
As athletes prepare to attend the 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships, please see below information regarding Visa's and requirements that competitors and national teams must follow should they wish to request a letter of invitation to compete at the event for the purposes of supporting their visa application.

*Please note this information is intended to provide general information only and does not constitute legal advice. Paddle Australia is not authorised to grant visas. For information on visas to enter Australia, visitors should seek the most up-to-date information from [Australian Government Department of Home Affairs](#).**

Do I need a visa to enter Australia?

Unless you are an Australian citizen, you will need a valid Australian visa to enter the country. New Zealand passport holders can apply for a visa upon arrival in the country. All other passport holders, regardless of age, must apply for a visa before leaving home. You can apply for a range of Australian visa types, including tourist visas and working holiday visas, via the ETA app or on the Department of Home Affairs website.

What types of tourist visas does Australia have?

There are different Australian visa types available for travellers to Australia. Knowing which Australian visa to apply for depends on the length of your stay, your passport and the purpose of your visit. You'll also need to meet certain financial and medical requirements, be outside of Australia when applying and maintain health insurance for the duration of your stay.

Electronic Travel Authority visa (subclass 601)

This visa allows you to visit Australia as many times as you want, for up to a year, and stay for three months each visit. This visa is available to passport holders from a number of countries and regions, who live outside Australia. A step-by-step guide on how to apply is [here](#). All [ETA-eligible passport holders](#) must apply for an ETA using the Australian ETA app. Agents can assist you in the application process, but you must be physically present as a live facial image is required.

eVisitor (subclass 651)

This is a free visa for multiple visits to Australia for tourism or business purposes for up to three months at a time within a 12-month period. This visa is available to passport holders from a number of European countries and it cannot be extended.

Visitor visa (subclass 600)

The Visitor visa allows you to visit Australia, either for tourism or business purposes. It is open to all nationalities. Generally, a period of stay of up to three months is granted, but up to 12 months may be granted in certain circumstances. Applicants will have to pay a fee to submit their application

How can I apply for an Australian tourist visa?

The application process may differ depending on which visa you need. You can only apply for the [Electronic Travel Authority visa](#) (subclass 601) through the Australian ETA app. A step-by-step guide on how to apply is located [here](#).

For other visas, you can [apply online](#) by creating an [ImmiAccount](#) and completing the application process. Be sure to submit your application well in advance of your travel date to allow enough time for processing. You may be asked to provide further supporting information. You will be notified in writing if your tourist visa is approved and it will be digitally linked to your passport. For more information on different visa types, and Australian visa requirements including how to apply for an Australian visa, visit the [Department of Home Affairs](#) website.

Can I extend a visitor visa?

If you are already in Australia and hold a valid Electronic Travel Authority visa (subclass 601) you can extend your stay by applying for another visa, such as a Visitor visa (subclass 600). An eVisitor (subclass 651) cannot be extended. See the [Department of Home Affairs](#) website for details.

I would like the organisers of the 2023 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Championships to provide me a letter of invitation for the purposes of applying for a Visa, how do I request this letter?

The organisers, Paddle Australia, are excited to welcome all international athletes to what will be a very exciting World Championship event. To receive a letter of invitation for the purposes of applying for a visa, athletes must provide the following documentation as listed below.

- Evidence that you have entered the event at the event portal [HERE](#).
- Evidence that you have entered the event via the ICF SDP system.
- Evidence that you have booked accommodation during the period of your stay.

Please submit requests for letters of invitation to oceanracing@paddle.org.au