UK VISA REQUIREMENTS

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

The information on this poster was correct Sept 2020

ALL the nationalities of the countries and territories listed below in black need visas to enter or transit the UK landside. All visas may transit the UK without a visa (TOWV) in certain circumstances. Please see below for details.

UK VISA REQUIREMENTS

1. Nationals of the countries and territories listed below in red (underlined) need a visa for entry to Australia, Canada, New Zealand or the USA and a valid destination Scheme (ADS) group entry document issued by one of these countries (e.g. a

2. Nationals of the countries and territories listed below in black (underlined) need to hold the correct documents for entry, or are exempt from the visa requirement.

Airside Transit (where available):
Airside transit passengers are those 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 (TOWV):
ALL visa nationals seeking to transit the United Kingdom AIRSIDE without a visa must:

- (i) land at an approved seaport
- (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)

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

(a) a valid visa for entry to Australia, Canada, New Zealand or the USA (whether or not the holder is travelling to or from these countries); or
(b) a visa for entry to Australia, Canada, New Zealand or the USA as part of a reasonable journey to or from the 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 visa entry document.

(iv) a valid temporary residence permit issued by:

- (a) Australia
- (b) Canada, issued after 28 June 2002
- (c) New Zealand
- (d) USA issued after 21 April 1998; or a valid US immigrant visa endorsed with a US arrival stamp (a wet-ink/ADIT 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 standalone US Immigration Form 155A/155B (attached to a sealed brown envelope); or
- (v) a valid common format residence permit issued by an EEA state or Switzerland; or
- (vi) a valid Schengen Schengen Approved Destination Scheme (ADS) visa for entry to the Republic of Ireland or the Common Travel Area; or
- (vii) a valid Irish biometric visa endorsed BC or BC BIVS (in transit to or from a country other than the Republic of Ireland or the Common Travel Area) or
- (viii) a valid Schengen Approved Destination Scheme (ADS) group entry document issued by one of the EEA states or Switzerland.

Transit without visa (TOWV):
ALL visa nationals seeking to transit the United Kingdom LANDSIDE 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)

Nationalities of ALL countries (RED [underlined] and BLACK above) need a visa to transit LANDSIDE unless they hold one of the following:

(a) a valid visa for entry to Australia, Canada, New Zealand or the USA as part of a reasonable journey to the UK or transit the UK as part of a reasonable journey FROM that country; or
- (ii) a valid visa for entry to Australia, Canada, New Zealand or the USA as part of a reasonable journey FROM that country; or
- (iii) a valid airside transit visa (TWOV) for entry to the UK as part of a reasonable journey FROM that country; or
- (iv) an Italian biometric visa endorsed BC or BC BIVS and travelling TO the Republic of Ireland; or
- (v) an Irish biometric visa endorsed BC or BC BIVS and travelling FROM the Republic of Ireland provided it is less than 3 months since the holder last entered there.

In doubt please telephone one of the numbers below for advice

FOR ALL ENQUIRIES contact:

- (a) Australia: +61 2 8467 0500
- (b) Canada: +1 604 669 1199
- (c) New Zealand: +64 9 357 3500
- (d) USA: +1 800 874 2468

 Further information on requirements for transit to the USA is available at: www.dhs.gov/travel-transit

Airside Transit: Airside transit passengers are those 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. 

Landside Transit: Landside transit passengers are those who wish to pass through the UK border and enter the UK (e.g. to change airport, to collect baggage or arrive at airports where no airside transfer is possible). 

UK border requirements

If a 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 passport is valid for entry to Australia, Canada, New Zealand or the USA and a valid destination Scheme (ADS) group entry document issued by one of these countries (e.g. a

Passengers with the right of abode in the UK

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

Homestays

If the holder holds a homestay permit issued by the UK they do not need a visa. If the passenger holds any other non-national or refugee travel documents they need a visa to enter the UK. Whether holders of non-national and refugee travel documents require a direct airside transit visa (DATV) depends on their national 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 airside without a visa.

Seamen

A seaman travelling on duty, who is a national visa national as those in transit through the UK (UK) does not need a visa if he holds a valid seaman’s book issued by one of these countries which also contains their right of residence and public affairs passport. 

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 documents they need a visa to enter the UK. Whether holders of non-national and refugee travel documents require a direct airside transit visa (DATV) depends on their national 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 airside without a visa.

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