

The Travel Mistakes Experts Are Seeing Most Often

Immigration lawyer warns travellers to check ETA status and passport details before heading to the airport this summer

Millions of people are preparing for summer holidays, but immigration experts are warning that one overlooked travel requirement could leave passengers stranded before they even board their flight.

Helena Sheizon, immigration lawyer and Director at [Kadmos Immigration](#), says many travellers remain unaware of the UK's Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) scheme, particularly European travellers who have traditionally been able to travel freely to the UK without needing to arrange anything in advance.

The warning comes as airports and international rail terminals prepare for one of the busiest travel periods of the year.

According to Helena, confusion around ETA requirements, dual nationality and passport renewals are among the most common issues travellers overlook.

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Assuming you don't need an ETA

Many European Economic Area (EEA) nationals still believe they can travel to the UK without any additional authorisation.

However, travellers from eligible countries are now required to obtain an ETA before travelling to the UK.

Applying with the wrong passport

The ETA is digitally linked to the passport used during the application process.

Travellers who renew their passport after receiving an ETA may mistakenly assume their authorisation transfers automatically. It does not.

Forgetting about dual nationality complications

People holding more than one nationality can face confusion over which passport should be used when applying for travel authorisation and when travelling.

Using different passports at different stages of the journey can create unnecessary complications.

What Travellers Should Check Before They Travel

Helena recommends checking:

- Whether your nationality requires an ETA before travelling to the UK
- That your ETA is linked to the passport you plan to travel with
- Whether you have renewed your passport since obtaining an ETA
- That all passport details match your travel booking
- Which passport dual nationals should use throughout their journey

Helena Sheizon, Director and immigration lawyer at [Kadmos Immigration](#), said:

"EEA nationals often assume that as non-visa nationals they can travel freely to the UK and do not check the ETA requirements.

In fact, an ETA to the UK is now required. It is a simple application process and shouldn't take more than 20 minutes of your time, but doing this at the airport may be stressful, especially if your flight or train is already boarding.

One of the most common mistakes people make is forgetting that the ETA is linked to the specific passport used during the application. If you renew your passport, your existing ETA does not transfer across and you will need to apply for a new one.

We also see confusion among dual nationals who may use one passport when booking and another when travelling. Taking a few minutes to check your documentation before heading to the airport can help avoid unnecessary stress and potential travel disruption."

Notes To Editors

[Kadmos Immigration](#) is a UK immigration law firm providing legal advice and support to individuals and businesses navigating UK immigration rules, visas and sponsorship requirements.

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For media enquiries or expert comment from Helena Sheizon, please contact Kadmos Immigration.