
SHORT NEWS

E-Visa for St. Petersburg and Leningrad Region

Starting from October 1st of 2019 it will be possible to visit St. Petersburg and the Leningrad region on the basis of an electronic visa. This possibility was introduced by Presidential Decree No. 347 of July 18, 2019. The visa is valid for a single entry and allows for a stay of up to eight days for business, tourism or humanitarian purposes.

The e-visa can be applied for via a website of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (<https://evisa.kdmid.ru>) no later than four days before the date of the planned arrival. The application for the visa is free of charge.

This relief is a next step in the direction of simplifying the visa rules – the e-visa was first introduced in 2017 for the citizens of some Asian and Arab countries entering Russia through Vladivostok. Since July 1st 2019, it has become possible to apply for the e-visa for Kaliningrad. This service is available for citizens of 53 countries, including all EU countries (with the exception of the United Kingdom).

The Russian government shall further establish until October 1st, 2019 a list of states whose citizens may apply for an e-visa for St. Petersburg, as well as technical features of the issuance of such electronic visas. The next step is to introduce the short-term e-visa for the whole of Russia by 2021.

The experts of BEITEN BURKHARDT will be pleased to advise you on all matters relating to residence and employment in Russia, as well as on all other legal and tax issues.

Natalia Wilke, Head of the St. Petersburg office of BEITEN BURKHARDT -
Natalia.Wilke@bblaw.com