

I UK Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) Requirement

The UK Government has introduced a new ETA requirement for visitors who do not require a visa to enter the UK. This system aims to enhance border security and streamline the entry process.

WHO NEEDS AN ETA?

- People who are visiting the UK for short stays (up to six months) for tourism, business, study, or medical reasons.
- Those who do not already hold a visa, UK residence permit, or similar exemption.
- The requirement will gradually apply to nationals of specific countries, with further expansions planned.

If none of the above applies to you, you may still require an ETA. Please check the UK Government website for further information.

WHEN WILL IT APPLY?

The ETA scheme is being rolled out in stages - beginning with selected countries and expanding throughout 2025. Specific timelines depend on your nationality and travel plans.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the online form

Travellers should apply well before their trip to allow for processing time. You will need to provide personal details, passport information, and travel plans.

Pay the application fee

Payment is required to process your application; the fee is £16 (subject to change).

Receive approval

Most applications are processed within minutes, though some may take longer.

Important information

Once approved, you are valid for multiple entries within a two-year period or until the passport expires. Each visit is limited to up to 6 months.

KEY POINTS TO NOTE

- You must present the same passport used for your ETA application when entering the UK.

- An approved ETA is linked electronically to your passport. However, it does NOT guarantee entry into the UK.
- The final entry decision remains with UK border officials.
- Travellers must still meet standard immigration requirements.
- Airlines and other carriers will verify your ETA before allowing you to board.
- Failure to obtain an ETA could result in denied entry to the UK or being unable to board your flight.

STAY UPDATED

Rules and eligibility requirements may evolve as the scheme expands. Travellers are advised to check the official UK Government website regularly for updates.

NEED SUPPORT?

If you have any questions about the ETA process or require assistance, our team of immigration experts are here to help. Contact us for guidance tailored to your specific needs.