

SAINT LUCIA

Ministry of External Affairs, International Trade and Civil Aviation

FROM : Permanent Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs, International Trade & Civil Aviation

TO : Director, Information Services

DATE : January 19th, 2006

SUBJECT : New Entry requirements for travellers to the U K

The Ministry forwards herewith information received from the British Government regarding New Entry Clearance requirements for travellers to the UK.

From November 13, 2005, all nationals of non EEA member states who wish to go to the UK for more than six months will need to obtain an entry clearance from a British diplomatic mission before travelling. This will give permission to enter the UK for the full period of their stay without having to apply for a residence permit (Unless they wish to change or extend their stay).

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office has been introducing this new requirement in two phases. The first phase came into force on November 13, 2003 and involved ten nationalities. The second phase came into effect on November 13, 2005 and will affect the countries listed in Annex A. Annex A also contains information in a Q & A format that may be useful. British Nationals (Overseas) and other categories of British nationals without the right of abode in the UK are not affected by this and will continue to be able to travel without entry clearance and apply on arrival.

The Ministry would be grateful if this information is disseminated to the public.

Your assistance in this matter is appreciated.


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Cosmos Richardson
Permanent Secretary

Annex A

NEW ENTRY CLEARANCE REQUIREMENT - Q&A (12/07/05)

Which nationalities will be affected from 13 November?

The following is a list of "Phase 2" nationalities who will be affected from 13 November. Also shown is the name of the British mission where they should apply to:

Nationality	Apply to
Andorra	Madrid
Antigua and Barbuda	Bridgetown
Argentina	Buenos Aires
Bahamas	New York
Barbados	Bridgetown
Belize	New York
Bermuda	New York
Bolivia	La Paz
Botswana	Gaborone
Brazil	Rio de Janeiro
Brunei	Bandar Seri Begawan
Cayman Islands	Kingston
Chile	Santiago
Costa Rica	New York
Dominica	Bridgetown
E Timor	Jakarta
El Salvador	Panama City
Faroe Islands	Copenhagen
Greenland	Copenhagen
Grenada	Bridgetown
Guatemala	New York
Honduras	Panama City
Israel	Tel Aviv or Jerusalem
Kiribati	Suva
Lesotho	Pretoria
Macau	Hong Kong
Malawi	Lilongwe
Maldives	Colombo
Marshall Islands	Suva
Mauritius	Pot Louis
Mexico	Mexico City
Micronesia	Suva
Monaco	Paris
Namibia	Windhoek
Nauru	Suva
Nicaragua	New York
Palau	Any accessible Post
Panama	Panama City

Papua New Guinea
Paraguay
Samoa
San Marino
Seychelles
Solomon Islands
St Kitts and Nevis
St Lucia
St Vincent & Grenadines
Swaziland
Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago
Tuvalu
Uruguay
Vanuatu
Vatican City
Venezuela

Port Moresby
Buenos Aires
Wellington
Rome
Victoria
Honiara
Bridgetown
Bridgetown
Bridgetown
Pretoria
Nuku'alofa
Port of Spain
Suva
Montevideo
Port Vila
Rome
Caracas



What are you introducing on 13 November?

From 13 November all non-visa, non-EEA (European Economic Area*) nationals coming to the UK for more than six months will need to get an entry clearance before they travel.

*The European Union countries plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland

What is an entry clearance?

Entry clearance is permission to stay in the UK in the form of a common format sticker in a passport.

Why are you doing this?

EU member states have agreed a regulation that documents giving permission to stay in any EU territory should be in a common format. The UK already issues common format residence permits (UKRP) to those in the UK applying for permission to stay. This change will make it easier and more convenient for travellers to be issued with a common format document.

Is this a security measure related to the terrorist attacks on London?

No this is the second phase of the changes to immigration control introduced two years ago. The EU began work on this regulation over 8 years ago. The regulation is aimed at countering fraudulent documentation.

What will my entry clearance look like?

Entry clearance is granted in the form of a sticker containing your photograph and other details which is put in your passport. It has security features which makes it more easily recognisable to carriers and control authorities.

Will this affect all nationalities?

It will affect all non-EEA nationalities who are not visa nationals, and who were not

included in Phase 1, which we implemented from 13 November 2003. It will not apply to BN(O)s or other British Nationals without the Right of Abode. They are not affected by the new rules and will continue to be able to travel without entry clearance and apply for entry on arrival.

Which nationalities were in the first phase?

Australia, Canada, Hong Kong (but not BN(O)s), Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea and United States. In addition entry clearance became necessary for all nationalities entering the UK on work permits.

Why were these nationalities chosen?

These ten nationalities were chosen as they are our largest customers in terms of travellers who stay more than six months in the UK.

What will happen until 13 November 2005?

Until 13 November non-visa national travellers not included in Phase 1 will be granted leave to enter at ports in the usual way. No-one arriving in the UK before 13 November will be affected.

What will happen after 13 November 2005?

Those arriving into the UK on or after 13 November will need to obtain entry clearance before travelling. This will generally be valid for the full period of their intended stay, and so those holding entry clearance will not need to apply for a Residence Permit in the UK.

What will happen to those who arrive without entry clearance?

There will be a "grace period" of 2 months from 13 November 2005. During this period those arriving without the necessary entry clearance will not be refused entry if they otherwise qualify under the Immigration Rules. They will be granted entry for six months only and they will then have to apply in the UK for a Residence Permit to extend this stay. After 13 January 2006 passengers arriving without the necessary entry clearance will be refused entry.

Will this make it more difficult for people to travel to the UK?

No. Applying for entry clearance before travel will be cheaper and more convenient. The procedure on arrival will be simpler. There will also be no need to apply for a Residence Permit in-country unless you need to extend or change the status of your stay in the UK.

Will visitors need entry clearance?

Visitors (those coming to the UK for 6 months or less) from Phase 1 or Phase 2 countries will not need to apply for entry clearance. They will continue to be able to apply for entry on arrival in the UK.

Are there any people who are excluded from this?

Yes. People in the following categories will be able to travel to this country without entry clearance and apply for leave to enter the UK on arrival.

- British Nationals (Overseas)
- Other categories of British Nationals without the right of abode in the UK.

How does this affect those who are exempt from control, for example diplomats or members of Commonwealth armed forces?

Anyone who is exempt will not need to obtain entry clearance. They will be required to produce to the immigration officer on arrival evidence of their exempt status, for example a letter of accreditation or armed forces movement order.

How do I apply for entry clearance?

You need to apply to your nearest entry clearance-issuing British mission with the necessary documentation and fee. Forms and information are available free of charge. Where there is not a British mission in your own country, or where the mission does not issue entry clearance you will need to apply at another designated Post. The listing at the top of this page tells you where you should apply, or you can contact your nearest British mission. You may be able to apply for entry clearance in a variety of ways, for example:

- in person
- at an application centre
- through a courier or agent
- by post
- online

The entry clearance-issuing Post will be able to tell you how to apply.

Will travellers have to pay for entry clearance?

There is a fee for entry clearance issued overseas. This is currently £85 for long-stay, non-settlement categories (eg student).

Where can I find out more?

Use this link to go to the Applications Forms and Guidance Notes page on the Ukvisas website (www.ukvisas.gov.uk):

[Application Forms and Guidance Notes](#)

People overseas will be able to get information from their nearest British Mission on how to apply for entry clearance. Use this link to get a listing of all British Missions overseas:

[UK Overseas Missions](#)

