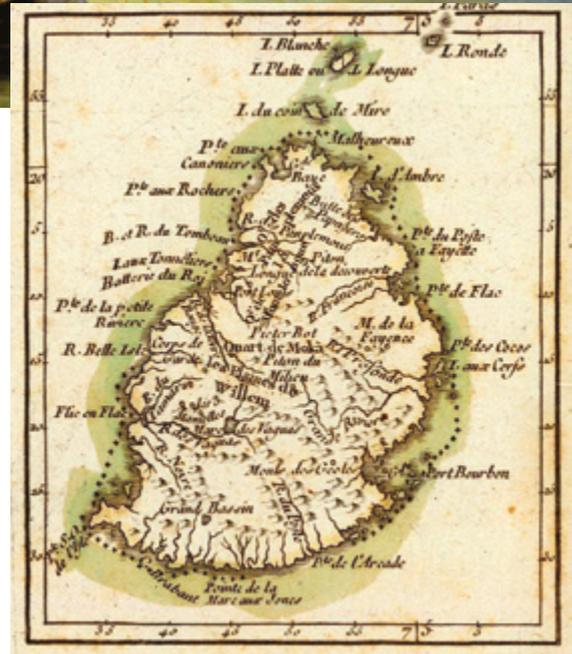
1814: The island was officially attached to the British Empire and regained the name of Mauritius.

1835: Abolition of slavery by the British.

1834 to 1910: As a consequence of the abolition of slavery, settlers hired Indian workers. The «Coolie Trade» or Indentured Labourers were brought to the island to work in the sugar cane fields. The Indian immigrants worked as free men but in almost slave-like conditions. Later on the first Chinese immigrants arrived.

1968: 12th of March 1968. Mauritius got its independence and became a democratic country.

1992: Mauritius became a Republic.



The Republic of Mauritius

The President of the Republic is the Head of State and the Supreme Chief of the armed forces. However the executive power is controlled by the Prime Minister who is the head of the Government. General elections are held every five years to elect the Members of Parliament. The Parliament is composed of 70 seats, of which 62 are representatives, and eight are nominated by The Best Loser System, which seeks to provide an equitable representation of minority communities within the Parliament.



Flag

The flag of the Republic of Mauritius is composed of four horizontal bands: red, blue, yellow, and green.

The interpretation of the colours varies according to the historical meaning assigned to each colour:

- Red like flamboyant trees – Symbol of blood spread during colonisation
- Blue as the sky and the ocean – Symbol of the Indian Ocean
- Yellow like golden sand beaches – Symbol of the sun and the light it brings
- Green like the sugar canes fields – Symbol of agriculture and fertile land



Armes et devise



The Island of Mauritius

National Anthem

The National Anthem was written by Jean-Georges Prosper and composed by Philippe Gentil in 1968 in celebration of the Independence of Mauritius.

Only the English version is official:

*Glory to thee, Motherland
O Motherland of mine
Sweet is thy beauty
Sweet is thy fragrance
Around thee we gather
As one people
As one nation
In peace, justice and liberty
Beloved country
May God bless thee
For ever and ever*

Currency

The official currency is the Mauritian Rupee (Rs.). The international code of the rupee is «MUR».

The first banknotes in Mauritian Rupees appeared in 1876, and coins in 1877. The Bank of Mauritius issues the notes in denominations of 25, 50, 100, 200, 500, 1,000 and 2,000 rupees, as well as coins of 1, 5, 10 and 20 rupees and 5, 20 and 50 cents. The Mauritian Rupee can only be exchanged in Mauritius. Foreign Exchange offices can be found at the airport, and the opening hours are dependent on the arrival of international flights. It is also possible to exchange currency at all banking institutions and foreign exchange offices. The rate of an average conversion is 1 euro = 44 rupees as of November 2017. Most bank cards are accepted in Mauritius, and there are many ATMs all over the island.

Economy

For a long time Mauritius was dependent solely on sugar cane export. Later on, the textile industry was established in Mauritius and helped the steady growth of the economy. Other growing sectors in Mauritius are the technology, tourism, finance, and real estate sectors. "L'Aventure du Sucre" in Mauritius gives a good overview of the island's economic evolution. The cease of sugar exports could have been detrimental to the country's economy. However, the restructuring of the policies and the reorganisation of the sugar cane sector have enabled the country to keep this valuable source of income. For example, Mauritius now exports refined sugar, special sugar and derivatives of sugar, and also uses the bagasse to generate electricity. These are innovations that have been put into effect to adapt to demands while remaining productive and profitable.

For the past few years, Mauritius has been attracting big companies in the technology industry thanks to the skilled workforce present on the island, the facilities and infrastructures put in place by the authorities, and the affordable labour costs. The country showcases its desire to become a benchmark in the market services (e.g. data processing) in this region of the world. For this, Mauritius focuses on creating cybercities, with the country's most significant representative being Ébène cybercity. The tourist industry has achieved a level of excellence as well; it has acquired an international reputation, vastly contributed to the local economy, and created many new jobs. The tourist industry in Mauritius is continuously developing thanks to an increase in property development and the launch of new air routes and travel destinations. The



construction of luxury villas and apartments is leading to a new economic development, which is characterised by foreign investment and job opportunities. For the future, the blue economy and the balance between sustainability and socio-economic equality are the main focus points for Mauritius.

Population

The Mauritian population reflects 400 years of history. The population is composed of descendants of the British and French colonials, African slaves, Malagasy and Indian workers, and Chinese traders. Mauritius' uniqueness stands in its history, and cultural and ethnic diversity. According to the Central Bureau of Statistics, in 2014 Mauritius had 1.261 million inhabitants with a high density of about 618 inhabitants per km², mainly around the big cities and towns.

«Enn sel lepep, enn sel nation» (as one people, one nation) is a motto taken from the national anthem and widely celebrated on the Independence Day, emphasising the national unification of the Mauritian population whereby people of all ethnic and religious backgrounds live together in peace.

The different ethnic origins include:

Indo-Mauritians*: 68% Hindu, Muslim, or Christian

*Not to be confused with Indian (native to India) and Hindu (Hinduism)

Creoles: 27%, predominantly Christian

Sino-Mauritians: 3%, Christian or Buddhist

Whites: 2%, predominantly Christian.

In general, Mauritians of all backgrounds interact peacefully and live together harmoniously, although inter-racial relationships are not the norm. Mutual tolerance and respect are key aspects of the Mauritian culture.

The Mauritian population respects the traditions and customs of each community. Each ethnic group has its place of worship, open to all. Many European expats are taken aback upon their arrival to Mauritius by questions about their origin and background. This is part of the local friendliness and genuine interest in getting to know other people and their cultures.

The cosmopolitan character of Mauritius is seen in the richness of the everyday life, highlighted by the art, cuisine, and clothing — costumes, sari, churidar, and western clothes are all acceptable and common.

The Island of Mauritius

Language(s)

English is the official language of the Republic of Mauritius — a sign of the 150-year-long attachment to the British crown. The administration and the official texts are in English. However, French and 'kreol morisyen' (Mauritian Creole) are the most commonly used languages by the population. The Mauritian Creole is the island's mother-tongue, spoken by all Mauritians. French is the second most popular language on the island, being closely linked to the Mauritian Creole and taught in schools, along with English, as from the pre-primary level. Apart from these three main languages, which allow communication among all, each ethnic group preserves its cultural origins. For example, Hindi or Bhojpuri, Urdu, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Hakka, Arabic, Mandarin and Cantonese are taught in schools, in agreement with Mauritius' Speaking Unions and cultural centres.

Climate

Mauritius enjoys a subtropical climate. Temperatures vary between 25° C and 35° C with Southeast trade winds. Temperatures are higher during the wet season from November to April and cooler during the dry season from May to October.

Seasons

In summer, temperatures reach up to 30° C, but the conditions are generally pleasant thanks to the light sea breeze in the west and a stronger wind on the east coast. During the summer, the coldest area on the island is the central plateau with much lower temperatures compared to the coast.

The length of the daytime period in the summer is 14 hours. The sunrise is between 4am and 4:30am, and the sunset is between 7pm and 7:30pm. The Austral winter is characterised by the big difference in the temperatures during the day and night. During daytime, temperatures stay between 22 and 27 ° C. But as soon as the sun sets, the temperatures can drop to 15 ° C near the coast and 9 ° C on the central plateau. The length of the daytime period is also shorter during the winter season. The sun rises at around 6:30am and sets at about 6pm. Also, during the winter, the coastal regions experience low rainfall, whereas the central plateau is always wetter.

Cyclones

Between January and March, a combination of high temperatures, high humidity, and lower air pressure can result in the formation of cyclones. For a cyclone to occur, the temperature of the ocean must be warmer than 26 ° C (about 28/29 ° C on the surface). Due to the high temperature, evaporation occurs, and the moisture rises from the ocean to the atmosphere. The state of the air mass and the wind circulation are other factors that determine how intense the cyclone will be — if it occurs at all (see *chapter Practical Life – cyclone alert*).

Mauritius Meteorological Services

St Paul Road,
Vacoas
Tél. : (+230) 686 1031 / 32
Fax : (+230) 686 1033
Web : metservice.intnet.mu



Testimony:

Peter, England, Commodity Trading

«I am stunned by the microclimates here, you can drive for a five minutes and the weather can be completely different! The rainbows, often two together, are wide and the colours strong. The sunsets and sunrises breathtaking. The views of the mountains, lit up in warm sunshine or silhouetted dark against the sky. The turquoise lagoons, the blue, blue sky. Who can beat what nature provides for you and in Mauritius it is spectacular. »

[Read more](#)



Health

Malaria: There is no malaria on the island. Only a few isolated cases have been identified in recent years, which were introduced following visits to countries at risk.

Chikungunya: The Chikungunya 2005/2006 outbreak was kept under control. Two species of mosquitoes, *aedes aegypti* and *aedes albopictus*, can transmit and spread the virus to humans. To prevent contamination, stagnant water must be avoided.

Pollution: Pollution is mainly due to exhaust gases. Waste management is not yet efficient enough to cope with the increasingly growing population related to tourism and the development of new residence in Mauritius.

Rabies: There is no animal rabies in Mauritius. Note, however, that many stray dogs and cats have not been vaccinated; thus a doctor must be consulted in the event of immediate contact with stray animals.

AIDS: It was estimated that there were 6,333 cases in Mauritius in 2015. However, the screening test is not mandatory in Mauritius (except in the case of blood donation), so this is not a definite number. The needle exchange programme has been legalised

in Mauritius by PILS (Prevention Information Fight Against AIDS) to reduce the risk of contamination by injection. No serologic test for HIV infection is required on arrival in the country. However, to obtain the Occupation Permit, a certificate of seronegative needs to be produced, and the test must be done in Mauritius.

Drug addiction: The latest statistical report on addictions in Mauritius are alarming. The statistics show more than 11,000 addicts (hard drugs derived from opium, cocaine, drugs such as Subutex, soft drugs such as cannabis). Opioid medicines such as Subutex represent a significant danger to the public, as the police have reported trafficking and misuse of this drug. All drugs are scrupulously prohibited in Mauritius, including soft drugs, which are not legalised. Moreover, in recent years, synthetic drugs are becoming more and more common among youngsters, and the Mauritian authorities are focusing on extinguishing this threat.

The Island of Mauritius

Public Holidays

Public Holidays in Mauritius are determined based on the multicultural and multi-religious composition of the Island. In the spirit of fairness, the government has introduced public holidays according to the different origins and religions.

The Mauritian calendar displays 13 public holidays in the year, six of which are fixed:

New Year: 1st and 2nd of January

Independence Day: 12th of March

Labour Day: 1st of May

All Saints Day: Catholic Celebration on the 1st of November

Christmas: 25th of December

The seven other public holidays are linked to religious ceremonies, and their dates change each year according to the lunar calendar:

Thaiposam Cavadee: The Tamil festival is celebrated around mid-January or beginning of February.

Maha Shivaratree: A Hindu festival celebrated around February or March.

Spring Festival: The Chinese New Year is usually celebrated in January or February.

Ougadi: The New year of the Telegu is celebrated in March.

Eid-ul-Fitr: A Muslim celebration, indicating the end of the fasting month of Ramadan.

Ganesh Chaturthi: A Hindu celebration between August and September.

Divali ou Deepavali: The Festival of Light is a Hindu festival, celebrated around October or November, which symbolises the triumph of good over evil.

In addition, there are quite a few other significant religious holidays in Mauritius. For example, you will discover the celebration of the Blessed Jacques-Désiré Laval (known as Père Laval) held on the 9th of September, Holi (the Festival of Colours) celebrated in March every year, the Festival of the Ganges, in November.



Testimony

Dee, England

«There are many religions here and they all respect each other. We even get public holidays for each religious festivals.»

[Read more](#)

Mauritius as a member state

Indian Ocean Commission (IOC)

The Indian Ocean Commission was created in 1984 as an inter-governmental organisation of the islands of the south-east Indian Ocean and is composed of five state members, namely: Comoros, France (Reunion Island), Madagascar, Mauritius, and Seychelles. Its primary goal is to defend the economic, social, geographic, and biological interests of its members.

IOC Interventions

- Political and diplomatic cooperation through an emphasis on regional stability, good governance, and strategy among the state members.
- Economic and commercial cooperation for the inclusions of insular economies to the regional and international economy.
- Sustainable regional development for the preservation of marine and terrestrial species.
- Protection of people and the improvement of the quality of life.
- Enhancing regional identity and proximity between the member states through cultural exchange and networking of professionals and associations.



Indian Ocean Commission (IOC)

Indian Ocean Commission
3rd Floor, Blue Tower
Rue de l'Institut
Ébène
Tel: (+230) 402 6100
Fax: (+230) 465 6798
E-mail: secretariat@coi-ioc.org
Website: **Indian Ocean Commission**

Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)

COMESA is an international organisation founded in 1997, merging 19 East African countries to create a customs union that reinforces free trade.
Website: **COMESA**

The Commonwealth

Mauritius is part of the 52 member countries of The Commonwealth. The member countries are linked by their shared political, economic, and social interests while remaining autonomous.
Website: **The Commonwealth**

The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)

Mauritius is home to the Secretary-General of IORA, which brings together 20 countries from Africa, Asia, and Oceania. IORA's main objective is "to develop commercial, industrial, and economic cooperation as the means of promoting sustainable growth and development for its state and regional members. IORA promotes avenues for trade liberalisation and lowers tariff barriers to enhance flow of goods, services, investment, and technology within the Indian Ocean" to quote the Prefecture of the Reunion Region.
Website: **IORA**

African Union (AU)

The African Union promotes the development of human rights and democracy throughout Africa.
Website: **AU**

Southern African Development Community

This organisation's main aim is to promote the economic development of southern Africa.
Website: **SADC**



Travelling to Mauritius

| European and Canadian Nationals

No visa is required for European and Canadian nationals to stay in Mauritius for a period of less or equal to three months, subject to being in possession of the following:

- A passport valid for at least six months following the expected date of return to the country of origin
- A return ticket to the country of origin
- A confirmation of hotel booking, or the full details of the host/landlord (name, forename, address, and telephone number) in case of rental or accommodation
- Adequate financial means for the duration of the stay (cash, traveller's cheques, bank cards)

Health Requirements

An international certificate of vaccination against yellow fever is also required if you have visited an infected country before entering Mauritius. Following the outbreak of diseases such as Ebola a few years ago, health controls upon entry into the Mauritian territory have been reinforced.

