



DE RANTAU PASS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

We are excited to see that the DE Rantau programme has sparked your interest! You can find some of the most frequently asked questions regarding DE Rantau Nomad Pass application answered here:

SECTION A: GENERAL QUESTIONS

No.	Question	Answer
1.	What is DE Rantau Nomad Pass?	DE Rantau Nomad Pass is a type of Professional Visit Pass newly designed to allow qualified foreign digital nomads to travel and work in Malaysia
2.	Who can apply?	Digital freelancer, independent contractor and remote worker in the domain of IT (all types - software dev, UX, UI, cloud, cybersecurity, blockchain, AI, machine learning, data-related etc.), digital marketing, digital creative content, digital content development etc.
3.	What is the type of pass offered and its duration?	Professional Visit Pass (Pas Lawatan Ikhtisas) valid between 3 to 12 months of stay with the option to renew for additional 12 months, allowing total of 24 months of stay.
4.	Do I need to be in Malaysia to apply?	No, you are not required to be in Malaysia to apply.
5.	Is this open to all nationalities?	As of now, the pass is open for application for citizens of all nationalities. However, approval from Ministry Of Home Affairs, Malaysia is required for Israel citizen to enter Malaysia.
6.	Is there any minimum age requirement for the DE Rantau Nomad Pass?	The main pass holder must be above 18 years old.
7.	Can I bring my family?	Only immediate family members of the main pass holder are eligible to apply: a. Husband / Wife/ Common-Law partner b. Child, adopted child or stepchild under the age of 18 years c. Disabled child (no age limit) verified by experts Kindly refer applicable fees in Section C below.
8.	Can my spouse work in Malaysia under this pass?	No.
9.	Can a dependent enter Malaysia later and not together with the main applicant?	A dependent has an option either to enter Malaysia together with main pass holder or to enter individually after main pass holder is in Malaysia.
10.	What are the benefits of being a DE Rantau Pass holder?	Holder of DE Rantau Nomad Pass will be recognized as a member of DE Rantau and is eligible to get access to exclusive benefits provided for digital nomads such as

No.	Question	Answer
		nomad-ready living and working hubs, handpicked local services, discount vouchers, latest information, and promotions.
11.	Will this pass be multi-entry?	Yes, this pass allows multiple entry.
12.	What happens if my passport (or my dependent's passport) has less than 6 months validity before expiring at the point of application and during the validity period of DE Rantau Nomad pass?	The validity of the passport must be more than 14 months upon submission of application. Thus if the validity is less than 14 months, you need to apply for the new passport.
13.	Does DE Rantau Nomad Pass allow me to open a local bank account?	Most banks in Malaysia do not accept Professional Visit Pass for the applicant to open a bank account. You may seek further clarifications with the respective bank of your interest.
14.	Can my child attend school in Malaysia while holding the DE Rantau Nomad dependent pass?	School requirements vary. Please check directly with the relevant schools for further clarifications.
15.	Can I stay in Sabah and Sarawak using DE Rantau Nomad Pass?	At the moment, DE Rantau Nomad pass facilitates your stay only in any states in Peninsular Malaysia. You can still travel to Sabah or Sarawak, but your entry into these 2 states will be using the tourist pass. <i>MDEC is currently working with the relevant states to address this limitation.</i>

SECTION B: PASS APPLICATION

No.	Question	Answer
1.	Where do I apply for the DE Rantau Nomad Pass?	All applications must be made online at: https://mdec.my/derantau/foreign/
2.	How long does the application process take?	The application will be processed within 4 weeks upon receipt of the completed submission. The issuance of pass will be completed within 1 week (subjected to the Immigration Department's discretion)
3.	What are the documents that I need to submit to proof that I am a digital freelancer or a remote worker earning >USD24,000 per annum?	If you are a digital freelancer, the documents required are your contracts or purchase orders or invoices with your clients, clearly stating the contract duration and value. If you are a remote worker, the document required is your active employment contract with a non-Malaysian company, with monthly or annual salary clearly stated, with indication that you are not required to work from the office and are allowed to work remotely.
4.	I am a freelance digital content creator. I do not have specific contract with any clients but I receive income from digital content platform. Can I submit	You need to provide proof that you are a digital freelancer. You may submit documents to prove that your income is generated from the digital content platform. Your annual income should be >USD24,000 per year.

