



British  
Consulate-General  
Madrid

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# Certificate of No Impediment<sup>1</sup> including same-sex marriage Application Pack

Prepared by  
British Consulate-General Madrid

In this pack you will find:

1. Application Form (page 3-4)
2. Notice of Marriage – You must sign the Notice of Marriage in front of a local Notary Public in Spain (page 5)
3. Affirmation – You must sign the Affirmation in front of a local Notary Public in Spain (page 7)
4. Frequently Asked Questions (page 9-10)
5. Checklist of Supporting Documents, Postage Instructions and Payment Information (page 11-12)

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<sup>1</sup> **This application pack CANNOT be used for Unión/Pareja de Hecho registration.**  
Please refer to our website <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/notarial-and-documentary-services-guide-for-spain>

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# 1. APPLICATION FORM

## Notice of Marriage (NOM) and Certificate of No Impediment (CNI)

[You must complete every section of this form]

### INFORMATION ABOUT YOU

1. Applicant's full name(s) and surname(s): *Need help? See Frequently Asked Questions on pages 9-10*

2. Current residential address including town, province and postcode:

Town	Province	Postcode

3. Contact telephone number(s):

4. Email:

5. Applicant's gender:

Female

Male

6. Applicant's marital status: *Need help? See Frequently Asked Questions on pages 9-10*

Single

Divorced (if you are divorced, you are **not** single)

Widowed

Dissolved Civil Partnership

Annulled Civil Partnership

### INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR MARRIAGE:

7. Place of intended marriage (name of town)

8. Name of the authority in Spain (civil registry, notary, court, etc.) requesting the certificate from the British consulate:

9. Date of appointment to submit paperwork to the authority in Spain where you are getting married

If you have not made an appointment, write an approximate date

MANDATORY FIELD

*See Frequently Asked Question no. 12 on page 10 for information on certificate expiry*

[MONTH / YEAR]

10. Date of intended marriage (an approximate month and year are required (e.g. December 2023))

MANDATORY FIELD

[MONTH / YEAR]

### INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PARTNER

[Please note that if your partner is a UK national they must also submit their own fully completed, separate application]

11. Partner's full name:

12. Partner's nationality

13. Partner's gender

Female

Male

14. Partner's marital status: *Need help? See Frequently Asked Questions on pages 9-10*

Single

Divorced (if you are divorced, you are **not** single)

Widowed

Dissolved Civil Partnership

Annulled Civil Partnership

Divorced (if you are divorced, you are **not** single)

## DELIVERY ADDRESS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

**11. Getting your certificate:** Your **Certificate of No Impediment** and original documents will be sent to you by courier or by registered post to an address in Spain. Write the **full name, contact telephone number and postal address** (including postcode) of the person receiving the documents.  
**(\*\*Please note: DHL will not deliver to a PO Box address (apartado de correos)\*\*)**

Details of the person receiving the documents	Name	Surname
	NIE/TIE/DNI number of the person above (Only applicable to applicants in Canary Islands for courier service purposes):	
Postal address (Spain)	Address	Town
	Province	Postcode
Contact tel. number (Spain)		

## CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

We welcome your views on the **Certificate of No Impediment** service. If you agree to be contacted by answering "Yes" below, you will be consenting to share your personal data - name, email address, telephone number and service received - with our independent partner research agency, IFF Research. You may withdraw your consent at any stage by emailing

[Consular.research@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:Consular.research@fcdo.gov.uk). For more details on how your data will be handled in relation to feedback please see the [research privacy policy](http://www.gov.uk/fcdo/tell-fcdo) at [www.gov.uk/fcdo/tell-fcdo](http://www.gov.uk/fcdo/tell-fcdo).

