XIPHIAS Immigration

COUNTRY BROCHURE



CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT | COUNTRY GUIDE

St. Kitts & Nevis Citizenship by Investment

The world's first Citizenship by Investment programme (est. 1984), with routes from USD 250,000, a mandatory interview for every main applicant, and visa-free UK access with an ETA.

PROGRAMMES	CAPITAL	CURRENCY	LANGUAGE
3	Basseterre	East Caribbean Dollar (XCD)	English

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St. Kitts & Nevis at a glance

CAPITAL **Basseterre**	POPULATION **~53,000**
LANGUAGE **English**	CURRENCY **East Caribbean Dollar (XCD)**
TIME ZONE **UTC-4 (Atlantic Standard Time)**	CLIMATE **Tropical maritime**
PROGRAMMES WE ADVISE ON **3**	LAST UPDATED **1 October 2026**

Overview

St. Kitts & Nevis runs the world’s longest-standing Citizenship by Investment (CBI) programme. Applicants can qualify through the Sustainable Island State Contribution (USD 250,000 for a main applicant or a family of up to four), approved real estate (USD 325,000 for a developer project or private condominium, USD 600,000 for a single-family home, held for seven years) or the Public Benefit Option (USD 250,000, with the USD 25,000 application fee deducted). The Citizenship by Investment Unit's 2024 brochure states 120 to 180 days from acknowledgment to approval in principle. Every main applicant attends an interview, and citizens by investment must enrol in the National Biometric Enrolment and Passport Modernisation Programme by 31 July 2027.

Key points

- Visa-free to the UK with an ETA; not listed in US Presidential Proclamation 10998
- No residency requirement; citizens by investment must complete biometric enrolment by 31 July 2027
- Clear pathways: SISC, Public Benefit Option, or approved real estate
- Due diligence and a mandatory interview for every main applicant

Programmes in St. Kitts & Nevis



Approved Public Benefit Project (PBO) – Donation Route

Qualify for St Kitts & Nevis citizenship through the Public Benefit Option: USD 250,000 in an Approved Public Benefit Project, with the USD 25,000 application fee deducted from that sum.

From USD 250,000 | 120–180 days to approval in principle (CIU)



Approved Real Estate – Shares & Private Homes

Approved St Kitts & Nevis real estate from USD 325,000 — a developer project or private condominium — or USD 600,000 for a single-family home, held for seven years.

From USD 325,000 | 120–180 days to approval in principle (CIU)



Sustainable Island State Contribution (SISC) – Donation Route

St Kitts & Nevis citizenship through a USD 250,000 Sustainable Island State Contribution for a main applicant or a family of up to four.

From USD 250,000 | 120–180 days to approval in principle (CIU)

The five Eastern Caribbean programmes compared

	Antigua & Barbuda	Dominica	Grenada	Saint Lucia	St Kitts & Nevis
Donation, single	USD 230,000	USD 200,000	**USD 150,000**	USD 240,000	USD 250,000
Real estate from	USD 300,000	USD 200,000	USD 220,000	USD 300,000	USD 325,000
Holding period	5 years	3 years	Confirmed per project	Confirmed per project	**7 years**
US E-2 treaty	No	No	**Yes**	No	No
UK	Visa-free + ETA	**Visa required**	Visa-free + ETA	**Visa required**	Visa-free + ETA

	Antigua & Barbuda	Dominica	Grenada	Saint Lucia	St Kitts & Nevis
US entry	**Partly suspended**	**Partly suspended**	Normal	Normal	Normal
Canada	Visa	Visa	Visa	Visa	Visa
Residency after grant	**5 days in 5 years**	None	None (per CIU)	None	None

What the table shows

Grenada is the only one of the five that is simultaneously a US E-2 treaty country, free of any US entry restriction, and still visa-free to the UK. If the United States is your objective, that is the deciding factor. Whether an individual qualifies for an E-2 visa is decided by US consular officers.