No.	Question	Answer
	this as proof of my income & my profession as a freelance digital content creator?	
5.	Can I submit my application in my own language?	Applications and supporting documents MUST be in English
6.	What is the validity of the approval?	The approval is valid for 6 months and non-extendable
7.	How do I check the status of my application?	Application status is available at: https://mdec.my/derantau/foreign/
8.	What is a sponsor and who can be a sponsor?	<p>A sponsor is an organization which will be able to vouch for your presence in Malaysia and also be responsible for your stay, maintenance and repatriation while you reside in Malaysia.</p> <p>Sponsoring organization: A sponsoring organization must be a company registered in Malaysia. The sponsoring organization shall sign a personal bond document.</p> <p>If you are unable to find a sponsor, MDEC shall be the sponsoring organization. The following terms and conditions apply: 1) Deposit to be paid to MDEC. The amount is similar to the security bond amount. The payment can be made via online transfer/bank draft. 2) An agreement shall be signed with MDEC as a sponsor.</p>
9.	What are the documents required for the sponsor?	Personal bond document or Declaration form
10.	What happens if my application is rejected?	If your application is rejected, you may appeal within 6 months from the rejection date
11.	Will I get refund if my application is rejected?	Refund is applicable at 75% of the respective processing fee
12.	Which agency do I liaise with, to apply for DE Rantau Nomad Pass and submit hard copy of documents upon getting approval (issuance of pass sticker)?	<p>Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation Sdn Bhd 2360 Persiaran APEC 63000 Cyberjaya Selangor Darul Ehsan</p> <p>For issuance of pass: Expats Service Centre 2nd Floor, Prima 8, Block 3508, Jalan Teknokrat 6, Cyber 5, 63000 Cyberjaya, Selangor Malaysia <i>Operating hours: 8.30am until 1.00pm on Monday to Thursday and 8.30am until 12.00pm on Friday.</i></p>
13.	What happens after my pass has expired?	You will be able to renew your pass 2 months before the expiry of the current pass.
14.	What are the documents/ information required to renew the application?	<p>Documents required for renewal are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Copy all pages of passport 2. Payment for processing fee 3. Proof of work bearing >3 months of contract duration left

No.	Question	Answer
15.	How long is the process for renewal application?	The renewal application will be processed within 4 weeks upon receipt of the completed submission. The issuance of pass will be completed within 1 week (subjected to the Immigration Department's discretion)
16.	How do I collect the pass after I get the approval?	You need to submit your passport and payment to Expat Services Centre where we will issue your pass within 1 week.
17.	I am currently on Employment Pass, and I plan to be on DE Rantau Nomad Pass when my current pass expires. How do I do this? Do I need to leave Malaysia before I apply for DE Rantau Nomad Pass?	You may apply for the DE Rantau Nomad Pass while in Malaysia. You are required to provide a release letter from your employer and to shorten the Employment Pass if you do not wish to leave Malaysia.
18.	I am currently an international student holding a Student Pass. I plan to be on DE Rantau Nomad Pass upon completing my study. Can I convert my Student Pass to be DE Rantau Nomad Pass? How do I do this?	You may apply for the DE Rantau Nomad Pass while in Malaysia. You are required to provide a release letter from your university to confirm the completion of your study with a full transcript, to shorten the student pass.

