

Traveling to France on Business

This information is for British citizens travelling for business or other work purposes. It explains what employers, employees, or the self-employed need to do if they need a visa or permit. This information is provided as a guide only. For more detail, please visit the [.GOV website](#)

Visa and permit documents

If you're going to France to work you must make sure you meet passport and other travel requirements. France is in the Schengen area.

You do not need a visa or permit if you're travelling to France for up to 90 days in a 180-day period for specific business-related activities. These activities include:

- attending trade fairs
- board meetings
- meeting clients or customers (including entertainment such as eating at a restaurant)
- meeting colleagues, contractors or sellers
- carrying out fact-finding visits
- negotiating, signing and executing deals or contracts
- attending, speaking or presenting at a conference if you're not being paid

There is no need for a work permit if you are purely manning your exhibition stand. If you are building the stand before the show opens then a work permit will be required.

Border checks

At the border, you may be asked to show:

- proof of return travel, such as plane or train tickets
- health insurance that covers your stay
- proof of accommodation for your entire stay
- enough money for the duration of your trip
- an invitation letter from your employer explaining your trip

Taking goods out of GB temporarily

If you are planning on exhibiting demonstration equipment or sample items at JEC World 2023 then you will need to prepare for customs procedures for your products to ensure a successful show, such as applying for an [ATA carnet](#).

An ATA carnet lets you temporarily export commercial samples, trade fair or exhibition goods and professional equipment to countries that are part of the ATA Carnet system. Using the ATA Carnet will mean you'll not pay customs charges, and it simplifies clearing your goods through customs in exporting and importing countries — it replaces customs documents that you'd normally need to complete.

When you move good in or out of Great Britain, you must declare them and pay any duty that's owed. You'll need an export licence to move certain kinds of goods. [Find out if you need to apply for any licences](#). You might be able to [claim relief from duty](#) and declare goods in an easier way if you're only moving them temporarily, for example for a trade show or event — this is called returned goods relief (RGR). You claim RGR when you [return to Great Britain with the goods](#).