

## **TIE ( Tarjeta de Identidad de Extranjero)**

The British Foreign Office is urging all British people living in Spain to ensure they have exchanged their old residency cards for the TIE card (Tarjeta de Identidad Extranjero) as soon as possible, warning that problems could lie ahead for those who don't.

### **What is a TIE?**

It is essential that UK residents here in Spain have a TIE, although many still don't. Resembling a Spanish ID card, it is a valid form of identification. With a TIE you no longer require to have your passport stamped when you leave or enter Spain. According to the British Embassy in Madrid, in June of 2024, 200,000 British residents in Spain still had not exchanged their old green ID cards or paper certificates for the new biometric TIE identity cards. With the new EES system about to come into force next year, travelling anywhere out of the Schengen area, even briefly, British nationals without a TIE could encounter problems trying to return.

### **What is EES?**

EES (Entry/Exit System) is a Schengen zone system run by the EU in order to make the external Schengen border more secure. It is an IT system operated at all Schengen borders, and it will apply to all non-EU nationals who do not need a visa to travel. It does not change any of the rules on immigration; it simply makes their enforcement more rigorous. Certain EU member states have previously applied more discretion, but now they will be obliged to be much stricter, especially with regards to the 90-day rule.

The date for its implementation is early 2025. EES will replace passport stamping with an electronic record. This will consist of biometric data, such as a biometric photograph, which will create an electronic file for you, and then that data will sit in the EES system for 3 years. The file will record the exact time when a person has entered the Schengen zone and activate an automated calendar ticking away in the background, which can be consulted online.

### **Is EES different from ETIAS?**

ETIAS is an acronym for the European Travel Information and Authorisation System. Created in September 2018, it is designed to improve the security of EU member states within the Schengen area. It captures data on travellers that visit the 26 countries within the Schengen Area without the need for a visa. It's important to note that ETIAS is not a visa, it's a visa waiver, similar to the ESTA required for entering the USA and will apply to UK nationals. This will be introduced at some point after EES. Therefore, be warned that any website currently offering to get you an ETIAS is a fraud.

### **Why should it matter to you?**

If you are registered as living in Spain, you are exempt from the EES system, but only if you are a holder of a TIE card, which already contains your biometric data. Without a TIE, you will be put into the EES system. That could be a problem because the automatic calculator will start ticking for you and the system may think you have overstayed your welcome in Spain, which could cause you problems. No one knows yet what those problems will be, but in a worst-case scenario, it could mean a Schengen travel ban and a court case to get back into the EU again.

For this reason, if you have not got a TIE yet, PLEASE APPLY without further delay. You can apply for a TIE card (or exchange a green card) at the Oficina de Extranjeria in Cadiz, near the arched entrance to the historic centre. Please note that children must also be registered and obtain their own TIE.

## STEP 1: MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

To make an appointment, use the following link:

[https://administracion.gob.es/pag\\_Home/atencionCiudadana/Solicitar\\_cita\\_previa-nueva.html](https://administracion.gob.es/pag_Home/atencionCiudadana/Solicitar_cita_previa-nueva.html)

1. Choose *Extranjeria* (top row, centre column)
2. Select Province (**Cadiz**)
3. Click on *Aceptar*
4. This takes you to a new screen entitled **CITA PREVIA EXTRANJERIA**
5. Under *Selecciona Tramite*, ignore the first drop-down (*Tramites Oficinas de Extranjeria*)  
In the second drop-down (*Tramites Policia Nacional*) choose the second last option:  
(*“Policia-Toma de Huella (Expedicion de Tarjeta) Renovacion de Tarjeta de Larga Duracion y Duplicado”*)
6. Click on *Aceptar*
7. Scroll down the next screen, and click on *Presentacion sin Cl@ve* (bottom right)
8. On the next screen, enter your NIE number, Full Name and Nationality (**Reino Unido**)
9. Click on *Aceptar*
10. On the final screen click on *Solicitar Cita*

## STEP 2: FILL IN THE FORM

You have to fill out the application form EX-23, which you can download here:

[https://www.inclusion.gob.es/documents/410169/2156469/23-Formulario\\_TIE\\_RU.pdf](https://www.inclusion.gob.es/documents/410169/2156469/23-Formulario_TIE_RU.pdf)

## STEP 3: PAY THE FEE

Access the payment form using the following link:

[https://sede.policia.gob.es:38089/Tasa790\\_012/](https://sede.policia.gob.es:38089/Tasa790_012/)

The copy must be correctly printed in its entirety, because printouts will not be accepted unless the lower part of the document contains the annotation “Copy for the Administration.” Payment is made at the bank where you will be given proof of payment.

For help in using the form, see this link:

<https://asociacionbabelia.org/en/how-to-complete-and-pay-the-fee-form-790-code-012-for-the-tie-residency-card-in-spain/>

Note that the amount of 12.00€ shown here is out of date, but the correct fee will automatically appear on selection of the purpose of the payment (“*Certificado de registro ...*”)

## STEP 4: ATTEND THE APPOINTMENT

Take the following documents with you:

- The completed application form (original) plus a copy
- Proof of payment of the fee (at a bank)
- Proof of address (your Padron certificate)
- 3 passport-sized photographs
- Your NIE number

When your application has been processed you will receive a notification that it can be collected at the same address.