Dominica and Saint Lucia have both lost UK visa-free access — Dominica in July 2023, Saint Lucia in March 2026, both expressly because of their citizenship programmes.

Antigua and Dominica are both under US Presidential Proclamation 10998 since 1 January 2026, which suspends immigrant entry and the B, F, M and J categories.

No Caribbean citizenship-by-investment passport gives visa-free entry to the United States.

Passport-power rankings

Headline counts of visa-free destinations are compiled annually and change quickly, as the UK changes above show. XIPHIAS advises on the specific destinations that matter to your family, checked at the time you apply.

What this does to an Indian passport

India does not allow dual citizenship. Section 9(1) of the Citizenship Act 1955 provides that a citizen of India who voluntarily acquires the citizenship of another country **ceases to be a citizen of India**. Acquiring any Caribbean citizenship is voluntary, so your Indian citizenship ends **automatically on the day it is granted** — no Indian decision, no discretion, no deferral. The Indian passport must be surrendered and a Surrender Certificate obtained.

You can then apply for **Overseas Citizen of India** status. The Ministry of External Affairs states plainly that OCI is not dual citizenship: no vote, no constitutional posts, no equality in public employment, and **no acquisition of agricultural land, farmhouses or plantation property in India**.

This is a **replacement** for your Indian citizenship, not an addition. Plan around that.

{/ restored from the 2019–2026 site /}

St Kitts & Nevis Citizenship by Investment

A dual-island nation, located in the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea, Saint Kitts and Nevis is known for its cloud shrouded mountains and beaches. The active Volcano Mount Liamuiga is part of St. Kitts. It’s a favorite tourist destination for many across the world especially those who love adventure.

St. Kitts & Nevis Government came up with Citizenship by investment Program to attract foreign investments into the country. Interested qualified individuals need to make a donation or a real estate investment to qualify for the citizenship. St. Kitts & Nevis is located in the West Indies and is part of the Caribbean community and Common Market

(CARICOM). Sugarcane industry was the main supply for the economy of this country.

As per this act, the applicants will have to make a financial contribution to the country to get St. Kitts Citizenship

Benefits of this Program

- There is no need of physical presence of the applicant
- There is no tax levied on the income
- This program can be extended to the immediate family members
- St. Kitts & Nevis allows Dual citizenship

Eligibility

- You cannot have any criminal record
- You should have a sound health condition
- You should be prepared to make the following investments

Process and Time

- You need one month to prepare the documents and the application file
- You get your citizenship

How the application works

1. **Engage a licensed agent to prepare your application and guide you through the process.**
2. **Collect documents; complete due diligence; the main applicant attends an interview.**
3. **Receive Approval in Principle (AIP); complete the SISC or PBO payment or the real estate purchase.**
4. **Take the oath; receive your certificate; apply for your passport.**

General requirements

- Clean background and verifiable source of funds
- Qualifying SISC/PBO contribution or investment in an approved real estate development
- Valid ID/travel documents and health declarations
- Compliance with nationality, sanctions, and regulatory restrictions as applicable

Questions clients ask

How long does the process take?

The Citizenship by Investment Unit's 2024 brochure states that it advises approval, denial or delay within 120 to 180 days of acknowledging an application.

Can I include family members?

Yes. You can include a spouse, children under 18, unmarried children aged 18 to 29 who are substantially supported, and parents aged 55 and over. Siblings are not eligible. Fees vary by age and family size.

Do I need to reside in St. Kitts & Nevis?

No. There is no requirement to reside in St Kitts & Nevis to maintain citizenship. Citizens by investment must, however, enrol in the National Biometric Enrolment and Passport Modernisation Programme by 31 July 2027.

