

Are you planning to retire in Madagascar?

The procedures are simple as long as they are organized.

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Why spend his retirement in Madagascar?

Madagascar is a destination that can be enjoyable for retired people. Climate, low cost of living, leisure and culture, many of the assets of this island in the Indian Ocean can attract more than one retiree.

Formalities

In terms of formalities, entry into Malagasy territory can be done under tourist visa which can be converted into an immigrant visa or into a long stay on site.

Transformable Immigrant Visa

The **Transformable Immigrant Visa** is valid for a period of **one month by default**. It is suitable for investors, expatriate workers, trainees, mission travelers, **pensioners** and family reunification applicants. It *can only be obtained through diplomatic, consular representations and can be transformed into a long stay within **one month of entry** into Madagascar.*

Transformation of the immigrant visa in a long stay is done with the Ministry of the Interior and Decentralization (MID) / EDBM (Economic Development Board of Madagascar). However, it should be noted that a visa which is convertible into a long stay does not imply the tacit grant of a residence permit in Madagascar. Thus, the holder of the visa is obliged to leave the territory on the date of the right of residence granted.

Application for Transformable Immigrant Visa, to be submitted to the Consulate of Madagascar in Budapest, Hungary.

The documents to be provided in the context of a long-stay visa application are:

- signed original passport valid for more than six months after the date of return from Madagascar
- completed visa application form (available @ the consulate website: www.madagaszkar.hu/page2_eng.html)
- two recent passport photos

- copy of the outward air ticket and a return ticket with a mandatory date of one month after the departure date
- Criminal record extract (original dated less than three months) issued by Authority of country of origin.

Special and extra file for retirement

You are retired and would like to stay in Madagascar for a long time. You will need to open a bank account in Madagascar. A proof of the opening of this one will be requested by the authorities: failing that, you will not be able to access to the residence as retired on the territory of Madagascar.

Thereafter, your retirement pension must be paid into this bank account.

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The application file to be submitted to the Authorities in Madagascar

In order to become a retired resident in Madagascar, a file must be filed with the Economic Development Board of Madagascar (EDBM). This one-stop shop is responsible for expediting the application process for residence permits.

Here is the list of documents (to be translated officially in English or French) needed for such an approach:

- certificate of retirement
- certificate of change of residence issued by the city council in the country of origin
- certificate of opening of bank account in Madagascar: proof of the opening of a bank account in Madagascar
- bank certificate in Madagascar justifying that the account is well supplied by the Pension Fund or by an external bank
- certificate or order of permanent transfer of your pension
- application for a long stay visa
- photocopy of your passport valid for at least six months
- Criminal record issued by Authority of the country of origin, valid of less than three months (to be translated in English or French)
- certificate of residence
- receipt indicating the settlement of the visa application fee
- photocopy of return ticket.

Subsequently, the documents are legalized or certified by the EDBM, and must be deposited with the Ministry of the Interior.

Choose your city

Madagascar is a very large island, with a supportable climate but variable according to the zones. Thus, it is advisable to visit the country before you want to put your luggage for your retirement. Indeed, coastal regions can be more pleasant and practical than the high uplands, where rest is at the rendez-vous but where some practical aspects may also be missing, and vice versa.

Proximity of shops, availability of doctors, accessibility of housing and locality are all

factors to be taken into consideration. If Madagascar is a charming and restful destination, it is also necessary to avoid any eventuality and to give some importance to the issue of mobility once there.

Another aspect to watch out for is the cost of living. For cause, it is variable according to the locality: town or village, city center or periphery. It can be reduced by half, especially in housing, in remote areas of major cities and other downtown areas.

Residence Card

The **residence card** or **residence permit** must be requested from the Economic Development Board of Madagascar, with the Ministry of the Interior and Decentralization. The following documents must be provided:

- Fact Sheet for Resident Card
- photocopy of the visa, issued by the Authorities in Madagascar
- photocopy of the visa that allowed entry into Madagascar (issued by the Consulate)
- photocopy of the first page of passport information
- SWIFT code.

Expenses vary depending on the length of time the resident card is valid. They are payable to the primary banks with the notification letter issued by the EDBM (Economic Development Board of Madagascar). Thereafter, the residence card is issued within 40 days.

For more information on the constitution of the file, it is recommended to contact the EDBM.

The offices are open to the public from Monday to Friday afternoon

As a pensioner, the residence card is issued by the Ministry of the Interior and Decentralization (MID) together with the visa to stay on the passport.

Useful links:

- **Consulate of Madagascar in Budapest, Hungary – TRANSFORMABLE IMMIGRANT VISA:** www.madagaszkar.hu/page2_eng.html
- **EDBM – Economic Development Board of Madagascar -** www.edbm.gov.mg/eng/One-Stop-Shop/Residence-permit-morality-investigation

Address: Immeuble EDBM, Avenue Général Gabriel RAMANANTSOA Antaninarenina, ANTANANARIVO.