

CHART · REFERENCE

The Digital Nomad Visa *Comparison Chart*

19 programmes, 18 countries, compared on the four numbers that decide whether you qualify and whether it is worth it: income threshold, fee, processing time and length of stay.

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Income thresholds, lowest to highest
- Fees and processing times
- Length of stay and renewability
- Threshold vs. cost of living on arrival
- The full comparison table
- Which programme fits your income

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What this chart is for

A digital nomad visa is a residence permit for people whose income comes from outside the country. Every programme sets a monthly income floor, charges a fee, takes some weeks to process and grants a stay of a fixed length. Those four numbers, side by side, answer most of the first-pass questions in a minute.

The full context for each programme, eligibility by passport, documents, tax residency consequences and the application process itself, is in the companion e-book, *The Digital Nomad Visa Index 2026*. This chart is the page you print and pin above the desk.

SOURCE AND DATE

EnRoute Jobs country database (public.remote_work_visas), verified against official programme pages.

Figures current as of 2026-09-12. Thresholds are often set in local currency or as a multiple of the local minimum wage and move with it; confirm on the official page before applying.

\$1,063

LOWEST INCOME FLOOR
Portugal D7 Passive Income Visa

\$4,500

HIGHEST INCOME FLOOR
Estonia

\$2,923

AVERAGE THRESHOLD
per month, gross

13 of 19

RENEWABLE
without leaving

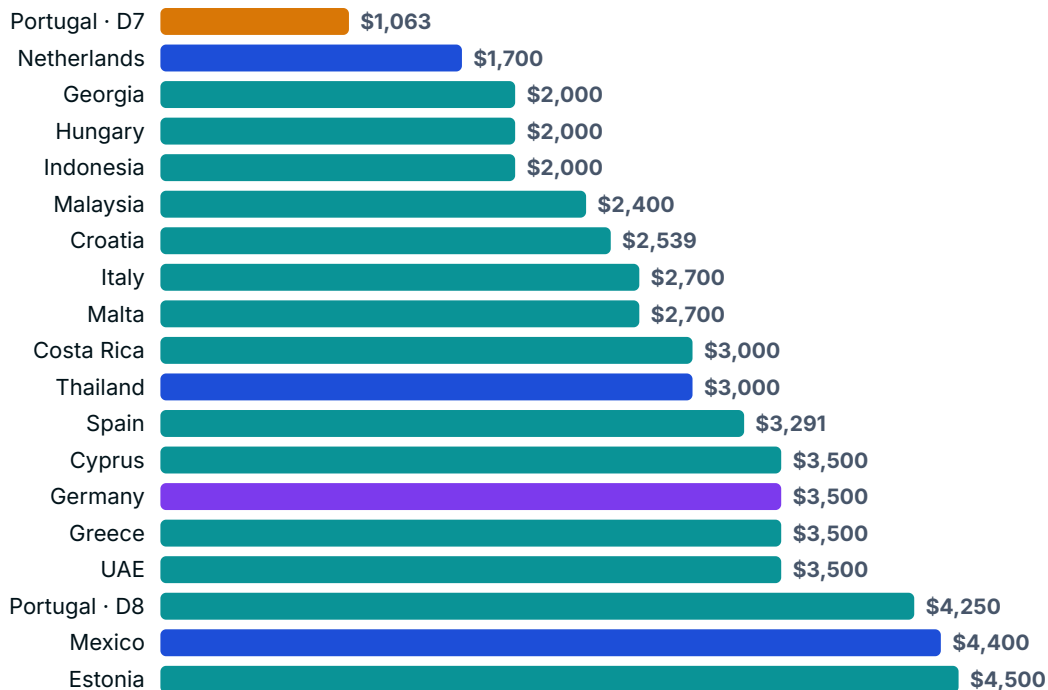
01

Monthly income thresholds

The first filter. If your gross monthly income is below the bar, stop there.

Minimum monthly income required, USD equivalent

Gross income from sources outside the country, for a single applicant. Most programmes add 20 to 30% per dependant.



EnRoute Jobs country database, 2026-09-12

Digital nomad

Long stay

Freelancer

Passive income

READ THE THRESHOLD AGAINST WHAT YOU KEEP, NOT WHAT YOU BILL

Thresholds are gross. A contractor billing \$4,000 a month who then pays their own tax and insurance does not have \$4,000 to live on. Section 4 sets each threshold against the cost of living in the country so you can see how much room the floor actually leaves.

