



## *Slovenia* / Residency and Citizenship for Investors and Entrepreneurs

Slovenia is a Central-European country bordering Italy, Austria, Hungary, Croatia, as well as the Mediterranean Sea and the Alps. Slovenia's climate is humid and warm on the coast, and continental in the plateaus and valleys to the east, with mild to hot summers and cold winters. It is a country of exceptional natural beauty, from snow covered peaks to deep-green rivers and the beautiful Adriatic coastline, which stretches for approximately 43 kilometres. Slovenia is an ideal country for outdoor pursuits, thanks to its diverse and stunningly beautiful natural landscape. Tourists flock to the mountains and rivers of the Alps for skiing, snowboarding, hiking, rafting and kayaking. There are also a number of diverse towns and cities with many cultural and architectural attractions.

Modern Slovenia has a developed and growing economy. It is situated at a crossroads of major trade and infrastructure links, with a well-connected transport system. Slovenia is a member of the EU and the Eurozone, as well as the OECD. Slovenia also has a well-educated and highly-skilled workforce. Although FDI has historically been quite low, it has been increasing

steadily in recent years. Slovenia boasts a high quality of life, an excellent healthcare system and a very low crime rate, making it a perfect destination for investors.

By establishing a Slovenian real estate company, residency can be secured efficiently and quickly for investors and their dependents. The procedure of company formation in Slovenia is streamlined and fast, and Ousheng is there to assist applicants in every aspect of the process, from company registration to visa applications. Investors may qualify for permanent residency after a period of five years, and there are no actual physical residency requirements. Dependent family members may also accompany the investor to Slovenia. Slovenia's membership of the Schengen Area means that investors are then free to travel around the 26 Schengen member states visa-free for periods of up to 90 days. Investors may even apply for citizenship, provided the naturalisation criteria are met. This makes Slovenia an extremely convenient option for second residency. Contact us today for more information, or to start your application process.





## Residency for Entrepreneurs

Non-EU/EEA Entrepreneurs can become residents of Slovenia by making an investment in an enterprise that is beneficial to the Slovenian economy. Ousheng can assist investors every step of the way, from company registration to visa application. To qualify for this scheme, the applicant must form a local business and invest the minimum required amount of €7,500 in paid-up capital. Following the company registration and a waiting period, the entrepreneur can apply for a work/residence permit. In the meantime, a multiple entry business visa can be used to enter/exit Slovenia.

## Core Advantages

- Normally, applicants can apply for permanent residency after five years of continuous residence. After ten years, applicants can apply for citizenship. This can be expedited in certain cases.
- Family members can also be included in the residence permit applications.
- Slovenia is a member of the Schengen area and residents are free to move about the Schengen area, provided they do not settle in one country for more than three months.
- Slovenia has a favourable tax system for business with low corporation tax and a high availability of skilled labour. Company registration is straightforward and fast: the average time is 5 days.

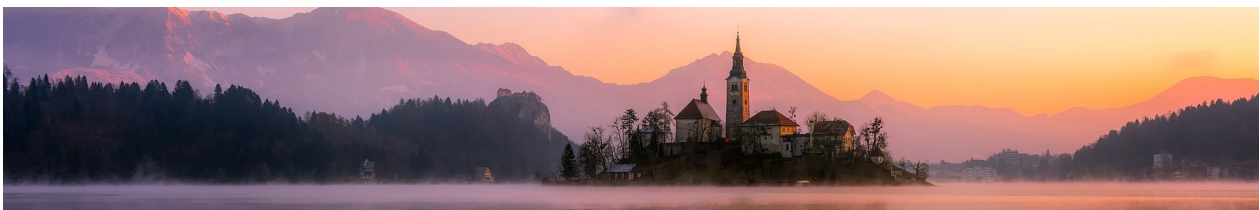
- Slovenia has a high standard of living and a very low crime rate. Healthcare is inexpensive and high-quality.
- Slovenia has excellent road infrastructure, two major international airports with links to cities all over Europe, and high-quality internet coverage.

