

Not All Passports Are Created Equal, As This Map Will Tell You

A passport from the United States allows its citizens free access to 172 other countries. But not all travelers have such an overwhelming spread of choices: Residents of Iraq, for example, can access only 31 countries with their passport. Venturing away from Afghanistan? Your options dwindle to 28 countries. You might say we've been taking our travel freedom for granted here in the U.S.

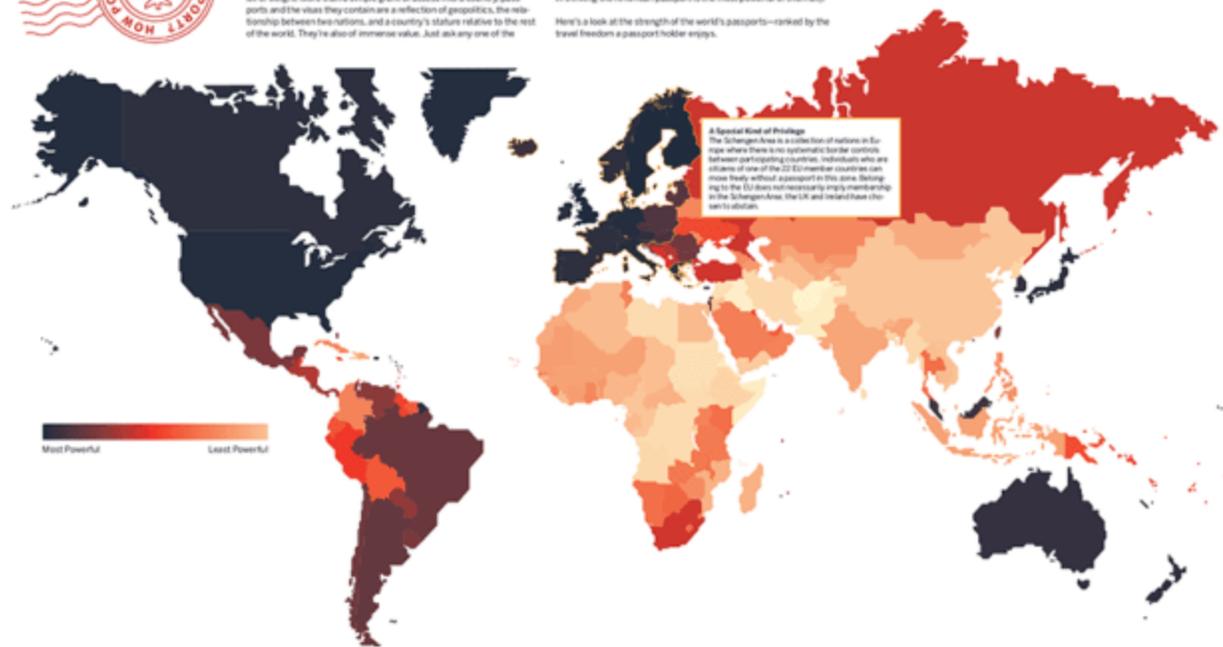
In this infographic map from the folks at GOOD, countries are color-coded based on the "power" of their passports. The darker in color, the more freedom that country's residents have to travel. Lighter orange colors mean residents can visit less countries with their passports. How powerful is yours?



HOW POWERFUL IS YOUR PASSPORT?

We may live in a world defined by invisible meta-data and the Cloud, but the roughly 3.5 inch paper booklet known as the passport still carries a lot of weight. More than a simple grant of access into a country, passports and the visas they contain are a reflection of geopolitics, the relationship between two nations, and a country's stature relative to the rest of the world. They're also of immense value. Just ask any one of the

developing world's citizens if they'd rather win the lottery or a U.S. passport, chances are they'd say the latter (though they'd be wrong in thinking the American passport is the most powerful of them all). Here's a look at the strength of the world's passports—ranked by the travel freedom a passport holder enjoys.



