

Assets, Property and Entry into the United Kingdom



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If you have purchased a property in the UK, you may wonder if this will provide you with a visa status and/or entry into the United Kingdom. The simple answer is no – buying a house in the United Kingdom does not equate to the right to reside in the UK.

However, you are not required to be a visa holder in order to buy property in the UK.

How can I come into the UK to purchase a property?

You can come into the UK in order to view and purchase a property as a visitor, for a period of up to 6 months. For a visit visa to be successful, the following needs to be satisfied:

- you will leave the UK at the end of your visit
- you need to demonstrate that you and (your dependants, if applicable) are able to maintain and accommodate yourself during your trip
- you or a third party are able to pay for your travel to and from the UK
- you do not intend to make the UK your main home.

The disadvantage of the visit visa route is that having a property in the UK could lead to an adverse decision on a visit visa application. This is because the Home Office could construe this as you intending to make the UK your main place of residency and therefore, question whether you will leave the UK at the end of your visit.



Birketts' legal advice is top-notch and cost-effective; it represents excellent value for money. Birketts bring a humane approach and a personal touch to the practice of immigration law.

Legal 500 [UK 2023]

What visa applications allow residency in the UK?

Some of the most common visa categories include the following:

- Innovator Founder Route, in which you need to demonstrate an “innovative, viable and scalable” business idea, which needs to be endorsed by a Home Office approved endorsing body.
- Global Talent Visa, in which you can work in the arts, sciences or digital sector, once you have been endorsed as a leader or potential leader in your field.
- Expansion Worker route, which allows you to come to the UK to set up a branch of an overseas business as either a senior manager or a specialist employee.
- The UK Ancestry route is one in which you can apply for a UK Ancestry visa if you are a commonwealth citizen and one of your grandparents was born in the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.



Birketts are extremely professional, responsive, and helpful. They are experts in immigration law. I have complete confidence in them. ”

Legal 500 [UK 2023]



There are 2 things this practice does that makes them stand out.

1. Simplifying the Complex: Immigration applications can be a complex and intimidating process, but Birketts' team has always made the entire process very simple for me. Their accompanying documentation and emails always make things a breeze for me.

2. Approachability: No question too small or big, no matter what I have on my mind, I can ask them for clarification, confirmation etc. Other firms that I have worked with before do not offer such care and attention to detail. ”

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birketts.co.uk/immigration

Travelling to the UK:

The UK is working towards the launch of the Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) Scheme, a new digital travel authorisation, which will be linked to an individual's passport.

The ETA will provide permission to travel to the UK for those who currently require a visa for up to 6 months, those on the Creative Worker concession visa (for up to 3 months) or those who are transitioning through the UK.

The Government have confirmed it will be implementing this scheme over the next 2 years, and it will welcome its first applications from 1st February 2023.

From 15th November 2023 nationals of Qatar, will need an ETA to travel to the UK and nationals of Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates will need an ETA from 22nd February 2024.



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