

Dated: January 30, 1995.  
**Doris Meissner,**  
*Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service.*  
 [FR Doc. 95-4089 Filed 2-17-95; 8:45 am]  
 BILLING CODE 4410-10-M

[INS No. 1674-94]

RIN 1115-AB93

**Extension of the Visa Waiver Pilot Program**

**AGENCY:** Immigration and Naturalization Service, Justice.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the extension of the Visa Waiver Pilot Program (VWPP) until September 30, 1996. Nationals of those countries eligible for participation under the

VWPP, may continue to apply for admission to the United States for ninety (90) days or less, as nonimmigrant visitors for business or pleasure, without first obtaining a nonimmigrant visa. This notice also notifies those carriers who have entered into agreements with the Immigration and Naturalization Service (Service) under the provisions of the Visa Waiver Pilot Program, that the agreements will continue in effect until September 30, 1996. These actions will facilitate travel for both the public and United States businesses.

**EFFECTIVE DATES:** This extension of the Visa Waiver Pilot Program is effective on October 25, 1994, and will remain in effect until September 30, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ronald J. Hays, Assistant Chief Inspector, Immigration and

naturalization Service, Room 7228, 425 I Street, NW., Washington, DC 20536, telephone (202) 514-0912.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Section 313 of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA), Public Law 99-603, dated November 6, 1986, added section 217 to the Immigration and Nationality Act (ACT) which established the nonimmigrant Visa Waiver Pilot Program. Section 313 of IRCA initially provided for the designation of eight (8) countries to participate in the Visa Waiver Pilot Program. Accordingly, the Service designated by regulations published in the **Federal Register**, the following eight (8) countries to participate in the VWPP:

Country	Effective date	Federal Register Citation
1. United Kingdom .....	July 1, 1988 .....	53 FR 24901, June 30, 1988.
2. Japan .....	Dec. 15, 1988 .....	53 FR 50161, Dec. 13, 1988.
3. France .....	July 1, 1989 .....	54 FR 27120, June 27, 1988.
4. Switzerland .....	July 1, 1989 .....	54 FR 27120, June 27, 1989.
5. Germany .....	July 15, 1989 .....	54 FR 27120, June 27, 1989.
6. Sweden .....	July 15, 1989 .....	54 FR 27120, June 27, 1989.
7. Italy .....	July 29, 1989 .....	54 FR 27120, June 27, 1989.
8. Netherlands .....	July 29, 1989 .....	54 FR 27120, June 27, 1989.

Section 201 of the Immigration Act of 1990, (IMMACT 90), Public Law 101-649, dated November 29, 1990, further amended the Visa Waiver Pilot Program by removing the eight country cap and

extending the provisions to all countries that met the qualifying provisions contained in section 217 of the Act. In addition, section 201 of IMMACT 90 also extended the period for the VWPP

until September 30, 1994. Subsequently, the Service designated the following fourteen (14) additional countries by regulations published in the **Federal Register**, to participate in the VWPP:

Country	Effective date	Federal Register Citation
1. Andorra .....	Oct. 1, 1991 .....	56 FR 46716, Sept. 13, 1991.
2. Austria .....	Oct. 1, 1991 .....	56 FR 46716, Sept. 13, 1991.
3. Belgium .....	Oct. 1, 1991 .....	56 FR 46716, Sept. 13, 1991.
4. Denmark .....	Oct. 1, 1991 .....	56 FR 46716, Sept. 13, 1991.
5. Finland .....	Oct. 1, 1991 .....	56 FR 46716, Sept. 13, 1991.
6. Iceland .....	Oct. 1, 1991 .....	56 FR 46716, Sept. 13, 1991.
7. Liechtenstein .....	Oct. 1, 1991 .....	56 FR 46716, Sept. 13, 1991.
8. Luxembourg .....	Oct. 1, 1991 .....	56 FR 46716, Sept. 13, 1991.
9. Monaco .....	Oct. 1, 1991 .....	56 FR 46716, Sept. 13, 1991.
10. New Zealand .....	Oct. 1, 1991 .....	56 FR 46716, Sept. 13, 1991.
11. Norway .....	Oct. 1, 1991 .....	56 FR 46716, Sept. 13, 1991.
12. San Marino .....	Oct. 1, 1991 .....	56 FR 46716, Sept. 13, 1991.
13. Spain .....	Oct. 1, 1991 .....	56 FR 46716, Sept. 13, 1991.
14. Brunei .....	July 29, 1993 .....	58 FR 40581, July 29, 1993.

**Extension of the Visa Waiver Pilot Program**

On September 27, 1994, the Assistant Commissioner, Office of Inspections, issued a memorandum to those carriers who signed a VWPP agreement with the Service, that during the month of October 1994, the Service would not fine carriers under section 273 of the Act for transporting to the United States, visitors without nonimmigrant visitor

visas, who would otherwise be eligible for admission to the United States under the Visa Waiver Pilot Program. This action was necessary to accommodate the travelling public who made plans to visit the United States and who were not aware that the Visa Waiver Pilot Program would expire on September 30, 1994 unless the program was extended by Congress.

Subsequently, the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994, October 25, 1994 extended the expiration date of the Visa Waiver Pilot Program until September 30, 1996.

Therefore, unless designation is otherwise withdrawn sooner, nationals of those countries eligible for participation under the VWPP may continue to apply for admission to the United States for ninety (90) days or