

# ETIAS and ETA

**ETIAS** and **ETA** are travel authorisation schemes being implemented for visa-exempt nationals to visit certain European countries. The table below summarises and illustrates similarities and differences between the two schemes. Visa-exempt travellers travelling to the Schengen Area should also note the new scheme EES being implemented before ETIAS.

Further information on the EU schemes (EES and ETIAS) and UK scheme (ETA) as well as official communication resources can be found on ETOA's visas and borders webpage:

<https://www.etoa.org/operating-in-europe/visas-and-borders/>

	<b>ETIAS</b>	<b>ETA</b>
<b>Official website</b>	<a href="http://www.europa.eu/etias">www.europa.eu/etias</a>	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/electronic-travel-authorisation">www.gov.uk/electronic-travel-authorisation</a>
<b>Implementing countries</b>	<b>Schengen Area + Cyprus</b> ( <a href="#">30 countries</a> ) All countries in the EU/EFTA (except Ireland)	<b>United Kingdom</b> (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales)
<b>Applicable to</b>	<a href="#">Visa-exempt</a> third country nationals (non-EU/non-EFTA) visiting for short-stay (90/180 days)  <a href="#">Exemptions</a> include British (UK) nationals resident in Ireland before 2021. Third country nationals resident in any of the 30 countries are excluded from the scheme.	Visa-exempt nationals (excluding British/Irish) visiting for short-stay (6 months) i.e. <a href="#">national of a country not on this list</a>  <a href="#">Exemption</a> : visa-exempt nationals resident in Ireland (not British/Irish) when travelling to the UK from Ireland or elsewhere in the Common Travel Area (ETA is required when travelling to/transiting the UK from outside the Common Travel Area)
<b>Start date</b>	<b>Not yet in operation</b> (target date mid-2025)  Will be applicable to all visa-exempt nationals at the same time from start date.  There will be a transition period of at least 6 months from start date whereby ETIAS will not be a requirement as well as a further grace period following the transition period.	<b>In operation for nationals of <a href="#">GCC countries</a> and Jordan</b> (i.e. certain Middle East countries)  Start date anticipated for remaining visa-exempt nationals:  Autumn 2024 (TBC) – rest of the world (excluding EU/EFTA) e.g. Japan, USA Early 2025 (TBC) for EU/EFTA nationals (excluding Irish)
<b>Cost</b>	<b>€7 per person</b> (person aged under 18 or over 70 at time of application is exempt from paying although still need to apply)	<b>£10 per person</b> (payable by all ages)

# ETIAS and ETA

	Third country national (of any age) who is a <a href="#">family member of an EU/EFTA national</a> is also exempt from paying but only when travelling to a country that is not of their family member's nationality	
<b>Validity</b>	<b>3 years or until expiration of travel document</b> , whichever is sooner (multiple entries permitted during validity)	<b>2 years or until expiration of travel document</b> , whichever is sooner (multiple entries permitted during validity)
<b>To apply (in advance of travel)</b>	<b>Not currently possible to apply</b>  Either via official website or ETIAS mobile app (authorisation linked to travel document i.e. passport)  Dual nationals with two third country passports will be required to apply for an ETIAS linked to one of their passports. Applying for an ETIAS for each passport will not be permitted.	<b>Currently only possible to apply for nationals of <a href="#">GCC countries</a> and Jordan</b>  Either via official website or ETA mobile app (authorisation linked to travel document i.e. passport)
<b>Air-side transiting</b>	Not required to apply	Required to apply
<b>Application form language</b>	24 (all official <a href="#">EU languages</a> )	1 (English)
<b>Biometric data when applying</b>	Not required as collected by EES	Facial image required if age 10+ applying via mobile app
<b>Third parties permitted to apply on behalf of traveller</b>	Yes (with <a href="#">declaration of representation</a> )	Yes (third party should use official website to apply where the traveller is not present with third party)

Last reviewed: 24 April 2024

*Disclaimer: While best efforts have been made to verify the accuracy of the information, the information displayed should be used as guidance only.*

©2024 European Tourism Association (ETOA)

