

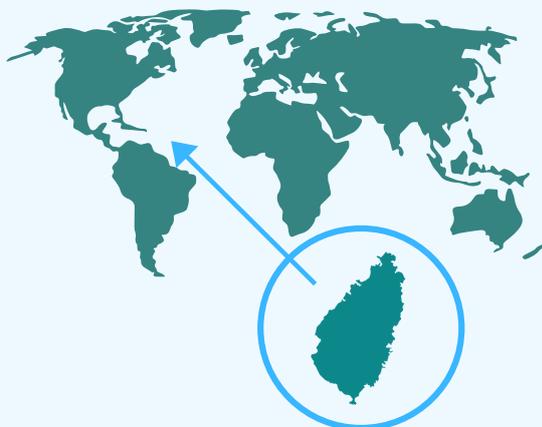
DOING BUSINESS IN SAINT LUCIA

SAINT LUCIA - A CHOICE LOCATION FOR DOING BUSINESS

Saint Lucia's strategic location provides easy access to major markets in Europe, North America, Latin America and of course the Caribbean. The commercial value of this proximity to major international markets, is greatly enhanced by the country's free trade arrangements with the European Union, the Caribbean Common Market (CARICOM) as well as the USA and certain Central and Southern American countries.

QUICK FACTS

Capital: Castries
GDP (PPP): US\$2.5 billion
 \$14,450 per capita
Currency: Eastern Caribbean Dollar (US\$1 – EC\$2.7)
Population: 183,000 (2019 est.)
Government: Constitutional monarchy, Parliamentary democracy
Independence: 22 February 1979
Language: English
Climate: Subtropical, 77°F (25°C) and 80°F (27°C),
Location: 13.9094°N, 60.9789° W



National Flag of Saint Lucia



Coat of Arms of Saint Lucia



1 international airport
1 regional airport



sea ports in the north and south of the island



2 marinas



Trade Free Zone

WHY SAINT LUCIA

In the World Bank's rankings for ease of doing business, the country rates among the highest developing countries. The 2019 Economic Freedom Index ranks Saint Lucia fourth among 32 countries in the Americas (behind Canada, the United States of America and Chile) with an overall score above the regional and world averages. Saint Lucia has comparative advantages in the areas of regulation, market access, incentives, transport infrastructure and quality of life. Saint Lucia is also an approved offshore tax jurisdiction and offers various attractive tax packages to registered investors including a 1% tax rate on income and the possibility of exemption from taxes on all transactions made outside the country. Saint Lucia has an efficient telecommunications system, reliable electricity (220v, 50 cycles AC) and a stable and affordable water supply.



Quality of Life

Saint Lucia has a relatively low crime rate, access to modern facilities, services and infrastructure, world class restaurants and hotels and prime real estate. The country also offers a rich cultural and culinary heritage and a wide range of water-based activities and land adventures. Over the years, many nationalities have made their home in Saint Lucia which has also helped to produce an exciting mix of Euro-Caribbean, Asian and Creole cuisine.

Mobility

In 2019, Saint Lucian citizens enjoy visa-free or visa on arrival access to over one hundred and forty-five (145) countries including those in Europe's Schengen area. The country's passport ranks 31st in the world according to the Henley Passport Index and Global Mobility Report 2019.



Saint Lucia is easily accessible via several airline carriers including British Airways, American Airlines, Virgin Atlantic and Air Canada with direct flights from the USA, Canada and the United Kingdom.

Foreign nationals visiting or entering Saint Lucia are required to have a valid passport from their country. Passports should be valid for 3 months upon entering Saint Lucia. Visas are not required for Taiwanese, US, UK, Canadian or Japanese citizens or where there is an agreement for exemption between the country and Saint Lucia.

Information on entry requirements can be obtained at <http://www.govt.lc/services/apply-for-saint-lucia-non-immigrant-visa>.



Lifestyle & Entertainment

From the bustling entertainment capital, Rodney Bay known for its internationally acclaimed restaurants, offering a variety of cuisines to the tranquil natural surroundings of Soufriere which caters more to the spontaneous excursionist and adventure seeker, everyone can find their niche.

Saint Lucia features an exciting calendar of activities including the internationally renowned music festival referred to as the Saint Lucia Jazz and Arts Festival in May of each year.



Effective Legal System

The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, serving the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) countries, operates from St. Lucia. There is a Caribbean Court of Appeal and the highest court and the final Appellate authority is the Judicial Committee of The Privy Council, of the UK House of Lords.



Citizenship by Investment Programme

Saint Lucia's Citizenship by Investment Programme, established in January 2016 is a new framework under which Saint Lucian citizenship can be obtained following approval of investment in one of four (4) of programs. Many real estate ventures have thus far been announced under this program.

Visit www.cipsaintlucia.com/ for more information about the Citizen by Investment Programme.

KEY SECTORS FOR INVESTMENT

Tourism is the leading economic sector in Saint Lucia accounts for most of Saint Lucia's US\$1.717 billion (2017 est.) GDP.

Saint Lucia's manufacturing sector over the years has been creating opportunities in diverse areas such as agro-processing; textiles; electronic assembly; green technology innovations among others. The island's proximity to North and South America and duty-free access to Europe make it a prime choice for investors looking for locations with easy access to those areas.

Agriculture remains important, with production and export, mainly to Europe, of bananas, mangoes and other tropical fruits and produce.

The island possesses an abundant, well- educated, skilled, English speaking labour force that can be easily trained. This is supported by an additional 300,000 labour pool that can move freely within the Eastern Caribbean. In addition, under arrangements with the wider Caribbean region, the island has access to a much larger labour pool of nearly 2 million.

For more information on applying to do business in Saint Lucia, visit www.investstlucia.com.



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