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Citizenship By Investment's  
Official Website



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**CIU**  
INVESTMENT UNION



# St. Kitts & Nevis

## CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT UNIT

The Government of St. Kitts & Nevis has introduced extensive legislation to attract financial services business to the island. St. Kitts & Nevis offers good opportunities to investors. The workforce is well-educated, English-speaking and friendly. The Government grants tax breaks, guaranteed repatriation of profits and concessions on import duties. There are no income or capital gains taxes and no inheritance or gift taxes in St. Kitts & Nevis.

The Citizenship-By-Investment program has also been in operation since 1984: it allows foreign investors to acquire citizenship under certain conditions. This makes it the oldest existing citizenship-by-investment program. It is also the most reputable citizenship program in existence. One can invest in either designated real estate or contribute to the Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation ("SIDF"). The St. Kitts & Nevis passport is very well regarded, as only relatively few passports have been issued under this program. As a result, St. Kitts & Nevis passport holders enjoy a passport with an excellent

reputation and very good visa-free travel, including to all of the EU, Canada, Hong Kong, Switzerland, and other countries. Accordingly, the St. Kitts & Nevis citizenship-by-investment program is the most attractive option if one is looking to acquire a second citizenship through investment without prior residence requirements.

The Citizenship Program of St. Christopher (St. Kitts) and Nevis was established in 1984 and requires applicants to make an economic contribution to the country. In exchange, they and their families are granted full citizenship. To qualify for citizenship, the applicant must make either an investment of at least US\$ 400,000 in one of the approved real-estate developments in addition to paying government fees, other fees and taxes, or alternatively making a contribution to the Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation (SIDF) to the amount of US\$ 250,000 (for a single applicant). However, this includes all government fees with the exception of due diligence fees.





# Welcome

## to St. Kitts & Nevis

*Saint Kitts and Nevis is a dual-island nation situated between the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea. It's known for cloud-shrouded mountains and beaches. Many of its former sugar plantations are now inns or atmospheric ruins. The larger of the 2 islands, Saint Kitts, is dominated by the dormant Mount Liamuiga volcano, home to a crater lake, green vervet monkeys and rainforests crisscrossed with hiking trails.*

If you are looking for the ultimate in expat tropical island living, St. Kitts and Nevis should not be overlooked. These two islands are some of the most beautiful and exotic places on earth. Whether you are looking to get out of the big city, find a place to retire or searching for a location to live that has plenty of water activities, St. Kitts and Nevis are extremely popular destinations for many tourists of which many later call home.

## Climate

The climate in St Kitts and Nevis is tropical. St. Kitts and Nevis do give many residents and visitors relief from its warm temperatures with a gentle breeze that comes from the north east trade winds. Humidity is low on the island, usually staying below 70 percent. Average temperatures on the island hover around 75 degrees and 81 degrees year round. There is rainfall during the year, which amounts to about 54 inches, but for the most part there is plenty of sun. St. Kitts and Nevis can occasionally be affected by strong tropical storms and hurricanes. Hurricane season lasts from June to November, with late summer to early fall being the most active.

## Government

St Kitts and Nevis are considered to be the smallest nation in the Caribbean in both island size and population. While the islands were once part of the British Crown, today they are unitary islands forming a nation. St. Kitts and Nevis are very stable and secure. They have a bustling tourism industry and in many ways serve as a tax haven for some wealthy individuals and corporations.



Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park







Port of St. Kitts



**F**or American citizens, you do not need a visa to enter St. Kitts or Nevis, a passport is all that is required. With a US passport, you can stay on the islands for up to 3 months. For more information about residency requirements and visas, please take a look at the Permanent Mission of Saint Kitts and Nevis.





*Four Seasons Golf Course (Charlestown, St. Kitts and Nevis)*

## Tax System

St. Kitts and Nevis are considered to be an attractive tax haven for many individuals and corporations. On the islands, there is no net worth tax, sales tax, and estate taxes. While there is a corporate income tax, it only applies to domestic companies that do business with residents on the islands. Corporate income tax has a rate of 35%.

