

# MoneyMarketing

**First for the professional personal financial adviser**

To add yourself to the voucher list of one of our magazine titles, please register your details by clicking the button below.

Navigation ☰

**Request Your Copy  
Here**

## Top benefits of citizenship by investment programmes

by **Janice Roberts** on December 4, 2015 in **Investing, News**



While the idea of a second passport may hold great appeal, when it comes to making the substantial investment required by residency and citizenship by investment programmes, the benefits have to be momentous in order for the investment to be deemed worthwhile. This is according to CEO of [Monarch&Co](#) – a company which offers residency and citizenship programmes, investment properties and capital investment opportunities in hand-picked territories around the world – James Bowling.

He explains that for each investor, different benefits of citizenship in different countries will hold varying degrees of appeal.

“The overriding advantage for many investors in these programmes is the fact that they will be eligible for citizenship in a country without having to emigrate, or having ancestral ties to that country,” he says.

“For this reason, economic citizenship, as it’s often referred to, holds great appeal for High Net Worth (HNW) and Ultra High Net Worth (UHNW) individuals, as they also often benefit from the return on their investment within these programmes in addition to gaining citizenship opportunities.”

Bowling highlights the top benefits for investors in citizenship by investment programmes as the following:

### **Lifestyle benefits**

Citizenship by investment programmes often provide the investor and their families with access to better basic services such as healthcare, education, security and transport.

“Cyprus, Portugal, Malta and the United Kingdom are all members of the European Union; meaning that a citizen in any one of these countries can live, work and study in any other EU country, which is considered to be a huge benefit to many,” says Bowling.

### **Financial benefits**

Bowling points out that some citizenship by investment programmes offer investors returns on their investment of up to 12% and sometimes a buy-back guarantee once the investor qualifies for citizenship. “Not only does this reduce the risk of the investment, but it also allows investors, especially those from the African continent, to earn returns in a foreign – and often stronger – currency.”

### **Unrestricted travel**

Freedom of travel is one of the major benefits of these programmes, says Bowling who notes that many African passport holders incur huge inconveniences when travelling abroad because of the passport that they carry. “Visa applications can be a costly, time consuming and a generally frustrating procedure. Buying into a citizenship programme will eliminate the need to apply for visas as the programmes offered by Monarch&Co allow investors to travel visa-free to most countries in the world,” he explains.

### **Tax breaks**

Through gaining a second citizenship, investors are also often able to enjoy tax breaks as well as the possibility of improved personal and corporate tax exposure. “The extent of these benefits would depend on the new jurisdiction’s offering and incentives as well as where the investor decides their primary tax residence will be. Cyprus and Malta – and in the case of Africa, Mauritius – are countries that offer very attractive tax jurisdictions to citizens,” says Bowling.

While citizenship by investment applications can take time, the application process largely depends on how quickly the applicants can submit the necessary documentation. “The time taken for investors to receive their citizenship status varies, depending on the country and programme. For example, Grenadian and Cypriot citizenship investors can receive their passports within two to three months, while those who invested in Antigua and Barbuda can expect to receive their passports within three to six months. Other countries like Portugal and the USA can take up to six years before investors can apply for citizenship, however in these instances, investors still receive a great number of benefits in the years building up to their citizenship status, such as visa-free travel,” Bowling explains.

He concludes by saying that the time it takes to process these citizenship applications and the level of investment required have proven to be worthwhile for a number of high end investors, who are now reaping the financial and lifestyle advantages that these citizenship programmes offer.

---

### **Share this:**

[Twitter](#)[Facebook](#)[Google](#)[Email](#)[Print](#)



## About Janice Roberts

[View all posts by Janice Roberts →](#)

## Subscribe

Subscribe to our e-mail newsletter to receive updates.