02 Fees and processing times

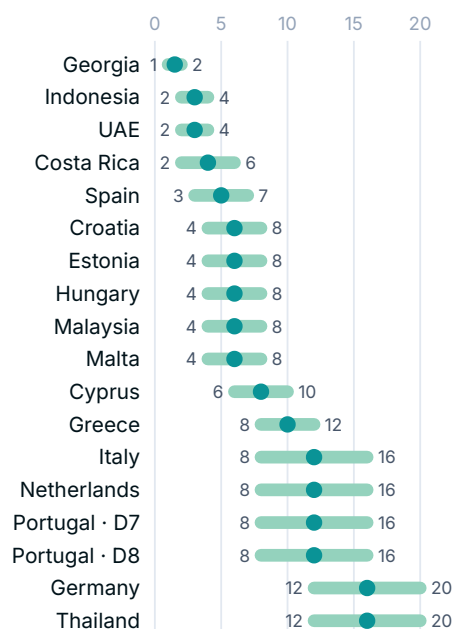
Application fee, USD

Government fee for the main applicant. Excludes legalisation, translation, health insurance and lawyer costs.



Processing time, weeks

Typical range from complete application to decision. Bar shows the range; dot marks the midpoint.



Fees vary almost tenfold and bear no relation to how good the programme is: Georgia's is free and Malta's is among the most expensive, and both are popular. Processing time is the number to plan around. A twelve-to-twenty-week programme means applying in spring for an autumn move, and it means holding proof of income and insurance across that whole window.

03

Length of stay and renewability

COUNTRY	PROGRAMME	INITIAL STAY	RENEWABLE	LOCAL EMPLOYMENT	TYPE
Thailand	Long-Term Resident (LTR) Visa	5 yrs	No	No	Long stay
Mexico	Temporary Resident Visa	4 yrs	Yes	No	Long stay
Costa Rica	Digital Nomad & Remote Workers Visa	1 yr	Yes	No	Digital nomad
Croatia	Digital Nomad Residence Permit	1 yr	No	No	Digital nomad
Cyprus	Digital Nomad Visa	1 yr	Yes	No	Digital nomad
Estonia	Digital Nomad Visa	1 yr	No	No	Digital nomad
Georgia	Remotely from Georgia	1 yr	No	No	Digital nomad
Germany	Freiberufler (Freelancer) Visa	1 yr	Yes	No	Freelancer
Greece	Digital Nomad Visa	1 yr	Yes	No	Digital nomad
Hungary	White Card	1 yr	Yes	No	Digital nomad
Italy	Digital Nomad Visa	1 yr	Yes	No	Digital nomad
Malaysia	DE Rantau Digital Nomad Pass	1 yr	Yes	No	Digital nomad
Malta	Nomad Residence Permit	1 yr	Yes	No	Digital nomad
Netherlands	Orientation Year Visa	1 yr	No	No	Long stay
Portugal	D7 Passive Income Visa	1 yr	Yes	No	Passive income
Portugal	D8 Digital Nomad Visa	1 yr	Yes	No	Digital nomad
Spain	Digital Nomad Visa	1 yr	Yes	No	Digital nomad
UAE	Virtual Working Programme	1 yr	No	No	Digital nomad
Indonesia	Remote Work Visa (B211A)	180 days	Yes	No	Digital nomad

None of these programmes permit taking a job with a local employer; they are for income earned abroad. Local employment needs a work permit, which is what the visa-sponsored category on EnRoute is for.

NON-RENEWABLE IS NOT ALWAYS WORSE

A one-year, non-renewable permit (Estonia, Croatia, Georgia) suits a year-long stay with no intention to settle, and is usually simpler to obtain. If you want a path to long-term residence, prefer the renewable programmes and check how the years count toward permanent residency, which varies by country and by visa class within a country.