Can our partner contact you for feedback to help improve this service?	Yes	No
If <b>yes</b> , how do you prefer to be contacted?	Phone	Email

## Disclaimer

*"I understand and accept that it is my responsibility to ensure that any document provided as a result of this consular service is acceptable to the requesting authority and that if the document is to be presented outside of the UK or Spain, the signature of the Consular Officer will be recognised by the requesting authority. Refunds cannot be given where the incorrect service is requested. I request the British Consulate-General in Madrid to accept receipt of my Marital Status Certificate application by courier/post and I request that my Marital Status Certificate and any original documents are returned to me by courier registered post. I understand and accept that if my application is sent back to me for any reason, I will be charged for postage. In doing so, I fully understand and accept that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office assumes no legal or other responsibility for any loss, damage or misplacement of the said property whilst in transit to or from the British Consulate-General in Madrid.*

*Entiendo y acepto que es mi responsabilidad asegurarme que el documento objeto de este servicio consular y la firma del Oficial Consular serán reconocidos en el país y por la autoridad que requiere el mismo. Los servicios notariales solicitados incorrectamente no serán reembolsados. Por el presente, pido al Consulado-General Británico en Madrid que acepte mi solicitud de Certificado de Estado Civil por mensajero/correo y que el Certificado de Estado Civil y los documentos originales me sean devueltos por mensajero/correo certificado. Entiendo y acepto que, si mi solicitud es devuelta por cualquier motivo, se me cobrarán los gastos de envío. Con esta petición entiendo y acepto que la Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office no asume ninguna responsabilidad legal por la pérdida, daños o extravío de los documentos arriba mencionados durante el transporte desde o hacia el Consulado-General Británico en Madrid".*

Signature ..... Date .....

**[Notary signature & seal not required here]**

Need help? See Frequently Asked Questions on pages 9-10

## 2. NOTICE OF MARRIAGE/PUBLICACIÓN DE EDICTOS

**This page requires a signature and official seal of a Spanish Public Notary which can be placed on the back of the page**

To the Registration Officer at the British Consulate-General in Madrid

I HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE, that a marriage under the local law of Spain is intended to be had at ..... (town) on ..... (date of marriage must show at least month and year, e.g. December 2023) between me and the other Party herein named and described (that is to say):

Al Oficial de Registro en el Consulado-General Británico en Madrid, España

POR LA PRESENTE, doy aviso de que está previsto celebrar un matrimonio según la legislación española

en ..... (Población) el ..... (fecha prevista del matrimonio por ej. diciembre de 2023) entre yo y el/la otro/a contrayente, ambos abajo mencionados (es decir):

<b>FULL NAME AND SURNAME NOMBRE Y APELLIDO</b> <small>1st row: Applicant's details 2nd row: Future spouse's details</small>	<b>NATIONALITY NACIONALIDAD</b>	<b>CONDITION* ESTADO CIVIL* MARITAL STATUS*</b>	<b>GENDER SEXO</b>	<b>DATE OF BIRTH FECHA DE NACIMIENTO</b>	<b>LOCAL SPANISH ADDRESS DIRECCIÓN EN ESPAÑA</b> <small>Including street, house/flat number, city/town and postcode</small>

[\* Bachelor, spinster or single, divorced, widowed, surviving partner of a civil partnership, previous civil partnership/same-sex marriage dissolved/annulled, or otherwise]

[\* Soltero/a, divorciado/a, viudo/a, pareja supérstite de unión civil, unión civil ha sido disuelta/anulada, o similar]

Witness my hand, this ..... day of ..... 20..... / En testimonio de lo cual firmo este ..... día de ..... 20.....

**(Signature of British national giving notice) /  
(Firma del nacional británico)**

**(Firma y sello oficial del Notario Público)  
(Signature and official seal of Notary Public) /**

.....

.....

For office use only: B/U ..... NO IMPEDIMENT SHOWN: ..... page 5

[PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK FOR NOTARY SIGNATURE & SEAL]

### 3. AFFIRMATION / DECLARACIÓN SOLEMNE

**This page requires a signature and official seal of a Spanish Public Notary which can be placed on the back of the page**

I, (All names and surnames as they appear in your **British passport**)  
Yo, (Todos los nombres propios y apellidos según como aparecen en el pasaporte británico)

of (Address in Spain) / de (Dirección en España, según aparece en los Edictos incluyendo ciudad y provincia)

**Do solemnly and sincerely affirm** as follows / **Declaro de forma solemne y sincera** lo siguiente:-

1) A marriage is proposed to be solemnised between me and (All names as they appear in his/her passport/national ID document) / *Me propongo contraer matrimonio con (Todos los nombres propios según aparecen en el pasaporte/document de identidad)*

of (usual address, as it appears on the Notice of Marriage document including town and province) / *de (dirección habitual, según aparece en los Edictos incluyendo ciudad y provincia)*