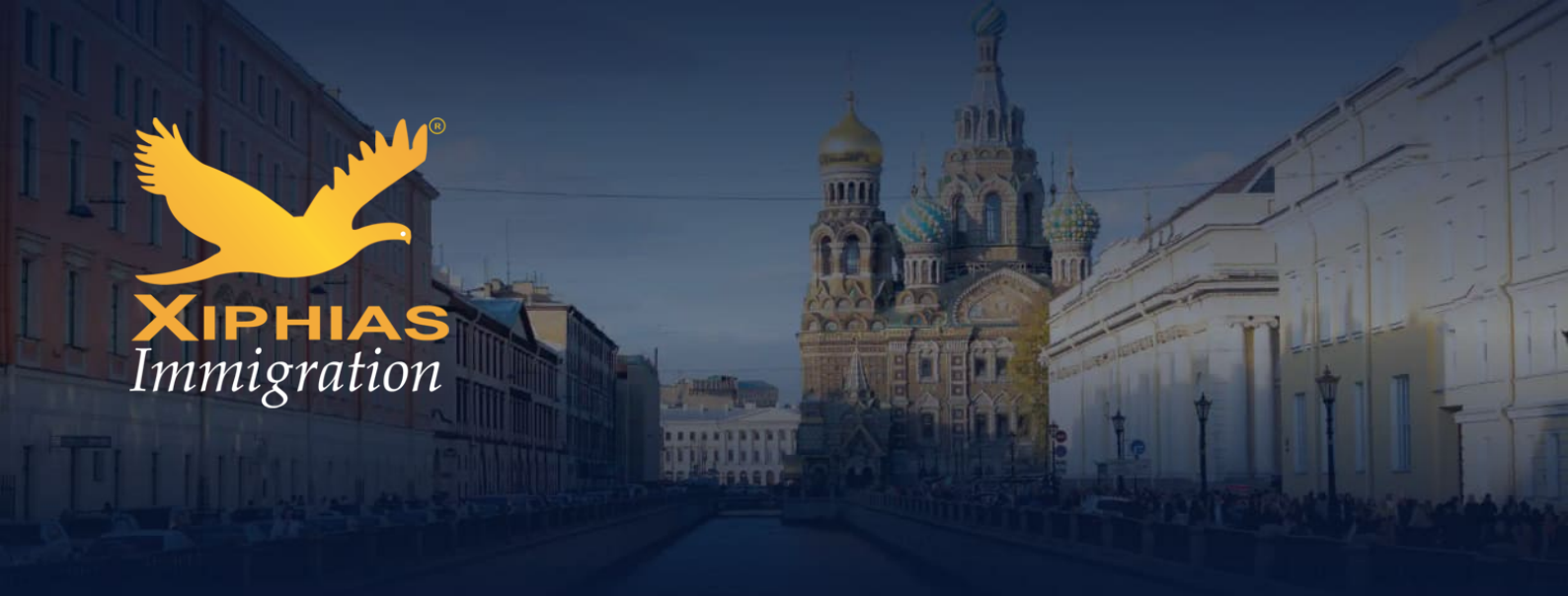
What are the investment pathways?

Sustainable Island State Contribution (USD 250,000), Public Benefit Option (USD 250,000) or approved real estate (from USD 325,000).

What are the key benefits?

Visa-free UK access with an ETA, no US entry restriction under Proclamation 10998, no taxes on inheritance, capital gains or worldwide income, and the right to live, work and study in the federation. St Kitts & Nevis permits dual citizenship; India does not, so Indian citizens lose Indian citizenship on acquiring it.

Official sources: US Department of State — treaty countries (Grenada E-2, in force 3 March 1989); UK Government — check if you need a UK visa; UK Government — electronic travel authorisation (ETA); Federal Register — Presidential Proclamation 10998 (16 December 2025, effective 1 January 2026); Government of Canada — find out if you need a visa; Citizenship Act 1955, Section 9(1) — Government of India; Government of India — passport surrender certificate; Ministry of External Affairs — Overseas Citizenship of India scheme; OECS — regional CBI standards.



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NEXT STEP

Discuss your St. Kitts & Nevis options with our Dubai team

Tell us about your profile, family and timeline. We will compare the St. Kitts & Nevis routes that fit you, set out the full cost in writing and manage the application with you from start to finish.

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