



WORLD  
PASSPORT  
MUSEUM

# BLOG



## Tweets by [@passportmuseum](#)



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Do you know?

All EU passports are in  
Burgundy color.

Croatia is the only passport  
that has odd looking blue  
color amongst EU passport,  
since the country refused to  
adopt common passport

standards since EU  
accession. [#passportcover](#)



Apr 11, 2020



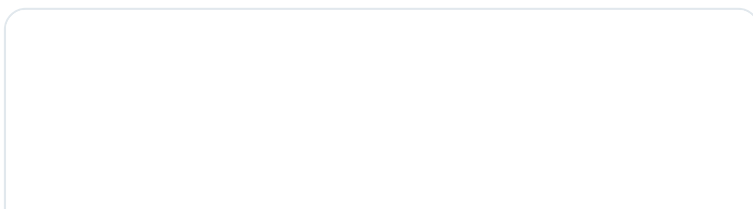
**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Worst Pandemics

1. Black Plague death -  
200M deaths (1347-1351)
2. Small Pox - 56M (1520)
3. Spanish Flu - 50M (1919)
4. Justinian Plague - 30-50M  
(541

AD) [visualcapitalist.com/history-of-pan...](https://visualcapitalist.com/history-of-pandemics/)



### Visualizing the History of Pandemics

The history of pandemics, from the Antonine Plague to the ongoing COVID-19 event, ranked by their impact on human  
visualcapitalist.com

Mar 20, 2020



### World Passport Museum

@passportmuseum

Photo identification first appeared in 1876.

It was not become widely used until the early 20th century to strengthen the security of passports and ID docs

Australia and Great Britain introduced requirement for a photographic passport in 1915 after Lody spy scandal

1853 photo





Mar 9, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The Earliest identity document inscribed into law was introduced by King Henry V of England with the Safe Conducts Act 1414

It was not for the next 500 years until World War I, most people did not have or need for an identity document.

Mar 9, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

USCIS History

1891 - US Gov created Office of Immigration under

# Treasury

1895 - Upgraded to Bureau of Immigration

1906 - Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization

1933 - Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS)

2003 - INS dismantled becoming USCIS, ICE and CBP under DHS



Feb 29, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Royal Messengers carried

confidential royal messages

sensitive royal messages  
since the 15th century.

Richard III employed a  
messenger to hand deliver  
his private papers in 1485

This Silver Greyhound seal  
has remained the symbol of  
the Messenger to this  
day.[history.blog.gov.uk/2014/  
03/25/the...](https://history.blog.gov.uk/2014/03/25/the...)



Feb 27, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

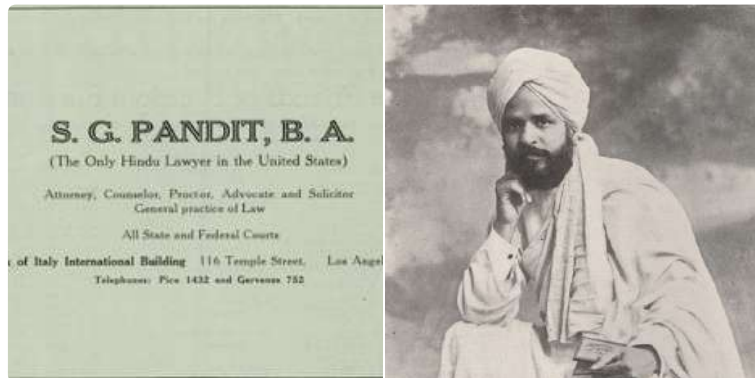
@passportmuseum

A number of Indian  
emigrants gained American

immigrants gained American citizenship during the early 1920's by qualifying as white.

US government then moved to strip naturalized indian citizens as "illegally procured"

Indian Lawyer Pandit won court case forced US Govt to drop [#denaturalization](#) cases



Feb 27, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Denaturalization is not new

In 1810, US proposed Titles of Nobility amendment to strip citizenship

Since World War I, European states began to introduce laws for citizens to be denaturalized for anti-national acts.

1. France 1915
2. Belgium 1922
3. Italy 1926
4. Austria 1933

Feb 27, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Do you know?

Pets also have EU passports

On 1 Oct 2001, member states introduced the EU Pet passport to freely travel between member states through approved carriers

Brexit also affects free movement of Pets





Feb 22, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

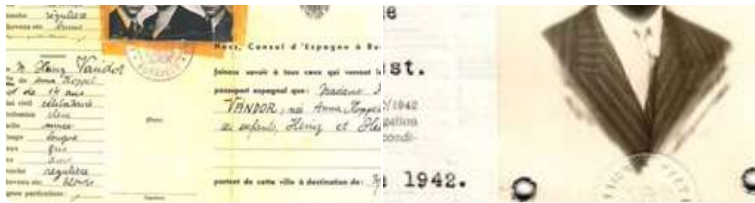
@passportmuseum

This spanish diplomat known  
as "Angel of Budapest"  
saved 5,200 jews from  
Auschwitz issuing fake  
consular protection papers  
under expired 1924  
Sephardic jews law

He put human rights before  
the law of the land

His heroics only known to  
few people  
today. [bbc.com/news/world-  
eur...](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-eur...)





Feb 15, 2020

World Passport Museum Retweeted



**Jakub Kumoch**

@JakubKumoch

First screening of 'Passports to Paraguay'. The movie by Robert Kaczmarek tells the story of my wartime predecessor Ambassador Aleksander Łados' and his diplomats, brave rescuers of thousands of Jews during the [#Holocaust](#) . 1/3



Feb 12, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The Schengen agreement signed by just 5 member states in 14 Jun 1985 was

remarkable achievement  
towards free movement of  
people

1. Belgium
2. France
3. West Germany
4. Luxembourg
5. Netherlands

The name **#Schengen** is the  
name of small town in  
Luxembourg

Original agreement below



Feb 3, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

In 1986 the Visa Waiver

In 1980, the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) was initiated by President Ronald Reagan, allowing alien nationals of select countries to travel to the United States for up to 90 days without a visa, in return for reciprocal treatment of U.S. nationals.

Feb 3, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Do you know?

American passports had green covers from 1941 until 1976 and also during a brief period from April 1993 until March 1994.

Green passport behind the navy blue passport in the picture.





Jan 16, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Replying to @passportmuseum

An example of 1916  
passport above. It was only  
since 1918, US passports  
were commonly used for  
international  
travel[blakeandrews.blogspot  
.com/2009/05/brief-...](https://blakeandrews.blogspot.com/2009/05/brief-...)

Jan 11, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Before 1856, US passports  
were issued not only by the  
Department of State but also  
by states and cities, and  
notary public

The Congress in 1856 assigned Department of State the sole authority to issue passports to avoid confusion

Thomas Jefferson became first Secretary of State



Jan 11, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

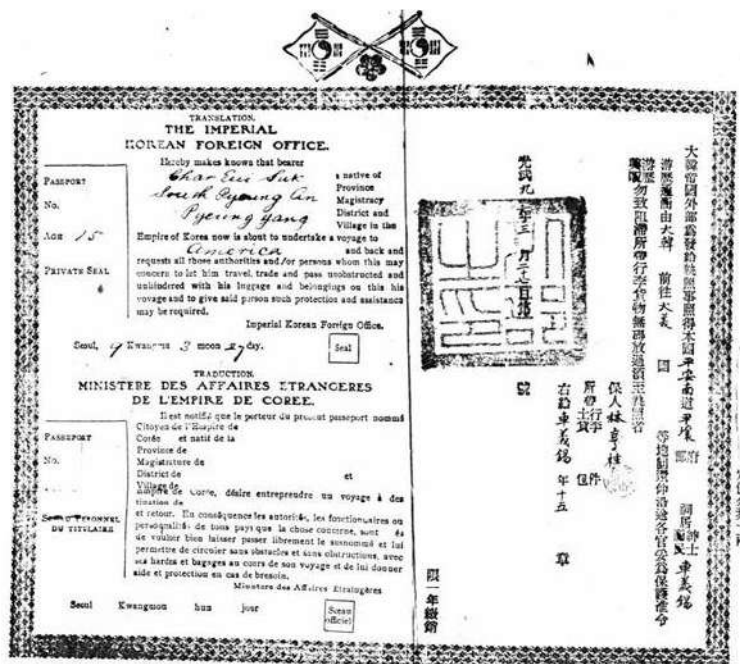
@passportmuseum

The first English language passports of the Korean Empire were issued in 1902 by the People's Comfort Agency to Koreans migrating to Hawaii.



After the 1910 Japanese rule in Korea, Koreans began having to use Japanese passports.

Korean empire passports are quite rare to find.



Jan 11, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Peace treaties were concluded through [#diplomacy](#) between the Mesopotamian city-states of Lagash and Umma around approximately 2100 BCE

Below is the map of ancient Mesopotamia



Jan 8, 2020

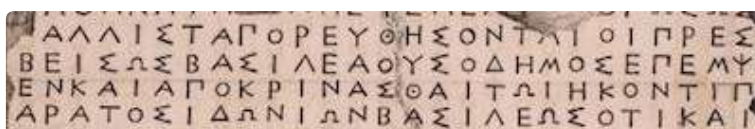


**World Passport Museum**

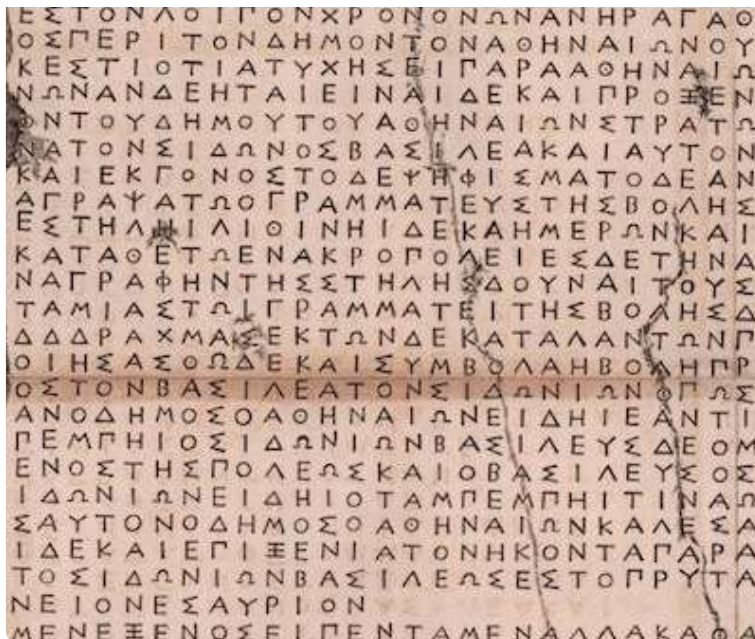
@passportmuseum

In ancient Greece, an arrangement whereby a citizen (chosen by the city) hosted foreign ambassadors at his own expense, in return for honorary titles from the state. The citizen was called [#Proxenos](#).