Application for Extension of Visa

Visas are usually issued for a maximum period of three months. A person may, nevertheless, request a visa extension through an application to the Passport & Immigration Office in Mauritius.

The extension granted will, in no circumstance, exceed three months.

The maximum length of the stay (3 first months + 3 months of extension time) is valid for one year.

Useful links & addresses

Passport and Immigration Office

Passport & Immigration Office

Sterling House

9-11, Lislet Geoffroy Street

Port-Louis

Tel.: (230) 210 93 12

Fax: (230) 210 9322

E-mail: piomain@govmu.org

Website: passport.govmu.org

Airport Passport & Immigration Office

Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport

Plaisance - Plaine Magnien

Tel.: (230) 637 3720/(230) 637 41 08



| Foreign Nationals

Foreign nationals from other countries (i.e. not from Europe or Canada) should contact the Mauritian Diplomatic Representation closest to their place of residence for information and the list of documents required for entry in Mauritius. Air Mauritius, the national airline company of Mauritius, is also able to provide useful information.

| Steps to be taken once settled

Consular Registration

Once the residence permit is granted, it is highly recommended to register with your country's embassy or consulate in Mauritius. Please note that British and South African nationals are not obliged to proceed with such registration as the British High Commission and South High Commission work in direct collaboration with the Board of Investment (BoI). Thus, British and South African nationals have to communicate any change of their status to the BoI, who will then notify the respective Commission.

Register to vote

The consular of some countries allow foreign nationals to register as voters. Foreign nationals are, as such, able to exercise their fundamental right to vote. The voting exercise is carried out at the embassy of the country of origin.

The registration process varies depending on the policies of each country of origin, and expats are therefore advised to contact the embassy of their country of origin for guidance.

Security of Foreign Nationals

To ensure the safety of foreign nationals, the embassies of various states in Mauritius have implemented security policies regarding their evacuation in times of crisis.

For instance, the British High Commission requires British Nationals to register themselves in case of a crisis. The Commission has also implemented an automatic notification system, which notifies British nationals in case of a crisis, via an email and text message. Registration can be done at the following link: [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)

Living in Mauritius

| Retired Citizen Status

Mauritius is a privileged destination, often referred to as «paradise on earth» by both expats and locals. The subtropical climate, the tranquillity and quality of everyday life, and the kindness of the Mauritian people attract more visitors each year to live and retire in Mauritius. The country's stability, development of medical infrastructure, security, and the many facilities make it possible today to make Mauritius your new home with a peace of mind.

Residence Permit

The Mauritian government allows foreign pensioners to spend more than three months a year on the island and to obtain a Retired Non-Citizen status, which is valid for three years.

Conditions

To obtain the Residence Permit as Retired Non-Citizen, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be aged 50 years or above
- Hold a bank account with a Mauritian bank
- Make an initial transfer of USD 2,500 or its equivalent in freely convertible foreign currency to their bank account in Mauritius - this amount must be credited to the local bank account before applying to the Board of Investment. The account must have at least USD 40,000 annually for three years
- Submit evidence of the initial transfer of funds (i.e. USD 2,500) at the time of application for the Residence Permit
- Transfer a total amount of USD 120,000 over three years on the local bank account
- Do not work or receive any salary from a Mauritian company
- Do not repatriate the funds to the country of origin (unless the Retired Non-Citizen Permit has been cancelled)
- Submit, at the end of each year, to the Board of Investment evidence of transfer of funds of USD 40,000 into the local bank account

The application pack includes: A.Forms:

- BOI Registration form for Retired Non-Citizens
- Application Form for Residence Permit
- Signed Letter of Undertaking
- Processing fee (must be an office cheque/ bank draft) of Rs 20,000 to the Government of Mauritius.

B. Personal documents

- Passport (bio-data page and last entry visa page)
- Original and copy of the Birth Certificate (in English or French language)
- Original and copy of the Marriage Certificate, or Divorce Certificate if applicable
- Four recent colour identical passport-sized photos
- Medical certificate with original medical reports (must not be older than six months)
- Evidence of the transfer of funds from a foreign bank account to a local one
- Morality Certificate/Certificate of Good Character for ten years preceding the date of application (but the document should not be older than six months)

The application must be processed by the BOI Occupation Permit Unit.

Contact Details and Useful Links

Board of Investment (BOI)

Occupation Permit Unit
4th Floor Sterling House
Port-Louis

Tel: (230) 203 38 00

Fax: (230) 208 81 60

BOI – Application for residence permit
op.investmauritius.com

BOI – Guidelines for Retired Non-Citizen
www.investmauritius.com

Good to know

The regulations may be subject to change and should not be considered as definitive. Foreigners must be in possession of a passport of which the validity date exceeds that of their stay in Mauritius. The full name entered on the passport must be identical to that on the applicant's birth certificate. Otherwise, the applicant must have an affidavit produced in his country of origin or residence to certify that the two names – the one on the passport and the one on the birth certificate – indicate the same person.

Applications for a residence permit in Mauritius will not be processed without the results of the compulsory medical examinations (*see the chapter on Health*).

| Permanent Resident Status

The status of Permanent Resident makes it possible to reside, travel, work, and acquire a real estate property in Mauritius under your name. It is issued for ten years, and it is renewable. Please note that the status of 'resident' does not confer the right to vote.

Permanent Residence Permit

After three years of residence in Mauritius under the status of Retired Non-Citizen, the foreign national may apply for Permanent Residence Permit which will be valid for ten years. This application process also applies to the applicant's dependents. The status of "Retired" does not follow the European norms regarding the age. For example, a young annuitant (over 50 years of age) may apply for retirement status in Mauritius. The minimum annual transfer must be more than, or equivalent to, USD 40,000.

Conditions

The Permanent Residence Permit (PRP) is granted according to the criteria issued by the BOI.

Retired Non-Citizen

To be eligible for the PRP, a foreign pensioner must have:

- obtained a Residence Permit of three years
- transferred USD 40,000 (or equivalent in another currency) per year for three years to a Mauritian bank account.

Foreign Investor

To be eligible for the PRP, a foreign investor must have:

- obtained an Occupation Permit for the three years immediately preceding the application date of the PRP
- the majority shareholding in a company incorporated in Mauritius with an annual revenue of more than 15 million Mauritian Rupees for the three years preceding the application date of the PRP

Or

- invested USD 500,000 in an activity related to agro-industry, audio-visual, cinema and communication, banking, construction, education, green products and production of green energy, financial services, fisheries and marine resources, Freeport, information technology, infrastructure, insurance, leisure, manufacturing, marina development, tourism, or warehousing.

Foreign Professional

To be eligible for the PRP, the professional who does not have the Mauritian citizenship must:

- Have obtained an Occupation Permit for the three years immediately preceding the application date of the PRP
- Have received a minimum salary of 150,000 Mauritian Rupees during the three years preceding the application date for the PRP

Self-Employed Non-Citizen

To be eligible for the PRP, the self-employed individual who does not have the Mauritian citizenship must:

- Have obtained an Occupation Permit for the three years immediately preceding the application date of the PRP
- Have a revenue exceeding 3,000,000 Mauritian Rupees annually for the three years preceding the application date for the PRP

Good to know

Children under 24 years of age and the spouse of the holder of the Residence Permit will also receive the resident status, valid for ten years. The unmarried partner will obtain a Residence Permit for one year, renewable every year. After ten years in Mauritius under the Residence Permit, the permit can be renewed as long as the conditions mentioned above for each category are met.

To be able to bring the necessary evidence at the time of renewal

- keep records of your annual tax returns issued by the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), payrolls, annual returns, company accounts, etc.
- ensure that your employer has registered you with the tax authorities
- Provide a bank certificate (for pensioners).

Useful Links

BOI - application form for permanent residence permit:

www.investmauritius.com/media/32776

BOI - criteria and procedure to follow:

www.investmauritius.com/media/48635

Mauritius Revenue Authority: www.mra.mu



Living in Mauritius

Foreign Student Status

The student visa allows eligible non-Mauritian citizens to enter and live in Mauritius for full-time or part-time studies at a tertiary education institution accredited by the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC), or at an institution accredited by the Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD). The institution must be registered with the Mauritius Qualifications Authority (MQA). Students can also take part in a practical training course as part of their higher education.

Conditions

To be eligible for a student visa, the international student must:

- be enrolled in one or more programmes in a MITD accredited institution study on a full-time basis specific modules for one or two semesters

Or

- study a course on a full-time basis leading to a certificate or diploma for at least one academic year

Or

- be enrolled in an accredited institution to start a full-time or part-time course at undergraduate

level

Or

- be enrolled in an accredited institution to start a full-time or part-time course at post-graduate level (Masters, Doctorate, etc.)

Or

- be a non-Mauritian citizen who conducts post-doctoral research

Or

- come to Mauritius on an exchange programme with a recognised tertiary educational institution for no more than one year



Student Visa Application

The visa application must be made by the education institution that will host the student, and it will be processed by the Passport and Immigration Office (PIO). Where there is a practical training course which is part of higher education studies, the visa application could also be made directly by the student/trainee.

The application should include the following documents:

- An application form duly completed and signed by the student
- Two recent passport-sized photos of the student
- A copy of the student's passport (bio-data page)
- Original acceptance letter sent by the institution to the student
- Details of the duration of the courses in question, and whether these will be on a full-time or part-time basis

- Evidence of funds or financial capacity of the student to meet the costs of study and stay in Mauritius
- A medical certificate stating that the student does not suffer from any contagious or infectious disease.

The applicant will have to be tested for HIV and Hepatitis B, and get a chest X-ray once in Mauritius. The chest X-ray report must be presented to the PIO within the first month of the student's arrival.

Useful Links

Passport and Immigration Office

passport.govmu.org

Tertiary Education Commission

tec.intnet.mu



Investing

Due to Mauritius' consistent financial growth over the past few years, the country attracts investors, entrepreneurs, foreign professionals with specific skill sets, real estate investors, as well as retired foreign nationals.

Aims

- Establishing a competitive and attractive business climate
- Opening the Mauritian market to investors and foreign expertise
- Granting quality investments
- Offering a straightforward and attractive tax platform
- Diversifying investment opportunities
- Facilitating procedures through the Board of Investment

Board of Investment

The Board of Investment (BOI) is the national investment promotion agency of the Government of Mauritius with a mandate to promote and facilitate investment within the country.

In line with supporting the development of Mauritius as an International Business Centre, the BOI has in-depth knowledge of the different economic sectors in Mauritius and ensures a personalised service to foreign investors to better guide and assist them in the finalisation of their investment projects:

- Advice on the various opportunities for investment
- Information on the driving sectors of the economy
- Setting up meetings, upon client request
- Identification of local partners for potential investors

The BOI is also responsible for the management of the applications for residence permits in Mauritius and the finalisation of real estate investment projects under the Property Development Scheme (PDS).

Advantages of investing in Mauritius:

- Stable democracy
- Rule of law and an independent judicial system
- Strategic geographical location
- Bilateral treaties and favourable tax regime
- Skilled bilingual workers
- Quality of infrastructure (aerial, maritime, road, financial, and communication)
- High standard of living thanks to a pleasant climate and welcoming and friendly locals

Useful Contacts

Board of Investment (BOI)

One Cathedral Square, 10th Floor

16, Jules Koenig Street

Port-Louis

Phone: (230) 203 38 00

Web: www.investmauritius.com

Department for International Trade Mauritius

7th Floor, Cascades Building

Edith Cavell Street, P.O. Box 1063

Port Louis

Mauritius

Phone: (230) 202 9400

Web: gov.uk

Email: DITAfricaTrade@mobile.trade.gov.uk

Economic sectors

A comprehensive list and overview of the core business sectors of the island are available on the [BOI website](#).

Driving sectors

- Tourism and real estate
- Emerging technologies
- Business parks, health and travel, eco-tourism
- Medical and paramedical
- Biotechnology, medical equipment and consumables, pharmaceuticals
- Servicing international firms (telecommunications, information, computer technology)
- Human resources and logistics
- Marina, amusement parks
- Agro-industry

Freezone

Established in 1992, the Mauritius Freeport is a duty-free logistics, distribution, and marketing hub for the region. The Mauritius Freeport offers an exemption on custom duties, as well as key advantages regarding storage, processing, and packaging, to international firms that import goods into the Freeport Zone for export purposes.

Emerging sectors

- Nature and environment
- Marine conservation
- Renewable energy
- Alternative sources of energy
- Water conservation and management
- Agro-industry
- Creative arts
- Art galleries
- Culture and leisure
- Fashion design

There are three free zone areas in Mauritius; two of them are located near the port area at Mer Rouge, Port Louis, and the third one is located in the vicinity of the SSR International Airport, Plaisance, offering a space of 120,000m² with modern integrated infrastructures and state of the art logistics facilities.

Useful link

The Mauritius Freeport www.efreeport.com

Regulatory Sandbox License (RSL)

An initiative announced in the 2016/2017 Budget by the Government, the Regulatory Sandbox License (RSL) offers the possibility to corporate bodies to invest in innovating projects for which there exists no legal framework or adequate provisions under existing Mauritian legislation. The RSL will, effectively, act as a framework which aims to allow corporate bodies to test pioneering products, services, and business activities while, guaranteeing the protection of consumers against any potential risks. The Board of Investment will issue the RSL to eligible companies willing to invest in innovative projects with an agreed set of terms and conditions for a defined period.

Eligibility

An investor with an innovative project for which a legal framework or adequate provisions covering the realisation of the project do not exist may submit a duly filled in application for the issuance of an RSL. The applicant should be able to demonstrate the innovative nature of the project at the local, regional, or international level.



Investing

The Occupation Permit

Government policy aims to privilege quality investments and ensure the viability of investment projects of foreign nationals.

There are three categories under which one can obtain an Occupation Permit: investors, paid professionals, and self-employed individuals.

Foreign investors who are candidates for the Occupation Permit must:

- Be able to justify a turnover of 2 million Mauritian Rupees for the first year and a cumulative turnover of at least 10 million Mauritian Rupees for the next two consecutive years
- Justify an initial investment of US\$ 100,000 (or the equivalent in any other currency).

Foreign investors who have been operating in Mauritius for at least three years before applying for the Occupation Permit, without having registered their company with the BOI, must have a cumulative figure of at least 12 million Mauritian Rupees for the past three years. This condition also applies to foreign investors who inherit a company, in the event of the death, or incapacity of the previous investor where that company has a turnover of at least 12 million rupees during the past three years.

In addition to the classic Investor's Permit, two other categories are available:

- "Innovator Occupation Permit": If you invest in R&D or a sector recognised as innovative, it is necessary to invest a minimum of 20% of its budget in R&D each year. The initial demand is USD 40,000.
- "Investor – Machinery & Equipment Permit": If there is an import of machinery or equipment considered as high tech, 75% of the initial USD 100,000 investment may be allocated to it. The contribution, in cash, would consequently be equivalent to USD 25,000.

The application of a permit can be made online without having to register the company or transfer funds beforehand. Per the conditions applied, an Agreement in Principle will be issued. Candidates will then be able to come to Mauritius to finalise the procedures required to obtain the Occupation Permit.

International professionals who are applying for the Occupation Permit must:

- Earn a basic monthly salary of more than 60,000 Mauritian Rupees. It is useful to take note that this minimum monthly basic salary for a professional in the ICT sector is of 30,000 Mauritian Rupees.
- Be accompanied by their Director of Human Resources or by a representative on the day of filing of the application.

