

# **United Kingdom**

## Tier 1 Investor Programme

The United Kingdom is situated in north-western Europe and includes England, Scotland and Wales on the island of Britain, and Northern Ireland on the island of Ireland, as well as some smaller islands. The United Kingdom was once a great empire that stretched across much of the known world and, although it is no longer the global power it once was, it remains a powerful international player and retains significant economic, cultural, political and military influence. It is an exceptional place to visit, to live and to do business in, and the capital city of London is one of the major cities of the world, as well as one if its largest financial centres.

The UK has long been a respected model of law and governance for many countries, and its common law and parliamentary systems have been adopted by numerous countries including Australia, Canada and India. The UK also boasts many of the world's top universities, meaning there is a wide range of options for education and a continuous supply of top talent for business There is a national health care system (the NHS), and the medical facilities and standards of care are excellent.

From the beautiful scenery of the Lake District and the Scottish Highlands, to the buzzing cosmopolitan scene of London and the rich history of Oxford and Edinburgh, there is something for everyone in the UK. It remains a top tourist destination and has excellent transport links to the rest of Europe and the wider world, including the busiest airport in Europe and high-speed rail links to continental Europe. Considering the UK's connectedness, its convenience and its quality of life, it is no surprise it is high on people's lists when it comes to second residency options.





## Tier 1 Investor Programme

The Tier 1 (Investor) visa is designed for high net worth individuals who want to relocate themselves and their family to the UK. The Tier 1 (Investor) visa category applies to the main applicant and all immediate family members, including spouses and children under the age of 18.

Initially, after making an investment of at least £2 million in the UK, the investor visa is granted for three years and four months. This can be extended by another two years, by demonstrating that the investment has been maintained.

There is no requirement to demonstrate English language ability. Work, study and business activity is permitted. Citizenship may be applied for after 6 years of residence (5 in the case of investment amounts of £5,000,000 or £10,000,000).

## Eligibility

- Applicants must be over 18.
- Applicants must make the required investment.
- Applicants must have opened a UK bank account.
- English language ability is not required.
- Applicants should make the UK their home and not spend more than 180 days outside the UK annually.
- Applicants must produce a number of documents including police clearance certificates for any country they have lived in for more than 12 months, in the ten year period leading up to the application (since the age of 18 years old).

## Core Advantages

- This programme confers the right to permanently live in the UK. You can freely move to the UK and enjoy the benefits of settlement, including the ability to purchase property, work, open a bank account, marry in the UK, and more.
- Family members can accompany the investor to the UK, as long as the appropriate applications are completed.
- The UK has free medical care services. The UK National Health Service (NHS) was established in 1948, and provides all UK residents with free health care and treatment.
- There are no work restrictions associated with this visa and there is no need to apply for any work permits.
- The UK is a respected society and the economy is stable.
   The UK has a strong currency and a resilient economy with a democratic political system and a strong emphasis on social equality and personal freedom.
- The UK will be a member of the European Union until approximately spring 2019. Citizens are free to live, work, study and do business in any EU member state and in Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland. A UK passport comes with the freedom to travel to 158 countries around the world, visa-free and hassle-free.

## **Investment Options**

Applicants must invest at least £2,000,000 in government bonds, share capital or loan capital in active UK enterprises.

Applicants must be able to prove that the money belongs to them or to their husband, wife, unmarried or same-sex partner. The investment must be committed for five years, after which investors can apply for leave to settle (permanent residence). The funds must be held in one or more regulated financial institutions and free to spend (disposable) in the UK. The money to be invested may be in the UK or overseas at the time of application. The investment should be made within three months of entry to the UK.

If £5,000,000 is invested, the investor can apply to settle after 3 years. If £10,000,000 is invested, settlement can be applied for after 2 years.





# **Residency Process**

- After the preparation of materials, applications are made online and supporting documents are submitted. The applicant must show that they intend and are able to make the investment, and that they satisfy all application criteria.
- The applicant is invited to provide their biometric details.
   A decision is only made after the biometric details are supplied, after which the supporting documents are returned to the applicant.
- In order to extend residency, it must be shown that the investment has been maintained. Interest and dividend payments may be withdrawn, as long as the investment amount remains the same.
- After the required length of residency, permanent residency (indefinite leave) can be applied for.

## An Ideal Destination

The UK is the second largest economy in Europe and one of the largest economies in the world. It is a major source of foreign investment and a major destination for overseas capital, and London is one of the financial services capitals of the world. The UK also produces oil and gas in the North Sea. Its currency, the pound sterling, is one of the most important currencies in

the world, and the third-largest reserve currency after the US dollar and the euro.

The UK is served exceptionally well by an excellent transport infrastructure. There is an extensive road system and a high-quality motorway network. There is also an extensive rail network, which is linked to continental European cities such as Brussels and Paris via the channel tunnel. There are a large number of airports including several major international airports, the largest of which are London Heathrow, London Gatwick and Manchester. The major cities are well served by bus systems, commuter and underground rail systems, taxis and trams.

Each of the constituent parts of the UK (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) have their own education systems. All have early years, primary, secondary, further and higher education. The UK has a highly-regarded educational system that has been emulated in numerous countries. The UK is home to a large number of top-ranked universities. In London, there is the London School of Economics, Imperial College London, King's College London and University College London, while outside London there is the University of Cambridge, the University of Oxford, the University of Edinburgh and the University of Manchester. There are also numerous other universities and colleges, so there are plenty of third level options to choose from.



# The Leading Firm in Global Residency Solutions

www.oushengpartners.com

Ousheng & Partners provides a range of services for highnet-worth investors seeking high-quality overseas residency solutions. Our professional and dedicated team has many years of successful experience in overseas residence and citizenshipby-investment programmes, and can advise and assist with all concerns inherent in relocation, including legal matters, property acquisition, and access to medical and education services.

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