



EACC - December 2023
WTC Arnhem

Hilde Cevaal
US Entry Requirements and Work Visa



VisaVersa

- Founded in 2000 in Dordrecht, partners in US and UK.
- Specialist in visa and work permits for US, Netherlands, UK, Australia and New Zealand
- Almost 25 years of experience with many different types of visa applications
- Clients range from small/mid-size companies to multinationals.



Alphabet soup

US Visa types

- Non-Immigrant Visa Categories (Alphabet soup)
 - Tourist/Business (ESTA, B1, B2)
 - Work (E, H, L, O, etc.)
- Immigrant Visa Categories (Green card)
 - Family
 - Work
 - Lottery



Business Travel

Business Travel : ESTA / B1

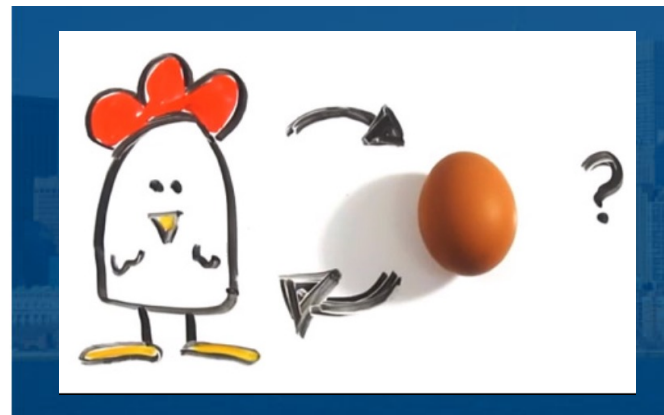
- Apply online for ESTA (\$21)
- In specific cases a B1/B2 visa is necessary:
 - Nationality
 - Visit to certain countries (Iraq, etc.)
 - Criminal convictions
 - Prior entry or visa refusal,
 - Commercial business work activities



Business Travel

Permitted activities

- Grey area. Setting up a US business is allowed, but working in the business is not allowed
- Not getting paid in the US does not automatically mean that you are not working in the US
- The number of trips and duration of your stay are crucial. Living and working in the US is not allowed
- Be careful with Social Media! Make sure your LinkedIn profile matches your visa status



Work Visa - The Chicken and the Egg

- The business in the US must be real and active before you can apply for a visa
- This means: US branch with office, US employees, clients etc.
- USCIS is traditional: Virtual/home offices, functional (sales) manager positions are problematic
- Processing times are long (6-12 months). Travel is possible but be aware of the risks



Recent Developments

Post Covid

- Number of applications versus number of USCIS and US Consulate employees.
- Requests for Evidence and denial rates are going up
- Wait times at US consulate in Amsterdam considerably longer than other countries. Alternatives not always possible.



Contact

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