



Siam Legal International Explains Thailand's New THIM Digital Immigration App for Foreign Visitors

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Siam Legal International, a Thailand-based full-service law firm with more than 20 years of operation, is providing guidance for foreign visitors following the launch of the Thailand Immigration Management System, or THIM, a new mobile application designed to digitize Thailand's arrival card process and reduce border processing times.

Thailand's Immigration Bureau has launched THIM to allow international visitors to complete the arrival card information digitally before landing. The app uses AI-powered passport scanning and is intended to reduce arrival registration time to under three minutes while maintaining immigration screening and national security checks.

THIM was developed by Digital Identity Co., Ltd. in partnership with the Immigration Bureau and is built on Amazon Web Services infrastructure hosted within the AWS Asia Pacific Bangkok Region. The system was designed to support faster processing while keeping traveler data within Thailand in line with local legal and

national security requirements.

For travelers, the immediate purpose of THIM is convenience. The app is designed to allow visitors to register once by scanning their passports and submitting personal and travel information to immigration authorities. On future trips, travelers may only need to update selected details instead of re-entering their full profile each time.

When a traveler presents their passport at the immigration counter, officers can see that the digital registration has already been completed. This reduces the need to cross-reference a separate arrival form or QR code and supports faster processing at border checkpoints.

Siam Legal notes that THIM is part of Thailand's wider move toward digital immigration services. The country previously shifted from paper-based arrival forms to the Thailand Digital Arrival Card, or TDAC, which allowed visitors to pre-register online. THIM appears to build on that system by introducing one-time registration, passport scanning, and a more streamlined process for repeat travelers.

“THIM may make arrival processing faster, but travelers should still take the information they submit seriously,” said Rex Baay, Senior Immigration Consultant and Operations Manager at Siam Legal International. “Foreign visitors should make sure their passport details, accommodation information, travel purpose, visa status, and intended stay are accurate before arrival.”

The Immigration Bureau handles tens of millions of international arrivals each year, making faster processing a priority for both travelers and border officials. Siam Legal notes that digital arrival systems can improve convenience, but they also require travelers to be more careful about consistency and accuracy when submitting immigration information.

The app currently supports English, Russian, Japanese, and Chinese, with plans to expand to 15 languages by the end of the year. A version compatible with Chinese domestic app stores is also reportedly in development.

The Immigration Bureau has also indicated that THIM may expand beyond arrival registration. Planned features include appointment booking, visa extension applications, electronic certification documents, 90-day reporting, and other routine immigration services for foreign nationals in Thailand.

If these features are introduced, THIM could become relevant not only to short-term tourists, but also to retirees, business visitors, remote professionals, long-term residents, and foreign nationals who regularly interact with Thai immigration offices.

Siam Legal advises travelers to monitor official immigration announcements during the early rollout period. Foreign visitors should review the latest entry requirements before traveling, including Thailand's revised visa-free entry rules, as Thailand's digital arrival procedures may continue to change as THIM is introduced and expanded.

For foreign residents in Thailand, existing immigration obligations remain in place unless official changes are announced. Visa validity, permitted stay, 90-day reporting, TM30 address registration where applicable, and extension deadlines should still be monitored carefully.

Siam Legal notes that digital immigration tools may make certain procedures faster, but they do not replace the need to follow Thai immigration rules. Foreign nationals should ensure that their entry category, purpose of stay, and supporting documents match their actual travel or residence plans.

Siam Legal International is a Thailand-based full-service law firm with offices in Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Phuket, and Pattaya. The firm assists individuals, families, investors, and businesses with legal and immigration matters in Thailand, including company registration, property law, family law, litigation, and immigration compliance.

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