

THE UK'S TRANSITION PERIOD ENDS ON 31 DECEMBER 2020

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**ON 31 DECEMBER 2020, THE UK'S
TRANSITION PERIOD ENDS – WHAT
DOES THIS MEAN FOR UK NATIONALS
WISHING TO LIVE AND WORK IN
PORTUGAL FROM JANUARY 2021?**

The UK officially left the EU on 31 January 2020 at 23:00 GMT, ending 47 years of membership.

On 31 December 2020, the UK's transition period ends and with it, the country's membership of the single market and customs union, and consequently the free movement of people will come to an end on that day.

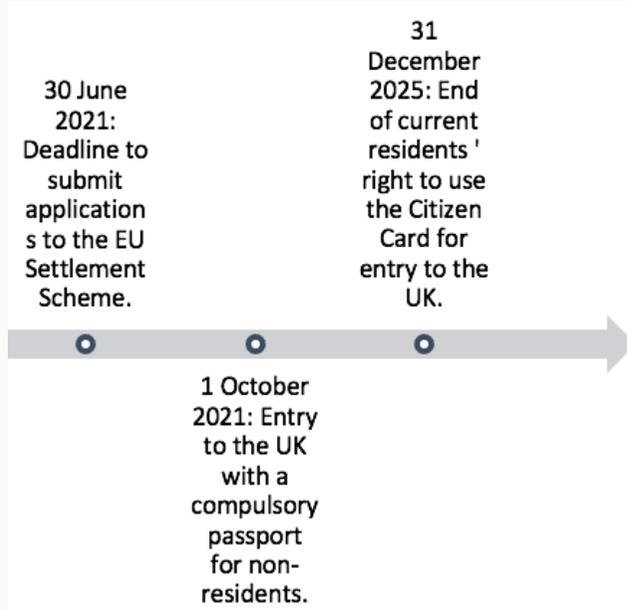
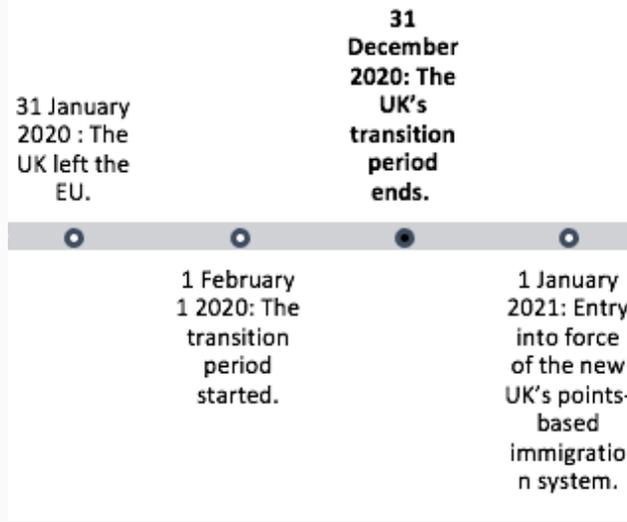
From 1 January 2021, it will enter into force in the UK a points-based immigration system that treats EU and non-EU citizens equally, prioritising individuals' skills and talent over where a person comes from.

UK NATIONALS WHO LIVE IN PORTUGAL BEFORE 31 DECEMBER 2020*

UK nationals who are living in Portugal before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020, and UK minors who are family members of residents must apply for a residence permit in Portugal.

Those holding a residence document from Portugal can now register for a new residence permit. This new residence permit will be issued to UK nationals, residents in Portugal before 31 December 2020, and it is a prerogative to the beneficiaries of the Withdrawal Agreement between the United Kingdom and the European Union, confirming that their rights (e.g. work, health, education, tax benefits, etc.) are protected after the end of the transition period.

Family members of UK nationals who are nationals of a third country must follow the usual procedure for renewing their residence permit.



UK NATIONALS WISHING TO LIVE AND WORK IN PORTUGAL AFTER JANUARY 2021

UK nationals who come to live in Portugal after 1 January 2021 may need to require a residence visa.

After 1 January 2021, UK citizens should attend an appointment at the competent Town Hall to provide biometric data for the new residence permit.

The new card to be issued from 1 January 2021 and the process is just an exchange of the current document (either an EU Registration Certificate issued by the Town Hall or an EU Permanent Residence Certificate issued by SEF).

Family members of UK nationals who are nationals of a third country must follow the usual procedure for renewing their residence permit.

- **WHO?** UK nationals who live in Portugal before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020, and UK minors who are family members of residents.
- **WHEN?** Appointments will be scheduled from 1 January 2021 onwards & The registration to exchange the residence document will last until at least the end of June 2021.
- **WHERE?** Town Hall near to residence.

*According to a report (RIFA) published by SEF last June, 34.358 British citizens were living in Portugal in 2019.