A Special Kind of Privilege
The Schengen Area is a collection of nations in Europe where there is no systematic border control between participating countries. Individuals who are citizens of one of the 22 EU member countries can move freely without a passport in this zone. Being in the EU does not necessarily imply membership in the Schengen Area; the UK and Ireland have chosen to opt-out.

Passport holders of the following countries are granted visa-free access (or receive a visa upon arrival) to the number of countries listed.

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|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 173 Finland | 163 Maldives | 146 Bulgaria | 114 Guatemala | 84 Solomon Islands | 71 Qatar | 59 Maldives | 49 Tajikistan | 46 Equatorial Guinea |
| Sweden | Mali | Chile | Romania | 85 Samoa | 70 Botswana | 58 Philippines | 48 Bhutan | Guinea |
| United Kingdom | 209 Liechtenstein | 137 Bahamas | 113 El Salvador | 86 Togo | 69 Bahrain | 57 Cape Verde | Central African Republic | Burundi |
| 172 Denmark | 157 Hungary | Barbados | 109 Nicaragua | 80 Maldives | 68 Gambia | 56 Azerbaijan | Madagascar | Ethiopia |
| Germany | Czech Republic | 132 Mexico | 108 Serbia | Peru | 67 Senegal | 55 Armenia | Mozambique | North Korea |
| Luxembourg | Slovakia | Uruguay | 103 Macedonia | 79 Vanuatu | 66 Thailand | Benin | 47 Guinea-Bissau | 40 Angola |
| 171 Belgium | Slovenia | 131 St. Kitts and Nevis | 102 Trinidad and Tobago | 78 Fiji | 65 Malawi | Cote d'Ivoire | Nigeria | Djibouti |
| Italy | 153 Poland | 130 Antigua and Barbuda | 98 Montenegro | Guyana | 64 Swaziland | Mauritania | Timor-Leste | Iran |
| Netherlands | 152 Estonia | Chinese Taipei | 95 Russian Federation | Kiribati | 63 Tanzania | Senegal | 46 Algeria | Spain |
| 170 Canada | Hong Kong | Vatican City | 94 South Africa | 77 Jamaica | 62 Zambia | 53 Burkina Faso | Cameroon | Congo |
| France | Latvia | 129 Croatia | Turkey | Kuwait | 61 Saudi Arabia | Guinea | Egypt | Liberia |
| Ireland | 136 Cyprus | 128 Venezuela | 93 St. Vincent and the Grenadines | Minshall Islands | 60 Colombia | Indonesia | Gabon | South Sudan |
| Japan | Lithuania | 126 Seychelles | 92 St. Vincent and the Grenadines | Ukraine | 59 Oman | Maldives | 40 Chad | Syria |
| Norway | 148 Monaco | 124 Paraguay | 91 Bosnia and Herzegovina | 75 Papua New Guinea | Serra Leone | Togo | Haiti | 38 Kosovo |
| Portugal | 147 Andorra | 123 Mauritius | 88 Albania | 74 Ecuador | Turkmenistan | 52 Dominican Republic | Niger | Lebanon |
| Spain | 146 Brunei | 122 Costa Rica | Grenada | 73 Bolivia | 51 Mongolia | India | 44 Vietnam | Sri Lanka |
| 368 Austria | 144 Israel | 121 Panama | 87 Belize | 72 Palau | 50 Georgia | Uzbekistan | 43 Cameroon | Sudan |
| New Zealand | | | Dominica | Suriname | 49 Cuba | 42 Comoros | China | |
| Sri Lanka | | | | United Arab Emirates | 48 Jordan | 41 Myanmar | Congo | |
| 167 Australia | | | | | 47 Kuwait | 40 Rwanda | Jordan | |
| Greece | | | | | 46 Oman | 39 Iraq | | |
| Singapore | | | | | 45 Yemen | 38 Afghanistan | | |
| 366 South Korea | | | | | 44 Nepal | | | |
| 165 Iceland | | | | | 43 Eritrea | | | |