

Key Documents Moving to the UK



Transfer of Residence Relief (ToR1 Form)

To import your personal belongings and household goods into the UK without paying 20% VAT and import duties, you must apply for Transfer of Residence (ToR) relief via HMRC's ToR1 form.

- **When to apply:** Submit this as early as possible before your goods are shipped.
- **What you get:** Once approved by HMRC, you'll receive a Unique Reference Number (URN). Hand this URN to your removal team so we can clear your goods smoothly through UK Customs.

Visa & Right to Abode

Ensure your visa (Work, Ancestry, Family, or Student) is fully granted before booking travel.

Keep copies of your official approval letters, as you will need them for both customs declarations and opening UK accounts.

Inventory & Restricted Items

Prepare a high-level packing list of the belongings you plan to bring.

Keep in mind that certain items like agricultural products, meat/dairy, or specific weapons are strictly regulated or prohibited from entering the UK.

Healthcare (NHS Registration)

Most UK visa holders pay the Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) as part of their visa application, giving you access to the UK's National Health Service (NHS).

Once you arrive and have a permanent address, register with a local General Practitioner (GP).

National Insurance (NI)

To work or pay taxes in the UK, you will need a National Insurance number.

You can apply online as soon as you arrive. Additionally, set up a UK bank account early to simplify paying rent, setting up utilities, and receiving local income.

As fully accredited **FIDI FAIM members**, we adhere to the highest audited quality standards in the global international moving industry.

Before you pack, explore official import requirements directly through the [FIDI Customs Guide for the United Kingdom](#).

Ready to make your move to the UK seamless? [Get your free moving quote here!](#)

Moving home checklist

We've broken down the moving timeline into easily digestible chunks that make your international move simple and stress free.

01 As soon as you decide on moving:

- ☐ Visit the consulate of your new country
 - ☐ Find out about visa requirements
 - ☐ Begin applying for your work visa
 - ☐ Research customs duties, tax, and contraband rules
 - ☐ Research medical provision and health insurance
 - ☐ Enquire about vaccination and health requirements
- ☐ Create a folder for visa, immigration and moving documents
- ☐ Research the culture of your new home country
- ☐ Start learning the language of your new home country
- ☐ Find new schools and begin the application process

02 3-6 months before the move

- ☐ Find your new home or temporary accommodation
- ☐ Engage your international removals company
(You can get a [free estimate here!](#))
- ☐ Set a move date
- ☐ Sign your lease papers
- ☐ Book travel arrangements and transfers
- ☐ Get travel and health insurance
- ☐ Get your vaccinations

03 1-2 months before the move

- ☐ Change/close your bank accounts
- ☐ Get a letter of introduction from your religious leader
- ☐ Have your medical records forwarded
- ☐ Send change of address notices to:
 - ☐ All creditors
 - ☐ Insurance provider
 - ☐ Subscriptions (magazines etc)
 - ☐ Postal office
 - ☐ Home country tax office
- ☐ Discontinue your service products:
 - ☐ Car tax
 - ☐ Car insurance
 - ☐ Home utilities
 - ☐ Gas
 - ☐ Water
 - ☐ Electricity
 - ☐ HOA or council tax
 - ☐ Internet and phone line
 - ☐ TV and cable services
 - ☐ Mobile phone
 - ☐ Subscriptions

04 Two weeks before your move

- ☐ Organise your belongings and sell/donate anything you no longer want or need
- ☐ Back up all your data, ideally on a cloud-based system
- ☐ Double check you're not planning on taking any restricted or banned items
- ☐ If you are not using a packing service, begin packing items you will not need before the move

05 The day before you move

- ☐ Pack your 'moving day box'
 - ☐ Keys
 - ☐ Wallet
 - ☐ Documents folder
 - ☐ Mobile phones/tablets and chargers
 - ☐ Valuables and jewellery
 - ☐ Medication
 - ☐ Some snacks and bottles of water!
- ☐ Empty and clean all your appliances/white goods
- ☐ Lay out your clothes and shoes for travelling in
- ☐ Complete any final cleaning
- ☐ Call your moving company to confirm their arrival time
- ☐ Check the labels on all your boxes
- ☐ Separate out goods to be stored from goods to be moved

06 The big moving day

- ☐ Check your mailbox
- ☐ Close and lock all windows and doors
- ☐ Double check every room to make sure nothing is left behind
- ☐ Read utility meters and take photos of them
- ☐ Turn off all electrical points and light switches
- ☐ Hand over the keys to your property agent

Documents folder checklist

- ☐ Flight/Travel details
- ☐ Insurance papers
 - ☐ Health insurance
 - ☐ Travel insurance
 - ☐ Contents/property insurance
- ☐ Visa papers
- ☐ Adoption papers/birth certificates and photocopies
- ☐ Bank records
- ☐ Copies of your bank card numbers and contact numbers
- ☐ Driving licence and photocopies
- ☐ Passport and photocopies (and any passport photos)
- ☐ Identity cards and photocopies
- ☐ Marriage certificates and photocopies
- ☐ Medical and dental records and any medication details
- ☐ School and education records
- ☐ Pet passport, medical records and travel documents
- ☐ Legal documents

Or save yourself a lot of hassle and let us take care of your relocation journey. A dedicated move coordinator will manage you through the entire process. Contact your local office today for a seamless move!

[Get a free estimate](#)