**Rules for Travelling to the United States of America**

Updated: 24 June 2022

Visa requirements

UK citizens can travel to the USA for tourism or business for 90 days or less without a visa, under the Visa Waiver Program (VWP). ([Click here](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visa-waiver-program.html) for the full list of VWP participant countries.) VWP travellers must have a valid ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorisation) prior to travel.

ESTAs are valid for two years unless you receive a new passport or change your gender. To apply for an ESTA, [click here](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visa-waiver-program.html#ExternalPopup).

Citizens of countries not on the Visa Waiver Program will need to apply for a Visitor (B) visa in order to travel to the USA for tourism. For more information, please contact your nearest US embassy.

Getting there

Flights between the UK and USA are operating normally.

COVID-19 restrictions

Non-immigrant, non-citizen travellers to the USA must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and must provide proof of vaccination prior to boarding - with very limited exceptions. For more information on vaccination exemptions, please see the Centre for Disease Control (CDC) [website](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/noncitizens-US-air-travel.html).

Upon arrival, fully vaccinated travellers:

* do not have to quarantine
* are recommended to take a viral test within 3 to 5 days of arrival in the US.

If you have recovered from a documented COVID-19 infection within the past 90 days (regardless of vaccination status):

* you do not need to get a test 3 to 5 days after travel

If you’re not fully vaccinated but have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last year you still cannot enter the USA unless you meet one of the exceptions detailed on the [US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html) and [US Embassy websites](https://uk.usembassy.gov/visas/u-s-visa-and-travel-faqs/).

Facemasks must be worn on federal government sites such as international airports (subject to specific states)

Returning to the UK

There are no coronavirus-related restrictions affecting travel to the UK.