

Henley Passport Index | India Rises By 3 Ranks

Why In News

- **Henley Passport Index**, which ranks the world's **most travel-friendly passports**, has released its list for 2024, with European nations of France, Germany, Italy and Spain, and Asia's Japan and Singapore sharing the number one spot.



Henley Passport Index

- Henley Passport Index For 2024, Curated By **Henley & Partners**, Was Released This Week And Ranks Different Passports According To The Number Of Destinations Their Holders Can Visit Without A Prior Visa Or Can Avail Of A Visa On Arrival, A Visitor's Permit, Or An Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) On Entering The Destination.

HP Henley & Partners

- Rankings Are Based On Analysis Of Data Provided By The **International Air Transport Association**. It Then Provides A '**Visa-free Score**' Which, Essentially, Is The Number Of Destinations That The Holders Of That Particular Passport Can Travel To Without A Prior Visa Or Can Avail Of A Visa On Arrival Or Other Similar Permits.



- An **Unprecedented Six Countries** Have Claimed Top Spot On The **2024 Henley Passport Index**, Offering Their Citizens The Most Powerful Passports With Vis Free Access To 194 Destinations Out Of 227 Around The World. Joining Elite Club Of **World's Most Powerful Passports** Are Four EU Member States France, Germany, Italy, And Spain Standing Shoulder To Shoulder With Asian Powerhouses Japan And Singapore.
- India, meanwhile, has improved its ranking and moved up to the **80th position from the previous year's ranking of 84**. Those holding an Indian passport have visa-free access to 62 destinations.



- Ranking low on the index are Pakistan (101), Iraq (102), Syria (103) and Afghanistan (104).
- Other neighbours of India were ranked as follows: Maldives (#58), China (#62), Bhutan (#87), Myanmar (#92), Sri Lanka (#96), Bangladesh (#97), and Nepal (#98).



- For instance, those holding the passports of the countries in the #1 spot had access to **194 visa-free destinations** while those holding the Afghanistan passport ranked last at #104, had visa-free access to only 28 of them.
- **As per the latest rankings**, Finland, Sweden and South Korea shared the second rank, while Austria, Denmark, Ireland and Netherlands occupied the third spot.
- The **United States was ranked at number 7** along with Canada and Hungary. The United Kingdom passport fared better at spot number 4, which it shared with Belgium, Luxembourg, Norway and Portugal. In the Middle East, the UAE ranked the highest at #11.

World's 10 Most Powerful Passports:

- France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Singapore, Spain (Score: 194)
- Finland, South Korea, Sweden (Score: 193)
- Austria, Denmark, Ireland, Netherlands (Score: 192)
- Belgium, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom (Score: 191)
- Greece, Malta, Switzerland (Score: 190)
- Australia, Czechia, New Zealand, Poland (Score: 189)
- Canada, Hungary, United States (Score: 188)
- Estonia, Lithuania (Score: 187)
- Latvia, Slovakia, Slovenia (Score: 186)
- Iceland (Score: 185)

World's 10 Least Powerful Passports:

- Iran, Lebanon, Nigeria, Sudan (Score: 45)
- Eritrea, Sri Lanka (Score: 43)
- Bangladesh, North Korea (Score: 42)
- Libya, Nepal, Palestinian Territory (Score: 40)
- Somalia (Score: 36)
- Yemen (Score: 35)
- Pakistan ((Score: 34)
- Iraq (Score: 31)
- Syria (Score: 29)
- Afghanistan (Score: 28)

