



BULGARIA

RESIDENCE BY INVESTMENT

As one of the youngest EU member states, Bulgaria boasts a rich and diverse culture, temperate climate, and ideal location in Southeast Europe. The Investor Program for Residence and Citizenship in Bulgaria helps get you there faster with many benefits.



Minimum Investment Requirement

EUR 1,024,000 Fund Investment + Costs/ INR 21.2 crores



Nature of Investment

Investment Funds & Shares and bonds of a Bulgarian Company



Investment Holding Period

5 Years



Application Processing Time

6- 9 Months



Global Passport Index Ranking

9



Visa Free & Visa on Arrival Access in

127



Key Visa Free Travel Destinations

Austria, Brazil, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, Grenada, Italy, Ireland



The Right to Live, Work and Study without Restrictions in

Bulgaria



Free Public Education for Citizens

Yes



Free or Subsidised Primary Healthcare for Citizens

Yes



Dual Citizenship Permitted

No



Minimum Time to qualify for Citizenship

5 Years



First residence Permit Validity

2 Years



Visit required as a part of Application Process

2



Physical presence required for maintaining Residence Status

None



Family Coverage

Yes

Key Benefits

- Residency within 6 to 9 months.
- Fast-track option for citizenship within 2 years.
- Special exemption from physical residence enforced by legislation.
- Government-approved investments and available financing options from banks.
- No language requirements.
- No obligation to relinquish current nationality.
- Lowest tax rates and free-trade environment within the EU.

- Free movement within the Schengen zone after Bulgaria becomes a member state.
- Access to high-quality health care in Bulgaria and the EU.
- Conditional tax exemption on world income.

Requirements of Bulgaria Residence by investment

The following investment options are now effective, where certain conditions may apply

Investment of BGN 500,000 (€255,646) in the capital of a trade company under which tangible or intangible assets are acquired and 10 or more jobs for Bulgarians are created; the reason for maintaining the foreigner's permit and the investment must be proven to the Ministry of Economy.

BGN 1 million in collective investment schemes or alternative investment funds (minimum net asset value requirements apply in both cases) licensed and registered by the Financial Supervision Commission and whose investment strategy is targeted predominantly towards Bulgarian companies and which solely invest in assets and/or bonds of Bulgarian companies, including special purpose investment companies. BGN 1 million investment in rights under concession contracts on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

BGN 2 million investment in the share capital of a Bulgarian trade company implementing a priority investment project certified under the Investment Promotion Act and verified by the Ministry of Economy or in shares or bonds of Bulgarian companies, traded on a Bulgarian regulated market or multilateral trading facility in Bulgaria.

BGN 6 million investment in the capital of a non-publicly traded Bulgarian company
The requirement to maintain the investment for a period of at least 5 years remains.

Procedures and time frame of Bulgaria Residence by Investment

Month 1 – Opening an account with a Bulgarian based broker and buying Bulgarian ETFs for approx. 512,000 €. This step includes the preparation of the set of Investor D visa application documents, confirmation certificate of investment in Bulgarian ETFs issued from the broker and Investment certificate issued from the Bulgarian Investment Agency;


Month 2 – The Investor applies for a D visa in the nearest Bulgarian embassy or general consulate. The Bulgarian Investor visa is usually granted within 30 working days;

Month 3 – Applying for a permanent residence by investment. The investor visits Bulgaria to apply for permanent residence with the local Migration Office. Usually, permanent residence applications are considered within 45 working days;

Month 4 – 6 – Once the residence application is approved, the investor will be photographed and the permanent residence card is issued within 3 working days. Family reunification process can be started. Family members will obtain permanent residence in 3 months.

The investor may obtain fast-track Bulgarian citizenship if the investment is increased to 1,024,000 EUR in Year 2.

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