

## UPDATE 18 November 2021

(The TIER updates are not as frequent now.)

- News forwarded by Steve Heap that artists touring to Spain will no longer need visas for short-term engagements. The change follows months of dedicated work by the LIVE Touring group which they have conducted alongside the Association for British Orchestras (ABO), working with their Spanish counterparts Asociación Promotores Musicales, and more recently Mercury Wheels @ Live Nation. See post on [BVEP website](#).

## TOURISM ALLIANCE UPDATE 18 November

### Coronavirus Updates

- **Public Guidance On Testing Changed**

It is worth noting that the primary guidance for the public on staying safe from coronavirus has been updated with the removal of the guidance for people to take twice weekly LFTs and instead adopt a “risk-based” approach to testing which is based on their vulnerability and the type of setting that this are visiting.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-coronavirus-restrictions-what-you-can-and-cannot-do>

- **Transport Use Update**

It’s been a while since I included DfT’s transport use figures in an update. The good news is that, for the first time since pre-pandemic, the use of the national rail system has been consistently over 70% of normal for a week. The other good news is that bus use is now 75-85% of normal.

The one “fly in the ointment” is tube use in London which is still hovering around 60% during the week but around 80% on the weekends, indicating that while leisure/shopping visits into London are returning to normal, there are still a lot of people working from home or hybrid working.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/transport-use-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic>

- **Updated Air Passenger Guidance**

The guidance for passengers hubbing through England has been updated to say that they no longer need to complete a UK passenger locator form provided that they remain airside.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-air-travel-guidance-for-passengers>

- **DCMS Monthly GVA Estimates**

DCMS’s latest monthly GVA assessments of the sectors under its responsibility has been published. This covers the period to Sept 2021 but does not include the biggest sector under its responsibility (tourism) because “*the data normally used to produce the annual GVA estimates:*

- *does not reflect monthly variations during the pandemic*
- *is only available up to the end of 2020*
- *is very sensitive to underlying assumptions.”*

The good news is that DCMS is working to develop another method of estimating monthly GVA for the tourism industries and this will be included in the next release, in February 2022.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/dcms-sectors-economic-estimates-monthly-gva-to-september-2021>

### **BREXIT Updates**

- **EU Settlement Scheme Guidance Updated**

The guidance on the EUSS has been updated to explain when it may be possible for EU nationals to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme in situations where their absence from the UK exceeds the permitted period but was caused by coronavirus. This will be particularly helpful for businesses that had European employees that left the UK during the pandemic and have yet to return.

While the deadline to apply for EUSS was 30 June 2021, applications are still being accepted if either:

- The applicant has a later deadline such as joining a family member in the UK who was living in the UK by 31 December 2020
- The applicant has 'reasonable grounds' (eg illness) for being unable to apply by 30 June 2021

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-eu-settlement-scheme-guidance-for-applicants>