Security Department - Aviation Security Immigration Bulletin - December 2024

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.

As per company procedures, travel document information **must** be collected using passport readers, when available. Furthermore, for passengers checked-in via web or mobile, passport information shall always be **validated** at the airport, either at the check-in counter or at the boarding gate.

Latest error: Over the last month ITA Airways received 11 notifications from different Border Control Authorities for incorrect API data (i.e. nationality, gender, etc.). Fines to ITA Airways are currently under evaluation.

DESTINATION SAUDI ARABIA

In case of dual nationals holding two different passports, please make sure passengers are aware they should present the same passport used at the time of check-in upon arrival in the country in order to avoid any delay during border controls and potential penalties for ITA Airways.

Also be aware that Saudi nationals are only **allowed to show a Saudi passport** during border controls in their country. For this reason, if a Saudi national is also holding a passport issued by another country, make sure the Saudi passport is used at the time of check-in.

DESTINATION GHANA

Effective December 1st 2024, until January 15th 2025, all passengers travelling to Ghana can obtain a visa-on-arrival without the requirement of a prior approval.

DESTINATION UK

In the future, everyone wishing to travel to the UK – except British and Irish citizens – will need a digital permission to travel.

ETA Scheme

The UK is rolling out the next phase of its ETA scheme, opening for applications on 27th November 2024 **for travel from 8th January 2025 for eligible non-European nationals.**

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**.

If a passenger holds a digital eVisa, they may no longer have a physical visa or other permission document to inspect. The majority of UK biometric residence permits (BRPs) and biometric residence cards (BRCs) will expire **on 31st December 2024**, and passengers who currently hold BRP/Cs will be travelling on eVisas.

As a transitional measure, biometric residence permits (BRPs) and EU Settlement Scheme biometric residence cards (EUSS BRCs) **which expire <u>on</u> or <u>after</u> 31st December 2024** can also be accepted as evidence of permission to travel to the UK provisionally **until 31st March 2025.**

Biometric residence permits (BRPs) and EU Settlement Scheme biometric residence cards (EUSS BRCs) which expire **before 31/12/2024 <u>cannot be accepted</u>.**