

Immigration Bulletin – 05/2025

The purpose of this immigration bulletin is to provide a monthly snapshot of significant regulatory updates with respect to entry requirements and common errors recorded while performing document verification during our operations. It aims at promoting awareness, minimizing the risk of future operational issues at airports, and reducing fines and costs associated to possible mistakes. For any queries please contact: centraleoperativasicurezza@ita-airways.com and aviationsecurity@ita-airways.com

DESTINATION UK

ETA Scheme

The Home Office has introduced worldwide the **Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA)** for visitors to the UK who do not currently need a visa for short stays or who do not already have a UK immigration status.

The **ETA** is a digital permission, valid for 2 years or until the passport expires (whichever comes first), to travel to, or transit through the UK, and permits multiple journeys for stays up to six months at a time.

Eligible non-Europeans already need an ETA to travel to the UK. Starting from 5th March 2025, ETA applications opened for **European Nationals** which will require an ETA to travel to the UK from April 2nd 2025.

Dual Nationals must travel on the passport which they used to apply for their ETA, as their ETA will be linked to their passport.

Visa Nationals will continue to require a visa for travel and entry to the UK.

ATTENTION:

- ✓ During the application window (5th March 2025 to the 1st of April 2025), if **Eligible Europeans** do not hold an ETA, they can still travel to the UK.
- ✓ From 2nd April 2025 until the end of the pre-enforcement period (date to be confirmed), the Home Office will not refuse passengers at the borders, nor should passengers be denied boarding if they do not hold an ETA. If airlines encounter a passenger who is concerned they do not have an ETA, they should encourage them to apply before their departure and can still allow them boarding.
- ✓ The UK government has, also, agreed a temporary exemption, from needing an ETA, for **Non-Visa nationals** who transit airside on scheduled flights, before their connecting journey, and who do not need to change airports and pass through UK border control.
If transit passengers need to collect their luggage or go landside to check-in with another airline, they will need to have an ETA.

BRP and BRC

The UK Government is replacing physical evidence of immigration status, such as **biometric residence permits (BRPs)** and **biometric residence cards (BRCS)** with digital evidence of immigration status, known as an **eVisa**.

As a **transitional measure**, biometric residence permits (BRPs) and EU Settlement Scheme biometric residence cards (EUSS BRCs) which expire on or after 31st December 2024 can also be accepted as evidence of permission to travel to the UK until and including 1st June 2025. This measure will not be extended further. Other expired documents are not acceptable proof.

Feel free to post this bulletin in controlled areas for our staff or contracted service providers but note that public dissemination of these documents to a third party, without the consent of ITA Airways Security Department, is not allowed.