The position of proxenos for a city was often hereditary.







Jan 8, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Roman diplomas appeared first from AD 52, under emperor Claudius, who regularised the practice of granting Roman citizenship to non-citizen auxiliaries after 25 years of military service.



Jan 7, 2020



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Diplomacy is a true art of conducting negotiations in foreign relations

Records earliest known diplomatic records exist as Amarna letters written between the Pharaohs of Egypt and Amurru rulers of Canaan during 14th century BC

Below is the clay tablet of Amarna letters



Dec 19, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

In 1790, the United States passed a law that provided absolute immunity

provided absolute immunity  
for diplomats,  
their families and servants.

This 1790 law remained in  
force until 1978, when the  
present Diplomatic Relations  
Act (22 U.S.C. 254)  
was enacted to replace it.

Dec 19, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The British Parliament first  
guaranteed diplomatic  
immunity to foreign  
ambassadors in 1709

Dec 19, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

World Passport Museum is  
scheduled for opening on or  
after 2021

The museum to exhibit  
historical collection of  
identity and travel

documents around the world.  
We are non-profit initiative  
and we rely on public  
donations.

Read the passport history  
here:

[passportmuseum.org/wp-content/upl...](https://passportmuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/First-Canadian-Passports-1862.pdf)

Dec 15, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

First Canadian passports  
were issued in 1862  
following the outbreak of the  
American Civil War, when the  
US demanded a secure  
identification from Canadians  
crossing the border

In 1862, Governor General  
Viscount Monck introduced a  
centralized system for  
issuing Canadian passports





Dec 15, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The First passport regulations was issued in 746 by the Lombard King Ratchis in Italy

He ordered that refugees from the kingdom, spies and suspects checked by border guards and nobody should be admitted without a passport in the Tuscan border, led to important pilgrimage to Rome







Dec 15, 2019



## World Passport Museum

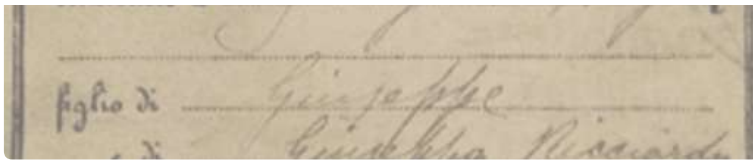
@passportmuseum

Passport was introduced first time in Italy by Napoleon (1796-1815).

After Napoleon was defeated in 1815, the passport was substituted with relocation permits issued by local authorities

It was not until italian unification in 1870, passports became requirement.





Dec 15, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Historically British passports were expensive as today!

A passport issued to a Sir John Stepney in 1778 cost six pounds, seven shillings and sixpence, the equivalent of well over \$1000 today

Dec 15, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

For most of human prehistory, the concept of state did not exist.

The history of the state is only less than 6,000 years old, evidence found in ancient Mesopotamia from around 3700 BC

Evidence suggests a state

Evidence suggests a state emerged from stateless communities of large population

Dec 11, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The first permanent diplomatic mission was established in Italy in 1455, representing the Duke of Milan in Genoa.

Below is the 1494 map of Italy



Dec 9, 2019





## **World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

In Brazil, there are records of travel documents being checked at Brazilian ports of entry from as early as 1530.

The term "passport" was first inserted into the Old Republic Constitution of Brazil in 1891

The Portuguese first discovered Brazil in April 1500

Dec 9, 2019



## **World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

According to the State Department, birthplace information was first listed in US passports in 1921 became a required item for all US passports by 1928.

In 1979, the policy was

modified to allow foreign born US citizens listing city/town instead of the country of birth.

Dec 3, 2019



## **World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Ancient origins of diplomatic immunity can be found in Indian epics Ramayana and Mahabharata before 2000 BC, where messengers and diplomats were given immunity from capital punishment

This painting depicts Lord Krishna mediating peace to avert Kurukshetra War of Mahabharata





Nov 28, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The First Extradition Treaty dates back to 13th century BC, when an Egyptian pharaoh, Ramesses II, negotiated an extradition treaty with a Hittite king, Hattusili III

Nov 27, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

In 1952, the Israeli parliament passed the Israeli nationality law and Israel began issuing travel documents described as [#passports](#)

The first Israeli passport was issued to Golda Meir, who

worked for the Jewish Agency and was soon to become Israel's ambassador to the USSR



Nov 27, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The Museum dedicates the life and struggle of Anne Frank to all the 12 million stateless people living all over the world.

[https://twitter.com/CIPjournal/status/119792675346283725](https://twitter.com/CIPjournal/status/1197926753462837251)

1

Nov 22, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Citizenship comes from the

Latin word for city, because in the earlier days of human governments, people identified themselves as belonging to cities more than countries.

Nov 21, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Ireland opened a passport for investment scheme to attract foreign investment in 1988.

It is one of the earliest citizenship for sale schemes in Europe

Investors had to invest \$1m and live in Ireland

143 passports were issued, £90m raised

Scheme was finally outlawed in 1998

Nov 21, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

New Zealand citizenship was created on 1 Jan 1949 by the British Nationality and New Zealand Citizenship Act 1948

New Zealand became a colony of the British Empire by signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840

All New Zealanders including Māori, were British subjects until 1948

Nov 21, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Replying to @passportmuseum

Dont miss Anne Frank house, when you visit Amsterdam which is visited by millions of visitors

Nov 15, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Anne Frank born in Germany, lost her citizenship in 1941 became stateless.

She never became a Dutch citizen despite spending most of her life in Netherlands.

Anne Frank died of typhus in 1945 aged 15 at concentration camp just weeks before liberation



Nov 15, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Albert Einstein was

[#stateless](#) for five years.

Though he was born in the German Kingdom of Württemberg, Einstein renounced his citizenship in order to avoid military service in 1896. Five years later, he would be granted Swiss citizenship.

Nov 15, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The largest mass human migration in history occurred in 1947 during the partition of India.

Over 20 million Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims were displaced as a result of this.

The partition split of British India into two independent states, India and Pakistan.







Nov 10, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Royal seals were first used from 11th century to authenticate documents (such as charters, letters, writs) in much the same way as we use signatures today.

The National Archives holds over a quarter of a million seals dating from the 11th to the 20th century.





Nov 8, 2019



## **World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

In 1882 The Chinese Exclusion Act passed in the United States, which bars Chinese immigrants from entering the U.S.

The 1882 Act is the first in American history to place broad restrictions on certain immigrant groups

Nov 8, 2019



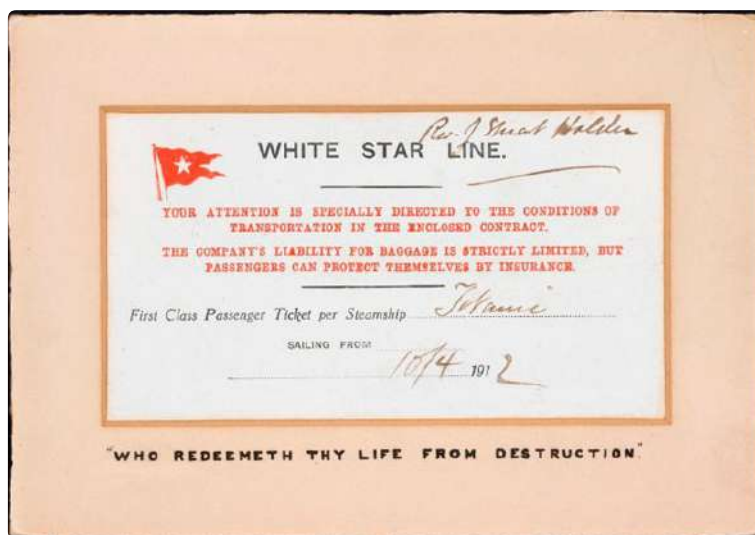
## **World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

This is the only surviving first class ticket from RMS Titanic in 1912.

First class tickets costed £870/\$4350, whopping \$50,000 today

Considering no passport or visa checks existed in 1912 onboard Titanic, this ticket gave the rich, access to New world.[liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/maritime/archi...](http://liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/maritime/archi...)



Nov 6, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

## Latvia History of Passports

The passport system of the Russian Empire was in force in Latvia until 1919. After World War II Latvia adopted the passport system of the USSR.

The first passports for Latvia

The first passports for Latvia citizens were issued on 4 July 1992 after its independence in 1991.

Nov 6, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Congress passed the First Naturalization Act in March 1790 on who should be granted citizenship.

The Act allowed any free white person of “good character,” who has been living in the United States for 2 years or longer to apply for citizenship.

Nov 5, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The popularity of Rail travel in the mid-19th century led to an explosion of tourism throughout Europe. This caused complete breakdown

in the European  
passport/visa system.

By 1914, passport  
requirements were  
eliminated practically  
everywhere in Europe until  
WWI.

Nov 5, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

After first few years after  
Canadian Confederation  
were formed, too few  
passports were issued

In 1878, Canada recorded  
an annual passport revenue  
of \$50. That is only 50  
passports were issued at \$1  
each.

Nov 5, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Hajj passport is a special  
passport issued only for a

hajj pilgrimage to Mecca.

