

High Commission of India Ottawa

Short-term Tourist Visas for India from 15 November

- 1. Government of India has decided to issue short-term tourist visas from 15 November 2021.
- 2. A Single-Entry tourist visa valid for 30 days will be available, which will have to be utilized within a period of 120 days from the date of issue.
- 3. All individual foreign nationals intending to visit India for tourism purpose will be allowed to enter India on such tourist visa from 15 November.
- 4. All foreign national/tourist who wish to travel to India are required to obtain fresh short-term tourist visa on their passports. The existing long-term e-visas/tourist visas will continue to remain suspended till further notice.
- 5. E-visa facility for Canadian citizens remains suspended till further notice.
- 6. Foreign nationals shall be permitted to enter India on such tourist visas by sea routes or by flights but not through land Immigration Check Points.
- 7. Tourist visa applications can be submitted to BLS Center(s) from 10 November 2021.
- 8. Slots for obtaining short-term tourist visas can be booked through BLS website: <u>https://www.blsindia-canada.com/appointmentbls/appointment.php</u>
- 9. Short-term tourist visa will be issued to foreign nationals from 15 November, 2021 on gratis basis for a limited period, on first-come first-serve basis. Such a visa will be issued only once to each applicant. However, services charges of BLS, as due, would remain applicable.
- 10. Due to high volume of demand and continued Covid-19 restrictions in Canada, the processing time of visa requests after submission of applications is at least **30 days**. Applicants may account for sufficient processing time for visas while planning their travel to India.
- 11. For better planning their travel to India, travellers are advised to go through the latest guidelines issued by Government of India for international travel to India. The guidelines can be seen at the following link: <u>https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/GuidelinesforInternationalArrival20thOctober2021.pdf</u>
- 12. This supersedes all earlier advisories with regard to issue of short –term tourist visas.

Ottawa 9th November, 2021