04

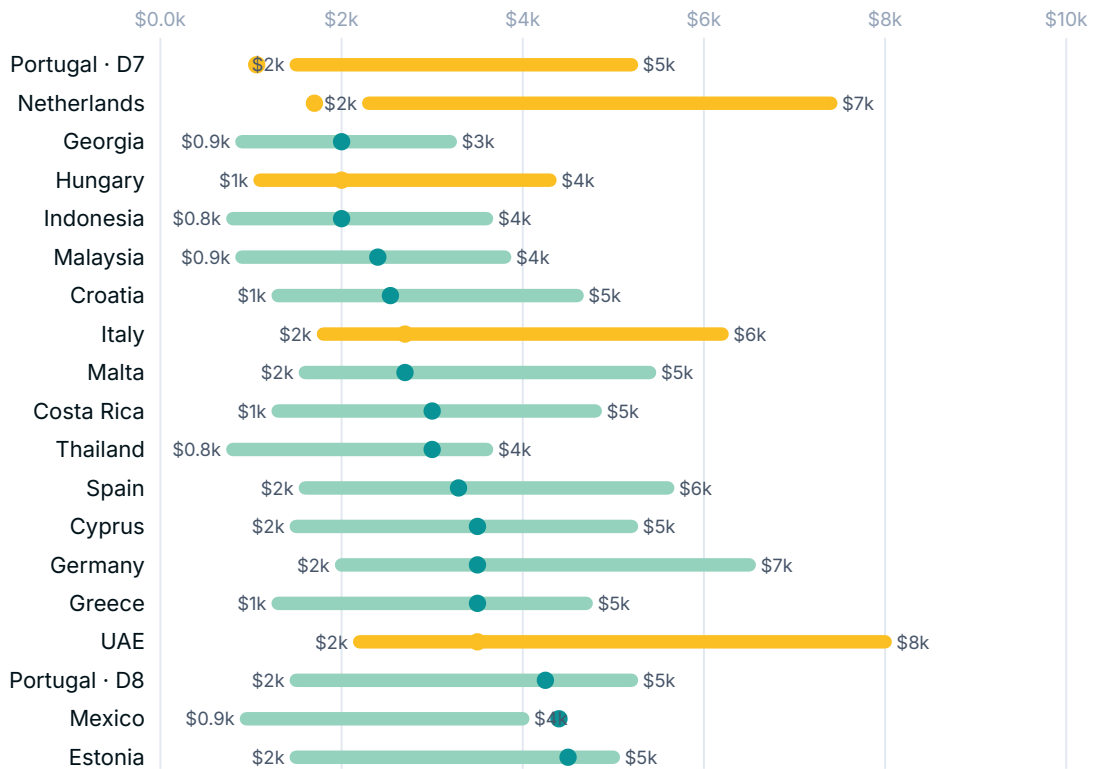
Threshold against cost of living

How much room the income floor leaves once you are living there.

Each bar runs from the budget monthly cost of living for one person to the comfortable tier, using EnRoute's country cost data. The dot is the visa income threshold. A dot at the left end means the threshold barely covers a frugal month; a dot far to the right means anyone who qualifies will live well.

Income threshold (dot) against monthly cost of living range (bar), USD

Bar: budget to comfortable, single person. Costs are national averages; capitals run higher.



EnRoute Jobs country database, 2026-09-12

Amber bars mark programmes whose threshold sits below the typical nomad monthly cost in that country: qualifying does not mean affording the lifestyle most people go there for. Portugal's D7 is the clearest case; it was designed for retirees with passive income, and the number reflects that.

05

The full comparison

Every number in one table, sorted by income threshold.

