

Business travel issues

Brexit

The 11-month transition period following the U.K.'s exit from the EU ends on December 31, 2020. After this date, travelers taking a trip between the U.K. and the EU, EEA and Switzerland can expect some changes. We've shared some advice and tips to help you prepare for and navigate the new experience.

Before your trip

- Remember, Brexit may affect travel not just between the U.K. and the EU but also Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.
- Check the entry requirements of all European destinations on your itinerary, taking into account the duration and specific reasons for your trip.
- If traveling to provide professional services, make sure any qualifications are recognized at your destination.
- Talk to your employer about any tax implications or the need for indemnity insurance.



Passport and visas

- Ensure you have a valid passport, as international travel using an ID card may no longer be possible.
- Passports will need to be valid for at least six months from the day of travel.
- Most travelers will enjoy a 90-day visa-free travel allowance in any 180 days.
- Visas or permits may be needed for longer stays.
- Depending on the nature of the trip, some countries may require either a business visa or a work permit.



Immigration

- Be prepared to prove you have a return or onward trip booked.
- Travelers should be able to demonstrate sufficient financial means to support their stay.
- Proof of health insurance may be required, as the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) may no longer be valid.
- U.K. and European travelers will no longer share the same immigration queue.
- Longer queue times are likely at border control.
- U.K. passport holders may no longer use self-service e-gates to enter the EU. The same may possibly also apply to EU passport holders entering the U.K.
- Because of longer immigration queues, allow extra time if making a connection, particularly between international and domestic flights.

Health

- Ensure your travel insurance adequately covers healthcare, as you're unlikely to be able to use an EHIC at your destination.
- Some European travelers may be eligible for the new U.K.-issued EHIC.



Mobile roaming

- Check with your mobile service provider on their roaming arrangements and charges before travel to the U.K. or Europe.
- Use a local service provider to reduce costs on longer trips.
- To reduce roaming charges, use Wi-Fi whenever it's securely available.



Driving

- Make sure you bring your driving license if planning to drive abroad.
- If driving your own car, you may need to bring extra documentation, providing proof of ownership and insurance.
- An International Driving Permit may now be required.

