



HM Passport
Office

Travel & Tourism Industry Communications Toolkit

**Passport validity changes in the event of
a no deal Brexit**

January 2019



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Background

This communications toolkit for the travel and tourism industry has been updated in light of **the government's increased preparations for a no deal exit from the EU**. The content is designed to help you inform your employees, customers and stakeholders about passport validity changes in the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal on 29 March 2019.

The key call to action for customers is to visit the [online passport checker](#) on GOV.UK, to find out if they are affected and to [renew their passport earlier](#) if necessary.

More information can be found on [GOV.UK](#).

Website copy

Please consider lifting/adapting this content and placing it prominently on your website to inform customers of the issue before they book their trip.

BREXIT notice: UK passport holders

Please [check your passport](https://www.passport.service.gov.uk/check-a-passport) is still valid before travelling to Europe after 29 March 2019: <https://www.passport.service.gov.uk/check-a-passport>. You may need to [renew](#) earlier than planned.

Or

BREXIT NOTICE: **UK passport holders**

[hover over:]

Please [check your passport](https://www.passport.service.gov.uk/check-a-passport) is still valid before travelling to Europe after 29 March 2019: <https://www.passport.service.gov.uk/check-a-passport>. You may need to [renew](#) earlier than planned.

If you would like to include more detailed information on your website:

BREXIT notice: UK passports in the event of a no deal EU Exit

The rules for travel to most countries in Europe will change if the UK leaves the European Union (EU) with no deal. The government has increased planning for a no deal EU Exit and is asking citizens to make sure they are also prepared.

After 29 March 2019:

1. You should have 6 months left on your UK passport from your date of arrival. This applies to adult and child passports.
2. If you renewed a passport before it expired, extra months may have been added to your new passport's expiry date. Any extra months on your passport over 10 years may not count towards the 6 months that should be remaining for travel to most countries in Europe. The new rules will apply to passports issued by the UK, Gibraltar, Guernsey, the Isle of Man and Jersey.

For example, if a UK passport holder wants to travel on 30 March 2019 – the day after the UK is due to leave the EU without a deal - their passport must have been issued on or after 1 October 2009.

The new rules will apply to passports issued by the UK, Gibraltar, Guernsey, the Isle of Man and Jersey.

Please [check your passport](#) and if you are affected, you should consider [renewing your passport](#) earlier than planned.

* The affected (Schengen area) countries are: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

Emails & SMS to customers

Please email/text message customers to inform them of the potential validity changes. The email copy can be used to confirm their booking for travel to a Schengen area country (or retroactively inform customers who booked previously), and repeated in subsequent emails in the run up to their trip. It can also be placed in relevant e-newsletters for subscribers, regardless of whether they have a trip booked.

SMS copy:

Travelling to Europe after 29 Mar 2019? You may need to renew earlier than planned. Check here <https://www.passport.service.gov.uk/check-a-passport>.

Short email copy:

BREXIT notice: UK passport holders

Please [check your passport](https://www.passport.service.gov.uk/check-a-passport) is still valid before travelling to Europe after 29 March 2019: <https://www.passport.service.gov.uk/check-a-passport>. You may need to [renew](#) earlier than planned.

Longer email copy:

Don't get caught out - UK passport holders

The rules for travel to most countries in Europe will change if the UK leaves the European Union (EU) with no deal. The government has increased planning for a no deal EU Exit and is asking citizens to make sure they are also prepared.

UK passport holders should therefore [check their passport](#) to see whether it is valid for travel after 29 March 2019.

After 29 March 2019:

1. You should have 6 months left on your UK passport from your date of arrival. This applies to adult and child passports.
2. If you renewed a passport before it expired, extra months may have been added to your new passport's expiry date. Any extra months on your passport over 10 years may not count towards the 6 months that should be remaining for travel to most countries in Europe. The new rules will apply to passports issued by the UK, Gibraltar, Guernsey, the Isle of Man and Jersey.

Currently, UK passport holders can travel to all EU countries as long as they have enough remaining validity to cover the length of their stay, so it's important to be aware of the above changes in a 'no deal' Brexit.

So, please [check your passport](#) and if you are affected, you should consider [renewing your passport](#) earlier than planned.

The affected (Schengen area) countries are: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

Social media content

Please share relevant content from @ukhomeoffice and @HM_Passport Twitter accounts and use your social media channels to raise customer awareness of potential passport validity changes. Here is some suggested content for channels such as Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, although we recognise that you may prefer to curate your own content in line with your organisation's tone of voice and social media approach.

Twitter:

We want you to have a smooth journey, so please check if your passport is still valid for Europe after 29 March 2019: <https://www.passport.service.gov.uk/check-a-passport>

Facebook/Instagram:

We want you to have a smooth journey, so please check if your passport is still valid for Europe after 29 March 2019: <https://www.passport.service.gov.uk/check-a-passport>

If you're affected, you can renew your passport before you travel: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-renew-passport>

Staff communications

Please update your staff about potential changes to passport validity. The below copy can be used and adapted for your staff communications. We recommend using this in conjunction with the updated Passports Q&A.

UK passports in the event of a no deal Brexit

Please be aware that the rules for travel to most countries in Europe will change when the UK leaves the European Union (EU) with no deal. The government has increased planning for a no deal EU Exit and is asking citizens to make sure they are also prepared.

After 29 March 2019:

1. UK passport holders should have 6 months left on their passport from their date of arrival. This applies to adult and child passports.
2. If you renewed a passport before it expired, extra months may have been added to your new passport's expiry date. Any extra months on your passport over 10 years may not count towards the 6 months that should be remaining for travel to most countries in Europe. The new rules will apply to passports issued by the UK, Gibraltar, Guernsey, the Isle of Man and Jersey.

For example, if a UK passport holder wants to travel on 30 March 2019 – the day after the UK is due to leave the EU without a deal - their passport must have been issued on or after 1 October 2009.

The new rules will apply to passports issued by the UK, Gibraltar, Guernsey, the Isle of Man and Jersey.

We are working with the government to inform our customers well in advance of travel, advising them to [check their passport](#) using a specially created tool on GOV.UK. If customers are affected, they will be asked to consider [renewing their passport](#). More information is available on [GOV.UK](#).

Please see the attached 'Passports Q&A' for more information, and contact [\[insert internal communications contact\]](#) if you have any questions.

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