### Related Posts:

[If the Rand remains weak, returns in foreign currency could boost investment portfolios](#)

[Advantages of Small Business Corporations](#)

[Taxation Laws Amendment Act cannot be postponed](#)

[Local CIS industry assets closing in on the R2 trillion mark](#)

[Hollard launches new car and home TV commercial](#)

 [Citizenship](#), [HNWI](#), [Monarch&Co](#), [offshore](#), [passport](#)

◀ [Tax harmonisation reforms of retirement funds will be implemented from 1 March 2016](#)

[SA on the lowest investment grade rung](#) ▶

**Comments are closed.**

Search...



# Budget 2016

...All you  
need to  
know

MoneyMarketing



# Holland.

Valid before 29 February 2016. The Holland Life Assurance Company Limited ( Reg no. 1993/001405/06 ) is a registered Long Term Insurer and an authorised Financial Services Provider.

INVEST WHERE THE  
**FUND MANAGERS**  
INVEST

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



**OLD MUTUAL**  
INVESTMENT GROUP

Licensed Financial Services Provider

## Follow us on Twitter

The #BMF congratulates Mr. Mzi Mgudlwa on his appointment as Chief Executive of #ENS [20 hours ago](#)

#Continental Reinsurance has announced a change in its shareholding structure, following

regulatory approval. [20 hours ago](#)

#Japan's economy shrank at an annualised rate of 1.4 percent in the fourth quarter of 2015 [23 hours ago](#)

RT @CNNAfrica: Uganda's @KiiraMotors unveils Africa's first solar-powered bus:  
<https://t.co/0foEv8IoS8> <https://t.co/VHwlHPVY1A> [23 hours ago](#) retweeted via [CNNAfrica](#)

RT @XHNews: #Japanese economy shrinks, is it an end for "#Abenomics"?  
<https://t.co/wjLWVxcLWz> <https://t.co/kQrcJgig2M> [23 hours ago](#) retweeted via [XHNews](#)

[Follow mmmagza on Twitter](#)

## Subscribe to our Newsletter

Subscribing...

Email: \*required

Name:

Surname:

Subscribe

LATEST

POPULAR

COMMENTS

TAGS



**If the Rand remains weak, returns in foreign currency could boost investment portfolios**  
FEBRUARY 15, 2016



**Budget 2016 – voice your views**  
FEBRUARY 11, 2016



**8 focus points of the budget speech 2016/1**  
FEBRUARY 11, 2016



**Advantages of Small Business Corporations**  
FEBRUARY 11, 2016



**2016 tax changes show need for closer HR and retirement fund administration alignment**  
FEBRUARY 11, 2016

## Financial Education

- [Test Your Knowledge](#)
- [Reading Lists](#)
- [Define A Term](#)
- [Training](#)
- [Subscribe to Money Marketing](#)

## Advice

- [Investing](#)
- [Financial Planning](#)
- [Manage your business](#)
- [Risk](#)
- [Shortterm Insurance](#)
- [Employee Benefits](#)
- [Communication & Technology](#)
- [Opinion](#)

## Recent Posts

- [If the Rand remains weak, returns in foreign currency could boost investment portfolios](#)
- [Budget 2016 – voice your views](#)
- [8 focus points of the budget speech 2016/1](#)
- [Advantages of Small Business Corporations](#)

## Tag Cloud

Budget 2011 Budget 2012 budget 2014 Budget 2015 compliance diversification economic  
outlook economy equities estate planning featured financial planning  
FNB inflation insurance investing investing for retirement investing in 2013 investing in 2014  
investing in 2015 Investing in Africa investing in equities investing in property investing offshore life  
cover life insurance long term insurance markets Medical aid motor vehicle insurance MTBS offshore  
investing RDR retirement retirement annuities retirement planning retirement reform risk SA  
economy saving saving for retirement savings month Short-term insurance  
tax wills

Home

News

Financial Planning

Financial Education

Directory

Archives

Sitemap

---

© Media24Business. All Rights Reserved

[Terms and Conditions](#) | [Register](#)

