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**News:** India climbs seven points to 80 on Passport Index; Singapore at top position

## **Henley Passport Index 2023**

- The Henley Passport Index is the **original ranking of all the world's passports according to the number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa.**
- The ranking is based on **exclusive data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA)**, which maintains the world's largest and most accurate database of travel information.
- It was launched **in 2006 and includes 199 different passports.**

### **Global Rankings**

- **Singapore ranked the first position** (which was earlier held by Japan) with **free access to 193 countries followed by** Germany, Italy and Spain occupied the 2<sup>nd</sup> position.
- The citizens **of Singapore are able to visit 192 travel destinations out of 227 around the world visa free.**

- Japan is sharing the third position along with Austria, Finland, France, Luxembourg, South Korea and Sweden.
- At the bottom of the Index were four countries for scoring zero for not permitting visa free access for any passport — namely, Afghanistan, North Korea, Papua New Guinea, and Turkmenistan.
- India rose to the 80<sup>th</sup> position from earlier 87<sup>th</sup> rank, with its passport holders allowed to travel visa-free to 60 countries.
- Henley & Partners also conducted an exclusive new research resulting in the Henley Openness Index which measures how many nations a country allows visa free access to. Here, India was ranked 94 out of a total of 97 ranks for allowing only four countries visa free access.