

## Sri Lanka introduces online visa approval system

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Sri Lanka will launch an on-line visa approval system from next month for the convenience of tourists visiting Sri Lanka, the government has announced.

The Department of Emigration and Immigration is to introduce the new system, known as 'Electronic Travel Authorization' from October 01 for the visitors to obtain prior approval for visas through the Internet.

The new system will benefit the short term visitors and tourists who travel via Sri Lanka, the Department says.

The visitors can obtain electronic travel authorization at the website [www.eta.gov.lk](http://www.eta.gov.lk). Primary information on the procedure will be available in nine international languages, Sri Lanka's state-run radio reported. However, applications should be forwarded only in English.

An administrative fee will be charged to grant Electronic Travel Authorization. The fee is waived for visitors from Maldives and Singapore. Sri Lanka has a mutual travel agreement with the two countries.

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