Self-employed foreigners who are applying for the Occupation Permit must:

- Justify an annual revenue exceeding 600,000 Mauritian Rupees from their business activity in the first two years, and 1,200,000 Mauritian Rupees from the third year
- Justify an initial investment of USD 35,000 (or equivalent in any other currency)
- Submit the application pack in person

Useful link

BOI – Occupation permit
www.investmauritius.com

Property Investors - Real Estate Investments

Real Estate Investment in Mauritius by a non-Mauritian citizen is governed by the Non-Citizen (Property Restriction) Act. The application for authorisation to invest in Mauritius must be submitted to the BOI.

A person holding an Occupation Permit may purchase real estate properties according to the following criteria:

- A professional must receive a monthly salary of USD 3,000
- An investor must invest a minimum of USD 100,000
- A retired non-citizen can acquire a real estate property following a transfer of USD 120,000 to a local bank account

These three categories of Occupation Permit holders and expatriates, who have obtained a Permanent Resident Permit can buy property in a two-storey (or more) building.

A foreign national can also purchase a personal property under the Property Development Scheme (PDS) which replaces the Integrated Resort Scheme (IRS) and the Real Estate Scheme (RES).

The PDS allows foreign nationals, Mauritian citizens, and members of the Mauritian diaspora to acquire different types of residential property. Specifically, it enables:

- The development of luxury residential units on a plot of land of at least one acre
- The development of at least six high-standing residential properties
- The development of quality public spaces for social interaction and a sense of community
- Leisure activities and commercial facilities to improve the environment surrounding the residential units
- Management services for residents, such as maintenance, guarding, gardening, waste disposal, etc.

At the time of purchase of a villa under PDS, you will be eligible for a residence permit in which you have invested more than USD 500,000 or the equivalent in another currency. Moreover, the PDS, unlike the IRS and RES, does not distinguish between large and small property ownership. The registration fees are at a single rate of 5%.

Formalities

The request to purchase a property under PDS must be addressed to the BOI by a PDS company. This company will handle the Know Your Client (KYC) exercise and open an Escrow Account in your name. The application must be made online through the Property Acquisition and Management System. A non-refundable fee of Rs10,000, payable by way of cheque, accompanies every fresh request.

On your side, you will be required to provide:

- A duly completed application form for a resident's permit
- A notarized copy of the first five pages of your passport
- A notarized copy of your birth certificate
- An extract from your criminal record or certificate of morality less than six months old
- A letter from your bank certifying that the KYC exercise has been duly carried out.
- If you wish to apply for a permanent residence, you must also provide the following documents:
- A medical certificate attesting that you do not suffer from any contagious diseases, (not older than six months)
- A marriage certificate, and the birth certificates of your children as well as their passports, if relevant
- A medical certificate for each dependent
- Your spouse's criminal record or a certificate of morality
- Two passport-sized photos for each dependent

If a company wishes to acquire property under PDS, the following documents must be produced:

- The company's certificate of registration attesting that it has been registered as a foreign company under the Companies Act 2001 or a certificate of incorporation
- The company's registration card
- The shareholders' register
- A resolution of the board of directors, issued by the secretary or director for the appointment of a foreign national (shareholder, executive director or general manager) to occupy the residential property and stay in the country as a resident

Useful link

BOI – Guide du Property Development Scheme
www.investmauritius.com/media/366005

Investing

Commercial real estate investments

Foreign nationals who are not registered with the BOI can purchase an apartment or commercial space in a building to develop projects such as a shopping centre, office building or warehouse, or under the PDS or Smart City Scheme.

The documents required for the purchase of commercial property are as follows:

- An application form duly completed and signed by the company's director
- The certificate of incorporation of the company and the shareholders' register
- A business plan containing details of the shareholders, the project, the execution time, and the financing of the project
- The site plan issued by a sworn land surveyor indicating the precise location and surface area of the property
- An evaluation report of the building issued by a surveyor or appraiser
- A Sale Agreement created in the presence of a public notary in Mauritius between the seller and the buyer
- Evidence that funds emanate from a bank (for the acquisition of the property and the implementation of the project)
- An Outline Planning Permission issued by the local authorities if construction work is planned
- A power of attorney in the case of an application by a third party
- A letter of intent issued by the Tourism Authority for tourism activities such as the development of a hotel or restaurant, the operation of recreational boats, or tour operators, amongst others.

Good to know

The property must be used solely for the purposes identified on the acquisition application.

Useful Links

BOI – [Property Development Scheme Guide](#)
BOI – [GIntegrated Resort Scheme](#)

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Setting Up A Business

The different types of companies in Mauritius

The Companies Act 2001 refers to four different types of companies:

- **Private Company** : a private company cannot be offered to the public. The number of shareholders should not exceed 25.
- **One person Company** : this is a mandatory private company with a sole shareholder, who is an individual, and is also the sole director of that company.
- **Public Company** : a public company is one which is listed on stock exchange markets. The number of shareholders is usually unlimited.
- **Global Business Company** : companies involved in the offshore sector (GBL1 & GBL2)

Different legal statuses

While setting up a company, foreign investors can opt for the following types of companies:

- **Limited by shares**: A company limited by shares is formed on the principle of having the liability of its shareholders limited to any unpaid amount on the shares respectively held by the shareholder

- **Limited by guarantee**: A company limited by guarantee is a company formed on the principle of having the liability of its shareholders limited by its constitution to such amount as the shareholders may respectively undertake to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of winding up
- **Limited liability for actions and guarantees**

Procedures

For the registration of the company, you have to visit the Registrar of Companies (ROC), either in person or online, and determine whether your proposed company name is unique or not. The cost is approximately Rs. 3,200 plus Rs. 100 for the reservation of the company name.

For registration purposes, you are required to fill out a form with all the details of the proposed company. A Business Registration Card with the company's number and the Certificate of Incorporation shall be delivered upon processing and approval of the application form and relevant documents.

Investing

Setting up Business... *continued*

At this time, the ROC will inform the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), the local authorities (the Municipal or District Council), and the Ministry of Social Security of the incorporation of the company. The company is then registered with the MRA and the Ministry of Social Security.

Once the registration of the company is completed, the ROC also informs other competent authorities (the police, fire services department, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment) of the company's incorporation, as well as of the start date of the business' activities.

You are required to go to the nearest Municipal Council with the Certificate of Incorporation of the company and a letter requesting the production of a company seal.

Also, you are required to pay your licence fees to the local authorities. The fees, which are published by the local authority (Municipal Council), must be paid within the first 15 days following the start of the business' activities and must be paid in two equal instalments during each financial year. The first deposit should be paid before the 31st of January and the second by the 31st of July. The local authority reserves the right to import a penalty of 50% of the whole amount which has not been paid within the prescribed period.

The following documents shall accompany the first instalment for the license fee (as from Rs. 2,500):

- Two copies of the Trade Licence
- The identity card of the applicant
- The Certificate of Incorporation
- The site plan for which the Building and Land Use Permit was granted
- Proof of ownership of the premises, consent of the lessor, or any contract about the premises
- The premises' owner identity card

You will then have to register the company with the Ministry of Social Security and fill in the relevant documents upon submission of the following:

- Registration Number of the employer
- Business Registration Card
- List of the directors of the company

The information must be downloaded from the Central Business Registration Database situated at the Registrar of Companies.



Testimony

Laura,
French entrepreneur

«I definitely feel like it's easier to set up a business here than in France. The process is quite simple. For the rest, all you have to do is believe in yourself and in your project.»

[Read more](#)

Useful links:

Registrar of Companies – Corporate and Business Registration Department companies.govmu.org
Declaration of Trades www.mccpl.mu
Board of Investment www.investmauritius.com
Global Business company (GBL1 & GBL2) www.ocra-mauritius.com

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Working

How to find a job?

Is a work permit required?

In line with its ongoing development and the will of the government to move towards emerging economic sectors, Mauritius is opening its doors to foreign talents. It is, however, advised to begin seeking a job well in advance.

Finding a job in Mauritius

Personal references work well in Mauritius, and it is easier to find a job while already in Mauritius rather than from abroad. However, to ensure the acquisition of a work permit, it is better to sign a contract before you arrive in Mauritius.

Job searches can be done on a variety of websites, most of which allow users to upload their CV, giving them the opportunity to explore the Mauritian job market.

The job market

The sectors with high growth potential for job seekers in Mauritius are technology and innovation, information and communication, and tourism. It is advisable, as an employee, to avoid the restoration and retail sectors. Also, sectors such as the car rental and water sports are not accessible to non-Mauritian citizens.

Don't be surprised if you are asked what your religion is when uploading your CV, as this is a common practice in Mauritius.

Remember that, in Mauritius, the English language is used as much as the French language within companies. Although several English companies

Useful Links

Expatriate.com www.expatriate.com/en/jobs

MyJob www.myjob.mu

CareerHub www.careerhub.mu

Mauritiusjobs www.mauritiusjobs.mu

Jobs Orange jobs.orange.mu

TipTopJob mu.tiptopjob.com

3wjobs mu.3wjobs.com

have established themselves on the island, many still require candidates to have a certain level of French. Keep in mind that you must meet certain remuneration criteria to be eligible to work in Mauritius. Additionally, according to the Mauritian law, the employer must be able to justify the recruitment of a non-Mauritian citizen employee, especially if the competence of the latter is readily available locally. Your work experiences and background should therefore be skills that are highly-valued and hard to find in Mauritius.

Remuneration

Wages are relatively low in Mauritius. Unless postulating for a management/key position, the basic salary for a non-citizen can start at Rs 30,000 per month (less than USD 900). The Ministry of Labour under the Employment Rights Act (2008) enforces the labour law. The legal duration of a working day is eight hours, excluding a lunch break of one hour.

Overtime is paid as agreed by the employer. The payment for employees who work on public holidays is twice their daily remuneration.

Employees who have worked for 12 consecutive months are eligible for 20 days of annual leave and 15 days of sick leave. Please visit the Ministry of Labour's official website for more information.

Work Permit

The Work Permit authorises a foreigner to work in Mauritius. However, there's a difference between an Occupation Permit and a Work Permit.

The Work Permit is required for foreign workers aged between 20 and 60 years old, who have the necessary qualifications, skills, and experience to undertake the roles of managers, supervisors, technicians, or as part of a skilled group in the fields of construction or textile. Nevertheless, some foreign professionals are exempted from obtaining a Work Permit. In the case of exemption, the employee must obtain the exemption certificate from the Employment Division of the Ministry of Labour. If workers are earning less than Rs 30,000 per month, the employer must produce a Contract of Employment (COE), which must be verified and stamped by the Labour Division of the Ministry of Labour. The request for a Work Permit can be made on the website of the [Work Permit Unit](#).

Useful link

Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training - labour.govmu.org

Conditions

To be eligible for a Work Permit, the expatriate must not be married to a Mauritian citizen and must arrive in Mauritius to occupy a specific full-time job position for an employer based in the country. The Work Permit is specific to the applicant, and can't be transferred from a previous Work Permit holder. An international company requesting a Work Permit for a foreign worker must be registered in Mauritius as a

foreign branch by the Company Laws of Mauritius. Recruitment agencies are not allowed to submit the Work Permit application on behalf of a company.

A company applying for a Work Permit for the first time should provide the following documents:

- A certified copy of the company's bylaws
- The duly filled application form

A company willing to recruit qualified expatriates must first make a formal request and obtain an In-Principle Approval to do so. Only then can the company apply for a Work Permit with the Employment Division.

Formalities

Currently, models and professional artists from the theatre, audio-visual, photography, television, and music fields do not require a Work Permit to be able to work in Mauritius, as long as their stay does not exceed 90 consecutive days in one year.

For any other profession the employee must apply for a Work and Residence Permit at the Employment Division.

The application should comprise of the following documents:

- The duly completed application form
- The duly completed data sheet
- Four passport-sized photos (ideally 4.5 x 3.5cm taken on a clear background)
- A copy of the data pages of the passport (containing the name, date and place of birth, passport number, and photo)
- Certified copies of the employee's academic and professional qualifications
- Details of the employee's previous work experience (either in English or French)
- The job description
- The COE that has been approved by the Labour Division with a salary exceeding Rs. 30,000
- A medical certificate issued by the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life
- A copy of the Certificate of Incorporation and the business registration card of the company
- Evidence that the job vacancy and the number of employees required were advertised in at least two newspapers in A5 format
- Additional documents may be requested in the case of foreign employees who are recruited in sectors such as bakery, education, tourism, Freeport, offshore, and construction.

Working

Work Permit... *Continued*

Formalities

It is possible to use the E-WORK Permit Platform, which has been set up by the authorities. It allows the applicant to complete the application process for:

- The work permit or the exemption certificate
- An In-Principle Approval
- An authorisation of recruitment
- Processing fees
- Follow-up of the application on request

Useful Links

Ministry of Labour – Guidelines for Work Permit Application empment.labour.govmu.org

Ministry of Labour – Work permit portal workpermit.mu

Work permit portal – E-Work Permit workpermit.mu/eworkpermit_wkp

Occupation Permit

The Occupation Permit combines both the Work Permit and the Residence Permit. The foreign professional applying for an Occupation Permit should earn a basic salary of at least Rs. 60,000. Professionals working in the ICT sector are eligible for a salary of at least Rs. 30,000.

The Occupation Permit enables the employee to live and work in Mauritius for three years. If the applicant applies for a short-term Occupation Permit, the latter will be allowed to live and work in Mauritius for no more than nine months. The permit can be renewed only once, for an additional period of three months. The Occupation Permit request should be made by the employer, who will provide the following documents:

- Contract of Employment
- Job description
- A copy of the employee's academic and professional qualifications
- The CV and a letter of recommendation from a previous employer
- Birth certificate
- Marriage certificate (if relevant)
- A copy of the passport's bio-data page

- A recent passport-sized photo (4.5 x 3.5 cm)
- Certificate of incorporation and the business registration card of the company
- Trade licence of the company
- Detailed description of the activities of the company
- A signed contract

Employment contract

The remuneration and other work conditions of foreign employees can not be less than those in the same position, according to labour laws. Foreign workers should be exclusively remunerated in Mauritius in Mauritian Rupees. No deductions should be made on the salary/remuneration of the foreign worker, except those dictated by the labour law, such as solidarity levies, pensions, and taxes.

All the conditions of employment and ancillary remuneration should be stated in the employment contract, which must be duly signed by the foreign employee and the employer:

- The expatriate's current situation
- The working conditions (days and hours, breaks, etc.)
- Remuneration and overtime
- Compensation for work performed on Sundays and public holidays
- End of Year Bonus
- Annual leave, sick leave, maternity leave
- Package (accommodation, air tickets, car or travelling allowance)

Useful links:

Invest Mauritius – Occupation Permit:

op.investmauritius.com/Guidelines/professional.aspx

Invest Mauritius – Application form:

op.investmauritius.com/Download/Professional_jan14.pdf

Board of Investment – BOI:

www.investmauritius.com

Ministry of labour:

labour.govmu.org

Good to know:

A foreign professional holding an Occupation Permit and earning more than USD 3,000 is eligible to purchase an apartment.



