

Ireland introduces Short-Stay Visa Waiver Programme for citizens of Thailand

The Irish Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter T.D. has announced that from 18 November 2013, citizens of Thailand will be able to avail of the Irish short stay visa waiver programme. This will allow visitors or business people from Thailand who have lawfully entered the UK (including Northern Ireland) on a valid UK visa, to travel to Ireland without the requirement to obtain an Irish visa, and without any additional paperwork or fees.

The Irish short-stay visa waiver programme for citizens of certain designated nationalities was introduced in 2011. With the addition of Thailand to the programme in November 2013, the programme now covers 18 countries. The programme allows visitors who hold UK short stay visas and who have travelled to the UK, to travel on to Ireland without the need to apply for a separate Irish visa.

Further information on the Irish Short Stay Visa Waiver Programme is available at:

<http://inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/Visa%20Waiver%20Programme>