An estimated 2.5 million pilgrims visit Mecca every year

This passport issued to only muslims

Oct 31, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

History of UAE Passport

Prior to formation of United Arab Emirates in Dec 1971, each Emirati state issued its own travel document by customs office, with a reference to ruling sheikh

It was only after 1971 passports were issued in UAE

Go to Al Dana museum for passport history



## World Passport Museum

@passportmuseum

Do you know? The first Swiss passports were issued on 10 December 1915.

The Red Swiss passport color was created in 1959.

Today, the Swiss passports issued in 5 languages:  
German, French, Italian,  
Romansh and English.



## World Passport Museum

@passportmuseum



Passport standardization came about in 1980, under International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) which introduced machine readable passports [icaoint/publications/D...](https://www.icao.int/publications/D...)

Sep 28, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Mongols created something similar to today's diplomatic passport called Paiza. It was issued 3 different types (golden, silver, and copper) depending on the envoy's level of importance.

Envoys can ask for food, transport, place to stay from any city, village, or clan.

Sep 27, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Diplomatic immunity and



Diplomatic immunity and rights were established during mid-17th century in Europe, later spread throughout the world, until it was formalized by the 1961 Vienna convention.

Sep 27, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Adolf Hitler was [#stateless](#) for 7 years. His new [#citizenship](#) changed the course of world history. Hitler weaponized citizenship to serve his beliefs and achieve political goals. Citizenship is powerful[bit.ly/2ktdNDt](https://bit.ly/2ktdNDt)

Sep 22, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

New Zealand since 1840 a British colony, British citizenship applied. Non-British were 'aliens'

From 1840 until 1 January 1949 most people in New Zealand (incl Māori) were British subjects/citizens.

Since 1977 the term alien removed from official use

Sep 22, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

UNHCR estimates 20 million Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims were displaced during the partition of India, leading to largest mass [#migration](#) in human history

Sep 22, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The first UK blue passport was issued in 1921, it was 32 pages book written in French.

Sep 21, 2019

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**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

World Passport Museum is pleased to announce we are now part of Yellow Network! One Network One Chain of [#Startupsbest-citizenships.com/wp-content/upl...](#)

Sep 18, 2019

**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The first European settlements migrated to America from around 1600. Around this time, British and other Europeans settled primarily on the east coast. Attitudes towards new immigrants cycled between favorable and hostile since the 1790s.

Sep 14, 2019

**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

These are rare passport stamps from Caribbean

stamps from Caribbean  
Netherlands

Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, and  
Saba collectively called  
Caribbean Netherlands are  
special municipalities of the  
Netherlands, with overseas  
countries and territory status  
of the European  
Union.[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/  
Caribbean...](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caribbean_Netherlands)



Sep 13, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The first travel documents in  
[#Japan](#) were issued in 1866.

[#passport](#) were issued in 1866.

These were letter of request papers permitting overseas travel for business and education

Passport was formally introduced into the Japanese language in 1878

Below is the japanese [#passport](#) issued in 1866



Sep 4, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Although French nationality and citizenship well existed before French revolution, it was only in 1804, France first introduced [#naturalization](#)

introduced #naturalization  
through Civil code laws.

Sep 3, 2019



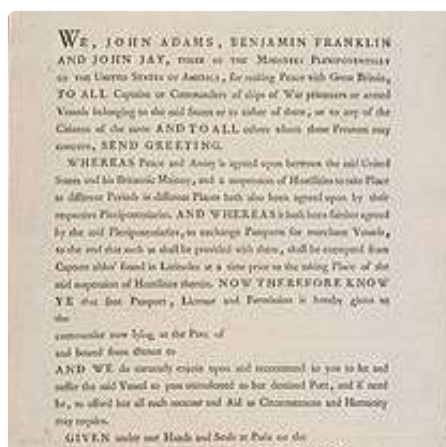
**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The first US passport was  
issued in 1775.

In 1856 Congress decided to  
give to the Department of  
State the sole authority to  
issue passports

The earliest passport act in  
1783 signed by Benjamin  
Franklin in 1783 to grant safe  
passage to ships and  
vessels



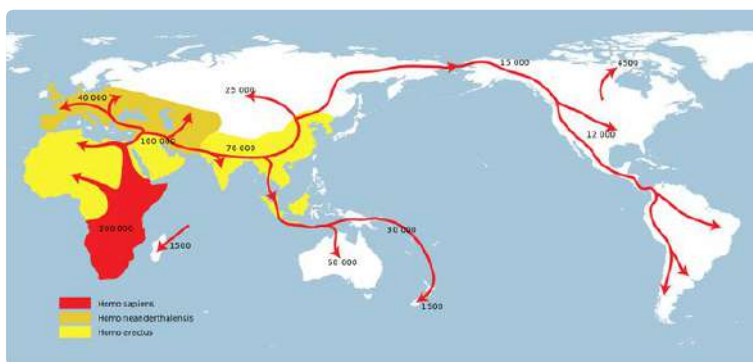
Sep 1, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The History of Migration of human population begins with the movement of Homo-erectus out of Africa across Eurasia about 1.75 million years ago



Aug 29, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Before 1901, Australia was of six separate British colonies. Passport usage was not common, and if required British or other national passports were used

In 1901, the six colonies joined to form the Commonwealth of Australia.



# Soon after British passports issued in Australia

Aug 28, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

In 1540, granting travel documents in England became a role of the Privy Council of England, and it was around this time that the term "passport" was used.

In 1794, issuing British passports became the job of the Office of the Secretary of State

Aug 27, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

One of the earliest mentions of [#passport](#) can be traced back to [#India#Arthashastra](#) mentions the first passport and passbooks in world history.

According to the text, the superintendent of passports must issue sealed passes before one could enter or leave the countryside

Aug 27, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

There is no such thing as Greenlandic [#citizenship](#). Greenland is part of Denmark, so you have to become a Danish citizen [#Greenland](#) also does not have its own [#passport](#), instead Danish passports issued

Greenland maintains it's own autonomy, it is not yet an independent country





Aug 21, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Citizenship to allies and the conquered lands was a vital step in the process of Romanization.

Romanization was the most important reason for the success of Rome

Aug 10, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The Privy Council, which advises the monarch, granted British passports from at least 1540

The oldest British passport still in existence was issued on 18 June 1641 and signed by Charles I

Until 1778 passports were written in English and Latin. After this date, issued in French

Aug 4, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The beginning of [#citizenship](#) also dates back to the ancient Israelites, who preserved their identity as a people, despite moving to different lands or enslaved by neighboring civilizations and this preservation of ethnic identity has been linked to the development of citizenship





**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Passports in medieval europe, were only issued to foreign travelers by authorities, instead of local citizens, which contained the list of cities and towns permitted for the bearer can pass through.

[#Passports](#) were checked for travelers coming inland from sea ports

Aug 2, 2019

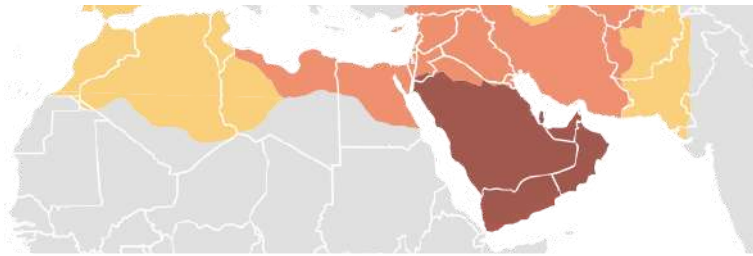


**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Tax receipts were once used as basic passports during the Islamic caliphate period 1400 yeas ago in-order to travel to different regions of the Caliphate.





Jul 30, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

King Louis XIV of France issued personally signed documents dubbed "passe port," literally meaning "to pass through a port," because most international travel was by sailing ships.

Hence the term "passport"

Below is the Kings portrait and signature [#passport](#)  
[#passeport](#)



Jul 28, 2019



**World Passport Museum**





**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The Irish Free State was created in 1922 as a dominion of the British Commonwealth

This is a 1927 Irish free state  
[#passport](#)



Jul 25, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

US and its allies dropped over 50 billion safe conduct leaflets in Vietnam

It is a very powerful form of



propaganda encouraged  
160,000 enemy soldiers to  
desert the war.

Signed by Nguyen Van  
Thieu, chief of staff of south  
vietnam  
[armypsywarrior.com/VNFlag  
SCP.html](http://armypsywarrior.com/VNFlagSCP.html)

\*Museum exhibit



Jun 24, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

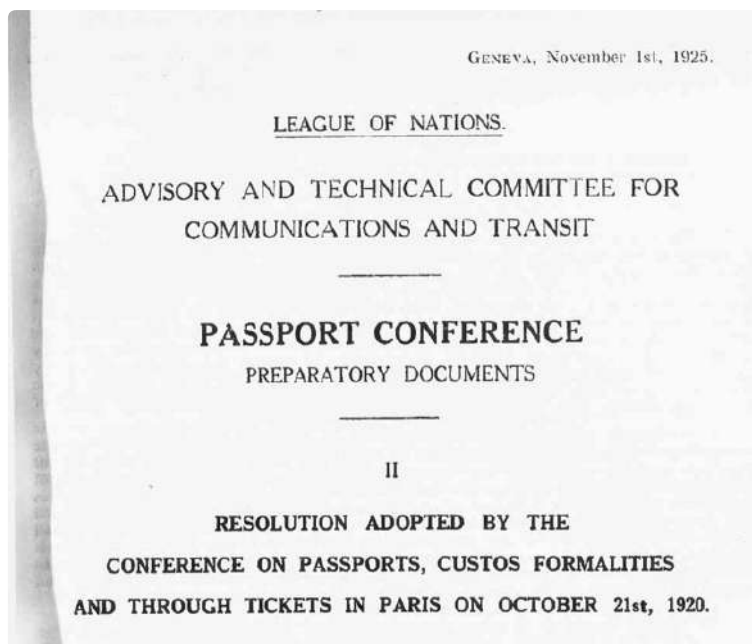
@passportmuseum

The 1920 League of Nations  
meeting in France laid the  
foundations for passport  
standards

During the meeting 42  
nations implemented  
common size, layout, and

common size, layout, and design of [#passport](#) as 32 page booklet.

