



Travelling to the UK

with pre-settled or settled status



The information contained in this leaflet is accurate as of 2nd May 2025.

If you are an EEA, Swiss or non-EEA citizen and have a status under the EU Settlement Scheme (pre-settled or settled status), it is really important to be aware of the current Home Office rules so that you can travel in and out the UK fully informed! This leaflet lists the top 3 tips to travel to the UK with an EUSS status.

1 Always travel with an ID document that is linked to your immigration status!

If you are an EEA or Swiss national...

If you travel with a passport or ID card that is not linked to your immigration status, you may experience delays at the border. You can either use your ID card or passport to cross the border and you can link both documents to your status. Note that, according to the current Home Office guidance, you can continue to use your national ID card to enter the UK until at least 31/12/2025.



To update your UKVI account and add ID documents, use the following service:

<https://www.gov.uk/update-uk-visas-immigration-account-details>

If you are a non-EEA national...

Most BRCs expired on 31/12/2024 because the Home Office has planned to start using an entirely digital system for you as well! However, the full digitalisation has been postponed to 2/06/2025. This means that from 2/06/2025 onwards, to travel in and out the UK, you need to be ready to prove your status to the carrier and border force and take with you:

- Your expired BRC;
- A printed copy of your pre-settled/settled status approval letter;
- A screenshot or printed digital status page;
- A share code generated before departing.

You do not need to create an e-visa or another digital account, you already have it, but you need to update your status with your valid passport!

Your status' validity will not be affected by the expiry of your BRC.

2 Know your rights: continuous residence and curtailments

Border Force officers can curtail a pre-settled status if they think that the person does not meet the requirements for it anymore. This can happen when the pre-settled status holder has broken their continuous residence (i.e.: they have exceeded the limit of absences and/or have unjustified absences) or, in the case of non-EEA family members or joining family members, if the relationship with the EEA or Swiss sponsor/family member has broken down. There are other situations that can trigger a curtailment.

Having absences or not being in a relationship with the sponsor/family member anymore does not necessarily mean that you have lost your rights. If the Border Force curtails your status, you should be granted a right to appeal the decision.

3 Be ready to explain your situation to the Border Force officer truthfully and provide evidence if necessary!

If you are an EEA or Swiss national and are travelling without family members below the age of 10, or are from certain non-EEA countries, at the UK airport, you can pass through the e-gates by using your passport linked to your immigration status. If you are traveling with an ID card, are a non-EEA national (unless eligible to use the e-gates), or if the e-gates are not working, you will need to go to the Border Force for "manual checks". Do not worry if you are asked questions, reply to the best of your knowledge.

You may be asked to prove your immigration status via the "view and prove" system or to show documents.



Take with you:

- ☐ The approval letter of your pre-settled or settled status;
- ☐ Pictures of expired ID documents;
- ☐ Evidence of the relationship with your sponsor/EEA or Swiss family member;
- ☐ Evidence to justify long absence(s);
- ☐ If you are a non-EEA citizen and travelling after 31/12/2024, your expired BRC, a printed copy of your pre-settled/settled status approval letter, a screenshot or printed digital status page, a generated share code.

What if I have applied to the EUSS and I am waiting for a decision?

- If you **have a valid pre-settled status** and are waiting for the outcome of your settled status application, you can travel in/out the UK. Have a look at our top-tips!
- If you have a **pending late application and started living in the UK before 31/12/2020**, we advise that you wait for its outcome before travelling. Even with a Certificate of Application (COA), it is risky to travel and therefore it is better to avoid travelling unless it is urgent. If you do travel, be aware that you may face questioning and potential problems both abroad and when re-entering the UK.
- If you are a **joining family member with an EUSS Family Permit**, you can travel in and out the UK as long as your Family Permit is valid.
- If you are a **joining family member and do not have a valid Family Permit**, wait patiently for the outcome of your application.

If you need specific advice on your situation, get in touch!

What do my family members need if they want to visit me in the UK (and do not have an EUSS status)?

If they are non-visa nationals, they can come to the UK without the need to apply for a standard visitor visa. They just need to travel with a valid passport that covers the entire length of their stay. They can stay for up to 6 months. You, as their host, can draft a letter and give it to them to take in case the Border Force asks questions. They should carry proof of where they are staying (e.g. hotel reservation(s) or letter from you), of finances available and of travel/medical insurance if applicable.

!! From 8/01/2025 some non-EEA nationals and from 2/04/2025 all EEA and Swiss nationals will need to have applied and obtained an Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) before coming to the UK. ETA is a permission to visit the UK. For more information and details on exemptions, visit this website:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-when-you-can-get-an-electronic-travel-authorisation-eta>

Visa nationals need a standard visitor visa to travel to the UK.

How can I prove my immigration status?

<https://www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status>



Get in touch

- EUSS advice service: <https://settled.org.uk/selfrefer/>
- EUSS applications in Wales: ApplyEUSSWales@settled.org.uk
- EUSS multilingual advice line*: 0330 223 5336
- EUSS Roma advice service: roma.advice@settled.org.uk
- Multilingual Facebook groups: via [WeAreSettled](#)
- Want to volunteer? Email volunteer.manager@settled.org.uk

* with Bulgarian, English, Italian, Romanes and Spanish extensions.
If calling from outside the UK, dial +44 330 223 5336.



Settled is a charity that aims to help vulnerable EU citizens in the UK to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme. We work with a network of volunteers across the country.

settled.org.uk

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