



Guidance **Standard Visitor Visa**

***UK Standard Visitor
Visa application***

www.seafishmongers.co.uk

(For Delegates, Exhibitors, and Visitors to the World Sea Fish Exhibition at ExCeL London)

This guide is provided to help you prepare your UK Standard Visitor Visa application. It explains the documents you need, how to apply, and what to expect.



Important Note:

- *This visa is for tourism, business visits, and attending events.*
- *It does not permit work, long-term stay, or settlement in the UK.*
- *Our invitation letter supports your visa application but does not guarantee approval.*
- *The final decision is made by the UK Home Office / UK Visas & Immigration (UKVI).*

Who Needs a Visa?

- *Nationals of many countries (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nigeria, Ghana, China, etc.) usually need a Standard Visitor Visa.*
- *Nationals of certain countries (EU, USA, Canada, Australia, etc.) may not need a visa for short visits, but should check before travel.*



Check if you need a visa: UK Government Visa Checker

What You Can Do with a Standard Visitor Visa

- Attend conferences, trade shows, and exhibitions.
- Participate in business meetings and networking.
- Visit tourist attractions and travel around the UK.
- Short-term study (up to 30 days).

■ Not allowed

- *Paid or unpaid work.*
- *Living in the UK long term.*
- *Claiming public funds.*
- *Marrying or forming a civil partnership.*

■ Key Requirements

You must show:

- 1. You will only do permitted activities.*
- 2. You intend to leave the UK at the end of your visit.*
- 3. You can fund your stay and travel (yourself or a sponsor).*
- 4. You have ties to your home country (job, family, property, studies).*





Step-by-Step **Application Process**

1 Online Application

- Apply at: <https://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor>
- Complete the form carefully (use your passport details).

2 Pay Visa Fee

- £115 for up to 6 months stay (most common).

3 Book Biometric Appointment

- Provide fingerprints and a photograph at a Visa Application Centre (VAC).

4 Prepare and Upload Documents (see below).

5 Attend Appointment

- Submit biometrics + passport (some centres require passport collection after).

6 Wait for a Decision

- Standard processing: 3–6 weeks (varies by country).
- Priority service (if available): 1–2 weeks.



Documents You Will Need

Prepare both mandatory documents and supporting documents.

■ Mandatory

- *Valid passport (with at least 1 blank page, valid for full trip).*
- *Completed online application form.*
- *Visa fee payment confirmation.*
- *Appointment confirmation.*

■ Recommended Supporting Documents

- *Invitation Letter from World Sea Fish Exhibition (with tracking ID).*
- *Event Registration Confirmation / Exhibitor Contract.*
- *Proof of accommodation (hotel booking, Airbnb, or host letter).*
- *Travel booking or flight reservation (if available).*
- *Evidence of employment (employer letter, business card, contract).*
- *Bank statements (last 6 months).*
- *Salary slips / tax returns.*
- *Business ownership papers (if self-employed).*
- *Proof of family, property, or ties to home country.*
- *Travel history (previous visas, entry/exit stamps).*

Tips for a Successful Application

- ✓ *Apply at least 8–12 weeks before travel.*
- ✓ *Be consistent — all documents must match your application details.*
- ✓ *Show strong ties to your home country.*
- ✓ *Demonstrate that you can cover all costs (flights, hotel, daily expenses).*
- ✓ *Use official documents (bank statements stamped by bank, employer letter on letterhead).*
- ✓ *Keep copies of everything.*

■ Common Reasons for Refusal

- ✗ *Insufficient financial evidence.*
- ✗ *Weak ties to home country (no job, no family proof).*
- ✗ *Inconsistent or false information.*
- ✗ *Previous immigration violations.*
- ✗ *Applying too late before travel.*

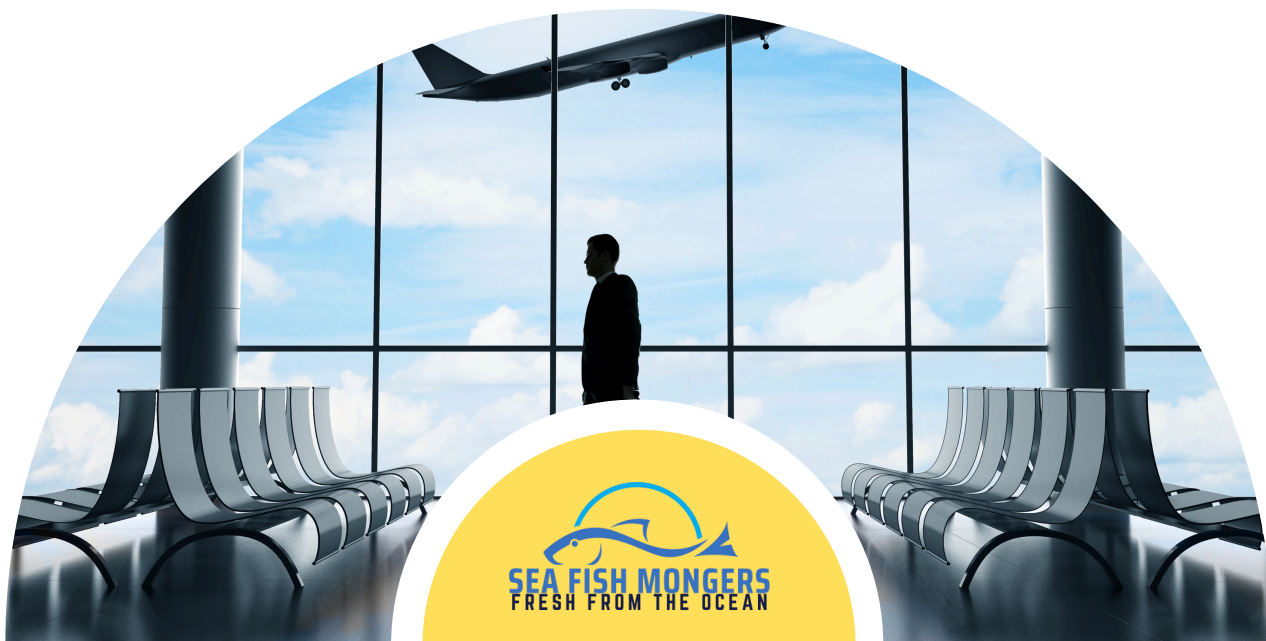


■ After You Apply

- *You'll get an email when a decision is made.*
- *If approved, your passport will have a visa vignette (sticker).*
- *If refused, you'll get a refusal letter explaining why.*

■ On Arrival in the UK

- *Present your passport and visa at border control.*
- *Be ready to explain purpose of visit: "I am attending the World Sea Fish Exhibition at ExCeL London."*
- *Carry your invitation letter, hotel booking, and return flight details.*



Final Checklist **Before You Apply**

- ☒ *Passport valid for 6+ months*
- ☒ *Invitation letter (with tracking ID & QR code)*
- ☒ *Event registration / exhibitor confirmation*
- ☒ *Proof of funds (bank statements, salary slips)*
- ☒ *Proof of ties to home country (job, family, property)*
- ☒ *Accommodation and travel bookings*
- ☒ *Completed visa application form*
- ☒ *Visa fee paid (£115)*
- ☒ *Appointment booked at Visa Application Centre*

Thank You!



Contact & Support



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 ***We cannot influence or speed up UK visa decisions. Only the UK Home Office decides applications.***