Passports issued for only single trip valid for 2 yrs.  
[biblio-archive.unog.ch/Dateien/Council...](https://biblio-archive.unog.ch/Dateien/Council...)



Jun 13, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

[#Diplomacy](#) is the art and practice of conducting negotiations .

Earliest known diplomatic records, exist as stone tablet

showing first international  
peace treaty signed  
between pharaoh of Egypt  
and the ruler of the Hittite  
Empire known as Egyptian–  
Hittite peace treaty 1274 BC



Jun 11, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

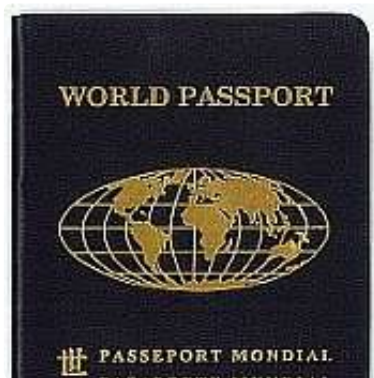
The World passport is a  
fantasy travel document sold  
by the World Service  
Authority, a non-profit by  
Garry Davis in 1954

It is not recognized by any  
country

Snowden and Assange were

among notable [#passport](#) owners

There are over 1 million citizens[worldservice.org](http://worldservice.org)



May 29, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

This is a rare [#passport](#) stamp from [#Sealand](#)

Sealand is the world's smallest independent State (.004 km<sup>2</sup>) established in 1967, which exists 12km off Suffolk on an offshore platform built during WW2

Sealand dollar pegged to USD.

22 people live there

[sealandgov.org](http://sealandgov.org)



May 28, 2019



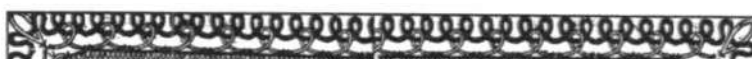
**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

This is a 1887 Montenegro  
[#passport](#) issued before the  
photos were used in  
[#passports](#).

You will see bearer  
description on the left a  
common way to identify  
bearer in early days

Large portions of  
[#Montenegro](#) were under  
Ottoman Empire from 1496  
to 1878





May 26, 2019

World Passport Museum Retweeted



**CitizenshipJournal**

@CIPjournal

Replying to @business

We only talk billions. But ancient kings like Genghis khan has wealth in hundreds of trillions, that is 1000 times more than Jeff bezos or Rockefeller

[citizenshipbyinvestment.ch/index.php/2019...](https://citizenshipbyinvestment.ch/index.php/2019...)

May 22, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

This is a very rare passport stamp from Pitcairn islands.



Pitcairn Islands group is a British Overseas Territory in the South Pacific. Only 55 people from 4 families live there [loveexploring.com/gallerylist/81...](https://loveexploring.com/gallerylist/81...)



May 19, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Passports and visas became necessary travel documents only after World War I.

Before that [#passports](#) and [#visas](#) were usually the same type of travel documents.



Today, visas have become separate secondary travel documents, with passports acting as the primary travel document.



May 12, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

This is a mandatory british palestine passport issued when british ruled palestine between 1926 and 1948.

Some 70,000 such travel documents were issued

Mandatory Palestine's citizenship was not legally defined until

1925[telegraph.co.uk/travel/d](http://telegraph.co.uk/travel/d)

estina...



May 9, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

These are some interesting British passports of colonies before independence.

Source: Pinterest, Wiki



May 6, 2019



## World Passport Museum

@passportmuseum

This a rare passport issued when Mauritius was a British colony.

The Crown colony of Mauritius was established after a British invasion in 1810. The British ruled Mauritius for 158 years

Mauritius got independence when British rule ended on 12 March 1968#passport  
#Mauritius







May 6, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

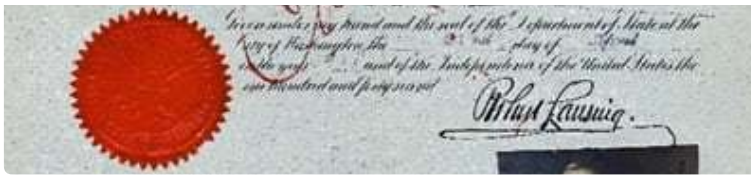
@passportmuseum

Passport photos only  
introduced in the US in 1916  
by President Wilson's  
executive order of December  
15 to prevent fraud

This is one such earliest  
1916 [#passport](#) with a  
photograph

Passport valid for 6 months  
only renewed  
twice [clickamericana.com/era  
s/1910s/new...](https://clickamericana.com/eras/1910s/new...)





May 4, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

This is Sealand passport

Sealand issued 150,000  
passports until 1997

Sealand is a self-claimed  
micronation in North Sea  
approximately 12 km from  
the coast of Suffolk in a  
structure called Roughs  
Tower room for 300 people

Sealand passports are rare  
and unknown to most people





Apr 28, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The Vatican issues 2 types of passport

1. Ordinary passport issued by Vatican state
2. Holy See issues diplomatic/service passports.

Holy See is headquartered in Vatican overlooks diplomatic relations with 172 states

Vatican has 800 residents, over 450 have citizenship.



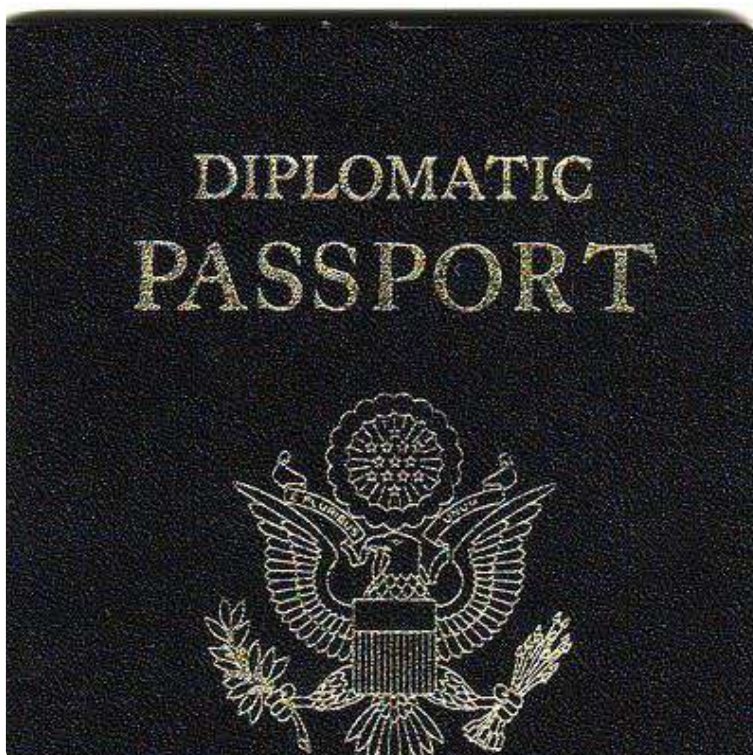


**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

All US presidents are given diplomatic passports for diplomatic trips abroad.

The US President even when out of his office, gets to keep his diplomatic passport for life.



Apr 21, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

This British Queen's Messenger passport issued to couriers who carry secret



to couriers who carry secret and important documents to British Embassies and consulates around the world.

The first recorded King's Messenger was John Norman, appointed in 1485 by King Richard III to hand-deliver secret documents



Apr 21, 2019

World Passport Museum Retweeted



**CitizenshipJournal**

@CIPjournal

Mongols invented the world's first diplomatic passport known as Paiza/Paizi to

protect diplomats,  
merchants, messengers  
traveling in silk route

Marco Polo is said to have  
carried a foot long gold  
paiza issued by Kublai  
Khan [citizenshipbyinvestment](#)  
[.ch/index.php/2019...#diplo](#)  
[macy #diplomaticpassport](#)



Apr 19, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

One Citizenship that  
changed the course of World  
History [citizenshipbyinvestme](#)  
[nt.ch/index.php/2019...#diplo](#)

Apr 15, 2019



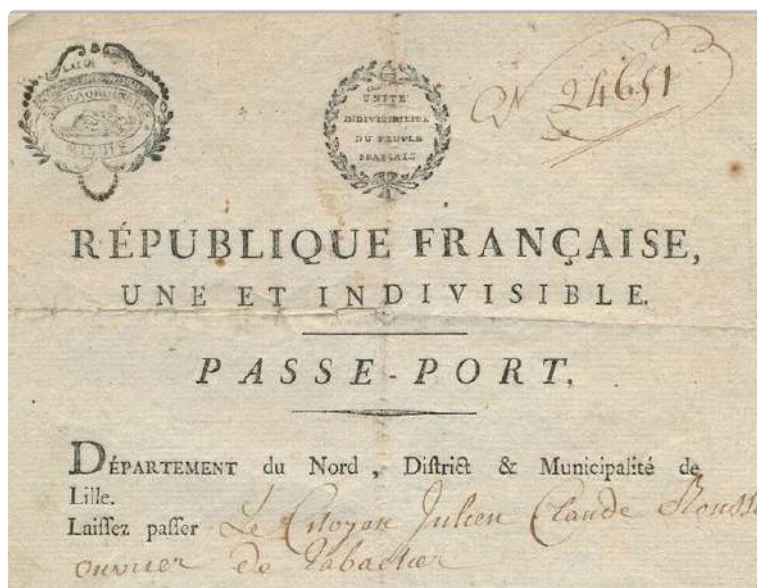
## World Passport Museum

@passportmuseum

This is an extremely rare passport issued in France in 1794 during the French revolution Napoleonic period

This passport was issued two years after First French republic founded in 1792 [passportmuseum.org/1794-french-pa...](https://passportmuseum.org/1794-french-pa...)

\* Museum Exhibit [#passport](#) [#passeport](#)



Apr 15, 2019

World Passport Museum Retweeted



**CitizenshipJournal**

@CIPjournal

Early Mongol passport 1240  
AD

<https://twitter.com/archaeologyart/status/1115313717615431681>

Apr 9, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The Concept of [#Citizenship](#) first originated in Ancient Greece roughly 1000 years before Romans expanded use of citizenship to all roman inhabitants with free movement within the empire, equivalent to modern day [#Schengen](#) area.





