

India e-Visa Validity Types Explained

What the 30-day, 1-year, and 5-year e-Tourist Visa options actually allow.

THE THREE E-TOURIST VISA VALIDITY OPTIONS

- 30-day e-Tourist Visa — valid 30 days from arrival, double entry, for a single short trip
- 1-year e-Tourist Visa — valid 1 year from issue, multiple entry, per-visit stay capped at 90 days for most nationalities (180 days for some, including U.S. nationals)
- 5-year e-Tourist Visa — valid 5 years from issue, multiple entry, same per-visit stay caps as the 1-year visa

Stay limits, fees, and eligible nationalities for each option are set by the government and do change — confirm the current rules for your nationality on indianvisaonline.gov.in before applying.

HOW TO CHOOSE

- One trip, no return planned — the 30-day option is usually simplest and cheapest
- Planning to return within the next year, or unsure of exact dates — the 1-year multiple-entry option avoids reapplying
- Frequent visitors or family ties in India — the 5-year option amortizes the fee across repeat trips
- Validity is the visa's lifespan, not your stay length — even a 5-year visa caps how long you can stay per visit

COMMON MISTAKES

- Assuming a 5-year visa means a 5-year continuous stay — per-visit stay limits still apply
- Booking flights before confirming which validity type and entry count match the itinerary
- Not checking whether re-entry is allowed under the 30-day option before a side trip
- Letting a long-validity visa lapse without realizing the stay cap resets only on a fresh entry

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