

## CHECKLIST FOR RELIGIOUS REASONS SCHENGEN VISA

1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Visa application form</b> duly filled out in English and signed by the applicant.
2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>One passport photo</b> (not to be affixed on the visa application form)</p> <p><i>Photo requirements must comply with ICAO specifications:</i>  <a href="https://www.icao.int/Security/mrtd/Downloads/Technical%20Reports/Annex_A-Photograph_Guidelines.pdf">https://www.icao.int/Security/mrtd/Downloads/Technical%20Reports/Annex_A-Photograph_Guidelines.pdf</a>  <i>[no more than 6-months old; 35–40 mm in width; white background; appropriate brightness and contrast; the person must look straight to the camera with a neutral expression, mouth closed and eyes open and clearly visible; the head must take 2/3 of the photograph; head coverings are not permitted except for religious reasons. Any alterations (such as Photoshop etc.) are strictly forbidden]</i></p>
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Valid passport</b> with at least two blank pages and validity of at least three months extending after the date of departure from the Schengen Area.
4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Round-trip airline ticket</b> or booking confirmation issued by the airline or a travel agency, in English or Italian. It must show the full name of the applicant as reported in their passport.
5.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Invitation letter</b> addressed to the Embassy specifying the religious activities to be carried out in Italy.          (If applicable) it must be certified by the Vatican Secretariat of State (<i>Segreteria di Stato della Santa Sede</i>) and presented together with a letter from the Apostolic nunciature (<i>Nunziatura apostolica</i>) in Bangkok.</p>
6.	<input type="checkbox"/>	(If not confirmed in the official invitation letter) <b>hotel booking confirmation</b> in English or Italian. Proof of accommodation must cover the whole duration of the intended stay and show the name of the applicant(s).
7.	<input type="checkbox"/>	(If the visit continues for touristic purposes) <b>exact itinerary</b> in English or Italian.
8.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Proof of economic means of subsistence</b>          Original bank statement of the applicant or original bank statement of the religious order of affiliation in English with bank stamp and signature issued no more than 7 days before the submission of visa application. It must cover the financial transactions of at least 3 months and show the name of the applicant as reported in their passport or the name of the religious order as reported in the letter indicated in point no. 9 of the checklist.</p>
9.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Evidence of applicant's religious status</b>          Original letter in English from the religious order of affiliation with stamp and signature issued no more than 30 days before the submission of visa application. It must include: full name of applicant, position in the religious order, duration and purpose of the intended stay, whether the religious order bears the travel expenses and contact information.</p>
10.	<input type="checkbox"/>	(If applicable) <b>change of name certificate(s)</b> , original and copy with English translation.
11.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Travel medical insurance</b> certificate in English with a minimum coverage of 30,000.00 EUR. It must be valid for the whole Schengen Area and cover any expenses which might arise in connection with repatriation for medical reasons, urgent medical attention and/or emergency hospital treatment or death, during the entire period of intended stay.          The travel medical insurance must show the full name of the applicant as reported in their passport.          The common list of Schengen travel medical insurance companies can be found at this link:  <a href="https://www.vfsglobal.com/italy/thailand/pdf/List-of-travel-medical-Insurance-C.pdf">https://www.vfsglobal.com/italy/thailand/pdf/List-of-travel-medical-Insurance-C.pdf</a></p>
12.	<input type="checkbox"/>	(If applicable) <b>for non-Thai/Cambodian/Laotian citizens</b> , re-entry stamp from Immigration, original and copy of work permit.
13.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Two copies of passport and one copy of previous visas</b> (only Schengen, UK, USA and Canada visas issued in the last 5 years; if visas are affixed in the old passport, a copy of the old travel document is also required).

**IMPORTANT NOTES:**

Visa applications shall be lodged in person by the applicant at one of the Visa Application Centres of VFS Global only if they have registered residence in this consular jurisdiction (Thailand, Cambodia and Laos).

Pursuant to Art. 5 of Visa Code, the Member State competent for examining and deciding on an application for a Schengen visa shall be: the Member State whose territory constitutes the sole destination of the visit(s); if the visit includes more than one destination, or if several separate visits are to be carried out within a period of two months, the Member State whose territory constitutes the main destination of the visit(s) in terms of the length of stay, counted in days, or the purpose of stay; if no main destination can be determined, the Member State whose external border the applicant intends to cross in order to enter the Schengen Area.

Pursuant to Art. 9 of Visa Code, visa applications shall be lodged no more than six months and, as a rule, no later than 15 calendar days before the start of the intended visit. In justified individual cases of urgency, the Embassy of Italy allows the lodging of applications later than 15 calendar days before the start of the intended visit.

Pursuant to Art. 23 of Visa Code, visa applications shall be decided on within 15 calendar days of the date of the lodging of an application. That period may be extended up to a maximum of 45 calendar days in individual cases, notably when further scrutiny of the application is needed.

During the examination of the application, the applicant will not be able to collect their passport from the Embassy of Italy.

The Embassy of Italy may in justified cases carry out an interview with the applicant and request additional documents.

**Dear Applicant,**

**A complete application is a crucial step for a fast processing of your visa.**

**Therefore, you are kindly requested to provide all the supporting documents required by the Embassy of Italy and mentioned in the checklist.**

**Please consider that in principle official documents issued by countries other than Thailand must be shown in original after Apostille/legalization by the competent Authority/Italian Consulate and with certified translation. Consular declarations concerning vital records issued by local embassies are also accepted.**

**Lastly, please be informed that submitting all required documents does NOT guarantee the issuance of the Schengen visa.**

**Date:**

**Signature of Applicant:**

Name of VFS Staff:

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