## Eligibility for Application

- Applicants must be over 18 years of age.
- Applicants must have no criminal record, and provide a recent police clearance certificate from the relevant policing authority.
- Applicants must have adequate health insurance, at the least covering emergency medical care.
- Applicants must have sufficient means of subsistence, at least equal to the basic annual income in Slovenia.
- Applicants must form a company that provides an economic benefit to Slovenia. The company's reports will be checked at the point of visa renewal to ensure that the venture is profitable.

## Application Procedure

1. Applicants sign a service agreement with Ousheng & Partners.
2. After tax registration, the applicant enters Slovenia to open a bank account.
3. The company is formed and begins operation. After the preparation of the required documents, the application for residency is submitted. Processing time is normally between two and three months.
4. Once the applicant is approved, they may enter Slovenia within 14 days. At this time, the applicant can register their personal address and register in the Slovenian medical system.
5. The initial permit can be renewed after one year, although there is no physical residency requirement. Investors and entrepreneurs are free to reside outside Slovenia, as long as the Slovenian business continues to operate and make profits.



## Slovenian Economy and Business

Slovenia was the republic with the strongest economy under the former Yugoslavia, and accounted for a good deal of its GDP and exports. When Slovenia gained independence in 1991, it already had a strong economy and existing trade ties with the West. Following independence, trade was quickly liberalised and Slovenia began to seek membership of the Western European and Transatlantic organisations.

Slovenia was hit hard by the late 2008 financial crisis and the economy has only recently begun to recover. Domestic consumption has since rebounded somewhat and growth rates are steady. The traditional industries of farming, fishing and forestry account for a very small part of GDP nowadays, with manufacturing, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, electronics, and logistics, among others, making up the bulk of the national output.

Although Slovenia has relatively high personal tax rates - ranging from 16% to 50% - its corporate tax rate of 19% is relatively low among EU states. There are also various tax reliefs available for companies; 100% for money invested in research and development and up to 40% of the amount spent on equipment and intangible long-term assets. Profit repatriation tax is set at 15%, except in the case of dividends paid abroad to EU members, where it is 0%.

Slovenian wages are relatively low in comparison to Western European countries, and there is a high amount of skilled labour. Establishing a business is a straightforward process, provided the minimum share capital of €7,500 is invested, the company has a Slovenian office address and the business is carrying out true commercial activity. Ousheng is on hand to assist you with any queries you may have in this regard.

## Freedom of Movement

Applying for visas to other countries is a straightforward matter for Cypriot residents, particularly to the Schengen Area. After Cyprus joins the Schengen Area as a full member, Cypriot residency will automatically give residents the freedom to travel to any of the 26 member Schengen area for up to 3 months without a visa. The Schengen member states are: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

Slovenian citizenship can be acquired by naturalisation after ten years of residence in Slovenia, including five years of continuous residence before the application. Applicants must be aged 18 or over, be of good character and have sufficient means so as not to require welfare payments. Applicants will need to show proof that their previous nationality has been renounced, or will automatically be renounced upon the taking up of Slovenian citizenship. This requirement can be waived upon special application. A basic proficiency in the Slovenian language is also required.

Foreign citizens may also obtain citizenship through exceptional naturalisation, at the discretion of the Government of Slovenia. Applicants must have a guaranteed, permanent source of income, a clean criminal record and must have settled all tax obligations. Applicants must live in Slovenia for one year.

Slovenia has visa-free, visa-on-arrival, or e-visa arrangements with 148 countries and regions including all EU member states, Switzerland, USA, Canada, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, Turkey and South Korea.





Ousheng & Partners provides a range of services for high-net-worth investors seeking high-quality overseas residency solutions. Our professional and dedicated team has many years of successful experience in overseas residence and citizenship-by-investment programmes, and can advise and assist with all concerns inherent in relocation, including legal matters, property acquisition, and access to medical and education services.

Through our combination of industry-specific expertise and deep local knowledge, we provide our clients with a uniquely

professional, tailored, and reliable service. Let us help you take your first steps towards greater security and opportunity for you and your family.

As part of Kylin Prime Group, Ousheng & Partners can offer clients access to related services including portfolio management, and investment opportunities in alternative investment funds, enterprise investment projects, trusts, and other securities and assets. For more information, visit [kylinprime.com](http://kylinprime.com).

## The Leading Firm in Global Residency Solutions

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