Besides the above taxes, there are other taxes including property taxes, withholding taxes and import levies.

## Medical Care

Medical care on St. Kitts and Nevis is limited, but adequate. There are three hospitals on St. Kitts and one hospital on Nevis. There are also clinics on both islands. For those with serious illnesses or injuries, you will most likely need to be evacuated to the United States or another island for treatment. While you can purchase health insurance on the island, most expats that live on the island for a season or short term prefer to purchase travel insurance that includes a medical insurance component. Make sure that your travel insurance also includes a medical evacuation provision.





*Four Seasons Resort (Charlestown, St. Kitts and Nevis)*

## Shopping

Shopping on the island can be pleasurable. Necessities are easy to find, however since all items must be shipped in, you are unlikely to find a wide range of products or your favorite brands. Since tourism is a huge industry on the island, you will be able to find many tourist type products and services and there are plenty of markets for bargain hunters.

As far as entertainment goes, St. Kitts and Nevis offer expats and tourists alike wonderful entertainment in the form of great restaurants, nightclubs, bars and plenty of water sports and beach activities. Prices may be high for these items since they are targeted to tourists.

## Real Estate

Real estate on the islands of St. Kitts and Nevis are straight forward and generally low risk, however for foreigners, there are restrictions on the type of property one can purchase or invest in. For US citizens, the minimum property value that you can invest in or purchase is \$250,000. Besides the minimum investment amount there are also certain background checks and applications to be completed. It is best to hire a real estate lawyer on the island to help out with your real estate dealings.



# INVESTMENT OPTIONS

The Government of St. Kitts and Nevis has a long running "Citizenship-by-investment" program attracting foreigners, who make a substantial contribution to the development of the country. Investors along with any family members, can directly qualify for citizenship through investment, either by making a donation or investment in real estate purchase.

St Kitts passport is an excellent second passport for visa free travel to over 100+ countries in Europe, Caribbean. It usually takes 6 months to receive the passport after the investment is made.







*(LEFT)*  
**ALL IN A DAY'S WORK.**  
Sugar cane farmers  
harvesting cane on  
a plantation

*(RIGHT)*  
**FRESH AND OUT.**  
Newly cut sugar canes from  
the plantation

## Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation (SIDF)

Applicants may qualify for citizenship through a contribution to the Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation (SIDF). The SIDF is a public charity tasked with diversifying St Kitts and Nevis' economy.

**Single applicant:** a non-refundable contribution of US\$250,000 is required

**Main applicant with up to three dependents (for example, a spouse and two children):** a non-refundable contribution of US\$300,000 is required

**Additional dependents, regardless of Age:** US\$25,000.

Upon submission of an application, non-refundable due diligence and processing fees must be also paid. These fees amount to US\$7,500 for the main applicant, and US\$4,000 for each dependent of the main application who is over the age of 16 years.

Unmarried dependent children who are older than 18 but younger than 30 can also be included in the application. Similarly, dependent parents aged 55 or above may also be included.

The SIDF option is the most straightforward means of obtaining citizenship in St Kitts and Nevis.

## Real Estate Investment

Applicants may qualify for citizenship through an investment in a pre-approved real estate project, which may include hotel shares, villas, and condominium units. The minimum real estate investment required by law is US\$400,000 for each main applicant.

Upon submission of an application, non-refundable due diligence and processing fees must also be paid. These fees amount to US\$7,500 for the main applicant, and US\$4,000 for each dependent of the main applicant who is over the age of 16 years.

On approval in principle of an application made through a real estate investment, a Government fee applies, as follows:

**Main applicant:** US\$50,047

**Spouse of the main applicant:** US\$25,047

**Dependent child of the main applicant under 18 years of age:** US\$25,047

**Dependent child of the main applicant above the age of 18 years or dependent parent aged 55 and above:** US\$50,047

In addition to these fees, real estate buyers should be aware of purchase costs (mainly compulsory insurance fund contributions and conveyance fees).

