



Why invest in Mauritius?

Thanks to its decades of steady economic growth and business-friendly policies, Mauritius has become a popular destination for foreign investment.

Why invest in Mauritius? According to the AfrAsia Bank and New World Wealth 2021 report, Mauritius is the wealthiest country in Africa, indicating that it is one of the fastest-growing economies on the continent and a top choice for global investors.

What makes Mauritius an attractive investment destination?

If you are looking to move your money offshore, Mauritius should be on your radar for the following reasons:



A favourable tax regime

Investing in Mauritius comes with several tax advantages, including a low corporate tax rate and access to a network of double taxation avoidance agreements. This makes the country an attractive destination for investors seeking to minimise tax liability.



Political and economic stability

The country is politically and economically stable, has a skilled labour force, a low unemployment rate and a competitive and well-diversified economy. In recent years, Mauritius has joined international organisations such as the WTO, La Francophonie and the Commonwealth.



Strategic location

Its central location between Asia, the Middle East and Southern Africa makes it easy to reach, and its proximity to Johannesburg (only a four-hour flight away) makes it convenient for business people and travellers from South Africa. The time zone (GMT +4) is also convenient for conducting business if you relocate to Mauritius.



Business-friendly environment

Mauritius is a great place to do business. There are simple and friendly regulations that make it easy to run a business. According to the World Bank's ease of doing business rankings, Mauritius is ranked 20th globally.



Availability of skilled labour

Mauritius has one of the highest literacy rates in Africa and has a young (29.2% are under 30), well-educated workforce, much of which is fluent in English and French. Vocational training in Mauritius is top-notch, with many programmes tailored to specific business needs.



Excellent quality of life

Mauritius is the perfect place to create a new lifestyle. With its beautiful beaches and breathtaking nature, it is easy to create an ideal balance between work and life.

The benefits of investing in Mauritius

When asking yourself, *'Why invest in Mauritius?'* there are several key factors to consider.



Individuals

For individuals considering a lifestyle change, leisure, safety, healthcare, education, and climate are likely important considerations.



Business

Economic stability, air connectivity, digital access, and ease of doing business are critical decision factors for those looking to invest for business reasons.



How to invest in Mauritius

Investing in Mauritius is a great way to diversify your portfolio and gain exposure to a growing economy. The country ranks 33rd on the Investment Safety Rankings, so you can be sure your investment is safe.

There are not a lot of restrictions on investing in Mauritius. You can buy property, invest in the stock market, start a business and open a bank account without coming to Mauritius. A foreigner can own a Mauritian company outright, and Mauritius is open to foreign investment as long as compliance checks are completed.

What to expect when doing business in Mauritius

Those looking to invest in Mauritius should consider the following potential challenges



Setting up a company

There are no off-the-shelf companies in Mauritius, so each company must be newly incorporated. Documentary requirements include identification of beneficial owners, certification, residential address, references, and sources of funds - all of which can take time and must conform to local formats. In addition, the administrative aspects need to be tailored and taken into account, as there may be backlogs with the authorities.



Property transactions

Foreign owners cannot own real estate in Mauritius except in designated areas tied to programmes. Any transaction involving immovable property outside of these programmes requires special approval. Even if this permission is granted, registering property can be cumbersome.



Market opportunities

The local environment can be highly competitive and heavily dependent on imports. Many conglomerates look out towards exports to generate opportunities.

FAQs about investing in Mauritius

HOW CAN I INVEST IN REAL ESTATE IN MAURITIUS?

There is a high demand for rental properties and investment opportunities. There are many programmes that foreigners can buy into, some of which offer permanent residency for investments over \$375,000. The Property Development Scheme (PDS), the old IRS and RES programmes offer permanent residency as a benefit, and now the benefit is extended to apartments that are at least Ground plus 2 levels, as long as the cost of the residence is at least \$375,000.

DO I HAVE TO LIVE IN MAURITIUS TO OPERATE A BUSINESS FROM THERE?

A Mauritius-based company must meet one of three conditions. It must have an office in Mauritius, have at least one full-time employee, or invest more than \$100,000.

WHY IS MAURITIUS AN ATTRACTIVE DESTINATION FOR OFFSHORE INVESTMENT?

Mauritius is becoming increasingly popular with investors from around the world. The financial and administrative services are among the best in the world, and offshore companies' legal and tax regimes are desirable. Global Business Companies formed in Mauritius enjoy many benefits and privileges.

DO YOU WANT TO INVEST IN MAURITIUS?

Are you moving to Mauritius from South Africa or looking for investment opportunities? Safyr Utilis is the perfect partner for companies and investors looking for opportunities in Mauritius. We are experts in helping our clients relocate assets from South Africa to Mauritius and can find a customised solution for your specific needs. Contact us today to learn more about how we can help you achieve your investment goals.