



BREXIT TRAVEL ADVICE FOR YOUR UPCOMING STUDY TRIP

On 1st January 2021, the UK officially left the EU. At StudyLink we recognise that you may require more information for your upcoming study tour, so we've compiled a guide to help you with the changes you can expect when travelling within Europe (including Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland).

Things to remember when travelling within the EU (including Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland):



PASSPORTS

British passport holders – We advise that you check the expiration date on your passport. On the day you travel, you'll need the passport to:

- **have at least 6 months left**
- **be less than 10 years old (even if it has 6 months or more left)**

You can check if you will need a new passport here:

<https://www.gov.uk/check-a-passport-travel-europe>

Remember that it can take up to 10 weeks to get a new passport, and it will take longer for postal applications. We advise you to check the validity of your passport at the earliest opportunity.

As a British passport holder you will no longer be able to use the EU or EEA passport lanes, therefore you should expect longer border control queues at the airport.

You should also be aware that, in addition to their passport, you may be asked to show:

- A return or onward ticket
- That you have sufficient money for your stay

We also recommend that all non-British passport holders have a minimum of 6 months left on their passport when re-entering the UK.

VISAS

British passport holders will not require a Visa for travel within most EU countries (including Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland). You are permitted to stay for a maximum of 90 days in any 180-day period.

Although British citizens will not need a visa to visit Europe, you will need to purchase an ETIAS (European Travel Information and Authorisation System) visa waiver for travel from 2022 onwards (at a charge of €7). ETIAS is being introduced to register visitors from visa-exempt non-EU nations. Find out more here:

<https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/etias/>

The system will be launched on 1st January 2022 and it will become obligatory for all travellers by the end of 2022. You will need to apply online before travel.

For foreign nationals studying in the UK, you may require a short stay visa or Schengen visa (Schengenvisum) for your study trip. Foreign nationals from the EU, EEA or Switzerland as well as some other countries are exempt from the visa requirement.

Through the StudyLink Visa partner, you can check the Visa and entry requirements for your study tour destination: <https://cibtvisas.co.uk/?login=studylinktours>



AIRPORT TRANSIT VISA

For some international students, you may require an airport transit visa for travel between the UK and other third countries, when transiting via another EU member state (excluding Ireland, Iceland, Norway & Switzerland).

The airport transit visa allows you to make a short stop at an EU member state airport, for onward travel to a destination outside of the Schengen Area. You will not be allowed to leave the transit country airport on this visa.

If transiting via two airports within the Schengen area, for onward travel outside Schengen, you will need to apply for a short-stay Schengen visa.

Airport transit visas should be obtained from the consulate of the country where the transit occurs.

DATA ROAMING

The guarantee of free data roaming when travelling in Europe has now come to an end. You should check with your mobile phone network provider for any data roaming charges prior to travel.

A new UK law has been put into place to protect consumers from unknowingly incurring excessive data roaming charges.

Once the cap of £45 has been reached, you will be contacted to notify you that you have reached this limit and to ask you whether you wish to opt in to continue to use data roaming whilst abroad.

For more information about data roaming whilst in the EU, visit the government website here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/using-your-mobile-in-eu-and-eea-countries>



EHIC & TRAVEL INSURANCE

You can apply for a UK Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) which allows you to access state healthcare in Europe at a reduced rate or sometimes for free.

If you currently have a UK European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), it will remain valid until the expiry date on the card. Once it expires, you can apply for a GHIC to replace it.

However, it is worth noting that the GHIC or EHIC is not a substitute for comprehensive travel insurance.

For more information about the Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC), visit: <https://www.gov.uk/global-health-insurance-card>

Applications can be made directly on the GHIC website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>

EU SHOPPING

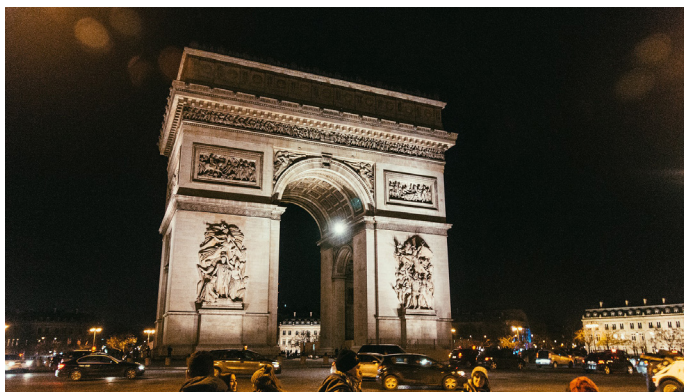
Duty free shopping will be available for most departure and return journeys for travel within the EU.

When purchasing certain goods in the EU, you may be able to obtain a VAT refund (you will need to complete the required documentation and present this at the EU departure airport on your return back to the UK).

Further information on how to obtain a VAT refund is available here: https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/individuals/travelling/travellers-leaving-eu/guide-vat-refund-visitors-eu_en

If purchasing using a UK-issued credit or debit card, it is worth bearing in mind that the Payment Services Regulation 2017 will no longer apply for consumers purchasing goods in an EEA member state.

Therefore for UK customers using a card issued by a UK payment service provider, a credit card charge may be applied to cover costs.



CONSULATES & ASSISTANCE

You should check to see if there is a British Embassy, High Commission or Consulate in the destination you are travelling to.

This information is available on the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/world/embassies>

FOOD & DRINK

There are restrictions in place over taking specific food products into European countries.

Travellers cannot take meat or milk products (or any products containing them) into the EU. Additionally, there are other restrictions in place.

More information about food & drink restrictions can be found on the European Commission website:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animalproducts/personal_imports_en

https://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant_health_biosecurity/non_eu_trade_en

Links to further information:

<https://www.gov.uk/visit-europe-1-january-2021>

<https://www.abta.com/tips-and-advice/brexit-advice-for-travellers>

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice>

<https://travelhealthpro.org.uk/>