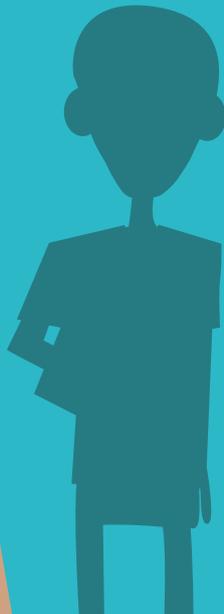
expat.com

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Discover the forum





Working

Internships

Many professional fields welcome young foreigners wishing to do an internship in Mauritius. In fact, many candidates take the plunge and make the most of this opportunity, not only to perfect their English but also to benefit from an enriching adventure.

Growth sectors

Numerous sectors in Mauritius welcome interns, such as:

IT - Real Estate - Hospitality - Telecommunication
- Management - Information and Communication Technologies - Finance - Architecture - International Finance - Languages - SME and retail - Leisure - Tourism - Human resources - Marketing - Mechanical Engineering - Events - Logistics - Psychology - Graphic Design - Electrical Engineering - Construction Engineering - Gastronomy - Environment - Media, etc...

Formalities

To enter Mauritius, interns and trainees must hold a valid visa, obtained before arrival from the Mauritian consular authorities of their country of residence. This applies to all types of internships, regardless of their duration.

For an internship exceeding three months, interns must apply for a Resident Permit Permit. It is up to the company hosting the intern to follow the procedures and pay the administrative fees for the Residence Permit.



The application pack must include the following documents:

- An application requesting authorisation to do an internship in Mauritius, and a statement that the internship in question is not subject to remuneration
- An internship agreement signed by both parties
- A certificate of internship issued by the company
- A letter (internship plan) from the host company stating the company's name, address, telephone number, address of the internship place, start and end dates of the internship, internship assignments, and the name of the internship supervisor
- A travel certificate (copy of the ticket)
- A certificate of accommodation
- A copy of the first four pages (including the bio-data page) of the intern's passport
- An invitation letter from the company
- A bank certificate from the parents or the applicant (please note that it must be a certificate from the banker; not a banking statement)
- Two passport-sized photos
- A medical certificate which states that the intern is not a carrier of contagious diseases and their vaccines are up to date
- A copy of the intern's Individual Liability Insurance

Useful Link

Expat.com

www.expat.com/en/jobs

Vatel www.vatel.mu

The Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry www.mcci.org



Studying

The education system
Higher education

The Mauritian Education System

In Mauritius, education is free from pre-primary to tertiary level and is compulsory for all students up to the age of 16. Government schools in Mauritius follow the British Education System. Private primary and secondary schools follow the International Baccalaureate programme or the French Education System. Schools in Mauritius are divided into three levels: Primary - Secondary - Tertiary.

Most schools and colleges are government-run institutions. Thus, school uniforms are mandatory.

The low success rate at the CPE examinations (Certificate of Primary Education) in many regions of the island prompted a review of the education system. In 2015, the government introduced the concept of the «nine-year schooling», leading to the abolition of the CPE exams.

The Cambridge School Certificate and the Higher School Certificate (the equivalent of the International Baccalaureate) allow students access to higher educational institutions, as well as English-speaking universities in Mauritius.

Most students prefer to complete their studies in English to broaden the scope of their tertiary education opportunities abroad.

English Schooling

The British schooling system is very well established in Mauritius, and numerous institutions provide a high standard of education. The pass rate under the British system (HSC Exams) was 75.46% in 2017.

The government offers undergraduate scholarships to top students in allocated fields (science, languages, technology, economics). Other scholarships are also available to those wishing to study in Mauritius or abroad, such as the COMESA Media Journalism Award, World Bank Group Africa Fellowship Program, and the SBM Undergraduate Scholarship.

Since English is the official language of Mauritius,

most schools implement English classes as from pre-primary level. Mauritian students are at the very least bilingual when they reach HSC level.

Children of expatriates entering the Mauritian education system in the midst of their studies benefit from refresher courses provided by the school or private tuition.

International schools are privately operated, and entry is subject to registration and tuition fees. For tuition fees and other costs, please seek advice on the specific schools' websites.

Le Bocage International School

Le Bocage International School is an IBO school offering the International Baccalaureate (IB) programme for students aged between 11 and 18 years.

Annual fees range from USD 10,850 (Form 1 to Form 5) to USD 11,875 (Form 6 to Form 7), and a payment of USD 1,330 is required to cover the capital levy. The fees include the textbooks for the year and PTA fees.

Address: Mount Ory, Moka Mauritius

Phone Number: +230 433 9900

Fax Number: +230 433 9900

Web : www.lebocage.net

International Preparatory School

The International Preparatory School (IPS) is a private, English-medium, pre-primary and primary school in the Labourdonnais village. Annual fees are about USD 7,900, excluding a refundable deposit of USD 2,120.

Address : Labourdonnais, Mapou, Mauritius

Phone Number : +230 266 1973

Fax Number: +230 266 8112

Web : www.ips-mu.com

Hampton School

Hampton is a private, English-medium school offering daycare (from six months to three years) and schooling; at both pre-primary (from three to five years) and primary levels (from five to 11 years).

The Hampton Primary School allows its students to compete in national (CPE Exams) and international (Young Cambridge Learner's Certificate and Alliance Française Certificate) exams in their last academic year. This school also boasts a 100% CPE pass rate for the past five years (2012-2016).

Address: Buswell Avenue, Quatre-Bornes, Mauritius

Phone Number: +230 465 5229

Web : hamptonschollmu.com

Northfields International School

Northfields is a reputable school in Mauritius, which provides an all-round, English-medium education to students aged between nine and 18 years. It offers educational programmes under the International Baccalaureate and the Cambridge International Examinations (AS and HSC) systems. The school also has boarding facilities.

The Northfields Nursery and Junior School, located close to the Northfields International School, provides education to children from 18 months to four years of age.

Address: Main Road, Labourdonnais Village, Mapou, 31803, Mauritius

Phone Number: +230 266 9448/9

Fax: +230 266 9447

Web : www.northfieldsonline.com

Clavis International Primary School

The Clavis International Primary School is a private school authorised to offer the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP) for students aged between three and 11 years old.

The annual fee ranges from USD 4, 275 to USD 6,850, including books and yearly PTA. The registration fee is around USD 1,150.

Address: Mount Ory, Moka Mauritius

Phone Number: +230 433 4439

Fax Number: +230 433 2979

Web : www.clavis.mu

Scholarships

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP) targets students from Commonwealth countries, who can make a positive impact on their home country after the completion of a higher education programme in the UK. The preliminary selection of candidates is carried out in Mauritius by the Ministry of Education and Human Resources (MOEHR).

Useful link

Ministry of Education and Human Resources
Scholarships Section

Level 1, MITD House - Phoenix, Mauritius
Tel: +230 601 5200

Studying

Higher Education

Mauritius boasts both a high quality and diverse higher education. International students are welcome to Mauritius' tertiary education institutions.

It is highly recommended that international students, who wish to pursue a degree in Mauritius, familiarise themselves with the entry requirements (see chapter: "Living in Mauritius").

Institutions of Higher Education in Mauritius

University of Mauritius

The University of Mauritius follows the British Education System and comprises of six faculties (Agriculture, Engineering, Information Communication and Digital Technologies, Law and Management, Science, Social sciences and Humanities) and four specialised centres (*Centre for Information and Technology Systems (CITS)*, *Centre for Innovative Lifelong Learning*, *Centre for Biomedical and Biomaterials research*, *Centre for Research on Slavery and Indenture (CRSI)*).

Website : www.uom.ac.mu

Knowledge-based Training Centre

The KBTC is a government project, which started in 2008 by the Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD) with the aim to set up a modern training centre.

Today, KBTC offers a diverse range of courses in the fields of engineering, hotel trades, and business administration. Other courses, such as hairdressing, beauty therapy, and body massage are offered at Certificate and Advance Diploma Levels.

The KBTC is positioned to become one of the biggest Training Centres in the Indian Ocean region.

Middlesex University

Middlesex University officially opened in Mauritius in 2010, and since October 2017 it has expanded with a new campus in Cascavelle, on the west coast of the island.

Currently, Middlesex offers a variety of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, including Accounting and Finance, Computing, Advertising and Media, Business, Education, Law, Public Relations, Psychology and Counselling, and IT. Some of its programmes offer the opportunity to study in other Middlesex campuses internationally for one year or more.

The Middlesex Mauritius campus provides its students with modern facilities and the latest technology. The new Cascavelle campus features a brand-new sports complex with an Olympic size swimming pool, a gym, football, and a rugby pitch.

Website : www.middlesex.mu

University of Technology Mauritius (UTM)

The Act of Parliament officially opened the University of Technology Mauritius in 2000 to provide a second university in Mauritius that focuses on ICT, finance, and management.

Website : www.utm.ac.mu

Vatel Hotel & Tourism Business School (Mauritius)

Vatel has been present in Mauritius since 2013. It offers undergraduate and postgraduate courses mainly in international hotel management, and boasts a high success rate (96%), establishing itself as a reputable institution, which guarantees to its students a thriving career in the hospitality industry.

Vatel has partnered with prestigious hotels in Mauritius, and many of the practical courses are delivered in four and five-star hotels in Mauritius.

Website : www.vatel.mu

London College of Accountancy (LCA)

LCA is a professional training college offering ACCA courses throughout the year taught by experienced lecturers.

It stands out among other training centres and tuition providers in Mauritius not only because it is a platinum-approved learning partner of the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants (ACCA) but also because of its outstanding pass rate at an international level.

Website : www.lca.mu

African Leadership College (ALC)

The ALC is the Mauritian inaugural campus of the African Leadership University. The ALC's first academic year was in 2015 when 173 students were registered — a number that nearly doubled in 2017.

ALC's undergraduate degree programmes are offered by its academic partner, Glasgow Caledonian University, and have been carefully selected to reflect the upcoming industries in Africa.

Web : www.alueducation.com

Useful Link

Tertiary Education Commission – List of public institutions tec.intnet.mu/public_institutions

Tertiary Education Commission – List of private institutions tec.intnet.mu/private_institutions

Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research
ministry-education.govmu.org

Istudy.mu – Higher education information portal www.istudy.mu



Accommodation

| How to find accommodation in Mauritius?

Finding the perfect place in Mauritius requires patience, and a good sense of awareness and judgement.

Renting in Mauritius

Renting a villa or apartment (flat) in Mauritius is possible for non-residents. As a general rule, those come furnished and equipped with the essential household appliances.

Leases are usually long-term and automatically renewable unless otherwise stated. Deposits typically amount to one or two months' rent. It is highly recommended that the tenant requests an inventory before signing the lease agreement and takes pictures of the property before moving in.

Utilities (water (CWA) and electricity (CEB)) are sometimes included in the rent, but this is not a common practice.

Although houses in the central part of the island have electric heaters, heating is not necessary in Mauritius. Similarly, it is a nice addition to have an air conditioner, especially during the dry season (from October to April) but one can also do without. If you prefer to go through a real estate agent, you would usually have to pay a commission amounting to a month's rent.

Useful Link

Central Water Authority – CWA cwa.govmu.org

Central Electricity Board – CEB ceb.intnet.mu

Rentals

Prices vary depending on your expectations and requirements (view, proximity to beaches or city centre, leisure facilities such as swimming pool, security, furnishings, and equipment).

As a reference, indicative prices for a two-bedroom house are as follow:

- Rs7,000 to Rs10,000 inland
- Rs15,000 to Rs25,000 near tourist areas
- Rs35,000 to Rs60,000 for a waterfront villa.

Good to know

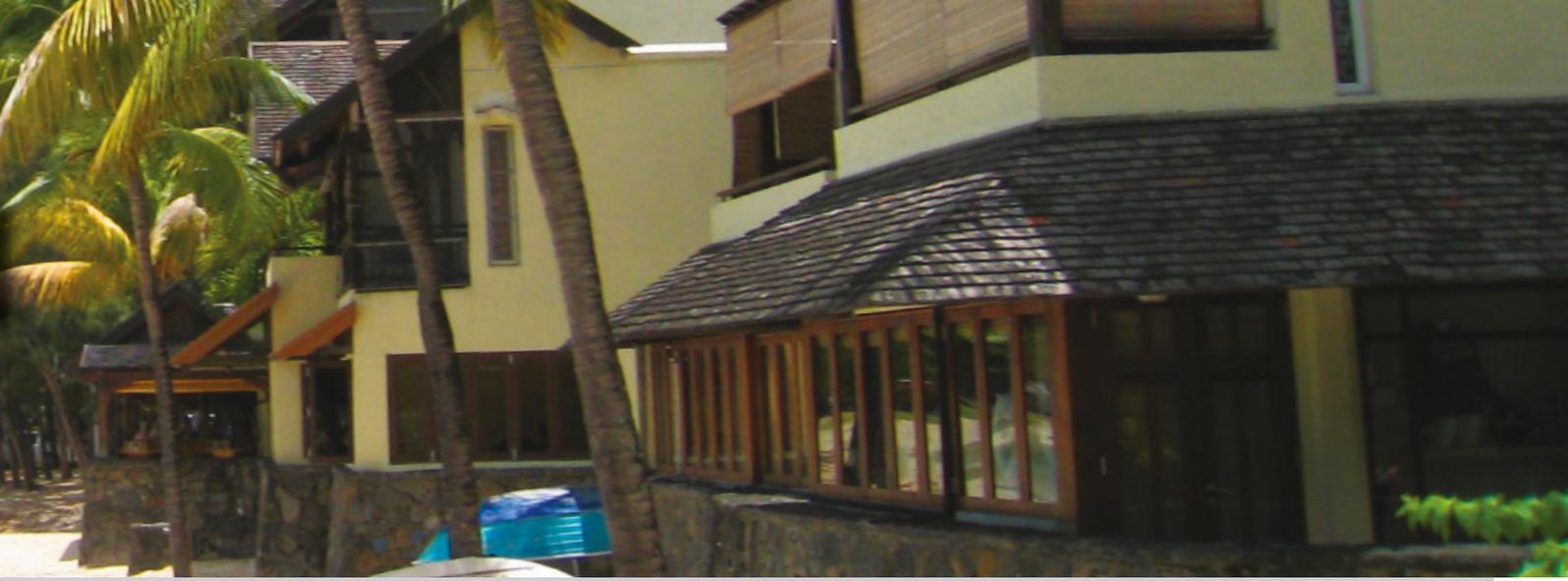
Classified ads and word-of-mouth often help to find a long-term rental that meets your expectations. For new expatriates, it is preferable first to rent on a short-term basis, and spend some time visiting places before making your final decision on a long-term rental.

Useful Link

Expat.com – Property adverts Housing Mauritius www.expat.com/en/housing/

Expat.com – Directories of real estate professionals www.expat.com/en/business

L'express Property www.lexpressproperty.com



Buying a property in Mauritius

Many foreigners are looking to invest in real estate in Mauritius. Property acquisition by a foreigner is governed by the Non-citizens (Property Restriction) Act and authorisation must be given by the Board of Investment, and approved by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

A non-Mauritian citizen can acquire different types of high-quality residential property under the Property Development Scheme (PDS), which replaces the Integrated Resort Scheme (IRS) and the Real Estate Scheme (RES). Furthermore, when a non-Mauritian citizen invests more than USD 500,000 or the equivalent in another freely convertible currency, they are eligible for a residence permit.

