

# EASY TRAVEL

Forget the stress of applying for a visa and waiting anxiously for it to arrive. Instead, pick these visa-on-arrival countries for your next vacation, says **Rhea Dhanbhora**

Planning a vacation can be harrowing, especially if you need to get your passport renewed, search for the cheapest airfare and figure out where to stay without emptying your bank account. And then, in traipses the troublesome visa. If you're tired of dealing with denied applications and exorbitant visa rates, you might want to add these countries to your list of holiday destinations. Some of these places offer free visas while others come at a reasonable fee. No matter what documents they require, we still think it's easier than applying for a visa beforehand! While over 50 countries offer visa-on-arrival to Indians (you read that right!), here are six of our favourites:



## THAILAND

Think cheap shopping, delicious food and a fun trip with friends and we know that Thailand is the first place that comes to mind. With visa-on-arrival available for visiting Indians, this is a great option. Remember though that you will be able to stay for only up to 14 days and will have to give them proof of your return flight ticket as well as address of where you will be staying, along with passport pictures. They sometimes also need fund proof — to make sure you will be able to cover your stay!

**Price** ₹2,000 approximately

## NEPAL

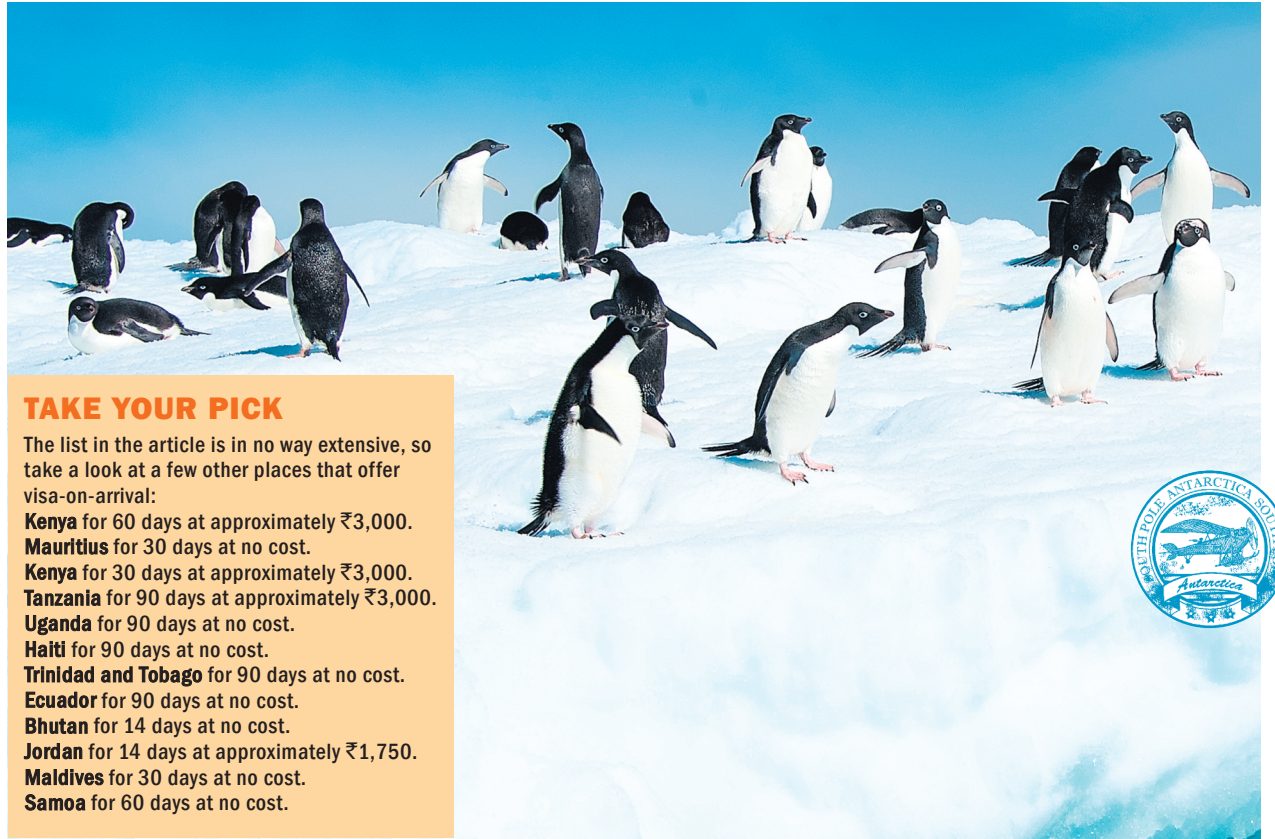
Nepal is quickly becoming a hotspot for travelling Indians, because of its sights and sounds as well as its cultural attractions. Whether you're visiting Kathmandu or the less popular but equally satisfying, Janakpur and Patan, you can travel with unlimited access, after procuring their visa. The best part is that it won't cost a dime!

**Price** Free



## ANTARCTICA

Looking for a cold, cold destination? Say hello to the penguins in Antarctica by visiting this continent. There aren't too many direct flights to Antarctica, so remember that you will need to deal with the regulations of the countries (mostly Argentina)



### TAKE YOUR PICK

The list in the article is in no way extensive, so take a look at a few other places that offer visa-on-arrival:

- Kenya** for 60 days at approximately ₹3,000.
- Mauritius** for 30 days at no cost.
- Kenya** for 30 days at approximately ₹3,000.
- Tanzania** for 90 days at approximately ₹3,000.
- Uganda** for 90 days at no cost.
- Haiti** for 90 days at no cost.
- Trinidad and Tobago** for 90 days at no cost.
- Ecuador** for 90 days at no cost.
- Bhutan** for 14 days at no cost.
- Jordan** for 14 days at approximately ₹1,750.
- Maldives** for 30 days at no cost.
- Samoa** for 60 days at no cost.

that you will be passing through. However, once you're in Antarctica, all you need is a permit to enter. This isn't a cheap destination to visit though, so make sure you've got expendable finances.

**Price** Free. (You don't need a visa, but you do need to procure certain permissions, which a travel agent can help you out with)



## JAMAICA

While the idea of a beach destination may have you think of the Maldives, Bali or even Goa, there's another place you can visit for a great holiday, without going through the hassle of visa applications. This Caribbean destination does have a cap on the period of stay though, so make sure you're not visiting for longer than 14 days.

**Price** ₹1,186 (approx.)

## VIETNAM

Vietnam is a great place filled with incredibly interesting (and sometimes stomach churning) food, street shopping, interesting locals and a variety of memorabilia from the Vietnam war. Visit Ho Chi Minh City, Ha Long Bay and Hanoi, extending your trip for 30 or 90 days according to the visa you pick on arrival. However, to visit this country you need a prior approval letter from a tour operator who is based in Vietnam,



which will add to your expenses. Make sure you do your research if you're planning to visit here, because although they offer visa-on-arrival, you might have to pay a fee while leaving the country as well. All in all, it's easier than applying for a visa and definitely worth a little extra effort.

**Price** ₹8,800 approximately, though conditions apply

## SEYCHELLES

Forget the usual beach destinations and visit Seychelles in the Indian Ocean. It's almost private because of its secluded surroundings and is the perfect romantic destination. It's great for nature lovers, those who want a little peace and quiet and those who want to relax surrounded by lush scenery. The visa-on-arrival makes it easy to travel to and won't cost you anything.

**Price** Free