2) I believe that there is not any impediment by reason of kindred or alliance, or other lawful hindrance to the above marriage. / *Considero que no existe impedimento alguno por motivos de consanguinidad, alianza ni ninguna otra limitación legal para el matrimonio propuesto.*

3) I have for three days immediately preceding this date had my usual residence within the district of the British Embassy in Madrid. / *Hasta la fecha de hoy, he estado físicamente presente durante tres días en el distrito de la Embajada Británica en Madrid.*

**4) (Delete as appropriate) / (Tache lo que no corresponde)**

- I am not under the age of 18 years. / *No soy menor de edad.*
- [or I am under the age of 18 years, but the consent of the persons whose consent to the marriage is required by law has been obtained.] / *[o soy menor de edad pero se ha obtenido el consentimiento de las personas cuyo consentimiento para el matrimonio se requiere por ley.]*
- [or I am under the age of 18 years, but there is no person whose consent to the marriage is required by law.] / *[o soy menor de edad pero no existe ninguna persona cuyo consentimiento para el matrimonio se requiera por ley.]*

**Signed** at a Notary Public / **Firmado** ante Notario Público

This ..... day of ..... 20..... / A fecha de ..... de ..... de 20.....

Before me/Ante mí

**(Signature and official seal of Notary Public/**  
Firma y sello del Notario Público

**(Signature of deponent /**  
Firma de declarante)

X ..... X .....

[PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK FOR NOTARY SIGNATURE & SEAL]



### 3. HOW TO COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION FORM

FAQ no.	FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
1	<p><b>Q. My name(s) and/or surname(s) are not the same in my passport as in my birth certificate. Which name(s) and surname(s) do I include in the Notice of Marriage and Affirmation documents and also the application form?</b></p> <p>A. In the first row of the Notice of Marriage document you must include YOUR name and surname exactly as they appear in your <b>British Passport</b>. In the second row you must include your future spouse's details as they appear in his/her <b>Passport/National Identity Document</b>.</p>
2	<p><b>Q. I will not be given a date for my wedding until after I submit my papers to the civil registry. What date do I include in the Notice of Marriage document and my application form?</b></p> <p>A. You <b>must include</b> your intended date of marriage. An approximate month and year <b>must</b> be included (e.g. December-2023) otherwise, we cannot issue a Certificate of No Impediment. If you do not provide this information, you will be required to complete a new Notice of Marriage and Affirmation before a Notary Public.</p>
3	<p><b>Q. What is my marital status if I have registered a “<i>Pareja de Hecho/ Unión de Hecho</i>” in Spain?</b></p> <p>A. Spanish “<i>Pareja de Hecho/Unión de Hecho</i>” registration can roughly be described as registering a common-law relationship. This means you have registered your cohabitation with your partner with the local Spanish authorities (usually town hall/council) but this is not the same as registering a same-sex or opposite-sex marriage at a Spanish civil registry. When you register your cohabitation with a person of the same-sex or opposite sex with the local Spanish town hall/council, <b>the registration <u>does not</u> affect your marital status</b>.</p> <p><u>If you were single/divorced/widowed at the time of registering your cohabitation with the local Spanish town hall/council your marital status remains the same during your cohabitation and also after cancelling your cohabitation registration.</u></p> <p><b>Cohabitation registration is not UK Civil Partnership.</b> Cohabitation registration in Spain is regulated by the local, usually Autonomous Community authorities, therefore the regulations and your rights may differ depending on where you reside.</p>
4	<p><b>Q. Do all the pages in my application form require the signature, seal and “<i>Legitimación de Firma</i>” (written verification of your signature) by the Notary Public in Spain?</b></p> <p>NO, the Notary Public only needs to provide the “<i>Legitimación de Firma</i>” (written verification of your signature) on 2 pages; on the Notice of Marriage (page 5) and again on the Affirmation (page 7).</p>
5	<p><b>Q. The Notary Public wants to provide the “<i>Acta de Manifestaciones</i>” service as well as the “<i>Legitimación de Firma</i>” (written verification of your signature). Is this necessary?</b></p> <p>A. NO, we only require the two “<i>Legitimaciones de Firma</i>” as mentioned above. Please ask the Notary NOT to bind your application form and photocopied documents to the Notice of Marriage and Affirmation, otherwise we will not be able to process your application.</p>
6	<p><b>Q. Do all the pages in the application form require the signature, seal and “<i>Legitimación de Firma</i>” (written verification of your signature) by the Notary Public in Spain?</b></p> <p>A. NO, ONLY the Affirmation document page X requires the signature, seal and “<i>Legitimación de Firma</i>”.</p>
7	<p><b>Q. The Notary Public wants to provide an “<i>Acta de Manifestaciones</i>” a full notarial act of several pages as well the “<i>Legitimación de Firma</i>” (written verification of your signature) and stamps and seals on the Affirmation. Is this necessary?</b></p> <p>A. No, we only require a “<i>Legitimación de Firma</i>” on the Affirmation (written verification of your signature) on the Affirmation at the bottom of the page or on the reverse side of the Affirmation. Please ask the Notary NOT to bind your application form to your Affirmation.</p>
8	<p><b>Q. Can I sign the Notice of Marriage and Affirmation documents before a judge, lawyer, civil registry or at the town hall?</b></p> <p>A. NO, you can only these documents before a Notary Public in Spain.</p>
9	<p><b>Q. Does the Certificate of No Impediment need to be translated into Spanish?</b></p> <p>A. NO, the Certificate of No Impediment is issued in Spanish.</p>
10	<p><b>Q. Does the Certificate of No Impediment need to be legalised (i.e. with an apostille)?</b></p> <p>A. NO, and this is stated in the Certificate of No Impediment.</p>
11	<p><b>Q. Does my Spanish marriage need to be registered in the UK?</b></p> <p>A. NO, it is not possible or necessary to register your marriage either in the UK or at a British consulate.</p>