The property acquisition process and requests are administered by a PDS company after the buyer has completed the Know Your Client (KYC) exercise and opened an Escrow Account in his or her name. The application is made online on the *Property Acquisition and Management System*. A non-refundable fee of Rs10,000 must be paid by cheque (see chapter **Investing in Property and Management**).

Units of measurement

Mauritians rarely speak in square metres. So, you'll probably hear them measuring the land in square feet, 'perche' and 'toise'.

- 10.7641 square feet = 1 m²
- 1 perche = 42.21 m²
- 1 toise = 3,80 m²
- 1 acre = 100 perches
- 1 perche = 11.11 toises
- 1 acre = 1,111 toises



Healthcare

For anyone wishing to settle in a foreign country, the quality of the healthcare and accessibility to medical facilities are of high concern. Mauritius has an adequate public healthcare system, which is governed by the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life. Private health institutions are also available, offering competent medical facilities and treatments. Mauritius has five regional hospitals and two district hospitals (Souillac Hospital and Mahebourg Hospital). There are also several specialised hospitals, such as the otorhinolaryngological hospital in Vacoas (ENT), the Brown Sequard psychiatric clinic in Beau-Bassin, the Subramaniam Bharati eye hospital in Moka, and the Poudre d'Or hospital specialised in the treatment of pulmonary diseases. Public institutions provide healthcare, free of charge.

Private clinics and practices operate throughout the island and are easily accessible. Most private clinics are new and state-of-the-art, and have obtained their equipment through private investments. As a result, there has been a boost in the medical tourism industry in Mauritius — in 2015 about 16,000 tourists arrived in Mauritius. Local authorities are thus contemplating relieving foreign patients from the red-tape procedure regarding medical visas.

Private healthcare, however, can be expensive if one doesn't have an insurance plan. Although most of the general and a few specific health conditions can be treated in Mauritius, there are health conditions which require patients to travel outside of Mauritius for treatment. The nearest places for treatment are Reunion Island, India, and South Africa.

It is strongly recommended that expats ensure that they have the appropriate health insurance coverage for Mauritius.

Social Security

The Mauritian social security system administers pension benefits for retired citizens, invalid residents (applicable to non-citizens with a valid residence permit), widows, and social aid schemes, but does not include healthcare benefits.

The Social Aid Scheme provides financial assistance to any person temporarily or permanently incapable of earning a livelihood due to disability, sickness, accident, loss of their spouse, or sudden loss of employment for more than six months. Before moving to Mauritius, it is advisable to speak to the relevant authorities in your home country to confirm whether an agreement exists between the two countries regarding the social security framework.

It is also advisable to purchase an expatriate insurance scheme with a private insurance company before departing from your home country.

Useful Link

Ministry of Health and Quality of Life
health.govmu.org

Health Insurance

British Nationals moving to Mauritius on a temporary basis can opt to stay with their existing healthcare insurance in the UK due to the Bilateral Social Security Agreement between the two countries. This option, however, may affect their healthcare benefits, and British Nationals should seek further information from the relevant authorities before moving to Mauritius.

As a British Citizen, you will be required to show a Statement of the National Insurance you have paid in the UK in order to make a benefit claim.



Health insurances in Mauritius

Mauritius Union

4, Léoville L'Homme Street - Port-Louis

Tel.: (230) 203 25 40

Web : www.mauritiunion.com

Jubilee Insurance

Mezzanine Floor, One Cathedral Square

Pope Hennessy Street - Port-Louis

Tel. : (230) 202 22 60

E-mail : info@jubileemauritius.com

Web : www.jubileeinsurance.com

Swan Insurance Company Ltd

Swan Group Centre

10, Intendance Street - Port-Louis

Tel. : (230) 207 35 00

Fax : (230) 208 68 98

E-mail : info@swan.mu

Web : www.swangroup.mu

Health Risks

There are no major health threats in Mauritius. EU Nationals require no special vaccination for entry in Mauritius.

Vaccinations

If you come from Europe, North America, Oceania, or Asia, the yellow fever vaccination is optional. However, it is compulsory if you have recently visited an endemic zone.

Hepatitis A and B vaccinations are recommended for travellers to Mauritius. Travellers should ensure that their tetanus and polio vaccinations are up to date.

Foreign nationals returning to Mauritius after a stay in a country at risk of an epidemic are required to present the up-to-date international vaccination booklet.

Allergies

From April to May, people prone to allergies might be affected by the flowering sugarcane. During the sugarcane harvest season, cane fires can also create allergies due to airborne smoke particles.

Mosquitoes

During the wet season, a mosquito net and repellent products are recommended. Preventive treatments can also be used, such as coil emissions, fresh lemongrass, or geranium essence.

Note that the island is not at risk of malaria.

Healthcare

Mandatory medical examinations

Applicants for an Occupation Permit or Residence Permit are required to undergo a series of compulsory medical examinations:

1) Blood tests:

- haemoglobin and complete haematological examination
- hepatitis B surface antigen
- HIV test
- VDRL test – *Venereal Disease Research Laboratory*

2) Urinalysis for albumin and sugar

3) Stool test for parasites

4) Chest X-ray performed and certified by a radiologist.

The tests (HIV, hepatitis B surface antigen, and chest x-ray) must be carried out in Mauritius at the laboratories or private clinics registered with the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life three months before the Work Permit application is submitted. Depending on the results, further tests (e. g. malaria, parasite detection, etc.) may be required.

The medical examination must be carried out in a private clinic or laboratory which is featured on the Board of Investment's (BOI) list.

All test results and reports must be submitted to a local doctor, who will issue the medical certificate. All the documents must be submitted when applying for a permit. The Work Permit won't be approved if the medical examination detects a contagious or infectious disease.

The Work Permit is usually obtained within one week from the time the complete application has been submitted.

The applicant's spouse and children over 12 years of age must undergo the same medical examination,

as well as retirees applying for a Residence Permit. Children under 12 years of age are exempt from blood tests and the chest X-ray unless otherwise advised by the doctor. However, they must still undergo a medical examination and obtain a medical certificate.

Useful Link

Medical Certificate op.investmauritius.com/Guidelines/templates/medical_certificate.pdf

List of certified private clinics
op.investmauritius.com/Guidelines/templates/List%20of%20private%20clinics.pdf

List of certified laboratories
op.investmauritius.com/Guidelines/templates/List%20of%20Laboratories.pdf

Public Hospitals

Sir S. Ramgoolam National Hospital

Pamplemousses
Tél. : (230) 209 35 00
Fax : (230) 243 89 65

Victoria Hospital

Candos - Quatre Bornes
Tél. : (230) 425 30 31
Fax : (230) 425 76 93

Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital

Rose Belle
Tél. : (230) 603 70 00
Fax : (230) 627 49 81

A.G. Jeetoo Hospital

Volcy Pougnet Street, Port-Louis
Tél. : (230) 203 10 01
Fax : (230) 212 89 58

Flacq Hospital

Centre de Flacq
Tél. : (230) 413 25 32
Fax : (230) 413 25 66

Private clinics

City Clinic

102 – 106, Rue Sir Edgar Laurent, Port-Louis

Tél. : (230) 242 04 86

Fax : (230) 216 01 56

E-mail : drpcwc@intnet.mu

Web : www.cityclinicgroup.mu

Fortis Clinique Darné

Georges Guibert Street, Floréal

Tél. : (230) 601 23 00

Fax : (230) 696 36 12 (Admin)

Fax : (230) 696 12 09 (Medical)

E-mail : clinique@cliniquedarne.com

Web : www.fortiscliniquedarne.com

Wellkin Hospital

Moka

Tél. : (230) 605 10 00

Fax : (230) 605 11 00

Urgences : 132

E-mail : info@wellkinhospital.com

Web : [wellkinhospital.com](http://www.wellkinhospital.com)

Grand Bay Medical and Diagnostic Centre

Sottise Road - Grand Baie

Tél. : (230) 263 12 12

Fax : (230) 263 08 88

Mauritius Clinic

81, Route Côtière - Baie du Tombeau

Tél. : (230) 247 25 32

Fax : (230) 247 12 54

E-mail: cmdunord@intnet.mu

Web : www.cliniquedunord.mu

Antenne Pointes aux Canoniers (Mauritius Clinic)

Route Royal - Pointe-aux-Canoniers

Tel: (230) 263 10 10

Fax: (230) 263 1963

E-mail : cdnord@intnet.mu

Clinic Ferrière

College Lane - Curepipe

Tél. : (230) 676 33 32

Fax : (230) 675 11 24

E-mail : info@cliniqueferriere.com

Web : www.nouvellecliniqueferriere.com

Cardiac Centre at Pamplémousse

Centre cardiaque Hôpital du Nord

Hôpital Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam

Pamplémousses

Tél. : (230) 243 80 86

Clinics and Specialised Medical Centres

Dentcare, Dental clinic Labourdonnais

Beau Plateau Road

Le Village Labourdonnais

Mapou

Tél. : (230) 266 26 85

Fax : (230) 266 26 83

E-mail : dentcare@intnet.mu

Web : www.dentcaremauritius.com

Plastic and cosmetic surgery clinic

Avenue des Rougets

Trou aux Biches

Tel: (+230) 265 50 50

E-mail : contact@esthetic.info

Web : www.calvitie.net

Centre de Cardiologie des Mascareignes

Rue Georges Guibert

Floréal

Tél. : (230) 696 34 00

Fax : (230) 696 36 12

E-mail : ccm@intnet.mu

Healthcare

Medical laboratories

Flacq Medical Laboratory (Biosanté)

Eastern College Lane
Centre de Flacq
Tél. : (230) 413 51 14
Fax : (230) 413 51 14

Medical & Surgical Centre Laboratory (Fortis Clinic Darné)

Georges Guibert Street
Floréal
Tél. : (230) 601 23 00
Fax : (230) 696 12 09

Medisave Medical Centre Laboratory

29, St Jean Road
Quatre-Bornes
Tél. : (230) 427 70 00
Fax : (230) 424 15 38

Clinic Ferrière Laboratory (Medical Analysis Laboratory)

Gajadhur Lane, Curepipe
Tél. : (230) 676 33 32
Fax : (230) 675 11 24

La Clinique Mauricienne Laboratory

Réduit
Tél. : (230) 454 30 61
Fax : (230) 464 88 13

Medical Care Laboratory Services

58, SSR, St.
Port-Louis
Tél. : (230) 242 00 45
Fax : (230) 413 56 18

Lab Point Medical Laboratory

22, Jummah Mosque St
Port-Louis
Tél. : (230) 216 53 62
Fax : (230) 216 29 98

Medical Diagnostic Laboratory

4, Shan-E-Islam Lane,
Impasse Labourdonnais St
Port-Louis
Tél. : (230) 210 52 26
Fax : (230) 210 52 26

Vacoas Laboratory & Medical Centre

John Kennedy Avenue
Vacoas
Tél. : (230) 697 06 43
Fax : (230) 698 88 17

Medical Specialists

Anesthetists

Dr. Subod Nundloll (France)

Anesthésie Réa. —
Directeur du SAMU
Hôpital Jeetoo
Port-Louis
Tél. : (230) 250 43 82
Tél. : 5250 43 82

Dr Chandra Ramphul (France)

Centre cardiaque
Hôpital du Nord
Pamplemousses
Tél. : (230) 243 82 20

Cardiologists

Dr. Mamode Aniff Khan Yearoo (diplômé France)

24 Raoul Rivet Street
Port-Louis
Tél. : (230) 212 31 32

Dr P. Doolub (France)

Clinique Darné - Floréal
Tél. : (230) 601 23 00

Surgeons

Dr Jean-Pierre Vaulbert (France / Angleterre)

Clinique Darné - Floréal
Tél. : (230) 601 23 00

Dr Guy Adam (Angleterre)

Clinique Darné - Floréal
Tél. : (230) 601 23 00

Orthopedic surgeons

Dr Paul Teckam (Angleterre)

Clinique Darné - Floréal
Tél. : (230) 601 23 00

Chiropractors

Docteur Cyril Fischhoff (Diplomé France & USA)

Royal road - Grand Baie (face au Kapu kai)
Tél. : (230) 263 02 10

Dermatologist

Dr. Philip Li Loog (Canada)

Labourdonnais Court - Port-Louis

Gastro enterologists

Dr. Philip Lam Thuom Mine (UK)

68, av. Ylang Ylang - Quatre-Bornes
Tél. : (230) 454 45 12

Gynecologists - Obstetricians

Dr. Arvind Pulton (UK)

105, route Royale - Beau Bassin
Tél. : (230) 466 06 17

Dr. Oomar Cassam Moolam (UK)

Centre médical Desforges
rue Sir Seewoosagur
Ramgoolam - Port-Louis
Tél. : (230) 212 32 60

Ophthalmologists

Docteur Khalil Fakim (diplômé France)

15, avenue Sodnac
Quatre-Bornes
Tél. : (230) 424 26 50

Dr. Indurdeo Gaya (UK)

Clinique Darné
Floréal
Tél. : (230) 601 23 00

Otolaryngologists

Docteur Serge Maurice (Angleterre)

Clinique mauricienne - Réduit
Tél. : (230) 454 30 61 /62 /63
Fax : (230) 464 88 13

Dr. Safar Juhoor (France)

3, av. B. Sequard -
Quatre Bornes
Tél. : (230) 425 94 04

Osteopaths

Pascale Hannart

La Preneuse - Rivière Noire
Tél. : (230) 483 65 64

Pediatricians

Dr. Chandra Domah

99A, av. Trianon 1,
Sodnac - Quatre-Bornes
Tél. : (230) 464.95.70

Dr Julia Maigrot (Angleterre)

1, rue Lees, Curepipe
Tél. : (230) 675.16.56

Psychiatrists

Dr. Paramavisen Motay (France)

95, morcellement Bismic - Flic en Flac
Tél. : (230) 453 87 19

Radiologists

Dr Manraj (France)

Clinique Darné - Floréal
Tél. : (230) 601 23 00

Dr. Ashok Anand Manraj

Morc. Senneville, Angus
Road - Vacoas
Tél. : (230) 696 35 36

Useful Link

Expat.com – Directory of medical professionals in
Mauritius expat.com

Yelo – Directory of doctors and clinics in Mauritius
www.yelo.mu



Bank Accounts

Opening a bank account
Choosing a bank

Non-residents in Mauritius

Non-Mauritian citizens are allowed to open a bank account in Mauritius, but usually only a savings account which allows for regular transactions, transfers, and withdrawals.

As a holder of a savings account, you will be provided with a debit card for withdrawal from ATMs, as well as direct debit payments.

Foreign Currency Accounts

Current accounts in foreign currencies are accessible to residents and non-residents. Foreign currency accounts can only receive funds via domestic and international bank transfers. Foreign currency accounts also bear interest at fixed rates (term account) or variable interest (remuneration of the available amount).

MINIMUM DEPOSIT	MINIMUM DEPOSIT FOR INTEREST GAIN
EUR : 1 000	2 000
USD : 1 000	2 000
GBP : 500	2 000
CHF : 1 500	7 500

Foreign Residents Current Account in Rupees

To open a current account in the local currency, you must provide a copy of your passport along with a utility bill in your name (CEB, CWA, etc.). You will be given a chequebook, debit and credit cards, and access to internet banking.

The minimum deposit required varies depending on the internal rules of the chosen bank. Generally, it will be between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 5,000.

Overdrafts

Foreign accounts can only receive funds. However, special arrangements can be made regarding investments within the same institution.