SECTION C: PAYMENTS & TAX RELATED

No.	Question	Answer								
1.	What is the fee structure and when do I make the payment?	<p>Fees of RM1,060.00 per applicant and RM530.00 for each dependent is to be paid upon submission of application for all categories and are non-refundable.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Processing fee per applicant</td> <td>RM1,060.00 (incl. 6% SST)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Processing fee per dependent</td> <td>RM530.00 (incl. 6% SST)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Immigration Pass Fee per applicant</td> <td>RM90 (every 3 months) RM360 (1 year)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Multiple Entry Visa Charges (if applicable)</td> <td>Charges vary across countries</td> </tr> </table> <p>All fees are subject to 6% SST. All payment is to be made upon application and is payable to Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation Sdn Bhd via online payment.</p>	Processing fee per applicant	RM1,060.00 (incl. 6% SST)	Processing fee per dependent	RM530.00 (incl. 6% SST)	Immigration Pass Fee per applicant	RM90 (every 3 months) RM360 (1 year)	Multiple Entry Visa Charges (if applicable)	Charges vary across countries
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2.	Do individuals holding DE Rantau Pass have to file tax in Malaysia?	<p>Tax treatment on person involved in digital nomad has yet to be determined by all tax administrators around the world including Malaysia.</p> <p>However, based on current legislation in Malaysia, it may not be taxable because of establishment of their residential status under Section 7 of Income Tax Act 1967 for individual and permanent establishment under Double Taxation Agreement (DTA) for enterprises</p>								

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		between Malaysia and contracting countries; as well as wider definition of income under this Act.																																																																														
3.	Are there any charges if MDEC becomes the sponsoring organization?	<p>A security bond will have to be paid as per the rates below. You will be refunded the full amount when your pass expires.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">Security Bond/Bank Guarantee Rates</th> </tr> <tr> <th>RM2,000.00</th> <th>RM1,500.00</th> <th>RM750.00</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Canada</td> <td>Saudi Arabia</td> <td>Bangladesh</td> </tr> <tr> <td>USA</td> <td>Africa</td> <td>Philippines</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Colombia</td> <td>Australia</td> <td>India</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Angola</td> <td>British C.I</td> <td>Myanmar</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burkina Faso</td> <td>Brunei</td> <td>Nepal</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Central African Republic</td> <td>China</td> <td>Pakistan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Republic Congo</td> <td>Europe</td> <td>Sri Lanka</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burundi</td> <td>Iran</td> <td>RM500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Republic Democratic Congo</td> <td>Iraq</td> <td>Indonesia</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cameroon</td> <td>Portugal C.I</td> <td>RM300.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cote D'Ivoire</td> <td>Taiwan</td> <td>Thailand</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Djibouti</td> <td>Tunisia</td> <td>RM200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Equatorial Guinea</td> <td>Vietnam</td> <td>Singapore</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eritrea</td> <td>RM1,000.00</td> <td>RM1,500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ethiopia</td> <td>Japan</td> <td>Others</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Guinea-Bissau</td> <td>South Korea</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ghan</td> <td>Macao</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Liberia</td> <td>Hong Kong</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mali</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mozambique</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Niger</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nigeria</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rwanda</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Western Sahara</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Security Bond/Bank Guarantee Rates			RM2,000.00	RM1,500.00	RM750.00	Canada	Saudi Arabia	Bangladesh	USA	Africa	Philippines	Colombia	Australia	India	Angola	British C.I	Myanmar	Burkina Faso	Brunei	Nepal	Central African Republic	China	Pakistan	Republic Congo	Europe	Sri Lanka	Burundi	Iran	RM500.00	Republic Democratic Congo	Iraq	Indonesia	Cameroon	Portugal C.I	RM300.00	Cote D'Ivoire	Taiwan	Thailand	Djibouti	Tunisia	RM200.00	Equatorial Guinea	Vietnam	Singapore	Eritrea	RM1,000.00	RM1,500.00	Ethiopia	Japan	Others	Guinea-Bissau	South Korea		Ghan	Macao		Liberia	Hong Kong		Mali			Mozambique			Niger			Nigeria			Rwanda			Western Sahara		
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