

# EU, EEA, Switzerland and the UK

New passport requirement for EU, EEA and Swiss nationals traveling to the UK as of 1 October 2021

### **Executive summary**

Swiss nationals and citizens of the European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) member states will require valid passports to enter the United Kingdom as of 1 October 2021, with limited exceptions.

## Passport requirements

Effective 1 October 2021, Swiss nationals and citizens of EU and EEA member states will require valid Swiss, EU or EEA passports to enter the UK as visitors (i.e., for business or leisure). In general, other documents (e.g., national identification cards) will no longer be accepted for EU, EEA and Swiss nationals traveling to the UK.

There are exceptions to the passport requirement, including for EU, EEA and Swiss nationals who hold pre or settled status in the UK under the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS), and those who have pending applications under the EUSS. These travelers are permitted to use their Swiss, EU and EEA identification cards to enter the UK until 31 December 2025 at the earliest.

EU, EEA and Swiss nationals who will work or reside in the UK may require additional documents such as visas, work authorization documents and/or residence permits to be compliant with UK immigration rules.

EU, EEA and Swiss nationals must complete an online <u>passenger locator form</u> no more than 48 hours prior their arrival in the UK. They may also be required to get tested for COVID-19 prior to travel and quarantine upon arrival. For more information click here and here.

UK nationals are already required to present a valid UK passport before entering Switzerland, the EU and the EEA as visitors. The UK passport must be valid for at least three months from the traveler's expected date of departure from Switzerland, the EU or the EEA.

## Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, please contact any of our immigration professionals.



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## Ben Willis

Partner - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration

Tel: +44 20 7951 9589 Email: ben.willis@uk.ey.com

#### Dirk Nuyts

Partner - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration Tel: +41 79 456 9401

Email: dirk.nuyts@ch.ey.com

## **Nivard Bronckaers**

Manager - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration Tel: +32 2 774 9409

Email: nivard.bronckaers@be.ey.com