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# APPLYING FOR CITIZENSHIP IN ST. KITTS & NEVIS

**T**o qualify for citizenship under the real estate option, the government requires applicants to make an investment in designated, officially approved real estate with a value of at least US\$ 400,000 plus the payment of government fees and other fees and taxes. As the application procedure under this option involves the purchase of real estate, this can lengthen the processing time depending on the chosen property. Real estate can be re-sold 5 years after the purchase and may not qualify the next buyer for citizenship. A list of approved real-estate developments is published under Approved Real Estate

Acquisition of citizenship under the SIDF option requires a contribution to the Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation.

Applications for Citizenship cannot be lodged directly at the Citizenship-by-Investment Unit, instead it can only be handled by registered Authorised Persons.





**CRUISIN' AND CRUISIN'.**  
Two Cruise ships dock while  
tourists shop and stroll around  
Port Zante







## Application Forms

Service Providers are charged US\$250.00 or its equivalent in Eastern Caribbean currency for each set of application forms issued. Applications can be obtained from Authorised Persons.

### Required Forms:

- Application for registration as a Citizen (Form C1)
- Photograph and Signature Certificate (Form C2)
- Medical Certificate (Form C3) including original results of HIV Test (HIV test is required for all persons applying for citizenship including children over 5 years).

Note: HIV test results must not be older than 3 months.

### Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation option:

- Investment Confirmation/Escrow Agreement (Form C4)

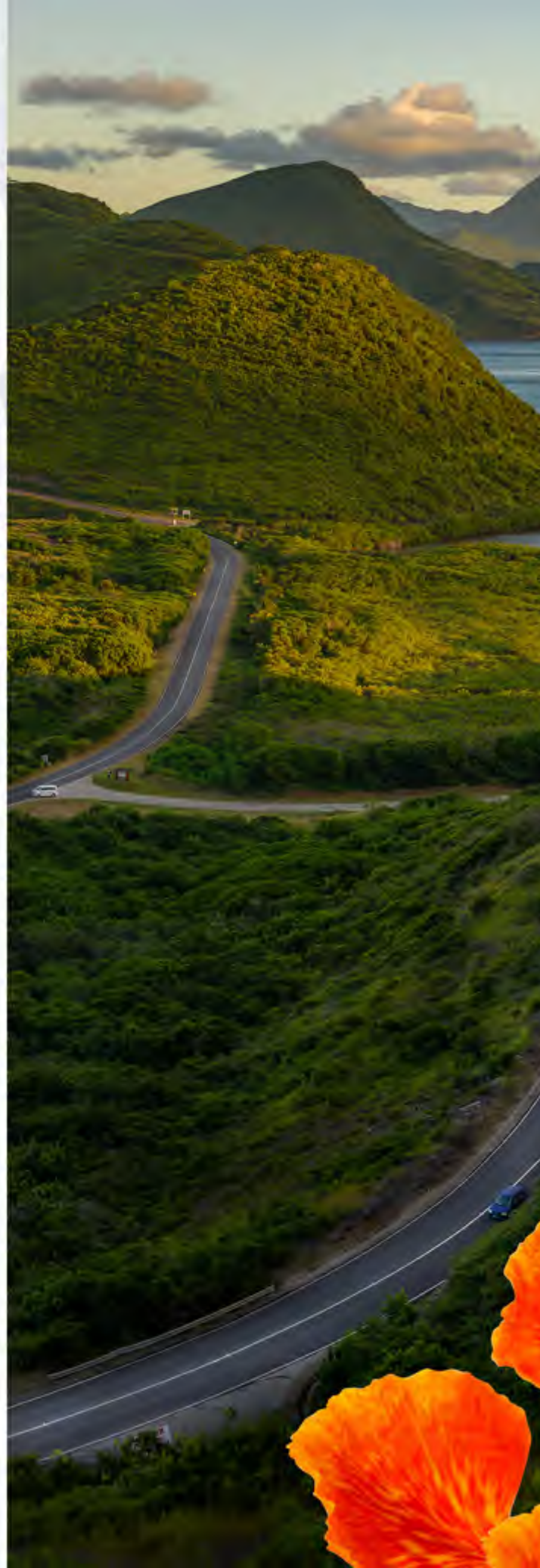
Important: Forms C1, C2, C3 and C4 will be supplied by your local authorised person. (Only original application forms are accepted)

Applicants should fill out the application forms that can be obtained from any local corporate service provider or lawyer licensed to practice in the Federation.