Apr 7, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The World Passport Museum accepts small donations and contributions in any way possible.

We accept small donations from \$10

Donate here:

[passportmuseum.org/donations/](https://passportmuseum.org/donations/)



Apr 6, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

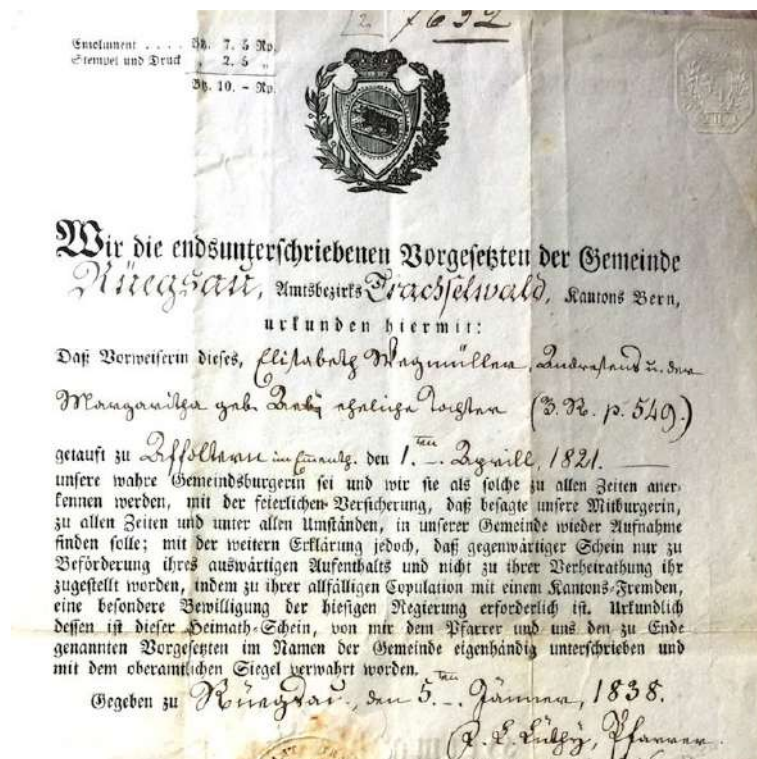
This is a swiss citizenship card (heimatschein) issued



in Bern canton in 1836  
signed by very important  
swiss historian Moritz von  
STÜRLER.

The Bear has been a symbol  
of Kanton Bern used in Coat  
of arms for  
centuries [passportmuseum.or  
g/1836-heimatsch...#Bern](https://passportmuseum.org/1836-heimatsch...#Bern)  
[#citizenship](#)

\* Museum Exhibit



Apr 6, 2019



World Passport Museum

@passportmuseum

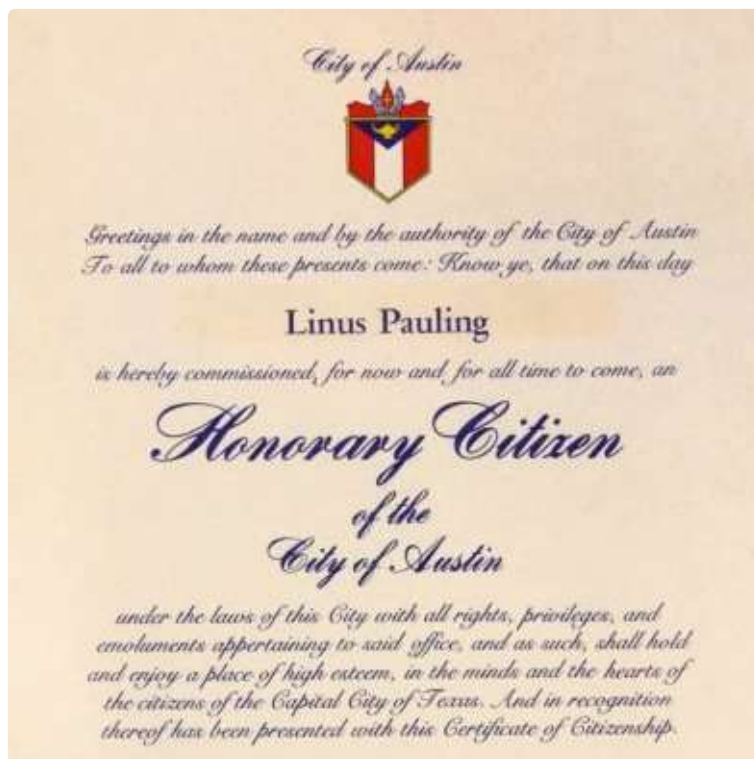
100 years of citizenship

Honorary citizenship  
awarded to distinguished  
individuals

Honorary citizenship is not  
"real" citizenship as it does  
not offer full citizenship rights  
including passport

Honorary passports are not  
valid travel documents

Irish hon citizenship offers  
full rights with passport



Apr 6, 2019







@passportmuseum

The World Passport Museum aims to exhibit rare masterpieces of passports and identity papers of great historical importance in cooperation with other museums and national archives.

We plan to open on or after 2021 as non-profit organization

Our Exhibits:

[passportmuseum.org/blog/](https://passportmuseum.org/blog/)



Apr 4, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The World Passport Museum is still a [#startup](#). We plan to open on or after 2021 as a non-profit organization

non profit organization  
dedicated to history

Why a Museum for  
Passports?

Read here:

[passportmuseum.org/why-a-museum-f...](https://passportmuseum.org/why-a-museum-f...)

Donations, contributions or  
any small help  
welcome [#museum](#)  
[#passport](#)



Apr 1, 2019

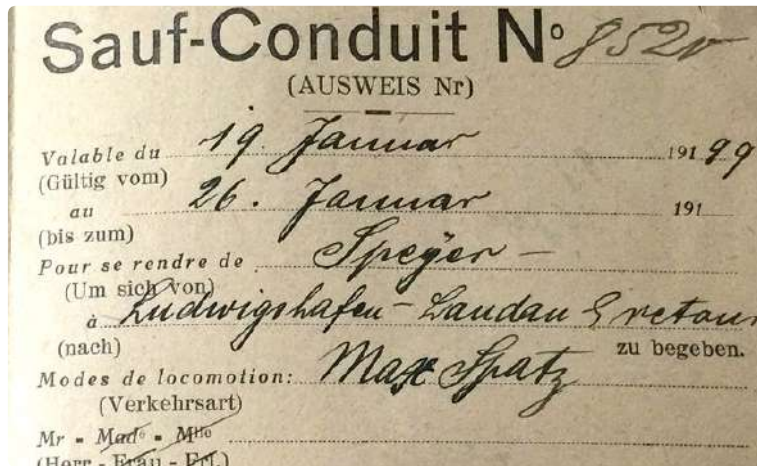


**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

This is a 1919 Safe conduct  
document issued in the  
German town of Speyer just  
at the end of WWI [#Speyer](#) is  
one of the oldest town in

Germany founded in 10  
BCE, today it is over 2000  
years  
[old.passportmuseum.org/1919-german-sa...](http://old.passportmuseum.org/1919-german-sa...)



Apr 1, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

A Safe Conduct document is  
different from a passport or  
visa

A passport given to the  
citizens of the country

A visa issued whose country  
maintains neutral or friendly  
diplomatic relations

A safe conduct given to visit

a country without a  
diplomatic relationship or  
enemy state



Mar 31, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

One of the earliest known  
passport from Prussia has  
references of travel to New  
York in 1835.

In 1670s, the first group of  
German immigrants settled  
in Pennsylvania, New York,  
and Virginia. Immigration  
continued in very large

numbers during 19th century  
from Germany.



Mar 16, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

These are German visas  
issued in the Kingdom of  
Prussia in Hagen and  
Bremen during 1820's

Today Germany issues 1.8  
million schengen visas every  
year second highest in  
Europe. [#Germanyvisa](#)  
[#Germany](#) [#Prussia](#)







Mar 16, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

This is a Prussian passport  
from 1820

The Kingdom of Prussia was  
a German kingdom existed  
between 1701 and 1918. It  
was the driving force behind  
the unification of Germany in  
1871

The Thaler was the currency  
of Prussia until  
1857.[passportmuseum.org/1  
820-kingdom-o...#passport](https://passportmuseum.org/1820-kingdom-of-prussia-passport)







Mar 16, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

#Denaturalization is the reverse of #naturalization when a state deprives of #citizenship, which existed after WWI

France - 1915

Portugal - 1916

Belgium - 1922

Italy - 1926

Turkey - 1928

Austria - 1933

Vichy France - 1940

UK - 2002

US denaturalized 305 persons between 1990-2007



## World Passport Museum

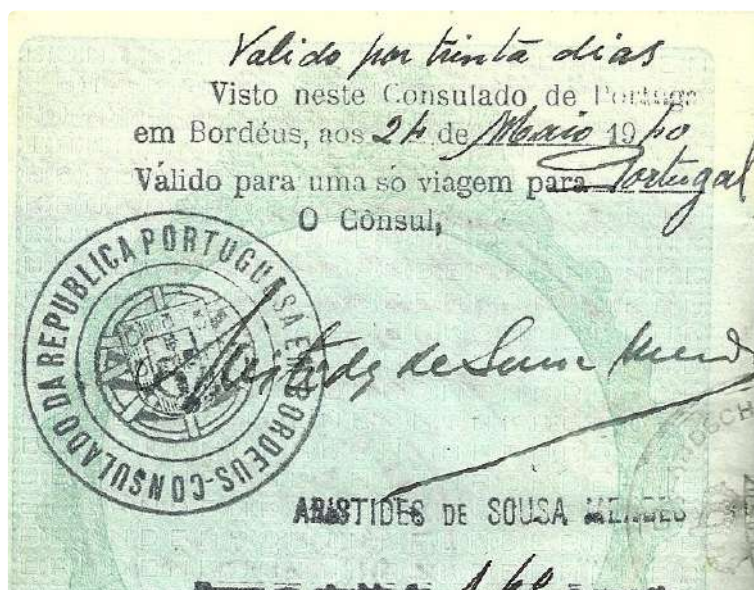
@passportmuseum

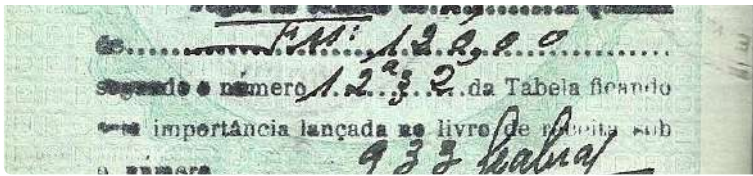
Sousa Mendes is one of the great heroes of the WW2.

