



## **VISA REQUIREMENTS**

PESGB Conferences Ltd is not able to provide any specific VISA advice to our delegates, but below we have given recommendations of the websites to visit for the information you require.

# VISAS FOR DELEGATES FROM THE EU

This section will be updated regularly to reflect changes dependent on the outcome of Brexit negotiations. We recommend that you visit www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa for up to date information and to find out if you require a visa and which one is most appropriate for you.

#### VISAS FOR DELEGATES FROM OUTSIDE OF THE EU

The visa application process can take up to 3 months, so we encourage attendees to apply for visas as early as possible, if you from outside the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland. To check if you require a VISA, please visit https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa

If you require a VISA to visit the UK for PROSPEX 2019, please visit: https://www.gov.uk/visit-uk-business-trip

The website will take you stepby-step through the application process and provide further details, dependent on the country from where you are applying.

Step 1: Check which VISA you require at

Step 2: Apply for your VISA

Step 3: Check what you can bring with you

Step 4: Check what you need to show at the UK Border and make sure you bring it with you.

The earliest you can apply is 3 months before you travel. You should get a decision on your visa within 3 weeks, although please note there is no guarantee. You can check how long your VISA Processing might take at: https://www.gov.uk/visa-processing-times. Please note some VISA application centers offer fast-track services, for an additional cost.

Please note PESGB Conferences Ltd. are only able to provide VISA Invitation Letters, once you have paid in full for your conference ticket or, if you have received a complimentary ticket, when we have formally registered you for the conference.

We kindly remind you that your VISA is valid only for the inclusive dates approved by the embassy. You are required to leave the UK before your visa expires.

#### **ACCOMMODATION**

PESGB have appointed Event Express as the Official Accommodation Agency to provide discounted hotel accommodation exclusively for exhibitors and attendees of PROSPEX 2019. If you're unsure of your requirements at this stage, Event Express offer flexible cancellation policies which allow you to make amendments and cancellations at no charge until closer to the event date. However, we do advise that you book now and amend later in order to guarantee your preferred hotel.

The Event Express service is completely free to use with no hidden charges and no booking or transaction fees, and the friendly reservations team will liaise with the hotels directly on your behalf. For more information, please contact Event Express directly via the email or telephone number listed below, or alternatively refer to the accommodation weblink to book your accommodation online.

+44 (0) 1905 732 737 reservations@eventexpressuk.com https://www.eventexpressuk.com/e/prospex/

#### FLIGHTS & SECURITY CHECKS

The closest airports to the Business Design Centre are London Gatwick, London Heathrow and London Stansted Airport.

When departing the UK after the conference London Heathrow Airport and London Stansted Airport ask passengers to check in three hours before departure for international flights. At London Gatwick Airport, it is four hours. Please be aware that London airports are very busy and therefore baggage inspections and passport control may take more time than usual, depending on the volume of passengers at a given time. Please check your airline's baggage policies regarding contents and size/weight limits. Ensure that your hand-carry baggage does not include hazardous materials or liquid containers with more than 100ml.

It is best to check the details for the airport you are flying from to the UK for their individual advice regarding travel.

# TRANSPORT TO THE BUSINESS DESIGN CENTRE

The Business Design Centre is easy to reach from all the airports, which serve London. It is often quicker and easier to use public transport to reach the venue.

Almost all of London public transport is can be paid for by using an Oyster Card (https://oyster.tfl.gov.uk/oyster/entry.do) or a contactless payment cards, typically the Visa, MasterCard or American Express cards you use for everyday expenditure. Trains and tube journeys can be purchased as paper tickets, but it is often cheaper and easier to pay with a contactless card or oyster card.

## **LONDON HEATHROW (18.6 MILES)**

Use the Piccadilly line at Heathrow and travel directly to King's Cross Station, then swap onto the Northern Line (towards Morden via Bank) and travel one stop to Angel Station. The Business Design Centre is then a 5 minute walk. (Journey 70 – 80 minutes dependent on airport terminal)

### LONDON GATWICK (29.8 MILES)

Take the Gatwick Express to London Bridge station, at London Bridge, swap for the Northern Line (towards High Barnet via Bank) and travel to Angel Station. The Business Design Centre is then a 5 minute walk. (Journey takes approximately 60 minutes)

## LONDON STANSTEAD (34.1 MILES)

Take the Stansted Express towards Tottenham Hale Train Station. (Please note that you cannot use an Oyster Card on the Stansted Express, you will need purchase a ticket) At Tottenham Hale station, swap to Tottenham Hale Tube Station, use the Victoria line (towards Brixton) to get to King's Cross Station, then swap onto the Northern Line (towards Morden via Bank) and travel one stop to Angel Station. The Business Design Centre is then a 5-minute walk. (70 – 80 minute journey)





For conference-related matters call +44 (0)20 7408 2000 and ask for:

Stephanie Best Event Officer

Bethany Parkinson-Hunt Event Manager

Or email events@pesgb.org.uk



London is filled with history and culture, with numerous famous places and attractions. We would encourage all delegates to visit these during their free hours outside of the event and are looking to arrange some small group visits to the local museums and destinations. The Business Design Centre is located just 10 minutes away by tube from the centre of London, allowing you to easily travel to view sites such as Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, St Paul's Cathedral and the Tower of London.



The official currency of the United Kingdom is the pound sterling, known as the pound. Major currencies (USD, EUR, GBP, etc) can be changed at the currency exchange offices at your airport or at Currency Exchanges across London. However, it is recommended you change your currency prior to travelling.

## **ELECTRICITY & PLUGS**

In England the power plugs and sockets are of type G (which is commonly referred to as a 13 amp plug or 3 pin plug). The standard voltage is 230 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz. You can use your electric appliances in England, if the standard voltage in your country is in between 220 - 240 V (as is in the UK, Europe, Australia and most of Asia and Africa). Although you may be able to purchase plug converters at the airport, it is recommended you purchase them prior to travelling to the UK.

# LONDON PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM

Transport for London is a local government body responsible for the transport system in Greater London, England. London has a large transport network with multiple options for travel. You are advised to check: https://www.visitlondon.com/traveller-information/getting-around-london/london-transport for further details.

## PHONING

International phone dialing country code for the UK is: 0044



December is one of the coldest months to visit London, UK. During this month, the average temperature is 5°C. It is recommended that you prepare for cold weather as well rain showers. You can check the forecast before you travel at https://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/0/w14

## **EMERGENCY NUMBERS IN UK**

Ambulance: 999

The National Health Service (NHS) is the main healthcare provider in the UK.

Overseas nationals are not eligible for free NHS treatment, except if they need emergency treatment while in the UK. If you're visiting from Europe, you need to carry a valid EHIC (European Health Insurance Card) in case you need immediate and necessary medical treatment in an NHS hospital. Without this, you can be charged for treatment. You are strongly advised to take out travel insurance to cover any medical expenses.

Fire: 999

Police: Call 112 or 999 for an emergency. To report non-urgent crime, call the police on 101 from within the UK.

Gas emergency: 0800 111 999