

## **Travel documents required from EU citizens when travelling to the UK from 1 October 2021**

As of 1 October 2021, [the UK requires](#) **EU citizens who are not protected by the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement** can no longer use their national identity card to enter the UK. They must use a valid passport. This passport has to be valid for the entire length of stay in the UK.

**EU citizens protected by the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement** have the choice between using a valid national identity card (*identity documents issued by EU Member States exclusively to their own nationals*) or a passport to enter the UK. Their passport or national identity card has simply to be valid at the time of their entry to the UK. National authorities or travel operators cannot restrict their right to choose which travel document to use to enter the UK by insisting on passports only.

Therefore, **EU citizens can use their valid national identity card to enter the UK** if they:

- have settled or pre-settled status under the UK's [EU Settlement Scheme](#), or Jersey, Guernsey or the Isle of Man's settlement schemes
- have an [EU Settlement Scheme family permit](#), or the equivalent from Jersey, Guernsey or the Isle of Man
- have a [frontier worker permit](#)
- are an [S2 Healthcare Visitor](#)

EU citizens with settled or pre-settled status can evidence this through the UK's [View and Prove](#) system, by providing national authorities or travel operators a share code.

EU citizens can also use their valid national identity card if they are still **waiting for a decision on their application for settled or pre-settled status** under the UK's EU Settlement Scheme.

In this case, both of the following must be true:

- they have applied for settled or pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme, or Jersey, Guernsey or the Isle of Man's settlement schemes
- they have been issued with a valid certificate of application

EU citizens can evidence that they are waiting for a decision on their application by providing a certificate of application issued by the UK Home Office to national authorities or travel operators.

**Using a valid national identity card** for citizens protected by the EU–UK Withdrawal Agreement to enter the UK **is a right for life**. After 31 December 2025, the UK may only accept valid national identity cards that also hold a biometric chip. Until this date, all national identity cards issued by EU Member States – *whether they have a biometric chip or not* – are good for the purposes of UK entry.