



## Driving licences

- The Spanish Traffic office – the DGT – have activated the protocol to streamline the process for UK driving licence holders who have not yet exchanged their UK licence for a Spanish one. Further information is available on their website [here](#)
- UK licence holders who wish to exchange must present an application to the DGT before 30/12/20, either via a form on their online portal, or by calling 060. It may also be possible to take the form into the DGT in person, but we recommend you first check with the office by phone ahead of doing so, particularly due to ongoing Covid-restrictions in many parts of the country
- Within three days of presenting the application the licence holder can request an appointment with the DGT
- As long as the application has been submitted within the timeframe, and the licence has been verified by the end of the year, the appointment to exchange with the DGT can be after 1 January 2021. It must be within the first 6 months of next year
- Irrespective of whether a UK licence has been verified for exchange by the end of the year, UK licence holders will be able to use the licence for 6 months to drive in Spain from 1 January 2021
- The future rules for recognition and exchange of licences are still subject to negotiation. Our advice remains that UK nationals sign up for the [email alerts](#) on the Living in Spain guide to ensure they keep up to date with the latest
- If a person already has an appointment booked with DGT, their website states that the person does not need to go through the process above and can attend their appointment as scheduled with all their supporting documentation
- Hopefully this process will allow those who have been struggling to get an appointment to start the exchange process before the end of the year and be reassured that they can still exchange their licence for a Spanish one as per the process for EU licences

**NB.** We have been made aware that in a couple of regions, such as in Murcia and Madrid, UK nationals who have attended DGT appointments with a green residence certificate have been turned away as they do not have the TIE. This should not be the case and the green certificates should continue to be accepted. The Embassy are in touch with the DGT on this issue and will provide further updates in due course. In the meantime, those yet to exchange can use the process above to ensure they are in the system for exchange before 31 December.