

Information for British nationals intending to marry in Lao PDR

This information on marriage in the Lao PDR is provided as a general guide and is based on the information provided to the British Embassy by the Lao authorities. Therefore the British Embassy does not guarantee that the information is accurate and will not be liable for any inaccurate or incomplete information. British nationals wishing to marry in Laos must also contact the Lao authorities to be sure of the requirements that they need in order for their marriage to take place. The British Embassy in Vientiane is not authorised to perform marriages.

Any marriage in Laos should be performed according to Lao law and any detailed questions on the procedure should be addressed to the appropriate Lao authorities.

Documents required for foreigner to attach with the Application for a Lao Marriage Certificate:

1. Letter of no objection from the foreigner's parents or organization.
2. Marriage application form. *This would be the written application by himself requesting the authorities' acknowledgement of foreign marriage certificate, which would be signed as witness by the Village Chief.*
3. House registration (residency certificate) and birth certificate, from his home country.
4. Curriculum Vitae.
5. Medical certificate.
6. Single status certificate or proof of divorced status, from his home country (affirmation of marital status provided by the British Embassy).
7. Police clearance (not exceed 6 months from the issue date) from his home country. (This can be obtained from www.acro.police.uk)
8. Financial statement.
9. Copy of passport.
10. A letter confirming the foreigner's intention to ensure the Lao citizen's return to Laos in the event of divorce.
11. 6 photos size 3x4 (not exceed 6 months from the taken date).

Documents required for Lao citizen to attach with the Application for a Lao Marriage Certificate:

1. Letter of no objection from her parents or organization.
2. Marriage application form. *This would be the written application by herself requesting the authorities' acknowledgement of foreign marriage certificate, which would be signed as witness by the Village Chief.*
3. Residency certificate and birth certificate, from her home country.
4. Curriculum Vitae.
5. Medical certificate.
6. Single status certificate or proof of divorced status, from her home country.
7. Police clearance (not exceed 6 months from the issue date) from her home country.
8. Financial statement.
9. Copy of passport, family (household) book and identification card.

10. Proof of engagement between the spouses. *This would be signed by both families as witnesses together with the Village Chief.*
11. Record interview from District Police and Province/Capital Police. *This stage requires the spouses to be present in front of the authorities.*
12. 6 photos size 3x4 (not exceed 6 months from the taken date).

All of the above documents must be translated into Lao and be certified by the Notary Office within the Ministry of Justice before they go to the different levels of police authorities under the Ministry of Public Security.

The application documents will then go to:

- District Administration Office (District of the Lao citizen resident).
- Population & District Police (Interview).
- Population & Province Police (Interview).
- Foreigner Management Department.
- Immigration – Emigration Department (Interview).
- General Security Police Department.
- Justice Management Department.
- Provincial Administration Office.