List of the main banks

The Mauritius Commercial Bank

Sir William Newton Street

Port-Louis

Tél. : (230) 202 50 00

Fax : (230) 208 70 54

E-mail : mcb@mcb.co.mu

Web : www.mcb.mu

Horaires d'ouverture des banques

Lundi au jeudi : 9h à 15h15

Vendredi : 9h à 17h

State Bank of Mauritius

1, Avenue Queen Elizabeth II

Port Louis

Tél. : (230) 202 11 11

Fax : (230) 202 12 34

E-mail : sbm@sbmgroup.mu

Web : www.sbmgroup.mu

Banque des Mascareignes

Maeva Tower Ltd, 9ème étage

Cnr Silicon Avenue & Bank Street

Cybercity, 72201

Tél. : (230) 207 10 00

Fax : (230) 210 23 00

E-mail : serviceclient@bm.mu

Web : www.banquedesmascareignes.mu

Barclays Bank

Barclays House

68-68A, Cybercity

Ebène

Tél. : (230) 402 10 00

Fax : (230) 465 20 00

E-mail : customer.contact@barclays.com

Web : www.barclays.mu

HSBC Bank (Mauritius)

6ème étage, HSBC Centre

18, Cybercity,

Ébène

Tél. : (230) 403 83 33

Fax : (230) 403 09 99

E-mail : hsbcmauritius@hsbc.co.mu

Web : www.hsbc.co.mu

Bank One

16, Sir William Newton Street

Port Louis

Tél. : (230) 202 92 00

Fax : (230) 210 47 12

Web : www.bankone.mu

Afrasia Bank

Bowen Square10, Dr Ferriere Street

Port Louis

Tél. : (230) 208 55 00

Fax : (230) 213 88 50

E-mail : afrasia@afasiabank.com

Web : www.afasiabank.com

Investec Bank (Mauritius) Limited

6th Floor, Dias Pier Building Le Caudan Waterfront Caudan,

Port Louis, Mauritius, Port Louis 11307

Tél. : (230) 207 4000

Web : www.investec.com

SBI International (Mauritius) Ltd

Immeuble X Stich, Cassis

Port Louis

Tél. : (230) 212 2054

Web : www.sbimauritius.com

Good to Know

Before choosing a bank, please check on the international relationships between your home country and the Mauritian bank. It is mandatory to show proof of your source of funds for significant deposits in local bank accounts.

Useful Link

Board of Investment –List of banks op.investmauritius.com



Taxes

What are the benefits?

Do I have to pay taxes?

To encourage foreign investment, Mauritius has, over the years, introduced numerous tax incentives while adhering to international standards. An OECD-compliant (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) jurisdiction, Mauritius is renowned for its continued commitment implementing international measures of transparency.

Tax benefits

Tax residency is an essential requirement for anyone who hopes to claim tax benefits in Mauritius. Corporations that meet the relevant set of criteria can benefit from the following advantages:

- No taxation on dividends
- No capital gains tax
- No inheritance tax for direct descendants
- Repatriation of funds (profits and dividends) from a foreign company at a tax rate of 15%
- Tax Rate of 15%
- Full tax exemption on import-export activities
- Tax rate of 15% on manufacturing activities
- Exemption from customs' duties for all goods imported through the Freeport

Income Tax

The main taxation system on the island is the «PAYE» (Pay As You Earn) system. Income tax is deducted directly from salaries and remitted to the Mauritius Revenue Authority by the employer. In order to protect employees from paying taxes twice, double taxation agreements exist between Mauritius and numerous countries including the UK, South Africa, Germany, Australia, China, and India.



Personal Taxes

Revenue from salaries, wages, and pension funds is deducted at source under the PAYE system by the employer. Current practice requires that the employer provides the employees with an Employee Declaration Form (EDF), on which the employee must declare any other income aside from their salary (e.g. interests, royalties, dividends from a foreign source, etc.) so that the employer can calculate the income tax and deduct the amount.

The employee will then submit his annual income tax return to the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA).

A tax resident in Mauritius benefits from the Income Tax Threshold Exemption (IET), starting at Rs. 300,000 up to Rs. 550,000 (for 2018), depending on the number of dependents and the category into which that individual falls. The IET allows for any revenue of the individual, below or equal to their determined threshold to be exempt from taxation.

Individuals are taxed at a fixed rate of 15%.

Solidarity Levy

A solidarity levy exists for individuals who are tax residents in Mauritius and have a leviable income exceeding Rs. 3.5 million. An additional levy of 5% is imposed on the leviable income in excess of the Rs. 3.5 million threshold and is payable at the time of the submission of the individual's tax return.

Corporate Income Tax

Corporate income tax is at the fixed rate of 15%. This relates to:

- profit derived from the business activities
- interests received
- foreign dividends received
- rent received

Where an individual derives income from rent or business activities, it is subject to filing his tax returns quarterly under the Current Payment System unless that income is less than Rs. 4 million for the preceding year or the tax payable under the CPS is not greater than Rs. 500.

Similarly, corporations that are tax residents in Mauritius, are required to follow the Advance Payment System (APS) and submit quarterly

returns to the MRA unless their gross income for the preceding accounting year was less than Rs. 10 million or there was no chargeable income.

Financial Year

The financial year begins on July 1st and ends on June 30th of the following year.

Tax returns must be submitted to the MRA by the 30th of September (by way of post or hand) or electronically by the 15th of October at the latest.

VAT

The VAT rate in Mauritius is fixed at 15%.

Useful links

Mauritius Revenue Authority www.mra.mu

MRA - Personal tax www.mra.mu/index.php/taxes-duties/personal-taxation

MRA - Corporate tax www.mra.mu/index.php/taxes-duties/corporate-taxation

Double taxation agreements signed by

49 Mauritius www.mra.mu/index.php/taxes-duties/double-taxation-agreements

Driving in Mauritius

Should I apply for an International Driving Licence?
Application for a Mauritian driving licence



In Mauritius, all driving licence requests must go through the Police Commissioner.

Holders of international driving licences

A holder of an international driving licence can drive in Mauritius but only for the types of vehicles mentioned on his licence. However, the international driving licence is only valid for three years.

Note that the British driving licence is recognised in Mauritius. In case of a long stay, the holder must go to the Casernes Central traffic branch in Port Louis, and show their British driving licence in order to be given a Mauritian driving license free of charge. This should be renewed annually.

Application for a Mauritian driving licence

A foreigner residing in Mauritius is able to apply for a provisional driving licence for an autocyte as from the age of 15, a motorcycle from the age of 17, and a car from the age of 18. For safety reasons, choose a registered driving school, as some operate illegally. It is possible to take the driving and parking test in your own car provided that a special assurance policy is obtained.

In Mauritius, the local driving licence test consists of three parts: the highway code, driving test, and parking test. Once you have passed the multiple choice theoretical examination (Learner's Test), you will be issued with a Learner's Licence, and will be able to practice driving if accompanied by a valid driving licence holder. Once the driving test is completed, the parking test will be conducted right after. Note that if you fail in any of these tests you will not be granted a driving licence, and you'll have to come back to retake the tests that you failed.

The documents required for a driving licence's application are:

- A birth certificate
- National identity card/student card
- Marriage certificate for married women
- Work/residence permit Passport

Driving Lessons

You may take as many driving lessons as you wish from an approved driving school. Normally, a period of three months is granted to the applicant between the first step (Highway Code test) and the second (driving and parking tests).

The fees of the driving lessons vary, depending on the driving school or instructor. Normally, a session of 30 minutes is between Rs. 250 and Rs. 300, and the hourly rate shouldn't exceed Rs. 500. It is advisable to compare rates before registering with a school. The registration fee with a driving school is around Rs. 1,200.

Driving Test

The Learner's Test fee is Rs. 500, and the same amount needs to be paid for each new attempt to take the test. Similarly, the driving test fee is Rs. 500, and again the same amount needs to be paid every time the test is taken. A non-reimbursable insurance fee of about Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000 is paid to the driving school/instructor each time as well.

The driving and parking tests are carried out at the Casernes Centrales in Port-Louis or at the Curepipe Barracks.

In Mauritius, people drive on the left-hand side, and the priority is given to vehicles coming from the right.

Good to Know

If you have passed your driving test in an automatic car, you are not allowed to drive in manual gear.

Useful Link

The Mauritius Police Force police.govmu.org

Road Network

There is good road infrastructure in the country, with main roads, highways, and secondary roads. Major road work has improved the existing road network and traffic flow in the surrounding areas of the capital and around other big cities such as Quatre-Bornes. Road signs are effective on the main roads, but not always consistently present on secondary roads. In general, Mauritians are friendly and ready to help regarding giving directions.

The traffic regulations

Driving is on the left-hand side, so priority is given to the traffic coming from the right. Speed is regulated at 40 km/h in the city, 80 km/h on the main roads, and 110 km/h on some parts of the highway.

Driving manuals are available in every bookstore. Extra care and attention must be paid when driving around the roundabouts and in town.

It is worth mentioning that buses have priority and often do not respect traffic regulations.

Driving licences cannot be automatically converted to include heavy goods vehicles. To be authorised to drive such vehicles, you will have to re-take the driving test in Mauritius, specifically for those types of vehicles.

Importing your car

Importing your car to Mauritius is possible. However, it is important to consider the following factors to calculate the profitability of this process, even though the alternative is to purchase a car in Mauritius which can be quite expensive.

The car must have been registered in the name of the owner, in the country of their residence, at least six months before their arrival in Mauritius. The cost of importation of a vehicle is approximately EUR 3,000 to 4,000.

Since driving is on the left-hand side in Mauritius, driving a car with a left-hand steering wheel can be dangerous. Upon import of the vehicle, you will need to seek a certification from the National Transport Authority (NTA) to be able to drive the car in Mauritius. The NTA may also require that you modify the vehicle on top of a 15% tax on the 'Cost, Insurance and Freight' (CIF) and 15% VAT.

Buying a car

If you use the services of a car dealer, all formalities will be taken care of.

If you purchase the vehicle directly from its owner, they must provide you with:

- Registration book (Horsepower)
- Two originals of the Deed of Sale
- A 'Certificat de Gage' (proof of full payment of the car), obtained from the NTA

Once those documents are in your possession, you must go to the Registrar Building in Port Louis, to pay the registration fees associated with the purchase of the vehicle. You will need to go back to the NTA to collect your car's registration card. Dealerships on the island represent most brands. However, it is important to obtain information for maintenance, as spare parts for European cars (Peugeot, Renault, BMW, Mercedes, Rover, Ford, Volkswagen) are expensive in Mauritius. Asian brands are the most widespread (Toyota, Honda, Nissan, Mitsubishi, Mazda, Hyundai, Suzuki, KIA), and spare parts for these brands are more readily available.

Car dealerships usually deal with banks or financial institutions. Leasing cars is a common practice in Mauritius.

Useful Links

National Transport Authority nta.govmu.org

MRA - Importation of Vehicle eservices6.mra.mu

Leal www.leal.mu

Axess axess.mu

Toyota www.toyotamauritius.com

Hyundai www.hyundai.mu



Moving

Planning your move to Mauritius

Moving abroad is not easy, and it is important to carefully go over all the necessary details. Take the time to familiarise yourself with the formalities and examine all the different quotes and offers from international moving companies. Sometimes, it is wise to sell off some items before your departure and to purchase similar ones again once you are in Mauritius. This approach allows you to reduce the volume and weight of relocated items, and consequently the associated costs. Plus the majority of houses and apartments for rent in Mauritius are furnished and equipped with basic electrical appliances.

Choose a moving company

Choose a moving company with an international reputation and which is affiliated with professional associations such as IAM (International Association of Movers). This will most likely mean that there's a structured network and a local partner in Mauritius, who will facilitate the customs clearance formalities and delivery to the final destination. Who doesn't want a smooth and secure international move?

Know the volume of items to be moved

International moving experts come to your home and determine the volume of items to be relocated. Make sure you also have a list of inventory and their relevant volume and weight. Moving companies can also assist in tailoring the best solution for your needs (container, pallets, etc.).

The international removal contract

The contract must mention several essential points:

- Address of departure (the location from which the items will be removed)
- Address of arrival in Mauritius
- Volume of items being moved
- Mode of transportation and duration of travel
- Terms of service and conditions of the moving company
- Price of the service provided
- The route from the point of departure to the point of arrival
- Terms of the insurance cover

Useful Links

International Association of Movers – IAM
www.iamovers.org

Federation of European Movers – FEDEMAC
www.fedemac.eu

Services

The selection of services provided by the moving company (for e.g. dismantling furniture), is an agreement between the moving company and yourself. For an international move, it is sensible to entrust packing and moving of fragile objects to a professional.

List and declaration of value

It is essential to create an inventory of all items in each container and sign it before the shipping. This will estimate the value of each container (Declaration of Value) in cases of loss or damage to your belongings, and will help to estimate the compensation you must receive. Keep a signed and dated copy of this inventory list in a secure and accessible place.

Consequently, the moving company could offer you an 'all risks insurance' which would automatically cover any risk.



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Tel: (230) 242 4752 - Email: info.starfreight@intnet.mu

Consignment Note

The consignment note states the terms of the contract, the mode of transport, the volume of goods in the shipment, and the name and address of the customer and the moving company. You will have to sign it at the time of loading and at the time of final delivery.

Timeframe

For someone relocating to Mauritius from Europe, the total duration of the move is usually between four to five weeks. Bear in mind that the shipment route includes the road network to reach the harbour and the marine route. The moving company will usually inform you of the dates which coincide with the departure of cargo ships.

Customs clearance of the container on arrival

You will be notified when your container reaches the harbour in Port Louis, and you will be requested to complete all relevant formalities with the MRA. You must also present your identification papers and a valid Residence permit along with the inventory and the 'Declaration of Value' form.

Warning

You will not be authorised to remove your container from Customs if you haven't been provided with a valid Residence Permit yet. As such, your container will remain at Customs until you receive the Residence Permit or decide to send your shipment back. In addition, you will be liable to pay a fee to Customs for the safekeeping of your container and might be charged a fee to rent the space taken up by the container.

An appointment will be made at the docks, and Customs control will then open all containers in your presence. All or part of the boxes may be unpacked to verify their content. Severe penalties apply if prohibited items are found in your shipment.

Local freight forwarder

It is mandatory to go through a freight forwarder to complete the customs clearance procedures, obtain authorisation to remove the container from the harbour area, and if necessary, have the items delivered to your place.



Delivery to your home

Some moving companies do not offer door-to-door delivery but assist up to the point where the container reaches the port. The transfer of your belongings from the harbour to your new home implies additional costs.

Taxes and exemption

You do not have to pay taxes on personal belongings as long as these items have (i) been in your possession and used for at least one year and (ii) are not intended for sale or transfer to a third party. All items for domestic and personal use (clothing, household appliances, electronic devices, linens, furniture, photos, bedding, cutleries, crockeries, sewing machine, musical instruments, refrigerator, stove, etc.) are considered to be personal belongings. If the items are new, they will be taxed. The amount of tax leviable varies according to product classifications.

