

CAPE VERDEAN CITIZENSHIP

The Cape Verdean nationality can be of two types: of **origin by birth** or **origin by choice**

Citizenship of origin by birth is when:

- The person is born in Cape Verde, , with Cape Verdean father or mother;
- The person born in Cape Verdean territory does not have other nationality
- The person born in Cape Verde , with displaced mother and father or of unknown nationality residing in Cape Verde

Dual Citizenship:

a) Citizenship – Cape Verdean citizens are those who, by law or other international convention, are considered as such;

- The state could conclude treaties of dual citizenship
- Cape Verdean citizens can acquire citizenship of another country without losing their citizenship of origin

b) Right to citizenship – no Cape Verdean of origin can be deprived of citizenship nor of its prerogatives.

Citizenship of origin by choice is possible when:

- The person is born abroad, of father or mother, grandfather or grandmother of Cape Verdean citizenship by birth;
- The person born in Cape Verde of foreign parents, if these live in Cape Verdean territory for at least five years and none of them in a position of being at the service of their respective State.

Acquisition of Citizenship can be:

- a) **By marriage** – the spouse of a Cape Verdean national can acquire citizenship if declaring to acquire it at the time of the marriage.. Obs. The declaration of nullity or the annulment of marriage does not impair the acquisition of citizenship by the spouse who got it in good faith;
- b) **By descent** – the minor or handicap child of father or mother who has acquired Cape Verdean citizenship;
- c) **By adoption** – the displaced minor, adopted by a cape Verdean national or the foreign minor or of unknown citizenship adopted by a Cape Verdean national;
- d) **By naturalization** – can be granted to the foreigner who normally resides in Cape Verdean territory for at least five years, who is considered of age or emancipated by the State laws of Cape Verde, has moral or civil fitness, has capacity to take care of him/herself and provide for him/herself.

Requisites for granting citizenship:

- a) Those interested in acquiring citizenship should present a petition to the Office of Central Registries or to the appropriate Consular Services;
- b) The petition should include certificates of birth records of the petitioner, the parent, and if dealing with grandchildren, with certificates of birth records of the grandfather or grandmother of Cape Verdean citizenship by birth;
- c) When it is not possible to present birth certificates, the applicant can request to the Director General of Registries, Notary and Identification, through the Office of Central Registries or appropriate Consular Services, the issuance of a notoriety birth certificate;
- d) For the issuance of the notoriety certificate, the petitioner should refer to the impossibility of presenting the above mentioned documents and shall indicate three idoneous witnesses who are able to prove the ancestry.

Fees (estimate only):

Acquisition of Citizenship by marriage

Process initiation	\$58.00
Translation of foreign certificate (husband or wife)	\$33.00 (per page)
Marriage transcription	\$57.00
Consular registration of petitioner	\$10.00
TOTAL	\$158.00

By descent

Process initiation	\$58.00
Translation of foreign certificate	\$33.00
Consular registration	10.00
TOTAL	\$101.00