12	<b>Q. When does the Certificate of No Impediment expire?</b>
	A. The Spanish authorities usually consider that certificates expire 3 months after the date of issue. Therefore, you must apply for the appropriate consular certificates approximately just 3 months before your civil registry appointment date when you hand in your documents to arrange a wedding date or, the date of your actual wedding ceremony if you are holding a religious ceremony first and registering the marriage at the civil registry afterwards.
13	<b>Q. How long will it take to get my Certificate of No Impediment?</b>
	A. The process can take up to 30 working days. However, if you provide a fully completed application with all the correct, required supporting documents, we will process your application much sooner.
14	<b>Q. What other documents do I need to get married in Spain?</b>
	A. You must check with the local authority where you are getting married in Spain to confirm which documents you need to get married. The British Consulate-General in Madrid provides two consular certificates for British nationals who are getting married in Spain: 1. <b>Marital Status Certificate</b> and 2. <b>Certificate of No Impediment</b> . <u>The local authority <b>must</b> confirm which certificate you require. In some cases they may require both.</u>
	<b>Q. I'm applying from Barcelona city (not the province), do they accept Certificates of No Impediment there?</b>
15.	A. In May 2019, the Ministry of Justice in Barcelona confirmed that the Central Civil Registry in Barcelona City does not accept Certificates of No Impediment. They only accept Marital Status Certificates. You can find the Marital Status Certificate application pack on our website <a href="http://www.gov.uk/marriage-abroad">www.gov.uk/marriage-abroad</a> .

## 4. CHECKLIST FOR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION, POSTAGE & PAYMENT

**You MUST send us the following documents and read the following information in order to fill out your application form, Affirmation and Notice of Marriage correctly**

