

Applying for a UK Transit visa



UK Visas
& Immigration



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GREAT**
BRITAIN & NORTHERN IRELAND

UK Transit visas explained

You may need a visa to pass through the UK in transit - i.e. travelling through the UK on the way to another country. To be eligible for a transit visa you must be:

- in transit to another country with enough funds and the intention to travel on
- able to prove you can enter that country
- able to show that the only purpose of your visit to the UK is transit

You should first check if you need a visa at www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa

Not leaving the airport

Apply for a Direct Airside Transit visa if you will be changing flights in the UK and won't be going through UK border control. Direct Airside Transit visas last for up to 24 hours.

You cannot apply for this visa if you need to go through UK border control, for example to check in your luggage on to a connecting flight or to change airports - apply for a Visitor in Transit visa instead.

Leaving the airport

Apply for a Visitor in Transit visa if you will be going through UK border control but leaving the UK within 48 hours. You can also apply for a long-term Visitor in Transit visa if you can prove you need to frequently pass through the UK in transit over a longer period.

Fees

Direct Airside Transit visas cost £34. Visitor in Transit visas cost £62. The cost may vary slightly depending on which country you're in.

Transit without a visa

If you do require a visa to transit via the UK - either to pass airside through the UK or to pass through the UK border - you may be eligible for transit without a visa if you hold one of a specified range of transit visa exemption documents. Check if you are eligible by using the Visa Checker Tool at www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa.

Visitor in Transit visa

You may need a Visitor in Transit visa if you'll be going through immigration control but leaving the UK within 48 hours and you're:

- from outside the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland
- not going to work or study while in the UK.

You should first check if you need a transit visa at www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa

Visitor in Transit visa documents

You must provide:

- a current passport or other valid travel identification

Direct Airside Transit visa

You may need a Direct Airside Transit visa if you will be changing flights in the UK without going through immigration control and you are from outside the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland.

You should first check if you need a transit visa at www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa

You don't need to apply for one if you:

- hold an EEA family permit
www.gov.uk/family-permit



- hold a valid Home Office travel document **www.gov.uk/apply-home-office-travel-document**
- hold a valid UK visa
- are eligible for transit without a visa

You should check your eligibility for transit without a visa before applying for a direct airside transit visa.

Direct Airside Transit Visa Documents

For a Direct Airside Transit Visa you must provide:

- a current passport or other valid travel identification

You may need to provide additional documents depending on your circumstances - read the guidance for a full list available at **www.gov.uk/government/publications/visitor-visa-guide-to-supporting-documents**

Long-term visit visa

You can also apply for a long-term visit visa if you can prove you need to pass through the UK in transit regularly over a longer period. You can stay for a maximum of 48 hours on each visit and your visa can last for 2, 5 or 10 years.

You must prove that:

- you have an ongoing need to pass through the UK in transit
- the reason for your need to pass through the UK is unlikely to change significantly while the visa is valid
- you plan to leave the UK at the end of each transit within the 48 hour period allowed

You should apply for another type of visitor visa if you are travelling to or from Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.

