

ETA - Electronic Travel Authorisation

An ETA gives you permission to travel to the UK.

Who can get an ETA

Whether you can get an ETA depends on:

- the date you travel
- your nationality as shown on your passport

[Check if you can apply for an ETA.](#)

What you can do with an ETA

You can:

- come to the UK for up to 6 months for tourism, visiting family and friends, business or short-term study
- come to the UK for up to 3 months on the [Creative Worker visa concession](#)
- come to the UK for a [permitted paid engagement](#)
- [transit through a UK airport](#) if you will pass through border control - check with your airline if you are not sure

If you are coming to the UK for another reason, [check if you need a visa](#) instead.

An ETA does not guarantee entry to the UK. You still need to either:

- see a Border Force officer
- use an ePassport gate

You may want to [apply for a Standard Visitor visa](#) instead if you have a criminal record or you were previously refused entry into the UK.

How much it costs

It costs £10 to apply using the UK ETA app or online through GOV.UK. Other websites may charge more.

Everyone travelling needs to get an ETA, including babies and children. You can apply for other people.

You cannot get a refund after you apply.

Apply for an ETA

The fastest way to apply is using the UK ETA app.

Download on the App Store



Download on Google Play



You need:

- the passport you will travel with - not a photocopy or digital passport
- access to your emails
- a payment method - you can use Visa, Mastercard, American Express, JCB, Apple Pay or Google Pay

You will need to upload or take photos of the:

- passport
- face of the person applying

You do not need to enter your travel details.

If you cannot use the app

You can [apply online](#).

If you are applying for someone else who is not with you, you should apply online.

How long it takes

You will usually get a decision within 3 working days. Most people get a much quicker decision.

Occasionally, it may take longer than 3 working days.

You cannot get a faster decision by applying through another website.

Group applications

Each person must apply separately.

You may get decisions at different times, even if you apply at the same time as others.

If you need to travel soon

You must apply for an ETA before you travel to the UK. You can travel to the UK while waiting for a decision.

After you apply

You will get an email confirming you have got an ETA. It will be linked to the passport you applied with.

Your ETA lasts for 2 years or until your passport expires, whichever is sooner.

You can travel to the UK as many times as you want while you have an ETA.