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## PRESS RELEASE

**28<sup>th</sup> November 2024... The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade, and Barbuda Affairs, in collaboration with the Antigua and Barbuda High Commission (London), host informative webinar about the United Kingdom's new Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) requirement.**

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade, and Barbuda Affairs, in collaboration with the Antigua and Barbuda High Commission (London), hosted a second webinar on the United Kingdom's Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA). The session was organised to provide key stakeholders and members of the media with details about the United Kingdom's new ETA requirement. The ETA is a digital permission to travel to the UK. The first webinar involved the Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority and its main stakeholders

The webinars were facilitated by representatives from the UK Future Borders and Immigration System Programme (Migration and Borders Group). Experts from the UK outlined the purpose and application of the ETA, how to apply for one, and its implications for travellers from Antigua and Barbuda and other visa-exempt countries.

The UK's ETA requirement, set to take effect on 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2025, will require all travellers who do not currently need a visa to apply for an Electronic Travel Authorisation prior to visiting the UK.

### **What?**

The United Kingdom is launching the Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) system, a new pre-travel requirement for visa-exempt travellers from all countries.

### **Who?**

Visitors to the United Kingdom who do not currently require a visa for short stays (up to six months within a two-year period), except British and Irish citizens, or persons who do not already have a UK immigration status prior to travelling will need an [Electronic Travel Authorisation \(ETA\)](#) – a digital permission to travel to the UK.

### **When?**

Eligible non-Europeans can now apply for an ETA and will need an ETA to travel from 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

**Where?**

The application process can be completed through the ETA mobile app or online via the UK Government Official Website: [How to apply - Apply for an ETA to come to the UK - GOV.UK](#)

**How much?**

An ETA costs £10 and permits multiple journeys to the UK for stays of up to six months at a time over two years or until the holder's passport expires – whichever is sooner.

**How long?**

The application process is quick and straightforward, requiring applicants to provide basic personal and travel information. Most applications will be processed within 3 working days.

Once approved, the ETA will be valid for two years, allowing multiple visits to the UK for stays of up to six months at a time over two years or until the holder's passport expires – whichever is sooner. If you get a new passport, you will need to get a new ETA.

**What you cannot do with an ETA**

You cannot:

- stay in the UK for longer than 6 months
- do paid or unpaid work for a UK company or as a self-employed person, unless you are doing a permitted paid engagement or event or work on the Creative Worker visa concession
- claim public funds (benefits)
- live in the UK through frequent or successive visits
- marry or register a civil partnership, or give notice of marriage or civil partnership - you will need to [apply for a Marriage Visitor visa](#)

Travellers are strongly encouraged to apply for their ETA well ahead of their intended travel dates to ensure a seamless journey.

For further details on the UK's ETA system, including eligibility and application requirements, visit the official UK Government website: [Apply for an electronic travel authorisation \(ETA\) - GOV.UK](#)

The public awareness campaign will continue to ensure that all Antigua and Barbuda passport holders are aware of the operation of the ETA.

For a short video presentation on what an Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) is, please visit: [What is an Electronic Travel Authorisation? - YouTube](#). For a short video presentation on how to apply for an ETA, please visit: [Getting Started: Applying For a UK ETA - YouTube](#).

**End.**