

BALIKBAYAN PRIVILEGE

1.) The Philippines' **BALIKBAYAN PROGRAM** allows a one-year visa-free stay for Filipinos working overseas and for former Filipinos who have acquired citizenship in certain countries (including Australia). The visa-free stay privilege is extended to the balikbayan's non-Filipino spouse and children, on the two conditions that (1) they enter the Philippines with the balikbayan and (2) they are citizens of a country listed under EO 408.

Former Filipino balikbayans travelling to the Philippines are advised to bring either their old Philippine passport or a copy of the Philippine birth certificate as proof of their former Philippine citizenship.

Accompanying family members of the balikbayan can bring appropriate supporting documents to show evidence of the relationship:

- For the spouse: copy of the marriage certificate
- For each child: copy of the birth certificate (indicating the balikbayan as a parent)
- For adopted children: copy of adoption papers

Please see the Philippine Bureau of Immigration's (BI)'s website: <https://immigration.gov.ph/faqs/visa-inquiry/balikbayan-privilege>

2.) Citizens from certain countries, including Australia, who are travelling to the Philippines for business and tourism purposes are allowed to enter the Philippines without visas for a stay not exceeding 30 days.

Foreign nationals who wish to remain in the Philippines beyond the allowable stay shall apply directly with the PH Bureau of Immigration (BI) when already in the Philippines for an extension of their stay and/or conversion to the type of visa appropriate for their purpose of stay.

Please see: Visa-free foreign nationals from countries under Executive Order 408, S. 1960, which includes Australia, for stays not exceeding 30 days. For the full list of non-visa required countries under E.O. 408, please click here - <https://dfa.gov.ph/list-of-countries-for-21-day-visa>.

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3.) All inbound passengers are required to register through <https://etravel.gov.ph/> at least 72 hrs prior to the intended date of arrival.

Please see:

https://immigration.gov.ph/images/Advisory/2022/12_Dec/2022Dec05_adv.jpg

<https://immigration.gov.ph/#advisory>

4.) For other related immigration inquiries, please contact directly the Philippine Bureau of Immigration (BI) in Manila through the following contact details:

Tel. nos.: (+632) 8465 2400; 8524 3769 Email: immigPH@gmail.com / binoc_immigration@hotmail.ph

Website: <https://immigration.gov.ph/>