APPLICATION & SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	<p><b>APPLICATION FORM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>pages 2-3 <b>fully completed, signed and dated</b></li> </ul>	
2	<p><b>NOTICE OF MARRIAGE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully completed and signed by you in front of a <u>Notary Public in Spain</u>. The Notary MUST provide you with a "<b>Legitimación de Firma</b>" (written verification of your signature) on the document. We <b>DON'T</b> need an "<i>Acta de Manifestaciones</i>" (i.e. a notarial act in a bundle of documents).</li> </ul> <p><b>All your details should be exactly as they appear in your passport.</b></p> <p><b>Please note:</b> the Notice of Marriage document <u>will not be sent back to you</u>. It will be kept indefinitely in the British Consulate-General in Madrid as a permanent record of your intention to marry. This process is in accordance with the Consular Marriages and Marriages under Foreign Law (No.2) Order 2014.</p>	
3	<p><b>AFFIRMATION / DECLARACIÓN SOLEMNE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully completed and signed by you in front of a <u>Notary Public in Spain</u>. The Notary MUST provide you with a "<b>Legitimación de Firma</b>" (written verification of your signature) on the document.</li> <li>We <b>DO NOT</b> need an "<i>Acta de Manifestaciones</i>" (i.e. a notarial act in a bundle of documents).</li> </ul>	
4	<p><b>PASSPORT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A photocopy of the details page of your current valid <b>British passport</b></li> </ul>	
5	<p><b>FUTURE SPOUSE'S PASSPORT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A photocopy of the details page of your future spouse's <b>valid passport</b> or national identity document</li> </ul>	
6	<p><b>PROOF OF ADDRESS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>If you are resident in Spain:</b> a photocopy of your "<i>Certificado de Empadronamiento</i>" (<b>town hall registration certificate</b>) issued at least 3 natural days previously, which includes your <b>current residential address</b>, OR a photocopy of your <b>Spanish residence certificate/card</b> or <b>TIE photo card</b> which includes your <b>current residential address</b>. <b>PLEASE NOTE: In either case the address you include in your Notice of Marriage must match the address in your TIE/Residence Certificate/ townhall registration certificate.</b></li> <li><b>If you are not resident in Spain:</b> proof that you have been in Spain for at least <b>3 full days</b> immediately before signing your Notice of Marriage and Affirmation in front of a Notary. For example <b>a copy of the flight information, your boarding pass and proof of the address</b> where you are staying in Spain e.g. hotel bill or letter from person/family member you are staying with and a <b>copy of their passport or national identity document</b>.</li> </ul>	
7	<p><b>DIVORCED, WIDOWED, DISSOLVED / ANNULLED OR SURVIVING PARTNER OF A CIVIL PARTNERSHIP</b></p>	

- If you or your future spouse have been married before and are now **divorced**, your/their **original decree absolute**). We do not need to see details of the divorce agreement settlement (in Spain *convenio regulador de divorcio*) we only need proof that the divorce is final and absolute (“*Sentencia firme*”).
- If you or your future spouse got married in Spain to a Spanish national a note is made of your/their divorce in the Spanish marriage certificate by the civil registry. In this case, you only need to send us the “*certificado literal del matrimonio con la inscripción marginal del divorcio*”. Ask the civil registry for a copy.
- If you send us an electronic copy of a divorce decree issued by a UK court, you must also send us a copy of the accompanying letter or email you received from the court together with your divorce decree.
- If you are **widowed** or the **surviving partner of a civil partnership, the original death certificate** of your late spouse or civil partner and a photocopy of your marriage certificate/civil partnership registration certificate.
- If your future spouse is **widowed** or the **surviving partner of a civil partnership, the original death certificate** of their late spouse or civil partner.
- If you or your future spouse have **previously registered a civil partnership**, your **original certificate** of dissolution/annulment.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

If any of your documents are not issued in the UK or Spain, we may need to make further enquiries. You may need to obtain a translation of any documents that are not in English or Spanish. We accept translations into English or Spanish but please note the Spanish authorities may ask you to provide a Spanish translation of any document not in Spanish.

**POSTAGE**

**You need to send your completed application pack and documents by registered post or courier to:**

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British Consulate-General Madrid  
Notarial Services  
Torre Emperador Castellana  
Paseo de la Castellana 259D  
28046 Madrid

**PAYMENT**

**ONLINE PAYMENT**

Consular [Fee 10 \(£50\) Giving/Publishing a Notice of Marriage](#)  
Consular [Fee 11\(ii\) \(£50\) Certificate of No Impediment](#)  
**Courier fee £13 mainland Spain and Balearics/Postal fee £10:60 Canary Islands**

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**On receipt of a fully completed application together with the correct supporting documents, we will send you two links by email inviting you to pay on-line via gov.uk payments.**

The first link will be for the consular fees to cover the cost of the Notice of Marriage and the Certificate of No Impediment and the second link will be to cover the courier/postage fee.

All fees are payable in pounds sterling.