**Iran Visa Application Process**

The visa application process varies by nationality and is subject to change without notice. These instructions should be taken as a guide and you are each responsible for checking the requirements for your specific situation. Each stage of the visa application can be a lengthy process so we advise you to submit your details promptly.

Your passport should be valid for at least 6 months after the end of the expedition and have at least 2 blank pages for your visa. There should not be an Israel stamp in your passport as you will be declined a visa.

You will require a visa application reference number. Secret Compass will submit this on your behalf. Your application will need a good, clear, photocopy of your passport information page, completed visa reference application form and **which embassy or consulate** you will be visiting to secure your visa. British, Canadian and American nationals will also require an up-to-date CV and a list of social media profiles – these nationalities are not allowed to visit Iran unaccompanied – if you are extending your stay outside of the Secret Compass expedition, you must arrange to be accompanied by a licenced guide at all times.

Once you have received your visa reference number (sometimes referred to as a visa permit – this can be a lengthy process which is dictated entirely by the MFA in Tehran and is wholly out of Secret Compass’s hands) you should contact your nominated embassy/consulate and ensure they have also received it (this should take 3 working days). You can then make an appointment to apply for the visa itself, your reference number is valid for 1 month. At this point you will require the visa fee, your passport, the completed application form (x2) and passport photos (x2) - if you are female, you should provide passport photos wearing a headscarf to cover your hair. The visa stamp is valid for 3 months from the date of issue.

**British Nationals:**

The Iranian embassy in London issues visas, British nationals are not eligible for the e-visa or visa on arrival services. Once you have your visa reference number, you should contact the embassy to make an appointment for your visa stamp – the consular section is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 1400 and 1700. You will have to attend in person and may be required to provide biometric data.

**Canadian Nationals:**

Canadian nationals are not eligible for the e-visa or visa on arrival services and there is not an Iranian representation in Canada, most travellers choose to apply for a visa through the Embassy of Pakistan, Washington DC – Interests Section of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Please contact them directly to discuss the latest requirements.

**EU Nationals:**

Some EU nationals are eligible for visas on arrival or the e-visa. You will still require a visa reference number and should complete this as discussed above and submit to Secret Compass. Please ensure you carefully check all requirements for your nationality and ensure your visa is of an appropriate length to complete the expedition and any other travel. Secret Compass strongly recommend against visas on arrival as this service has been suspended at short notice before.