COUNTRY	PROGRAMME	INCOME / MO	FEE	WEEKS	STAY	RENEW	NOMAD COST / MO	VISA- FREE DAYS	SCHENGEN
Portugal	D7 Passive Income Visa	\$1,063	\$75	8–16	1y	✓	\$2,650	90	✓
Netherlands	Orientation Year Visa	\$1,700	\$192	8–16	1y	—	\$3,750	90	✓
Georgia	Remotely from Georgia	\$2,000	\$0	1–2	1y	—	\$1,500	365	—
Hungary	White Card	\$2,000	\$95	4–8	1y	✓	\$2,100	90	✓
Indonesia	Remote Work Visa (B211A)	\$2,000	\$35	2–4	180d	✓	\$1,620	30	—
Malaysia	DE Rantau Digital Nomad Pass	\$2,400	\$38	4–8	1y	✓	\$1,750	90	—
Croatia	Digital Nomad Residence Permit	\$2,539	\$55	4–8	1y	—	\$2,400	90	✓
Italy	Digital Nomad Visa	\$2,700	\$116	8–16	1y	✓	\$3,000	90	✓
Malta	Nomad Residence Permit	\$2,700	\$300	4–8	1y	✓	\$2,700	90	✓
Costa Rica	Digital Nomad & Remote Workers Visa	\$3,000	\$100	2–6	1y	✓	\$2,300	90	—
Thailand	Long-Term Resident (LTR) Visa	\$3,000	\$200	12–20	5y	—	\$1,560	60	—
Spain	Digital Nomad Visa	\$3,291	\$116	3–7	1y	✓	\$2,800	90	✓
Cyprus	Digital Nomad Visa	\$3,500	\$70	6–10	1y	✓	\$2,600	90	—
Germany	Freiberufler (Freelancer) Visa	\$3,500	\$100	12–20	1y	✓	\$3,200	90	✓
Greece	Digital Nomad Visa	\$3,500	\$150	8–12	1y	✓	\$2,250	90	✓
UAE	Virtual Working Programme	\$3,500	\$287	2–4	1y	—	\$3,850	90	—
Portugal	D8 Digital Nomad Visa	\$4,250	\$83	8–16	1y	✓	\$2,650	90	✓
Mexico	Temporary Resident Visa	\$4,400	—	—	4y	✓	\$1,800	180	—
Estonia	Digital Nomad Visa	\$4,500	\$80	4–8	1y	—	\$2,500	90	✓

"Visa-free days" is the tourist allowance for visa-exempt nationalities, which may not include yours. Schengen membership means time on a nomad permit is not tourist time, but time on a tourist entry counts toward the 90-in-180 rule across the whole zone.

06 Which programme fits your income

A quick sort by the number you actually have.

Find your gross monthly income from work done for clients or employers outside the destination. Everything at or below that line is open to you on income alone; then check passport eligibility, insurance and the documents on the official page.

Up to \$2,000 a month

Newly unlocked at this level:

- **Portugal** D7 Passive Income Visa (\$1,063)
- **Netherlands** Orientation Year Visa (\$1,700)
- **Georgia** Remotely from Georgia (\$2,000)
- **Hungary** White Card (\$2,000)
- **Indonesia** Remote Work Visa (B211A) (\$2,000)

\$2,001 to \$3,000 a month

Newly unlocked at this level:

- **Malaysia** DE Rantau Digital Nomad Pass (\$2,400)
- **Croatia** Digital Nomad Residence Permit (\$2,539)
- **Italy** Digital Nomad Visa (\$2,700)
- **Malta** Nomad Residence Permit (\$2,700)
- **Costa Rica** Digital Nomad & Remote Workers Visa (\$3,000)
- **Thailand** Long-Term Resident (LTR) Visa (\$3,000)

\$3,001 to \$3,500 a month

Newly unlocked at this level:

- **Spain** Digital Nomad Visa (\$3,291)
- **Cyprus** Digital Nomad Visa (\$3,500)
- **Germany** Freiberufler (Freelancer) Visa (\$3,500)
- **Greece** Digital Nomad Visa (\$3,500)
- **UAE** Virtual Working Programme (\$3,500)

\$3,501 to \$4,500 a month

Newly unlocked at this level:

- **Portugal** D8 Digital Nomad Visa (\$4,250)
- **Mexico** Temporary Resident Visa (\$4,400)
- **Estonia** Digital Nomad Visa (\$4,500)

My shortlist

My gross monthly income (USD) _____

Dependants coming with me _____

PROGRAMME	THRESHOLD MET?	PASSPORT ELIGIBLE?	APPLY BY (FOR MY MOVE DATE)	DOCUMENTS I STILL NEED

TAX RESIDENCY IS THE QUESTION NOBODY ASKS UNTIL IT IS TOO LATE

Spending more than 183 days in most of these countries can make you tax resident there, whatever your visa says. Some programmes come with a tax exemption or a flat rate; most do not. Before choosing, read the tax section of the country guide on EnRoute and talk to someone who advises cross-border workers.

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- The Digital Nomad Visa Index 2026 (e-book)
- The Cost of Living Atlas
- The Geo-Flex Constraints Document
- The Schengen Shuffle Planner and Tracker
- The Relocation Budget and Timeline

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