XIPHIAS Immigration

COUNTRY BROCHURE



CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT | COUNTRY GUIDE

São Tomé & Príncipe Citizenship by Investment

São Tomé and Príncipe grants nationality for a contribution from USD 90,000 under Decreto-Lei n.º 07/2025, in force since 1 August 2025. No residence requirement — but no Schengen or UK access, and around 58 to 61 visa-free destinations.

PROGRAMMES	VISA-FREE DESTINATIONS	CAPITAL	CURRENCY
1	58	São Tomé	Dobra

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São Tomé & Príncipe at a glance

CAPITAL **São Tomé**	POPULATION **233,100**
LANGUAGE **Portuguese**	CURRENCY **Dobra**
TIME ZONE **GMT**	CLIMATE **Tropical**
PROGRAMMES WE ADVISE ON **1**	

Overview

São Tomé and Príncipe — an archipelago in the Gulf of Guinea off Central Africa — grants nationality for investment or donation under Article 10(2) of Lei n.º 07/2022, implemented by Decreto-Lei n.º 07/2025 (Diário da República I Série n.º 33, 1 August 2025). Applications opened on 1 September 2025. The minimum contribution is USD 90,000 for a single applicant, USD 95,000 for a family of two to four, plus a USD 5,000 non-refundable submission fee. There is no residence requirement. The unit's own first-year report puts average approval at about two months and average time to passport at about four.

Key points

- Around 58–61 visa-free or visa-on-arrival destinations (Henley and Arton indices, 2026). No Schengen and no UK access.
- No residence requirement — the decree waives it under Article 10(3)
- Article 11(1) bars naturalisation for anyone holding more than two foreign nationalities
- Passports for adult dependent children aged 18+ are on hold pending a revised dependency law
- São Tomé and Príncipe permits dual nationality. India does not — Indian citizenship ends on acquisition.

Programmes in São Tomé & Príncipe



National Transformation Fund (NTF) – Donation Route

A non-refundable contribution from USD 90,000 under Decreto-Lei n.º 07/2025. São Tomé and Príncipe permits dual nationality — India does not.

From USD 90,000 | ~2 months to approval, ~4 months to passport (Citizenship Investment Unit, first-year report

How the application works

1. **Consultation with XIPHIAS, including the Indian citizenship consequence and the bar on holding more than two foreign nationalities, before anything is committed.**
2. **Engage an authorised agent to prepare and submit the application to the Citizenship Investment Unit.**
3. **Government due diligence, criminal record verification and source-of-funds review.**
4. **Approval in principle, then payment of the contribution to the fund named in the decree.**
5. **Oath, nationality certificate, and passport applications for approved family members. Approval averages about two months; passport in hand averages about four.**

General requirements

- Make the contribution: USD 90,000 for a single applicant or USD 95,000 for a family of two to four, plus USD 5,000 per additional dependant.
- Pay the USD 5,000 non-refundable submission fee.
- Pass criminal record verification and government due diligence, with proof of a lawful source of funds.
- Hold no more than two foreign nationalities (Lei 07/2022, Article 11(1)).
- Submit valid travel documents, national identity documents and medical clearance.

Questions clients ask

How long does the process take?

The Citizenship Investment Unit's first-year report of 1 September 2026 records a fastest approval of 26 days, an average approval of about two months, and an average of about four months to passport in hand. It also records 29 passports issued against 548 applications.

Can family members be included in my application?

Spouse, including a recognised de facto partner, and dependent children. Parents aged 55 and over who are financially dependent are provided for in programme materials. Grandparents and siblings are not included. Passports for adult dependent children aged 18 and over are currently on hold pending a revised dependency law.

Are there residency requirements?

No. Article 10(3) of Lei 07/2022 allows the residence requirement to be waived, and there is no minimum stay to keep the nationality.

Where can I travel visa-free?

Around 58 to 61 destinations depending on the index, including Singapore, Hong Kong, South Africa, Türkiye, the UAE, Qatar and most Portuguese-speaking countries. There is no Schengen access — São Tomé and Príncipe is in Annex I of Regulation (EU) 2018/1806 — and no UK access.

Can I hold dual citizenship?

São Tomé and Príncipe permits it: Article 15(1) of Lei 07/2022 provides that a national who acquires another nationality keeps theirs unless they declare otherwise. But Article 11(1) bars naturalisation to anyone already holding more than two foreign nationalities. And India does not permit dual citizenship at all — an Indian citizen who acquires this nationality ceases to be a citizen of India.

Are there tax benefits?

Citizenship does not make you tax resident anywhere. Unless you actually move to São Tomé and Príncipe, its domestic tax treatment has no bearing on what you pay, so XIPHIAS does not present tax as a reason to choose this programme.



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NEXT STEP

Discuss your São Tomé & Príncipe options with our Dubai team

Tell us about your profile, family and timeline. We will compare the São Tomé & Príncipe routes that fit you, set out the full cost in writing and manage the application with you from start to finish.

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- Canada files handled by a CICC-licensed Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant, licence R516194.
- Australia files handled by a registered migration agent, MARA 1680615.

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