As portuguese consular general, he issued over 30,000 visas saving Jews and others violating Circular 14.

Salvador Dalí was one of the survivors among notable figures

This is one of such  
[visaen.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aristides...](https://visaen.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aristides_de_Sousa_Mendes)





Feb 16, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

German J passport are extremely rare. This is a story of 21 year old young jewish women who fled to UK from persecution.

Her passport lives on to tell an extraordinary story [passportmuseum.org/german-j-passp...#passport#passportmuseum](https://passportmuseum.org/german-j-passp...#passport#passportmuseum)





## World Passport Museum

@passportmuseum

This is how UK visa looks like in 1939 during the WW2.

This visa was issued in Vienna to a German J passport holder. [#visas](#)  
[#UKvisa](#)



Feb 10, 2019



## World Passport Museum

@passportmuseum

We are launching passport museum in 2021 a non profit

We have a passion of collecting historical travel documents such as rare and

documents such as rare and  
exclusive passports,  
nationality certificates from  
over 100 countries

Please donate any rare  
documents you have to  
museum [passportmuseum.org](http://passportmuseum.org)



Jan 28, 2019



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

A safe conduct is a  
document issued during  
conflict or war, authorizes  
security for enemy aliens to  
traverse within territory  
without harassment, bodily  
harm, or fear of death

This safe conduct pass,  
issued by American forces,  
air dropped in Vietnam to



all dropped in Vietnam to  
encourage desertion



Dec 11, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

This is a very rare German J  
passport issued in 1930 to  
Else Klagsbrunn in Vienna,  
1939.

On October 5, 1938,  
Germany invalidates all  
German passports held by  
Jews.

She fled to England saving  
herself. This passport does  
not have "Sara" middle  
name.

\* Exhibit





Dec 9, 2018

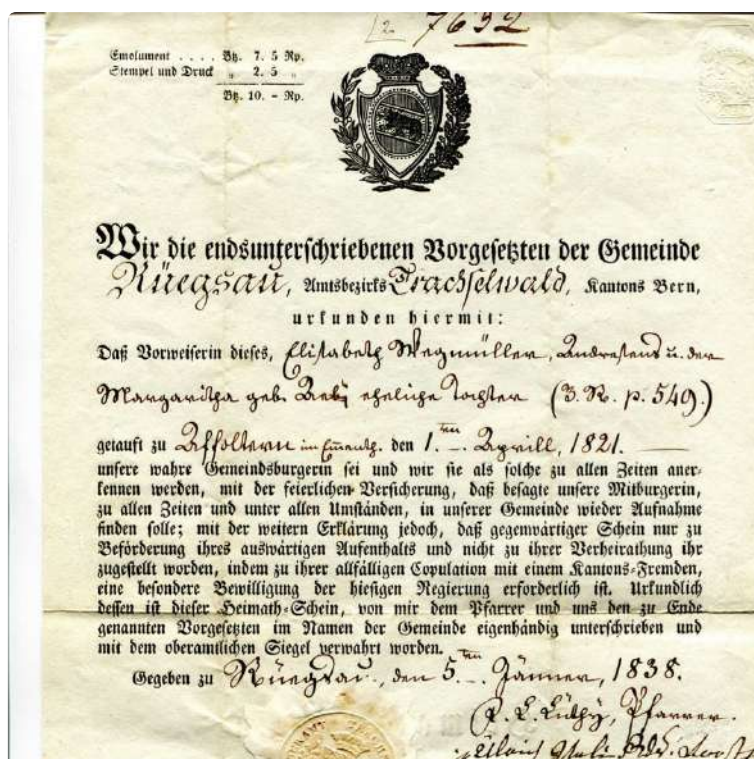


# World Passport Museum

@passportmuseum

This is a Swiss citizenship certificate issued in Bern, capital of Switzerland in 1838. In german, it is known as "Heimatschein"

\* Museum exhibit



Dec 9, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

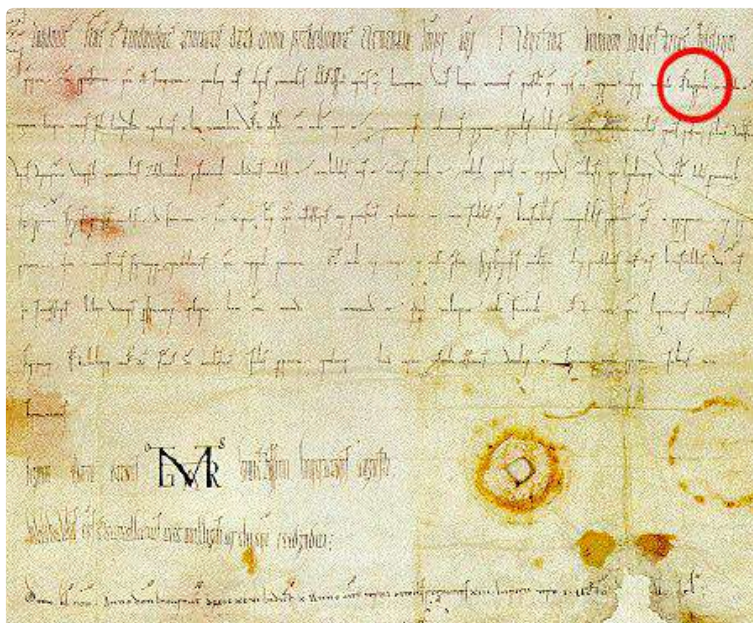
@passportmuseum

## History of Austria

The first appearance of the word "Ostarrîchi", circled in red, in "Ostarrîchi document" of 996.

Modern Austria honors this document, dated 996, as the founding of the Austrian nation.

Ostarrîchi means "eastern realm"[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Austria#Austria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Austria#Austria)





**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

In the 16th-17th centuries the Russian borders were closed to free entry of foreigners.

In 1709, Peter the Great, introduced 'passport' system for crossing borders through a decree on foreigners who left their permanent residence.

Below is a 1929 USSR external [#passport](#)



Nov 3, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Between 1167-1227 in Mongolia, Genghis Khan introduced concept of

passports known as 'Paiza'  
to protect diplomats,  
merchants, messengers in  
silk route.

Paiza were metal tablets  
inscribed in gold, silver,  
bronze with safe passage  
statement.

[historyonthenet.com/mongol-empire-...#passport](http://historyonthenet.com/mongol-empire-...#passport)



Oct 28, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

This is a 1856 passport  
issued before Austro-  
Hungarian empire in  
Hungary.

The Austro-Hungarian  
empire which lasted from



1867 to 1918 was one of the world's greatest powers at that time.[passportmuseum.org/1856-austro-hu...](https://passportmuseum.org/1856-austro-hu...)

\* Museum exhibit



Oct 27, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

In UAE, even birds need papers to fly. The country's falcons are issued special [#passport](#) known as 'Falcon passports' to combat smuggling. Falcons can sell

for as much as \$1 million each.

Falcons cant fly without passports.[moca.gov.ae/en/our-service...#FalconPassport](https://moca.gov.ae/en/our-service...#FalconPassport)



Oct 27, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Queen Elizabeth II does not have a [#passport](#) when traveling abroad, making it superfluous for her to hold one, as British passports are issued in the name of Her Majesty



ivmaje3ty.

All other members of the  
Royal Family have  
passports.[royal.uk/passports](https://royal.uk/passports)



Oct 24, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

First travel documents in  
[#Japan](#) were introduced in  
1866. It was called stamped  
letter of request.

Passport was formally  
introduced into the Japanese  
language in 1878 and in  
1900 first regulations for use  
of Japanese passports were  
introduced

This one is 1866 Japanese

#passport



Oct 23, 2018

World Passport Museum Retweeted



**CitizenshipJournal**

@CIPjournal

Early History of Canadian  
Passports[citizenshipbyinvest  
ment.ch/index.php/2018...#](http://citizenshipbyinvestment.ch/index.php/2018...#)  
Canada #passport



Oct 22, 2018



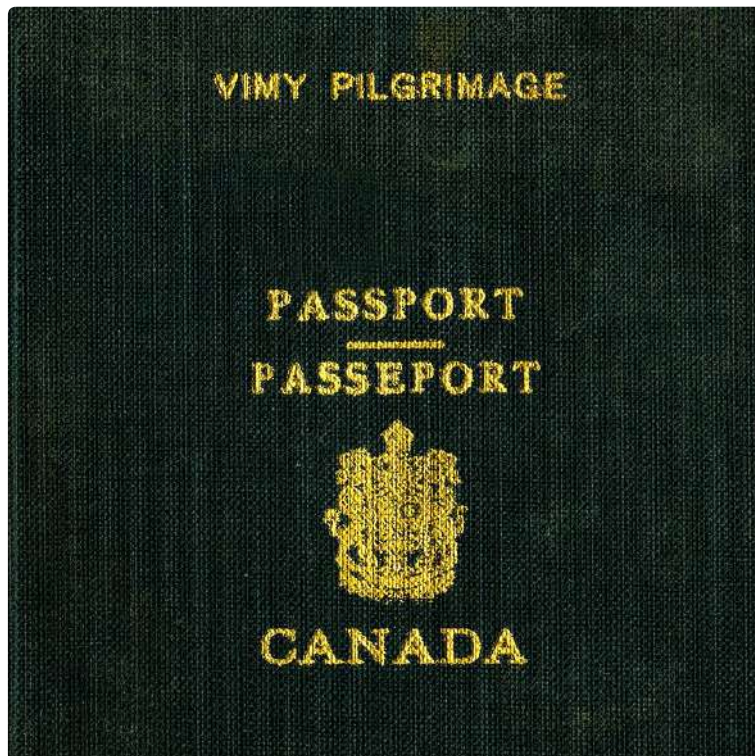
**World Passport Museum**



@passportmuseum

In 1936, Canada issued little over 6000 passports for Vimy pilgrimage to France to commemorate 11,000 soldiers who died during First World War

