

COMPARISON

EES VS ETIAS

Entry/Exit System

Starts Nov 10, 2024

Registers travellers entering Europe for a short stay. No action required from travellers before start of their trip. Registration done at external border of 29 European countries using the EES including the 27 Schengen countries, Bulgaria, and Romania. Registration on the EES done every time travellers cross external borders.

Registration with the EES occurs at the external border of the 29 countries. Serves as an entry and exit pass, similar to the passport stamping process. The initiative records emigration at the external Schengen Area borders.

When travelers from outside the EU arrive at a Schengen border, they will need to scan their passports at self-service kiosks. These machines will collect important information like names, travel document details, fingerprints and facial images. It will also collect travel document data and the date and place where the traveller entered and exited the territory of European countries using the system.

European Travel Information and Authorisation System

Starts Spring 2025

ETIAS is a new entry requirement for travellers who do not need a visa to enter 30 European countries for a short stay including the 27 Schengen countries, Bulgaria, Cyprus, and Romania. With ETIAS, visa-free travellers need to apply for a travel authorisation before starting their trip. ETIAS is not a visa, and its introduction does not modify the visa-free status of travellers.

Travellers need to apply for an ETIAS travel authorisation well in advance of starting their trip to Europe. ETIAS serves as a visa waiver to citizens of third countries and is similar to the Schengen visa.

When applying for an ETIAS travel authorisation, travellers will need to provide their personal information, including address, passport details, current occupation, and information about past travel to conflict zones or criminal convictions. No biometric data, such as fingerprints, is collected with ETIAS.