



## Worldwide Private Client Practice

Navigating the complexities of global citizenship and residency planning:  
European options - Malta, Cyprus and Portugal

**FRAGOMEN**  
WORLDWIDE  
PRIVATE CLIENT PRACTICE

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# Climate for fueling High Net Worth Immigration policy

- Turbulent global economy: traditional countries of immigration are looking to attract inward investment to revalue their economies
- Opportunities for wealth creation: The world's population of HNWI is increasing by higher percentages in the emerging markets
- Push and Pull Factors: Why do HNWI want a second citizenship or residency?
  - Personal safety and security
  - Family's future
  - Ease of travel
  - Financial: asset diversification, asset protection, tax and wealth planning/management

# Malta - Individual Investor Programme

- Investment

- €650,000 contribution; and
- Purchase property in Malta with a minimum value of €350,000, or lease a residential property with a minimum annual rent of €16,000; and
- €150,000 investment in stocks, bonds, debentures, special purpose vehicles or other investment vehicles

- Requirements

- Maintain investments for 5 years
- 12 months 'effective residence'
- Private medical insurance

- Benefits

- Citizenship and full free movement within the EEA
- Spouse and children up to the age of 26 (who are financially dependent and are not married), and dependent parents over the age of 55 may be included in the application
- Competitive investment threshold



# Cyprus – Economic Citizenship Programme

## • Investment

- €5 million in government bonds, financial assets of Cypriot companies, real estate, land development, infrastructure projects or deposits in Cypriot banks; or
- €5 million in new or existing Cypriot companies (at least 5 Cypriot citizens must be employed); or
- Holder of deposits with the Popular Bank Public Company Ltd who incurred losses of €3 million during March 2013; or
- €2.5 million as part of a collective investment scheme with the total value of €12,5 million

## • Requirements

- Owner of a permanent residence in Cyprus with a value of €500,000
- Investment held for 3 years

## • Benefits

- Citizenship and full free movement within the EEA
- Spouse and children under 18 may be included. Children between 18 and 28 may also be included in some circumstances
- No residence requirement





# Portugal – Golden Residence Permit Programme

- Investment
  - Transfer capital of at least €1 million; or
  - Business activities that create at least 10 jobs; or
  - Acquisition of property with a value of at least €500,000
- Requirements
  - Investment to be maintained for a minimum period of 5 years
  - Initial residence permit issued for 1 year and can be extended in 2-year increments
  - Resident in Portugal for 7 days in year 1 and 14 days in subsequent periods of 2 years
  - Must hold a valid Schengen visa before travelling
- Benefits
  - Low residence requirement
  - Visa free travel in the Schengen area
  - Spouse, children and dependent parents may be included in the application

# CITIZENS INTERNATIONAL

## Caribbean Citizenship Solutions

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# Introduction

## Locations

- Antigua
  - Property Investment
  - Government Fund
  - Business Investment
- St Kitts
  - Property Investment
  - Government Fund

# Antigua

## Investment

- \$400,000+ into approved property project
- \$250,000 into Government Fund for up to family of 4
- \$1,500,000 approved business investment
- c.\$100,000 in government fees

## Requirements

- 35\* days residency in 5 years
- Maintain investment for 5 years
- Resale includes citizenship



# St Kitts

## Investment

- \$400,000+ into approved property project
- \$250,000 into Government Fund single applicant
- \$300,000 into Government Fund up to family of 4
- c.\$100,000 in government fees

## Requirements

- No residency requirement
- Maintain investment for 5 years
- Resale includes citizenship

# Benefits and pitfalls for both

## Benefits

- Visa free travel
- Passport achieved, not residency/work permit
- Passport cannot be revoked if rules met
- Antiguan mandated response times
- Tax
  - Income Tax
  - CGT
  - Inheritance Tax
  - Corporation Tax

## Pitfalls

- St Kitts processing time
- Educate clients before they travel

# International Families & Investors

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**CROSSING BORDERS,  
PROTECTING  
YOUR INTERESTS**



Global Residency Programmes - The UK  
and Australia

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# The UK Tier 1 (Investor) Programme

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## Investment

- £1million investment
- 75% to be invested into
  - > Government bonds
  - > Loan Capital in active and trading UK registered companies
  - > Share Capital in active and trading UK companies
- Balance of £1million to be held in property, cash or other assets in the UK

## Requirements for permanent residence

- Maintain investments for 5 years
- Less than 180 days absence by main applicant in each 12 month period
- Life in the UK and English language test to acquire permanent residence
- Option for accelerated settlement after 2 or 3 years with investment of £5million or £10million

## Benefits

- Ultimately Citizenship and free movement in the EEA and freedom to live in the UK throughout – The UK and particularly London have substantial appeal
  - > Education
  - > Preferential tax regime for resident non-domiciled persons
  - > Financial hub
- With planning, significant travel can be accommodated
- Investment can be made in low risk assets and therefore the principal sum maintained by the family throughout the five years
- Spouses, civil partners, unmarried partners, same sex partners and children under 18 can be included in the application
- Applications can be processed quickly

## Future of the Route

- Well established – since 1994
- Subject to recent consultation – expected rise in investment level to £2million
- Possible opening up of investment options and review of accelerated routes

## Investment

- AUD \$5m investment
- To be invested into
  - > Commonwealth, State or Territory government bonds
  - > Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) regulated managed funds with a mandate for investing in Australia; and
  - > direct investment into Australian proprietary companies.
- PR after 4 years with 160 days total residence by primary visa holder
- 91% of applicants Chinese
- 9 month processing times for applications lodged in or out of Australia

# The Future of Global Citizenship and Residency Programmes

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- A clear move to review and improve programmes in light of global competition
- Greater emphasis on economic benefit to the country
- Focus on robust systems and due diligence
- Risks about on-going visa free travel
- Political and public opinion issues over visas and citizenship “for sale”