

Immigration to the Isle of Man



Introduction

Immigration to the Isle of Man (IOM) is similar to immigration to the United Kingdom (UK). There are two principal routes which are known as Tier 1 Entrepreneur Route and Tier 1 Investor Route.

The Isle of Man is part of the British Isles Common Travel Area which means that residents of the IOM have unrestricted travel to the UK, Ireland, Jersey and Guernsey.

Tier 1 Entrepreneur Route

This is for persons who set up business in the IOM and wish to remain in the IOM. The key criteria for this route are that the applicant has access to £200,000 to set up, takeover or run a business in the IOM. English language requirements must be met and the applicant must demonstrate that they can support themselves and have minimum personal savings of £3,300. The IOM has a Control of Employment Act so a work permit for self-employment will be required.

The initial grant of a visa is for 3 years and 4 months, however an application can be made to extend the visa for a further 2 years provided that the applicant can demonstrate that at least £200,000 has been invested in businesses in the IOM, that they are self-employed or the director of an IOM business, and at least 2 full time jobs existing for more than 12 months have been created.

Application for Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) can be made provided the applicant has been in the IOM for 5 years, has not been absent for more than 180 days in any 12 months and can demonstrate sufficient knowledge of English and life in the UK and IOM. This process can be accelerated if the applicant has created 10 or more jobs or generated business income of at least £5m within a 3 year period.

An application must be made for each dependent at the same time as the initial application.

We can assist you with your application, the setting up or acquisition of a business, housing, schooling and all of the issues involved in establishing a new residence.

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Tier 1 Investor Route

This is for persons who wish to remain in the IOM through making a qualifying investment. The applicant must evidence that they have access to at least £2m for investment in the IOM (within the first 3 months). The applicant can not rely on borrowed money to meet this requirement.

The initial grant of a visa is for 3 years and 4 months, however an application can be made to extend the visa for a further 2 years provided that the applicant has invested £2m in the IOM (but not in property investment companies) and the investment was made during the first 3 months of arrival and the applicant has stayed invested throughout the full period of leave to remain.

Application for Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) can be made provided the applicant has been in the IOM for 5 years, has not been absent for more than 180 days in any 12 months and can demonstrate sufficient knowledge of English and

life in the UK and IOM. This process can be accelerated and application can be made after 3 years if the sum invested is £5m and after 2 years if the sum invested is £10m.

An application must be made for each dependent at the same time as the initial application but no work permit will be required.

We can assist you with your application, the setting up of a new IOM company for the necessary investment, housing, schooling and all of the issues involved in establishing a new residence.

For further information please contact Michael Shimmin on bmshimmin@fedelta.com.

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