UK VISA REQUIREMENTS

ALL nationalities of the countries and territories listed below in red (underlined) need visas to enter or transit the UK.

ALL nationalities of the countries and territories listed below in black need visas to enter or transit the UK landside.

ALL visa nationals may transit the UK without a visa (TWOV) in certain circumstances. Please see below for details.

Airlines (where available):

Airside Transits: passengers who do not need to change airports and do not need to pass through the UK border. Passengers cannot transit AIRSIDE to the Republic of Ireland or anywhere within the common travel area.

Transit without visa (TWOV)

ALL visa nationals seeking to transit the United Kingdom AIRSIDE without a visa must:

(i) arrive and depart by air;
(ii) have a confirmed onward flight departing the same day from the same airport; and
(iii) hold the correct documents for their destination (e.g. a visa for that country if required).

A country with a valid entry visa to the United Kingdom under the Visa Waiver Program needs no visa.

A transit AIRSIDE to the Republic of Ireland (e.g. a connecting flight to Ireland) needs a visa.

A transit AIRSIDE to a country if required)

Nationalities of the countries shown in RED (underlined) above need a visa to transit AIRSIDE unless they hold one of the following:

(i) a valid visa for entry to Australia, Canada, New Zealand or the USA (whether the holder is travelling to or from these countries);
(ii) a visa for entry to Australia, Canada, New Zealand or the USA as part of a reasonable journey from a country in respect of which the visa is held and it is less than 6 months since the holder last entered that country with a valid entry visa;
(iii) a valid permanent residence permit issued by:
   (a) Australia;
   (b) Canada, issued after 28 June 2002; or
   (c) New Zealand.

(iv) a valid United States visa endorsed BC or BC B of Ireland provided it is less than 3 months since the holder last entered there;
(v) an Irish biometric visa endorsed BC or BC B of Ireland provided it is less than 3 months since the holder last entered there;
(vi) a valid immigration Form 155A/155B (attached to a sealed brown envelope); or
(vii) a valid US immigrant visa endorsed with a US arrival stamp (a wet ink/ADT stamp version will NOT be accepted by UK border control); or an expired I-551 Permanent Residence card provided it is accompanied by a valid I-797 letter authorising extension; or a standadised US immigration Form I55A/155B (attached to a sealed brown envelope); or
(viii) a valid common format category D visa for entry to an EEA state or Switzerland; or
(ix) a valid Irish biometric visa endorsed BC or BC BIVS (in order to transit to a destination other than the Republic of Ireland or the Common Travel Area); or
(x) a valid Schengen Agreement Destination Scheme (ADS) group tourism visa where the holder is travelling TO the country that issued it; or
(xi) a valid airline ticket F/F/H for the Schengen area; provided the holder can demonstrate they entered there no more than 30 days previously on the basis of a valid Schengen ADS visa.

N.B. E-visas or e-residence permits are not acceptable unless the airline is able to verify it with the issuing country.

The decision to allow a passenger to transit without a visa (TWOV) under the scheme is decided by an immigration officer at the UK border.

UK permanent residents

If a visa national is permanently resident in the UK they do not need a visa, as long as they return to the UK within two years of their last departure.

Passengers with the right of abode in the UK

If a visa national has a ‘certificate of entitlement to the right of abode’ label in their valid passport they do not need a visa.

Holders of non-national refugee travel documents

If the passenger holds a refugee travel document issued by the UK they do not need a visa. If the passenger holds any other non-national or refugee travel document they need to enter a visa into the UK. Whether holders of non-national and refugee travel documents require a direct airside transit visa (DATV) depends on their original nationality, and whether they qualify for one of the exemptions listed above. Persons recognised as stateless under the 1954 UN Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons are not required to hold a DATV and may transit without a visa. See note.

A seaman travelling on a seagoing, who is a visa national (including those in transit through the UK) does not need a visa if he holds a valid seaman’s book issued by one of these countries which also contains a statement that it is issued under ILIO8 (or convention of 1958) or ILIO85, having previously ratified ILIO8 (or convention of 2003): Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bermuda, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova (Republic of), Montserrat, Morocco, Namibia, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Seychelles, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Sweden, Tanzania, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom (including the Falkland Islands and Gibraltar), Uruguay. The seaman does not need to be a national of the country that issued the document.

If in doubt please telephone one of the numbers below for advice.

Belfast Airport…………………………………+44 28 944 84323
Birmingham Airport Terminal 3…………………………………+44 20 8745 6920
Bournemouth………………………………+44 1202 578233
Bristol Airport………………………………+44 20 8745 7470
Cardiff………………………………………+44 1446 713920
East Midlands Airport…………………………………+44 1332 442095
Edinburgh Airport………………………………+44 20 8745 6920
Exeter Airport………………………………+44 1392 366492
Galway Airport………………………………+44 1293 501080
Glasgow Airport………………………………+44 141 947 5300
Halifax Docks…………………………………+44 1259 509070
Heathrow Airport Terminal 2………………………………++44 20 8745 6920
Heathrow Airport Terminal 3………………………………++44 20 8745 6920
Liverpool Airport………………………………+44 151 448 1448
London City Airport………………………………….+44 20 8745 6920
London Luton Airport……………………………….+44 1582 877080
Manchester Airport Terminal 2………………………………++44 161 489 2406
Manchester Airport Terminal 3………………………………++44 161 489 2389
Newcastle Airport………………………………++44 191 214 4500 / 4382
Newquay Docks…………………………………+44 20 8745 6920
Portsmouth Docks………………………………+44 20 8745 6920
Prestwick……………………………………+44 05029 478670
Robin Hood Airport…………………………..+44 1302 523200
Southend Airport………………………………………+44 1302 523200
Stansted Airport………………………………….+44 1279 338809
Weston Super Mare Airport………………………………+44 20 8745 6920

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