



# Visa for family reunification

## (after marriage in Laos)

### Important Information

The information sheet for a marriage in Laos is available [here](#). After submission of the marriage certificate, the visa application to take up residence in Switzerland after marriage in Laos can be submitted at the [Swiss Consular Agency in Laos](#) during the opening hours. The applicant's appearance in person is mandatory. Please arrange an appointment in advance: [vientiane.ca@eda.admin.ch](mailto:vientiane.ca@eda.admin.ch) / +856 21 251 794

### Documentary requirements

- **Three [visa application forms](#)**  
("Application for a long stay visa D") duly filled out, dated and signed by the applicant
- **[Four identical passport photos](#)**  
made within the last 3 months in colour with neutral light background, 3.5 – 4 cm in width, head takes up 70-80% of surface
- **Passport**  
issued with the family name after marriage, valid at least three months after the planned entry date in the Schengen territory, at least two blank pages
- **Three photocopies of the passport**  
personal data page
- **Criminal record**  
Original with three photocopies. To be ordered at the Province People's Court. The record needs to be translated into English or French by the Ministry of Justice and legalized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.  
Ministry of Justice: Nonsaart Village, Saythany District, Vientiane Capital,  
Tel: (+856) 21-414101-07  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Consul Department, Sibounheuang Road, Ban Sibounheuang, Chanthaboury Dist, Vientiane, Tel: (+856) 21-243524.

### Further documents

If the marriage has been concluded with a citizen of a third country, the Regional Consular Center in Bangkok can require further documents related to the marriage (extract from marriage register, birth certificate etc.). We are pleased to advise you by [e-mail](#).

### Fee

The visa application is free of charge for spouses of Swiss and EU/EFTA citizens. [Here](#) you can find the applicable postal fees for the submission of the visa application to the Regional Center in Bangkok and the cantonal migration office.

## Procedure

The procedure for family reunion may take several months and depends on the registration of the marriage by the civil registry office in Switzerland. The visa application will be sent to Bangkok by weekly courier and submitted by the Regional Consular Center to the cantonal migration office competent for the Swiss spouse's place of residence. Information regarding the processing time can be given by the authorities in Switzerland only. In general, the Swiss spouse is informed by the cantonal migration office once the authorization to enter Switzerland has been granted (form „Ermächtigung zur Visumerteilung“ or “Autorisation habilitant les représentations Suisses à délivrer un visa”). The passport can then be submitted to the Swiss Consular Agency in Laos by the applicant or by an authorized third person during the opening hours with prior appointment. The passport will be sent to the Regional Consular Center in Bangkok by weekly courier [with postage fee](#) for the issuance of the visa and usually returned to Vientiane the following week. The exact pick up date of the passport will be communicated to you by the Swiss Consular Agency in Laos.

Bangkok, January 2025