



Marriage to be performed in Switzerland: Information for residents in New Zealand

14.04.2022

If you would like to get married in Switzerland, you will need to go through a marriage preparation process.

The fiancées have to contact the competent civil registry office in the city where they would like to solemnise their marriage. Please contact the officer directly and well in advance in order to obtain information regarding the requirements, dates, fees, witnesses and translation of civil status documents.

If you are living in the Consular jurisdiction of this Embassy, it is mandatory that you present yourself in person at the Embassy of Switzerland in Wellington to submit your documents. Please contact the Embassy in order to make an appointment.

If one of the fiancés/partners is living in Switzerland, he or she will have to sign these documents at the civil Registry office there. The civil registry office in Switzerland in the town or city where the marriage will take place is solely responsible for specifying and processing the required documents. It may require some additional documents not mentioned below. The arrangements to schedule the date must be done directly with that office. Please note that English is not one of the official Swiss languages (German, French and Italian). The procedures may also vary from one Canton (State) to another.

Documents to submit in person to your Swiss representation

For the Swiss citizen:

- Two copies of the Swiss passport or identity card** (original must be presented if residing in New Zealand), and if applicable residence permit in New Zealand.
- If resident in New Zealand: “Certificate of nationality and registration” issued by this Embassy**
- If resident in Switzerland:** address in Switzerland and if available a copy of the Certificate of Civil Status for Swiss Nationals (“Personenstandsausweis / Certificat individuel d’état civil / Certificato individuale di stato civile”)

See next page for further information

For the non-Swiss citizen:

Birth certificate

- showing the full name of the parents
- issued within the last 6 months. If the document is older, a new document must be ordered
- photocopies, scans or certified copies will not be accepted
- will not be returned to you

Two copies of the passport

Proof of residency: A statutory Declaration

- sworn before a Notary Public ([NZ notary public website](#)). This Embassy does not accept declarations sworn before a Justice of the Peace (JP's).
- stating the following:
 - detailed physical address(es) of the last 6 months
 - Nationalities
 - Confirmation of the marital status
If single (= never been married or in a registered partnership before): please mention "never been married or in registered partnership before"
- original not older than 6 months
- will not be returned to you

You can find an example of the form on the [Govt.nz website](#) from the New Zealand Government: [Statutory declaration](#).

If divorced: Order Dissolving Marriage from New Zealand

- Original order dissolving marriage/civil union or an original certified copy, issued within the last 6 months by the Court which granted the order (will not be returned to you)
- with mention of date order made and date order sealed
- photocopies, scans or certified copies will not be accepted

If widowed: New Zealand Death certificate of previous spouse

- issued within the last 6 months. If the document is older, a new document must be ordered
- photocopies, scans or certified copies will not be accepted
- will not be returned to you

If both fiancés/partners are non-Swiss citizen: "Certificate of No Impediment to Marriage / Civil Union".

- issued within the last 6 months
- photocopies, scans or certified copies will not be accepted
- will not be returned to you

If applicable: Copy of the birth certificate and of the passport of the child / the children

- If any document has not been issued by the New Zealand authorities, please contact this representation.** We will then inform you about the criteria required for the non-New Zealand documents. Additional documents and/or an advance payment may be required for the verification process, which can take several months.

Fees

The fees for this preparatory procedure vary. The exact amount will be communicated by the Embassy at time of the submission of the documents.

See next page for further information

Visa

Citizens of New Zealand do not require a visa to enter Switzerland. For stays exceeding 90 days consecutive or to take up residency, an assurance of a residence permit must be applied for directly with the [Cantonal immigration office](#) of the future place of domicile before entering Switzerland. The Embassy is not involved in this process. Please contact the [Cantonal immigration office](#) for any questions.

If you are a foreign resident in New Zealand and you do need a visa ([Do I need a national visa?](#)), you have to submit your application at this Embassy. The procedure to obtain a visa or authorization is separate from the marriage preparation process. Please submit the documents indicated on the factsheet "[Requirements for a Family Reunification Visa](#)".

Appointment

To schedule an appointment, send an e-mail with a scanned copy of all the documents (in one PDF file) for perusal to: wellington@eda.admin.ch.

Please indicate as well where the marriage will be performed in Switzerland (place of the registry office).

The appointment will take place at this Embassy:

Embassy of Switzerland
Level 12, 10 Customhouse Quay
Wellington 6011
New Zealand

Further information

Where to obtain the documents?

Department of Internal Affairs (DIA)
Births, Deaths and Marriages,
PO Box 10526, Wellington 6143
New Zealand
Website www.bdm.govt.nz
E-mail: bdm.nz@dia.govt.nz

Upon receipt of the relevant documents, this Embassy will translate and legalise the documents and forward them with your request to have a marriage performed in Switzerland, to the appropriate authority in Switzerland. The procedure can take several months.

The civil registrar authorities in Switzerland may request additional documents / information.