## Required Documents

All Applicants are required to provide the following:

- Completed C1 application form
- Completed C2 application form
- Completed C3 application form
- Original excerpt of full birth record or Certified copy of birth certificate (i.e. a birth document that also includes your parent's details, or a household register, family book etc.)
- Certified copy of proof of name change (Deed Polls or jurisdictional equivalent, if applicable)
- Certified copy of current national identity card(s) (children under the age of 16 are exempted)
- Certified copy of current passport(s) showing name, photo citizenship/nationality, date and place of issue, expiry date, passport number and issuing country.
- HIV Test Results must be no older than 3 months (children under the age of 12 are exempted)





- Police Certificate “certificate of no criminal record” or “police clearance certificate” from country of citizenship and any country where you have lived for more than 1 year over the past 10 years (children under the age of 16 are exempted)
- Six (6) photographs approximately 35 x 45mm in size, taken within the past six (6) months (N.B. one of the photographs must be certified and attached to the C2 form)

Other supporting documents required from the main applicant:

- C4 application Form (SIDF Option)
- Completed Purchase and Sales Agreement (Approved Real Estate Option)
- At least 1 original professional reference (e.g. from an attorney, notary public, chartered accountant or other professional of similar standing) not older than 6 months.
- Bank Statements for a 12 month period from the date of submission of application
- At least 1 original bank reference letter issued by an internationally recognized bank, not older than 6 months.
- Certified copy of Military Records or exemption from military service (if applicable)
- 1 original document of evidence of residential address (e.g. certified copy of a recent utility bill or bank statement showing full name and address, or written confirmation from a bank, attorney, chartered accountant or notary public).
- Employment Letter(s) stating the start of employment, position held and salary earned
- Certified copy of Business License or Incorporation documents
- 1 Original excerpt of marriage record or certified copy of marriage certificate(s) if applicable (i.e. if married persons apply together).
- Certified copy of divorce documents (if applicable).
- Statement and evidence of source of fund to be invested in St. Kitts and Nevis
- Affidavit of Financial Support for applicant's between the ages of 18 -30
- Certified copy of University Degrees (if applicable)
- Limited Power of Attorney







# Accelerated Application Process

**T**he Accelerated Application Process (AAP) approved by the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis in

October 2016 allows applications the Citizenship by Investment Program to be accelerated to a 60-day processing period.

Interested persons applying utilizing the AAP will still be required to meet all mandatory criteria and submit the necessary supporting documents to apply for citizenship by investment.

Applications will be given an accelerated treatment from the Citizenship by Investment Unit, Due Diligence Providers and the St. Kitts and Nevis Passport Office. As a bonus this process also includes the application and processing of the St. Christopher (St. Kitts) and Nevis passport. Applying using the AAP can see an application completed within 60 days with some applications completed in as early as 45 days.

## AAP Process Fees (inclusive of Due Diligence Fees)

- Main Applicant: US\$25,000.00
- Dependent above 16 years: US\$20,000.00

In addition to the US\$25,000.00 and US\$20,000.00 AAP processing fees, an additional fee of US\$500.00 per person will be applicable for the processing of the St. Kitts and Nevis Passport for any dependents under the age of 16 years.

Feel free to contact the Management Team of the Citizenship by Investment Unit for any enquires regarding the Accelerated Application Process. Emails can be sent to [FAQ@skn-ciu.com](mailto:FAQ@skn-ciu.com)



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### Disclaimer

Owing to the extended turn-around time of third party due diligence contributor's applicants from the following countries will not be eligible for the AAP:

- Republic of Iraq
- Republic of Yemen
- Federal Republic of Nigeria





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