

# HOLY SEE and VATICAN CITY STATE PASSPORTS

General information (*security features may be found in the official folder*)

The Holy See and Vatican City State are both subjects of international law – identified by the same ICAO code: VAT – presided over by the Pope, through:

- The Secretariat of State, which is competent for diplomatic relations between the Holy See and the international community;
- The Governorate of Vatican City State, which supervises the territory of Vatican City according to the sovereign wishes of the Pope.

Each entity issues its own passports.

The Holy See has two kinds of electronic passports: *diplomatic* and *service*, as well as the *temporary service* passport, which is not electronic.

The Vatican City State has an electronic *ordinary* passport.

All four Vatican passports can be optically read and are ICAO DOC 9303 compliant.

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## HOLY SEE (SANTA SEDE)

### DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT (*version B valid until exp. date*)

A) 01 JUN 2008 – 14 OCT 2013	48 pages
B) 15 OCT 2013 – 31 MAY 2017	(new biodata page layout, same booklet)
C) 01 JUN 2017 – ... <i>current</i>	(polycarbonate) 50 pages, standard format

*In all cases:*

Validity – 10 years (max)

Nationality – Vatican or other

Renewal – possible (handwritten): *if renewed*, the passport is to be considered as an emergency travel document

Issuing – centralized, Secretariat of State of the Holy See (Vatican City)

Issuing Authority signature – for internal use only. A) and B) on biodata page. C) on page 5

e-pass – C) = S.A.C. (*Supplemental Access Control*)

## SERVICE PASSPORT (*version C valid until exp. date*)

A) 01 JUN 2008 – 14 OCT 2013	<i>48 pages</i>
B) 15 OCT 2013 – 31 MAY 2017	(new biodata page layout)
C) 01 JUN 2017 – 17 DEC 2025	(polycarbonate) 50 pages, standard format
D) 18 DEC 2025 – <i>current</i>	<b>features:</b> type indicator <b>PO</b> instead of PS, and Extended Access Control ( <b>P.A.C.E.</b> ) instead of SAC

*In all cases:*

Validity – 5 years (max)

Nationality – Vatican or other

Renewal – possible (handwritten): *if renewed*, the passport is to be considered as an  
emergency travel document

Issuing – centralized, Secretariat of State of the Holy See (Vatican City)

Issuing Authority signature – for internal use only. A) and B) on biodata page. C) on  
page 5

e-pass access control: A) – B) = B.A.C.; C) = S.A.C.; D) = **P.A.C.E.**

## PASSPORT for TEMPORARY SERVICE

*(this is issued for short period service)*

A) 01 JUN 2008 – 14 OCT 2013	<i>32 pages</i>
B) 15 OCT 2013 – ... current	(new biodata page layout)

*In all cases:*

Validity – 2013 – 2025: 2 years (max); **starting 18 DEC 2025: 1 year (max)**

Nationality – not Vatican

Renewal – possible (handwritten): if renewed, the passport is to be considered as an  
emergency travel document

Issuing – centralized, Secretariat of State of the Holy See (Vatican City)

Issuing Authority signature – for internal use only, on biodata page.

Biometric – MRTD, photo ICAO 9303 compliant

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## VATICAN CITY STATE

### ORDINARY PASSPORT (*version B valid until exp. date*)

- A) 01 JUN 2008 – 14 OCT 2013, 32 pages
- B) 15 OCT 2013 – 30 SEPT 2020 (new biodata page layout)
  - a) Starting 01 NOV 2016 - chip with holder's fingerprints; same booklet
- C) 01 OCT 2020 – 17 DEC 2025 (polycarbonate) 50 pages, standard format
- D) 18 DEC 2025 – current **features:** type indicator PP instead of PV, and Extended Access Control (P.A.C.E.) instead of SAC

*In all cases:*

Validity – 5 years (max)

Nationality – Vatican citizens only

Renewal – possible (handwritten): *if renewed*, the passport is to be considered as an emergency travel document

Issuing – centralized, Governorate of Vatican City State

Issuing Authority signature – no Authority signature.

e-pass access control: A) – B) = B.A.C.; C) = S.A.C.; D) = P.A.C.E.