This is a very special passport known as 'Vimy passport'[cwgc.org/find/find-ceme...#VimyPassport](http://cwgc.org/find/find-ceme...#VimyPassport)  
[#Canada](#)



Oct 22, 2018

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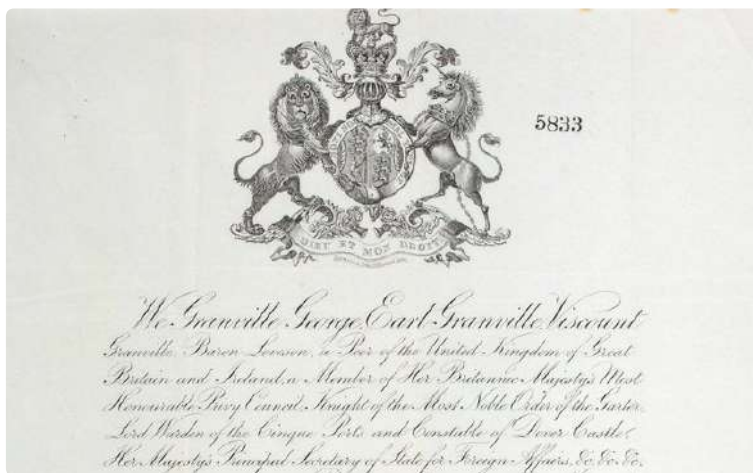
World Passport Museum Retweeted



**World Citizenship Council**

@wcccouncil

Rare and most valuable historical passports in the world for collectors[#citizenshipbyinvestment.ch/index.php/2018...#passport](https://citizenshipbyinvestment.ch/index.php/2018...#passport) [#passepport](https://twitter.com/passport)



Oct 22, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

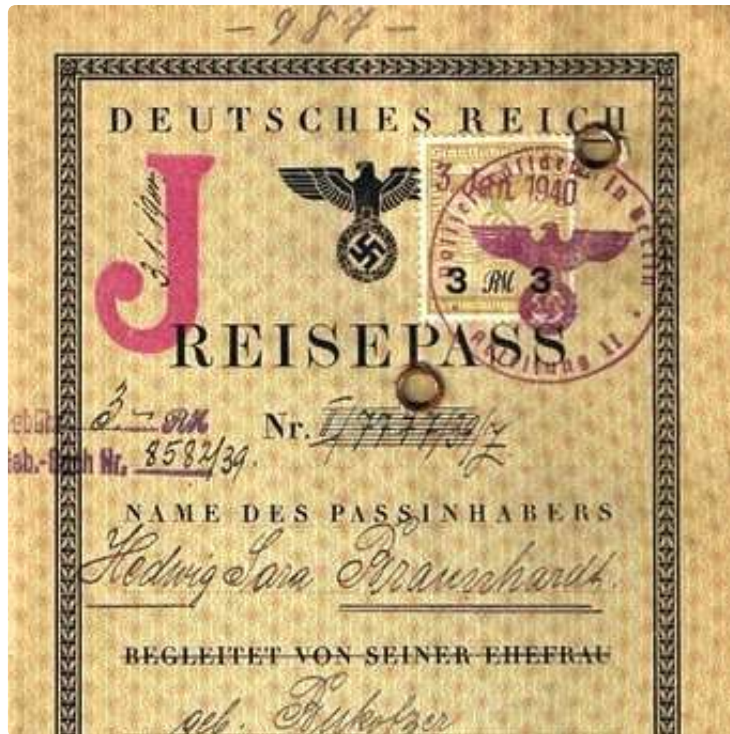
@passportmuseum

On October 5, 1938, Germany's Ministry of the Interior invalidates all passports held by Jews, became valid only after letter "J" has been stamped.

By autumn 1938, all Jewish passports were stamped with red letter "J" for Jew.



German passports with J are rare collectibles.



Oct 22, 2018



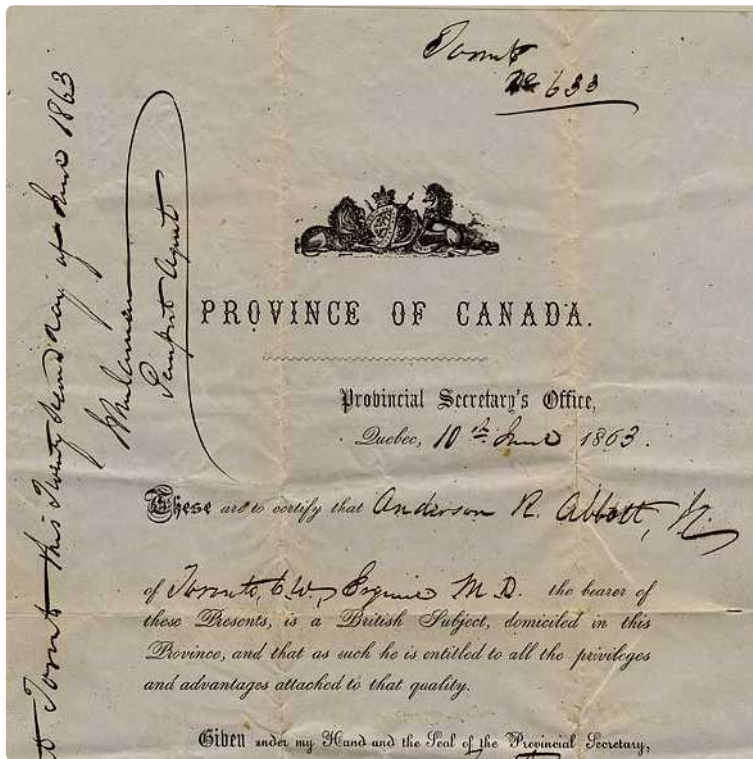
**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The First Canadian passports were issued in 1862 following the outbreak of the American Civil War when US demanded identity. These were called 'Letter of Request' from Governor General of Canada until 1915

Below is the 1863 Canadian  
[#Passportbuxtonmuseum.co](https://www.passportbuxtonmuseum.co)

m/history/PEOPLE...#Canada



Oct 21, 2018



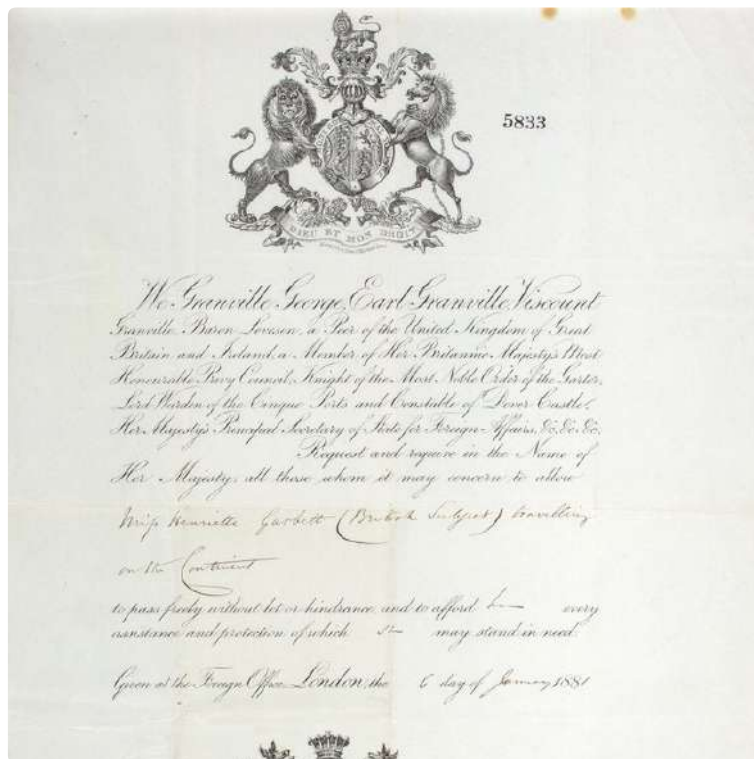
## World Passport Museum

@passportmuseum

A Rare British passport dated 1881 issued to British subject to travel on the Continent.

This [#passport](#) was issued by Foreign Office in London. It is held in Victoria Museum Australia [collections.museumvictoria.com.au/items/71793](https://collections.museumvictoria.com.au/items/71793)





Oct 21, 2018



## World Passport Museum

@passportmuseum

French passport issued in 1780 signed by Foreign minister Vergennes during King Louis XVI last king of france who was guillotined in 1793.

This [#passport](#) was issued to Dr Broussonet, a professor and physician for travel to England.

- British



Oct 21, 2018



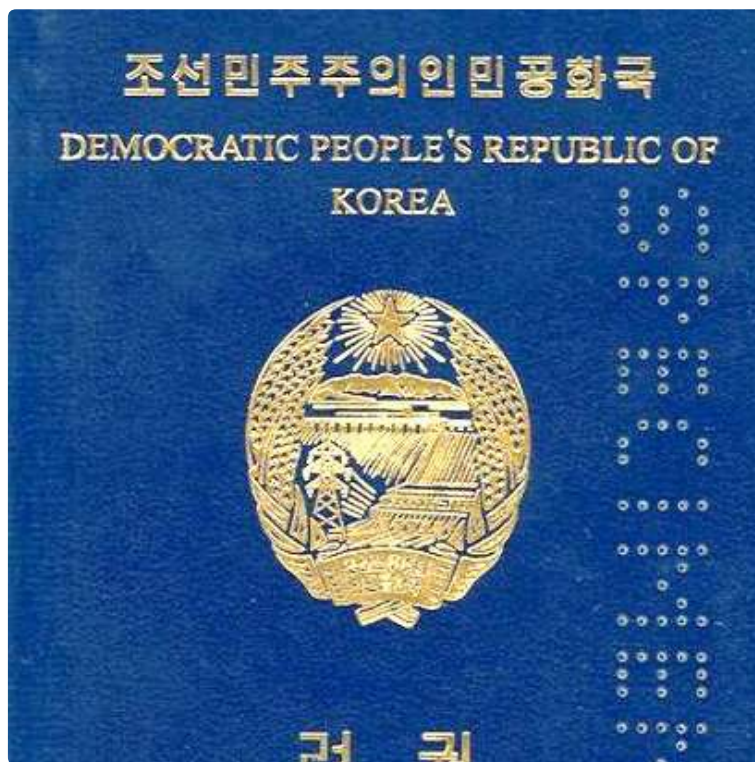
**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

North Korean (DPRK)

passports were first issued in the 1950s. Since majority of North Koreans do not get opportunities to leave their country, these passports are very rare.

