



Siam Legal International Highlights Thailand Privilege Visa as Long-Term Residency Alternative to Golden Visa Thailand

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Siam Legal International, a government-authorized General Sales and Services Agent (GSSA) for the Thailand Privilege Card program, has issued guidance explaining that the Thailand Privilege Visa is widely regarded as the closest option to a traditional Golden Visa Thailand program for foreign nationals seeking long-term residency in the country.

The clarification comes as increasing numbers of international residents research Thailand residency options using search terms such as "Golden Visa Thailand," often referring to residency-by-investment programs available in parts of Europe. Thailand does not currently operate a property investment-based Golden Visa scheme, leading many prospective residents to identify the Thailand Privilege Visa as the country's primary long-term residency program designed specifically for foreign nationals seeking extended stays.

The Thailand Privilege Visa, formerly known as the Thailand Elite Visa, is a government-backed residency

program operated by Thailand Privilege Card Company Limited. The program has operated for more than two decades and offers long-term residency privileges with visa validity periods ranging from five to 20 years, depending on the selected membership tier.

Unlike traditional Golden Visa programs that require substantial real estate purchases or large financial investments, the Thailand Privilege Visa operates through a membership model with a one-time fee structure. This approach allows foreign nationals to obtain long-term residency privileges without needing to purchase property or maintain ongoing investment portfolios to retain their status.

“Many of our international clients initially search online for a Golden Visa Thailand program before learning about the Thailand Privilege Visa,” said Rex Baay, Senior Immigration Consultant and Operations Manager at Siam Legal International. “While Thailand does not operate a traditional investment-based Golden Visa, the Thailand Privilege program offers a structured pathway to long-term residency without the complex investment requirements seen in other countries.”

The program also includes a range of administrative and lifestyle services designed to support members living in Thailand. These services include airport fast-track processing, VIP arrival assistance, and support with immigration requirements such as 90-day reporting and bank account opening. Members may also access a points-based benefits system that can be used for services such as healthcare, dining, travel assistance, and lifestyle experiences within Thailand.

For many foreign residents, the Thailand Privilege Visa provides a level of residency stability that differs from other visa categories that require frequent extensions or renewals. Depending on the membership tier selected, participants may obtain residency lasting up to 20 years under the program.

Recent developments within the program have introduced expanded membership options and flexible benefits structures designed to accommodate a wider range of applicants. Membership tiers currently start at 650,000 THB (approximately 20,000 USD), with higher-tier options providing longer residency privileges and expanded lifestyle benefits under the program’s points-based system.

Siam Legal International assists international applicants with Thailand Privilege Visa applications as an official partner for the Thailand Privilege Card program. As an authorized partner working directly within the program’s official framework, the firm guides clients through membership tier selection, documentation preparation, and coordination with Thailand Privilege Card Company Limited throughout the application process. Applicants can submit their membership applications through Siam Legal without additional fees, and the membership fee is payable only after the application is approved by Thailand Privilege.

With more than two decades of experience assisting international clients in Thailand, Siam Legal International provides legal and immigration services covering residency solutions, property law, corporate structuring, family law matters, and regulatory compliance for foreign nationals living, working, or investing in Thailand.

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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.

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