Siam Legal International Releases Step-by-Step Thai e-Visa Guide Ahead of Peak Season

November 16, 2026

Bangkok, Thailand - November 16, 2026 -
Siam Legal International, a full-service law firm with more than 22 years of experience assisting Thai and foreign clients, has published a step-by-step guide to applying for a Thai e-Visa as the November to February peak travel season begins. Applications are made entirely online, and because the system rarely allows second chances, small errors can lead to delays, lost fees, or a new application.

The portal, thaievisa.go.th, is run by Thailand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has been the only way to apply at every Thai embassy and consulate worldwide since January 2025. Applications are not decided in Bangkok but by the Thai embassy or consulate covering the country where the applicant is located, and each sets its own document checklist, processing times, and fees.

An e-Visa is required only for those who need a visa to enter or stay in Thailand, and travelers arriving under a visa exemption scheme do not need to apply. The portal covers nearly every Thai visa, including tourist and transit visas, the Non-Immigrant B, ED, and O visas, and the Destination Thailand Visa.

The first step is creating an account. Applicants should type the portal address directly, as lookalike sites

charge extra fees, and confirm the account through an email link after completing a few captcha checks.

The second step is selecting the passport country, current location, and the responsible embassy, which must cover the country where the applicant is currently located. Many embassies ask for proof of legal residence, such as a residence card, long-term visa, or work permit, or a national ID or driving license for citizens. For the Destination Thailand Visa, applicants must be a citizen or permanent resident and provide a police clearance certificate.

The third step is completing the form, saving progress regularly since the system can lose entered data. Passports need at least six months of validity, and some long-stay visas require more. Photos must be JPG files of no more than 3 megabytes, taken within the last six months, and not cropped from the passport, and applicants should have their full Thai address ready, down to the district and subdistrict.

Supporting documents are uploaded in the fourth step. Most visas require travel plans such as return flights and accommodation covering the whole stay, plus bank statements, along with purpose-specific documents such as an employment letter for a Non-Immigrant B, a marriage certificate for a Non-Immigrant O, proof of income or savings for retirement, or a remote work contract or Muay Thai course enrollment for a Destination Thailand Visa. Each must be a single PDF or JPG under 3 megabytes, translated into English or Thai where needed.

The final step is paying the fee, in most cases by card online, although some embassies, such as Moscow, accept only cash in person. Applicants then track their status online and should respond quickly if the embassy requests more documents by email.

"Most e-Visa rejections come down to a handful of simple rules rather than complicated eligibility questions," said Rex Baay, Senior Immigration Consultant and Operations Manager at Siam Legal International. "Because fees are not refunded and there is no express service, the time spent checking an application against the embassy's own requirements before submitting is the most valuable part of the process."

Applicants should read their embassy's own document list, since most embassies have requirements beyond the portal's standard list. Applications made from inside Thailand will be rejected, as a visa is permission to enter the country, and names must match the passport exactly, including middle names. Embassies can edit applications, and fees are not refunded if an application is rejected or withdrawn.

Applications submitted more than 90 days before arrival are rejected by the system. Applying about a month before travel, and at least 30 days ahead during the November to February peak season, is recommended. Approved e-Visas arrive as a PDF by email with no passport sticker, so a printed copy should be carried for airline check-in and immigration.

The e-Visa does not replace the Thailand Digital Arrival Card, which must still be completed online within the three days before arrival. The full process is covered in Siam Legal's Thai e-Visa guide, including examples of the documents each visa type requires.

Siam Legal International is a full-service law firm with more than 22 years of experience assisting Thai and foreign clients, with offices in Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Phuket, and Pattaya. The firm provides comprehensive legal and immigration support across property transactions, business law, family law, and litigation.

###

For more information about Siam Legal International, contact the company here:Siam Legal InternationalRex Baay+662 254 8900info@siam-legal.com18th Floor, Unit 1806 Two Pacific Place,142 Sukhumvit Rd, Khlong Toei,Bangkok 10110, Thailand

Siam Legal International

American-managed Thailand law firm with 22+ years? experience. Experts in corporate setup, BOI, FBL, family & divorce, property, litigation, immigration, notary, wills, contracts & due diligence across Bangkok, Phuket, Pattaya & more.

Website: https://www.siam-legal.com/

Email: info@siam-legal.com

Phone: +662 254 8900