North Korean passport has visa free access 42 countries as of 2018[#passport](#)



Oct 20, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

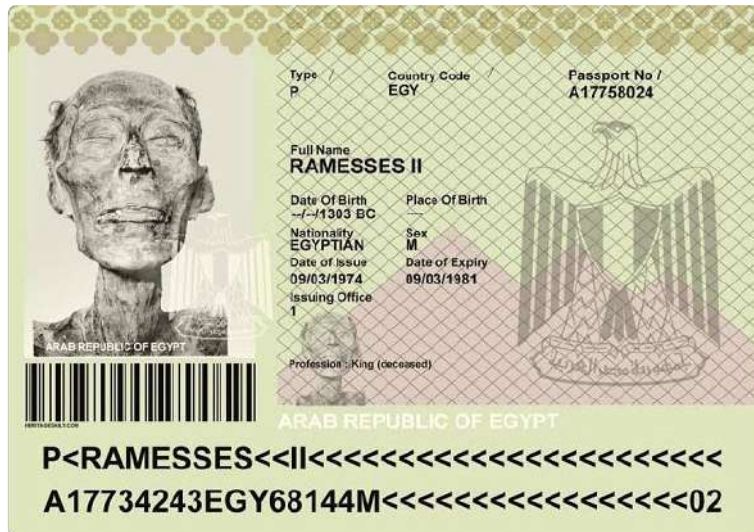
In [#Egypt](#) anyone leaving the country, living or dead, need to have a [#passport](#). Ramses II is the first [#mummy](#) to receive passport to fly to Paris in 1974.

Occupation: King  
(deceased)

Date of Birth: 1303 BC

Nationality:

Egyptian [vintag.es/2018/10/ramses...](http://vintag.es/2018/10/ramses...)



Oct 20, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Well before paper passports, Africans used colorful masks to identify their tribes when traveling across the continent. These were called 'passport masks'.

Passports were not always paper based like we believe today. [#Africa #Passport](https://www.arts-are-essential.org/saproject06/le...#Africa)







Oct 20, 2018

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World Passport Museum Retweeted



**CitizenshipJournal**

@CIPjournal

Why a museum for  
passports?[passportmuseum.  
org/why-a-museum-  
f...#museum #passports  
#history](https://passportmuseum.org/why-a-museum-f...)



Oct 20, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

This is Adolf Hitler's fake  
passport made in 1941, kept  
at National Archives in the

at National Archives in the UK.

Fake passports are usually very valuable and collectible items [#nationalarchives.gov.uk/museum/item.as...#fakepassport](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/museum/item.as...#fakepassport) [#passport](#)



Oct 20, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Replying to @passportmuseum

Says here reference is from  
hebrew bible

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passpo  
rt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passport)

Oct 19, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

The History of the Hungarian



the history of the Hungarian  
"passport" begins sometime  
under the reign of St.  
Stephen. The first written  
record of entering and  
verifying foreigners into the  
country is found in the first  
book of Saint Lawrence  
(1077-1095)

1922 Hungarian passport

\*World Passport Museum  
exhibit



Oct 19, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Schutz-Pass or protective  
passports issued by sweden  
to hungarian jews during  
Holocaust

Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg in 1944 issued 10,000 Schutz-Passes (wallenberg passports) which are invalid with great risk. His heroic actions saved tens of thousands of hungarian jews.



Oct 19, 2018



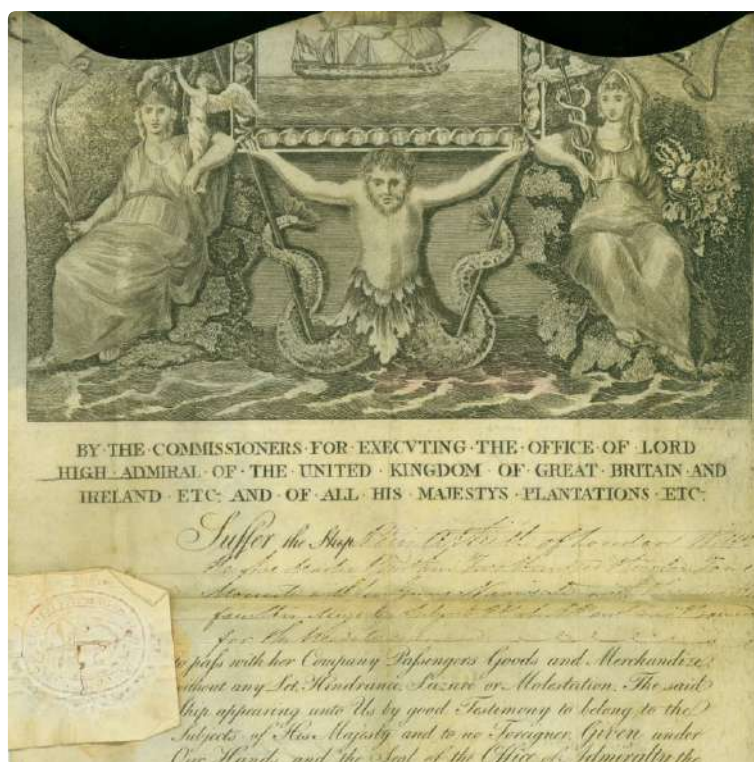
**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Another Mediterranean  
British passport issued to  
Brig Athille Ship to pass  
through mediterranean sea  
in 1814

Naval sea passports are extremely valuable and very rare

[catalog.archives.gov/id/7364550/2/p...#passports](https://catalog.archives.gov/id/7364550/2/p...#passports)  
[#navalpassport](#)



Oct 18, 2018



**World Passport Museum**

@passportmuseum

Mediterranean Passports were issued to American ships in 1786 and 1836 provided protection from attack by ships in Mediterranean sea.

This one below is a blank  
naval passport issued  
between 1802-1840  
[catalog.archives.gov/id/594976#passport](https://catalog.archives.gov/id/594976#passport) #History



Oct 18, 2018

World Passport Museum Retweeted



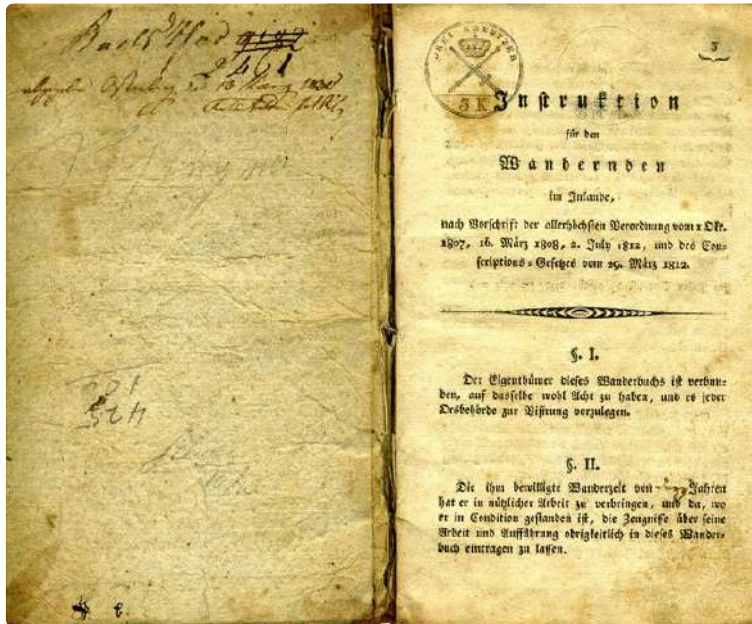
**Jewish Museum of MD**

@jewishmuseummd

#TravelTuesday from the  
JMM Collections: German  
internal travel passport for  
Jacob Abraham Bachrach,  
1820-1837. JMM  
1991.147.11. Unfortunately,  
we don't appear to have any



other materials related to Mr.  
Bachrach in the collections!



Oct 16, 2018

World Passport Museum Retweeted



**CitizenshipJournal**

@CIPjournal

Rare and most valuable  
passports in the world from  
history

[citizenshipbyinvestment.ch/  
index.php/2018...](https://citizenshipbyinvestment.ch/index.php/2018...) #passport





Oct 17, 2018



## World Passport Museum

@passportmuseum

Nansen passports were first issued by the League of Nations from 1922 to 1938 to stateless refugees. This little known passport saved 450,000 lives [livesatlasobscura.com/article/s/nanse...](https://livesatlasobscura.com/article/s/nanse...)

The Nansen international office for Refugees was awarded 1938 Nobel peace price. [#passport](#)





Oct 14, 2018



## World Passport Museum

@passportmuseum

Ancient Identity document:  
The most common document identifying a person in Ancient Rome was 'diploma', first issued in 52 AD

Roman citizenship of discharged soldiers was identified by 'military diploma'

This one is a military diploma from AD 80 inscribed in Bronze.





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This is Winston Churchill's US passport. He was awarded honorary US citizenship in 1963 [winstonchurchill.org/the-life-of-ch...](http://winstonchurchill.org/the-life-of-ch...)



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Antigua passport 1964  
British Passport - Colony of Antigua [passport-collection.com/antigua-1964#Antigua](http://passport-collection.com/antigua-1964#Antigua) #Passport





Oct 12, 2018



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