Prohibited products

The following products are prohibited for importation to Mauritius:

- plants, seeds, flowers, fresh produce
- live animals
- drugs
- weapons (war, hunting, fishing)

Useful links and addresses

Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA)

Custom House

Mer Rouge - Port Louis

Tél. : (230) 202 05 00 / 01

Fax : (230) 216 95 67

E-mail : customs@mra.mu

Web : www.mra.mu

Mauritius Port Authority

H.Ramnarain Building

Mer Rouge - Port Louis

Tél. : (230) 206 54 00

Fax : (230) 240 08 56

E-mail : info@mauport.com

Web : www.mauport.com

Professional Association of Freight Forwarders

Professional Association of Freight Forwarders
C/o The Mauritius Chamber of Commerce & Industry

3 Royal Street

Port-Louis

Web : www.aptmauritius.com



Customs

When travelling to Mauritius, your clothing, personal items and jewellery are free of duty or VAT, whether or not they are with you upon arrival or are sent to you separately — as long as they are intended for personal use. This applies to any personal items, and includes:

- a portable musical instrument
- a personal music player, mp3 player, and image recorder
- a portable radio receiver
- a portable video camera
- a camera
- a bicycle
- a windsurfing board and up to three sails
- a fishing gear (excluding underwater fishing weapons)
- diving and golf equipment

The items mentioned above must be re-exported within six months of their import or otherwise the authorities will impose duties and taxes.

Allowed zero-rated products (for any passenger aged 18 and above arriving in Mauritius or Rodrigues on an international flight) are:

- 250 g of tobacco (cigars and cigarettes)
- Wine, ale, and beer not exceeding two litres
- Spirits not exceeding one litre
- 25 cl of cologne
- 10 cl of perfumes

Plants, seeds, fresh fruits, and flowers require an import permit from the Ministry of Agriculture beforehand, and must be declared accordingly to customs on arrival.

Good to know

Flower boxes, sold at the airport, hold a phytosanitary certificate authorizing their import and export. Weapons (war, hunting, underwater fishing) and ammunition are prohibited. However, in the context of professional use, weapons must be declared on both arrival and departure. The requisite supporting documents and authorisations must be presented to the authorities.

Animals: The importation of animals is subject to prior authorisation by the Ministry of Agriculture and must be declared to customs on arrival. The animals will be quarantined before their entry in Mauritian territory (see the chapter on **Practical Life - Pets**).

Prohibited products: Hard drugs as well as soft drugs are strictly prohibited. Their importation is illegal, and trafficking is severely punished by law. Possession of rolling paper is also prohibited.

Not declaring prohibited products or any product requiring prior authorisation to customs constitutes an offence, and offenders are liable to a fine or even imprisonment. The products in question will be confiscated.

Useful addresses and links

Customs Department

Port Louis

Tel. : (230) 202 05 00 / 01

Web : www.mra.mu

Agricultural Services

Réduit

Tel. : (230) 401 28 00

Fax : (230) 464 8749

Web : agriculture.govmu.org

Practical life

Pets

Transport

Telephone, internet, and postal services

Water, electricity, medias ...

Pets

Non-resident pet owners must have obtained their Residence Permit before bringing their pet to Mauritius.

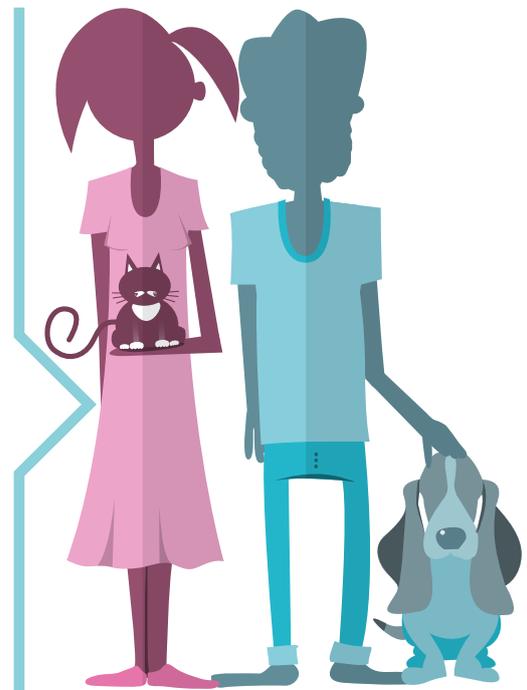
You will need to seek prior approval with the Mauritius Veterinary Committee, which will be delivered to you after 15 days. This approval is not to be confused with an actual approved permit to bring your pet. The veterinarian will perform a blood test on your pet to check antibodies/rabies level within the 30 days of the vaccination, and a sterilization certificate will be also issued. Your pet will undergo another blood test to detect the presence of ehrlichiosis and brucellosis in the 45 days preceding its arrival in Mauritius. A certificate of good health will be issued three to four days before its departure. This document must be validated by departmental veterinary services. Make sure that you have all your pet's papers handy.

Once the results are obtained, only then can you apply for an import permit with the Mauritian Veterinary Services in Reduit. The approval process usually takes two working days, and the processing fee is Rs. 1,000.

You will need to notify the veterinary authorities in Reduit of your pet's arrival (date, time, flight number) two to three days in advance. Your pet will be taken in by the veterinary services (at the airport) in your presence. Please note that all the official original documents need to be presented then, in the absence of which your pet will be sent back to the country of origin, or euthanised. Pets from Europe are quarantined for five days and you are allowed to visit them twice daily.

At the end of the quarantine, you must register your pet with MSAW in Rose Hill (Rs. 500). A proof of payment must also be submitted to Reduit. You can then proceed with the payment of the quarantine period of your pet (Rs. 15 per day).

Once the payment is completed and the registration finalised with MSAW, you will be able to pick up your pet and take it home.



Useful links

Mauritius Revenue Authority
– Département des douanes
www.mra.mu

Ministère de l'Agriculture
– Département vétérinaire
agriculture.govmu.org

Protection of Animals Welfare
Society – PAWS
www.pawsmauritius.org

Transport

Bus

The bus network system makes it possible to travel around the island at a low cost. There are two types of bus routes in Mauritius: the regular and the express. Nowadays, most buses in Mauritius have air conditioning.

Buses operate from 5 am to 8 pm in urban areas, and from 5 am to 6:30 pm in rural areas. Express buses are less frequent, but the advantage is that they run on the highway and only stop at major bus stops, meaning that the journey is faster. If you want to travel from one end of the island to the other, you will need to make at least one transfer. Bus tickets are bought directly from the bus conductor on the bus.

Useful links

Rose Hill Transport www.rht.mu

Mauritius Buses – Bus itineraries www.mauritius-buses.com



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Shop 2, London Supermarket, La Preneuse, Tamarin | t (230) 483 4008 | t (230) 483 4777

Transport... (continued)

Plane

Air Mauritius provides approximately 30 weekly flights to and from major European cities, including three flights between London and Mauritius. You can book your air ticket to Manchester, Birmingham, Glasgow, Edinburg, Newcastle, and many other cities in the United Kingdom via London. Other airlines that serve Mauritius are British Airways, Air Austral, Air Seychelles, Air India, Kenya Airways, Emirates, South African Airways, Air Zimbabwe, Condor, Corsair Fly, Turkish Airlines.



Useful links

Air Mauritius www.airmauritius.com

British Airways www.airfrance.fr

South African Airlines www.airmadagascar.com

Turkish Airlines www.turkishairlines.com

Flight Info www.orange.mu

Useful links

**Mauritius Shipping
Corporation Ltd**

www.mauritiusshipping.net

Ship

At the date of publishing, the Trochetia is the only ship in service between Mauritius and Rodrigues. A boat trip to Rodrigues has several advantages; it is cheaper than an air transfer, the port of embarkment is situated in Port Louis, and the boarding begins one hour prior to departure. The Trochetia serves both as cargo and a passenger ferry. It can accommodate a maximum of 112 passengers exclusively in cabins of different categories (luxury, semi-luxury, first and second class).

Practical life

Transport... *(continued)*

Renting a car

There are large international car rental agencies as well as approved local rental companies in Mauritius, leasing cars for all tastes. For expats who wish to arrange a long-term rental, discounted fares may apply. Insurance is generally included in the rental price, and in cases of breakdown, agencies arrange a replacement vehicle.



Useful links

Expat.com – Classified ads for cars in Mauritius
www.expat.com/en/classifieds

Avis www.avismauritius.com
Hertz www.hertz.mu

Useful links

Mauritius Telecom www.myt.mu
EMTEL www.emtel.com
Orange www.orange.mu
Chili www.chili.mu

Telephone

In Mauritius, telecommunication services are provided by the Mauritius Telecom (MT). In general, houses, apartments, and commercial premises have a fixed telephone line already installed. If this is not the case, an application can be made to the nearest MT Branch. The installation takes from 15 days to three weeks. Costs (excluding VAT) range from Rs 2,000 for individuals to Rs 3,000 for businesses. If the telephone line is installed outside of office hours, an additional fee of Rs. 500 is added to the standard fee, and the amount is included in the first bill.

A security deposit is also required: Rs 5,000 for individuals and Rs 2,000 for businesses. The rental of the device (optional) costs Rs 1,000 while the monthly subscription costs Rs 90 for individuals and Rs 225 for businesses.

To subscribe, you will need to produce the following documents:

- an installation application form
- a passport
- proof of address

Three service providers share the flourishing mobile phone market in Mauritius: Emtel, Mauritius Telecom, and Mahanagar Telephone Mauritius Limited (Chili). They offer monthly packages and prepaid cards, which are very popular among Mauritians. You will find branches of these service providers in major shopping malls and city centres. To obtain a monthly package, go directly to the approved shop with an identity card and proof of address.

Emergency numbers

Samu: 114
Fire services: 115
Coast guards: 212 27 47
Police: 112 / 999
Central Police: 208 12 12
Tourism Police: 213 17 40
CEB (Electricity): 130
CWA (Water): 170
Child Protection: 113
Crime Prevention: 148

Information

Meteorological services: 686 1031
Telephone directory: 150
Tourist info: 152
Flight info: 89 65
Road Traffic: 203 12 51



Internet

Mauritius is currently served by four operators; the leading provider is Mauritius Telecom, which offers a wide range of services for both individuals and businesses (MyT, ADSL, Wi-Fi, etc.).

The requirements are simple — you need to fill an application form, go to the provider of your choice with copies of your Occupation or Residence Permit and your passport. You must also obtain written authorisation from the owner of the telephone line (if it's other than you), confirming you can use it. To verify the eligibility for your line call 8902.

For an ADSL subscription, the rates (VAT included) range from Rs. 699 for 512 Kbps, Rs. 799 for 1 Mbps, Rs. 1,349 for 2 Mbps, and Rs. 2,349 for 4 Mbps. If you chose to subscribe to MyT, the monthly rates range from Rs. 999 for 10 Mbps, Rs. 1,549 for 20 Mbps, Rs. 2,049 for 30 Mbps, and Rs. 4,049 for 100 Mbps.

Postal Services

Due to the growth in the tourism industry in Mauritius, there has been an influx in international shipment, thanks to efficient air transport and shipment services. During peak season however, delivery time varies between four days and three weeks.

The opening hours of the post offices:

Monday to Friday from 8.15 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday from 8.15 a.m. to 11.45 a.m.

Express Delivery

In case of urgent delivery needs, Mauritius provides several express delivery services such as Fedex and UPS.

Useful links

EMS www.ems.post

Fedex www.fedex.com

UPS Mauritius www.iblgroup.com

Useful Link

Mauritius Post www.mauritiuspost.mu

Media

All international papers, magazines, and reviews are on sale at the local supermarkets. You can also find game magazines (crossword, puzzles, sudoku) and children's magazines.

The Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation (MBC) is in charge of the broadcasting of TV shows on local channels, which are accessible via DTT (Digital Terrestrial Television). Movies, documentaries, and other shows are provided in several languages: Mauritian Creole, English, French, Hindi and other oriental languages. The most popular TV programmes are the Indian movies and series, BBC News, and British, French, and American movies.

Useful links

Television

MBC mbc.intnet.mu

CanalSat Maurice www.canalsat-maurice.com

Parabole Maurice www.parabolemaurice.com

MyT www.myt.mu

Radios

Radio Moris www.radiomoris.com

Radio Plus radioplus.defimedia.info

Radio One www.r1.mu

Top FM Radio www.topfmradio.com

Newspapers

L'Express Maurice www.lexpress.mu

Le Mauricien www.lemauricien.com

Le Défi www.defimedia.info

5 Plus Dimanche www.5plus.mu

News on sunday defimedia.info/categorie/news-on-sunday

Practical life

Water supply

Water is supplied to households and commercial premises by the Central Water Authority (CWA). An estimated 98% of households receive running tap water. The water is properly treated at the source and reliably drinkable. However, during periods of heavy tropical rain, mud flow results in water contamination thereby giving it a brownish tint. During those periods it is advisable to drink bottled water, or boil the tap water prior to consuming it.



Useful Link Central Water Authority cwa.govmu.org



Electricity

The voltage of household outputs is 220 V. The electrical sockets are usually similar to the ones used in the United Kingdom, but the European socket can also be found in many buildings. Thus, owning an adapter is advisable. Plugs, extension cords, and adapters are available in hardware stores, supermarkets, and DIY stores. During the tropical cyclone season, a generator can be of great use.

Useful Link Central Electricity Board ceb.intnet.mu

Gas

There is no «town gas» system in Mauritius. If you have chosen gas as your mode of cooking or source of heat, you will have to buy 6, 12 or 40 kg gas cylinders. There are three types of cylinders: red ones (available at Total filling stations), blue ones (at Shell gas stations), and yellow, which are becoming increasingly rare on the market. The cap valve, here called «gas regulator», differs from one colour to another. Prices are fixed: for instance, it costs Rs. 270 for the 12 kg gas cylinder.

Useful Link

Total Mauritius
www.total.mu

Cyclone warnings

The summer months are prone to cyclones, usually ranging from light tropical storms to more intense ones. The Mauritius Meteorological Services, media, and websites keep the public informed of the cyclonic evolution. When the trajectory threatens the country, and winds and rains intensify, authorities declare cyclone warnings of different classes, ranging from Class 1 to Class 4.

Class 1 : issued between 36 and 48 hours before Mauritius or Rodrigues are affected by gusts of up to 120 km/h

Class 2 : issued to allow (if possible) 12 hours of daylight before the occurrence of gusts of 120 km/h

Class 3 : issued to allow (if possible) 6 hours of daylight before the occurrence of 120 km/h gusts

Class 4 : issued when 120 km/h gusts have been recorded, and are not showing any evidence of decline

Termination: issued when there is no longer any risk of gusts exceeding 120 km/h.

Cyclone warnings... (continued)

Cyclone warning Class 1 :

Everyday life continues as usual. However, the population must pay attention to the weather updates and forecasts given by the authorities through media outlets.

Cyclone warning Class 2 :

- Heavy rains, sometimes torrential, but the population can still move around
- Schools are closed and children are sent back home
- Boats are taken out of the water and securely tied up (the large boats must be docked in the harbour in Port-Louis)

The population is reminded to take all the necessary preventive measures, such as securing and bracing doors and windows :

- If possible, remove TV antennas from the rooftops
- Stock up on candles in case of power cuts.
- Get hold of a battery-operated radio (and batteries) to be able to keep up with the news, especially regarding the cyclone.



- Stock up on long shelf-life food and bottled water

Cyclone warning Class 3 :

- Torrential rain and strong winds. People are not allowed out and about, and it is recommended to stay indoors at all times
- Work is suspended, and all employees and workers have to go back home
- Vehicles on the road are no longer covered by their insurance

Cyclone Class 4:

It is strongly recommended to stay safe at home while waiting for the cyclone to move away from Mauritius.

