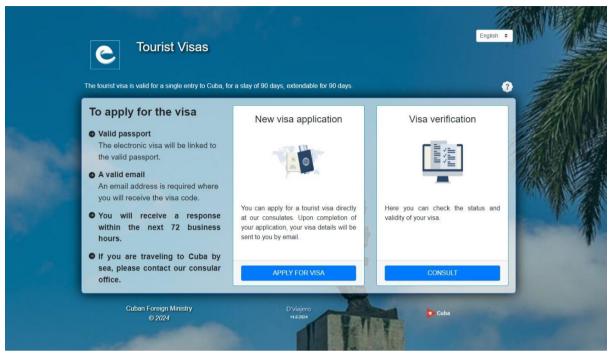
Cuba launches new e-visa platform



Website of the Cuban Evisa portal (source: Evisa/Minrex)

The Cuban Ministry of Tourism announced on Tuesday the launch of the country's new evisa platform. Travellers can now apply for an electronic visa to visit the island through the website Evisacuba.cu.

The eVisa process is designed to make it easier and quicker to apply for the 90 day tourist visa. Its introduction was announced at the National Tourism Fair in May, as previously reported by Cubaheute. By moving to a digital system, the Ministry of Tourism aims to "improve efficiency and security at all stages of the visa process, from initial application to border control". The new process is also more environmentally friendly, as it eliminates the need for paper. "With this development, Cuba is taking another step towards modernising its consular system, adapting it to the current needs of tourists and strengthening its digital infrastructure," the ministry said.

According to the latest information available, the previous paper tourist cards (Tarjeta del Turista) will remain valid at least until the end of the year.

To apply, you need a passport valid for at least six months and an e-mail address. The fee of 22 euros can be paid from Germany either by domestic bank transfer or by giro/credit card at the Cuban consulates in Berlin and Bonn. The website is currently only available in Spanish, English and French. The card will be issued within three working days. The website also offers a quick guide in PDF format.

By introducing a paperless process, Cuba is following a global trend towards the digitalisation of migration documents. An increasing number of destinations have now moved to electronic visas, including friendly countries such as China and Vietnam, with which Cuba maintains exchanges on administrative and digitalisation issues. (Cubaheute)