

# \*\*\*Please read\*\*\*

## INFORMATION SHEET TO VISA HOLDERS

August 2014

You have been issued a visa for the territories of the Schengen States<sup>1</sup>.

**As soon as you receive your short-stay visa, make sure that all the information it contains is correct.**

Check the following:

- *Your passport has a passport number. This number is also indicated on the visa sticker. Make sure that these numbers are the same.*
- *You applied for your visa for a specific period or periods. Check that your air ticket corresponds with the entry and exit dates indicated on the visa sticker.*
- *Check that the number of entries you applied for (one, two, or multiple) corresponds with the number of entries indicated on your visa sticker.*
- *Check that your name is spelled correctly.*

Do this yourself in order to avoid any problems or extra costs arising when using your visa. If you think that the information on the visa is incorrect, tell the consulate or embassy **immediately**, so that any errors can be corrected.

### How to read the visa sticker

DURATION OF STAY.....DAYS indicates the number of days, you may stay in the Schengen area. The days should be counted from the date you enter the Schengen area (the entry stamp) to the date you exit the Schengen area (the exit stamp), i.e. both days included.

The period of time between “FROM ...UNTIL” is usually longer than the number of days printed in the “DURATION OF STAY” field. The difference in period is meant to give you flexibility to plan your entry into and exit from the Schengen area, but your stay in the Schengen area must never exceed the exact number of days in the “DURATION OF STAY ...DAYS” field. No matter how many days you have stayed in the Schengen area, you must leave no later than the date printed in the “UNTIL” field.

### Controls at the border

Your short-stay visa allows you to travel to Denmark and usually to other Schengen States. But it does not automatically entitle you to enter the Schengen area. So you may have to provide certain information at border or other controls. You may, for instance, have to provide information on your means of support, how long you intend to stay in Denmark, and why you are visiting Denmark. In some cases, such checks may result in a refusal for the visa holder to enter Denmark or the Schengen area.

It is therefore recommended that you carry with you copies of the documents which you presented when you applied for the visa (e.g. letters of invitation, travel confirmations, other documents stating the purpose of your stay). This will help to make the border control procedure easier and avoid delays at the border.

**NB:** You must keep to the period of stay allowed by your visa. Misuse and overstay may result in you being expelled and banned from obtaining a new visa for a certain period of time.

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<sup>1</sup> Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland

## INFORMATION FROM THE DANISH AUTHORITIES

### The validity of the visa

When planning the length of your stay, please note that a stay is counted in days – not months – and that the visa's expiration date is absolute.

Example 1: If you enter Denmark or another Schengen country on 1 July on a visa valid for 90 days within the period from 1 July until 13 October the same year, you will have to leave the Schengen area no later than 28 September, i.e. when the 90 days are up.

Example 2: If your visa is valid for 90 days within the period from 1 July until 13 October the same year, but your entry into the Schengen area is postponed until 1 September, you will have to leave the Schengen area no later than 13 October 2014 when the visa expires.

### Financial means

When entering and staying in the Schengen area, you must at all times be able to present documentation that you have **the necessary means for your stay and for the return trip** or that you are able to obtain these means in a legal manner. As a main rule, DKK 500 per day is adequate if you are going to stay in a hotel, and DKK 350 per day is adequate if you are going to stay in a hostel or the like, and the lodgings have not been paid in advance. As regards the return trip, you must be in possession of a valid **return ticket** or sufficient money to purchase a ticket.

If you intend to travel to or transit through other Schengen countries besides Denmark, please check the national guidelines concerning reference amounts in Annex 18 to the Visa Code Handbook.

If you are invited by a host or a company in Denmark, you should bring the invitation form.

### Consequences of overstaying and misuse of visa

According to the Danish Aliens Act, you will, unless special circumstances apply, not be eligible for a new visa to Denmark for a period of **5 years**, if:

- you stay in Denmark or another Schengen country for more than 30 days beyond the period indicated in your visa, without prerequisite permit. This rule does not apply if the overstay was due to circumstances beyond your control, or if a refusal would constitute a clearly disproportionate reaction).
- you are expelled from Denmark.
- you apply for asylum in Denmark or another Schengen country.
- you – during your visa stay – submit an application for certain kinds of residence permit in Denmark and remain in Denmark while the case is being processed. (As a main rule, an application for family reunification with a spouse will not result in a penalty period).

According to the Danish Aliens Act, you will, unless special circumstances apply, not be eligible for a new visa to Denmark for a period of **3 years**, if:

- you stay in Denmark or another Schengen country for a maximum of 30 days beyond the period indicated in your visa, without prerequisite permit (unless you can provide documentation that the overstay was due to circumstances beyond your control).

For further information, please visit [www.newtodenmark.dk/misuse](http://www.newtodenmark.dk/misuse).