Useful link

Mauritius Meteorological Services

Tél. : (230) 686 10 31 / 32

Web : metSERVICE.intnet.mu

Leisure activities

Every year, a substantial number of expats and tourists arrive in Mauritius, and the number increases continuously. Whether alone or with family, for a short time or an extended stay, these people have chosen Mauritius to discover a new culture and have a unique experience. Mauritius has amazing beaches, hiking trails, national parks, museums, gardens, estates, and leisure parks — there is definitely something for everyone!

Liens utiles

MTPA – Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority
www.tourism-mauritius.mu

Mauritius Museums Council – Mauritian museums
www.mauritiumuseums.mu

National Parks and Conservation Services – National parks in Mauritius
npcs.govmu.org

La Vanille Réserve Naturelle
www.lavanille-reserve.com

Aquarium at Pointe aux Piments
www.mauritiusaquarium.com

Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden
ssrbg.govmu.org

La Vallée de Ferney www.valleedeforney.com

Solar Undersea Walk
www.solarunderseawalk.com

Les vergers de Labourdonnais
chateaulabourdonnais.com

L'Aventure du Sucre www.aventuredu sucre.com

The Tea Route – Bois Chéri www.saintaubin.mu

Casela www.caselapark.com

Blue Penny Museum www.bluepennymuseum.com

Curious Corner www.curiouscornerofchamarel.com

La Vallée des Couleurs www.lavalleedescouleurs.com

Mauritius Wildlife Foundation – L'île aux Aigrettes

Tour www.mauritian-wildlife.org

7 Cascades www.7cascades.com

Practical life

Sports

In Mauritius, you have a large selection of recreational activities you can immerse yourself in. You are spoilt for choice here — you can pick from land, water, or even sky activities. Diving, surfing, water-skiing, big game fishing, sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, kite surfing, canyoning, stand up paddle boarding, football, tennis, squash, archery, jogging, horseback riding, trekking and hiking, mountain biking, golf — there is something for everyone.

To make the most of all those activities, head over to hotels or leisure clubs around the island.



Useful links

Expat.com – Directory of sports activities in Mauritius [expat.com](http://www.expat.com)

Ministry of Youth and Sports [mys.govmu.org](http://www.mys.govmu.org)

Mauritian Tennis Federation www.mauritiustennis.com

Mauritius Equestrian Sports Federation www.mesf.mu

Mauritius Golf Federation www.mgf.mu

Mauritius Football Federation www.mauritiusfootball.com

Trail www.randotrail.mu

Lifestyle

Mauritius is influenced by the mix of cultures and traditions inherited by the population's ancestors coming from Europe, Africa, and Asia, making it a blend of international and local undertones, from a gastronomic, cultural, and economic perspective. Mauritius is a rainbow nation, with its population of about one and a half million islanders coming from a range of religious and ethnic backgrounds (Catholics, Buddhists, Muslims, and Hindus, amongst others) and living in perfect harmony.

Mauritius has a very relaxed dress code, suitable for the reigning tropical climate. However, swimwear outside of the beach zone is deemed inappropriate. Public nudity is not tolerated in Mauritius for either gender.

Politeness is critical here: Mauritians are very helpful, but not servile. They are warm and friendly, open to welcoming strangers into their society, and rarely hold prejudices. It is up to expats and tourists to reciprocate and be open to discovering new cultures and lifestyles.

Respect and tolerance are instrumental to the unity of the population, and expats and tourists should be respectful of the various customs and traditions of this multi-faceted island.



Good to know

The traditional *sega* dance is one of the most popular forms of music and dance, unique to Mauritius. With its tribal beats emanating from the *ravanne* (tambourine-like instrument), the *sega* draws its essence from the African culture and originates from the slave population of Mauritius.



CAP DAL, TAMARIN
59 42 77 92 / 52 52 29 39
sales@zilowater.com

Mauritian Creole

Despite English being the official language, most people on the island do not speak it fluently. Mauritian Creole is a form of pidgin French merged with the basics of English grammar. With time, it has absorbed some influences from African and South Asian languages.

Learning to speak Creole is harder than understanding it. Nevertheless, it is part and parcel of the integration process into the country. You will find that the foreign accent often amuses the locals, but they appreciate every little effort expats make to fit into the Mauritian culture.

The Creole language is also evolving. For example, the legendary «Bonzour» used by most tourist guides is hardly used anymore.

Ayo

The most said word in Mauritius is also the simplest and most effective because, depending on the intonation given, it can have all kind of possible implications.

Mari

Very often used as a superlative, it reinforces the word it precedes.

Bonjour Ki pozisyon / Ki Manyer ?

Hi, how are you?

Mo bien / Korek

I'm fine.

Mo ene anglé, mo sorti londres

I'm English, I am from London.

Kouma ou apelé ?

What's your name?

Ou marié ? Ou éna zanfan ?

Are you married? Do you have children?

Kan to vine lakaz ? Taler mo vini

When are you coming home? I'll come by later.

Kot to resté ?

Where do you live?

Zordi pena lapli, mo al lamer

It's not raining today, I'm going to the beach.

Ou kontan Moris ?

Do you like Mauritius?

Vine guet sa fler la

Come and see this flower.

Ki ler la ?

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What time is it?

Practical life

Mauritian gastronomy

Mauritius' unique history, made up of many cultures, has created one of the best fusion cuisines in the world today. The Mauritian cuisine is a unique mix of French, British, Indian, Chinese, and Creole culinary and cooking traditions, and delivers an unparalleled culinary experience. Nothing beats a detour through the towns and villages where you can taste typical Mauritian dishes.

Two very common local dishes, which you can find at street stalls all over the island, are the *Dholl Puri* (stuffed flatbread made of flour and dhal grains) and *Roti* or *Farata*. The latter originates from Indian cuisine, and consists of flatbread (like a crepe), filled with curry, rougaille, chilli peppers, and pickles. Wherever you go in Mauritius, you will certainly not miss the long queues in front of the *roti*, *dholl puri*, *gateaux piments* and *gateaux arouille* stalls.

The fiery and colourful Mauritian fruit salads are also very famous on the streets, especially in the summer. They are usually made up of slices of fresh mangoes, pineapples, cucumbers or other fruits depending on the season, and poured with chilli and tamarind sauce.



Mauritian dishes are often accompanied by chilli peppers and chilli paste — enough to delight your palate and senses — but be careful if you are not used to spicy food!

You should not miss out on *gateaux piments*, *gateaux arouille*, *samoussas* and *gateaux dipain frite*, *poutous* and *gateaux patates*. They can be found on almost every street corner too.

The *alouda* drink is your best protection against the island's warm tropical weather. It is a non-alcoholic refreshment drink, made of milk, basil seeds, vanilla or strawberry essence, grated agar (gelatine), and sometimes topped with a scoop of ice-cream. If you prefer something lighter, you could opt for a glass of fresh coconut water.

Although representing a minority of the population of the island, the Sino-Mauritians have a great influence on the Mauritian cuisine. Some of its most famous specialities — dim sum, meatballs, dumplings, fried rice, fried noodles, magic rice bowl, and mee-foon — are among the most famous dishes enjoyed by the locals.

On the island, there are as many Chinese restaurants as Indian ones. Of course, you can also find the major international fast food chains as well.





Social life

If you want to meet other expatriates or locals, consult the **Mauritius forum** and **events** section regularly for information on fun trips around the island, including hikes, mountain climbing, nightlife, and water activities.

Useful links

Expat.com – **Events in Mauritius**

Expat.com – **Directory of restaurants in Mauritius**

Restaurants.mu – Directory of restaurants in Mauritius **restaurants.mu**

Restaurants.mu – Directory of pubs and nightclubs in Mauritius **restaurants.mu/mauritius-clubs-and-discos.html**

Shopping

In recent years, several modern shopping malls have opened across the island: Bagatelle Mall of Mauritius, Grand Baie La Croisette, Riche Terre Mall, Phoenix Mall, Trianon Shopping Mall, Cascavelle shopping village, Kendra St Pierre, Flacq shopping mall, Caudan Waterfront in Port-Louis, and most recently the So'Flo in Floreal. There, you'll find everything you need – from clothing, shoes, accessories, household appliances, furniture, tools, interior decoration, books, toys, groceries, liquor stores, pharmaceutical products and cosmetics, hypermarkets, ATMs, etc..

The towns of Quatre-Bornes, Rose-Hill, and Curepipe also have popular shopping malls with local and international retailer shop.

If you want some attractive deals, take advantage of the local markets such as the one in Quatre-Bornes, which is very lively on Thursdays and Sundays, and it is particularly popular with tourists. It is also a good place to get a feel of the everyday life of many locals. Moreover, during the end of year festive season, international trade fairs are held in the parking lots of major shopping centres, and in the parking lot of the Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre in Pailles and the Mer Rouge Freeport.



Useful links

Expat.com – **Directory of shops and businesses in Mauritius**

Mall of Mauritius – Bagatelle commercial centre
www.mallofmauritius.com

Grand Baie La Croisette **www.gbhc.mu**

Riche Terre commercial centre
www.richterremall.mu

Phoenix commercial centre
www.centrecommercialphoenix.mu

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Trianon Shopping Park **trianonshoppingpark.com**



Annex A

| British Institutions

British High Commission

7th floor, Cascades Building
Edith Cavell Street, P.O. box 1063
Port Louis
Tel: +230-202-9400
Fax: +230-202-9408
E-mail : bhc@intnet.mu
Web : www.gov.uk/government/world/mauritius

British Council Mauritius

Rose Hill Learning Centre - Royal Road, Rose Hill
Grand Baie Learning Centre
Grand Baie La Croisette
Tel: +230-403-2000
Fax: +230-454-9553
E-mail : general.enquiries@mu.britishcouncil.org
Web : <https://www.britishcouncil.mu/>

The English Speaking Union

5th Floor, Ken Lee Building - 20 Edith Cavell Street
Port Louis
Tel: +230-208 8591
Fax: +230-213 6543
E-mail : esumau@intnet.mu
Web : www.esumauritius.org

Australian Consulate

2nd Floor, Rogers House,
5 President John Kennedy Street, PO Box 541,
Port Louis, Mauritius
Tel: +230 202 0160
Fax: +230 208 8878
Web : www.institutfrancais.mu
Lundi : 9 h à 16 h 30
Mardi – vendredi : 9 h à 17 h 30
Samedi : 9 h à 16 h

South African Consulate

4th Floor British American Insurance Building
25 Pope Hennessy Street Port Louis
P O Box 908 Port Louis
Tel: + 230 212 6925
Fax: + 230 12 6936
E-mail : sahc@intnet.mu

Canadian Consulate

18 Jules Koenig Street
Port-Louis
Tel. : (230) 212 55 00
Fax : (230) 208 33 91
E-mail : canada@intnet.mu
Web : www.canadainternational.gc.ca



Annex B

| Foreign Diplomatic Missions in Mauritius

Honorary Consulate of Belgium

c/o Ireland Blyth Limited
10, Dr. Ferrière Street
Port-Louis
Tel. : (230) 208 28 79 ou (230) 208 72 89
Fax : (230) 211 95 61
E-mail : rpayen@iblgroup.com,
tmmarks@iblgroup.com, tmcom@iblgroup.com

Honorary Consulate of Germany

Royal Road
St Antoine
Goodlands
Tel. : (230) 283 75 00
Fax : (230) 283 75 00
E-mail : germanconsul@intnet.mu

Honorary Consulate of Spain

2nd floor, Les Jamalacs Building
Vieux Conseil Street
Port-Louis
Tel. : (230) 208 30 13 / 232 2150
Fax : (230) 208 30 80
E-mail : consulhonorario.esp@orange.mu

Honorary Consulate of Italy

Rue Nicolson
Vacoas
Tel. : (230) 686 42 33
Fax : (230) 697 59 48
E-mail : consolatoitalia@myt.mu

British High Commission

7th floor, Cascades Building
Edith Cavell Street, P.O. box 1063
Port Louis
Tel: (230) 2029400
Fax: (230) 2029408
E-mail : bhc@intnet.mu

South African High Commission

25, 4eme etage, Immeuble BAI,
Champ de Mars Pope Hennessy St,
Port Louis
Tel: (230) 2126925
Fax : (230) 686 70 40
E-mail : madmail@intnet.mu

Australian High Commission

2eme etage, Maison Rogers,
5 Rue John Kennedy Trunk Road,
Port Louis
Tel: (230) 202 0160
E-mail : ahc.portlouis@dfat.gov.au

Embassy of the United States of America

Rogers House, 4th Floor - P.O. Box 544,
President John Kennedy St,
Port Louis
Tel: (230) 202 4400
E-mail : madmail@intnet.mu



Annex C

| Municipalities and District councils in Mauritius

Municipalité de Beau-Bassin/ Rose-Hill

Town Hall,
Royal Road
Rose-Hill
Tél. : (230) 454 95 00
Fax : (230) 454 95 09
E-mail : mubbrh@intnet.mu
Web : [Beau Bassin / Rose hill](#)

Municipalité de Curepipe

Queen Elizabeth Avenue
Curepipe
Tél. : (230) 670 48 98 /99
Fax : (230) 676 50 54
E-mail : curepip@intnet.mu
Web : [Curepipe](#)

Municipalité de Port-Louis

Jules Koenig Street
Port-Louis
Tél. : (230) 213 5772
E-mail : mpl.customercare@intnet.mu
Web : [Port-Louis](#)

Municipalité de Quatre-Bornes

St Jean Road
Quatre Bornes
Tél. : (230) 454 80 54
Fax : (230) 454 62 09
E-mail : mcqb@intnet.mu
Web : [Quatre-Bornes](#)

Municipalité de Vacoas/Phoenix

St Paul Avenue
Vacoas
Tél. : (230) 696 29 75 / 76 /77
Fax : (230) 696 46 68
E-mail : mcvp@mail.la.govmu.org
Web : [Vacoas/Phoenix](#)

Conseil de district de Flacq

Centre de Flacq
Tél. : (230) 413 26 00
Fax : (230) 413 70 08
E-mail : ceofdc@mail.la.gov.mu
Web : [Flacq](#)



Annexe C

| Municipalities and District councils in Mauritius

Pamplemousse District Council

Morrisson Road
Près du CAB
Pamplemousses
Tel. : (230) 243 8300
Fax : (230) 243 1452
E-mail : chiefexecutive.dcp@gmail.com
Web : [Pamplemousses](#)

Moka District Council

Quartier Militaire Road
Tél. : (230) 435 55 31 / 435 74 32
Fax : (230) 435 56 85
E-mail : ccomfdc@intnet.mu
Web : [Moka](#)

Rivière Du Rempart District Council

Royal Road
Mapou
Tél. : (230) 266 2095
Fax : (230) 266 1405
E-mail : ceo.rdr@mail.la.gov.mu
Web : [Rivière du Rempart](#)

Black River District Council

Geoffroy Road
Bambous
Tel. : (230) 401 31 00
Fax : (230) 452 03 03
E-mail : brdc@mail.la.govmu.org
Web : [Black River](#)

Grand Port/Savanne District Council

Royal Road, Rose Belle
Tél. : (230) 627 4542/75, 627 76 33, 627 50 75, 627 76 05
Fax : (230) 627 46 40
E-mail : dcgp@mail.la.gov.mu
Web : [Grand Port / Savanne](#)



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