

# Majorca Daily Bulletin

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## Britons who have still not made their residency in Spain official are thrown a lifeline by government

Palma.— Brexit may be well and truly done, but British citizens residing in Spain who have yet to complete the necessary paperwork have just been thrown a lifeline by the Spanish authorities. The government has announced that those who can prove they lived in Spain prior to 31 December 2020 may still apply for residency there.

Immigration officials have been instructed to follow the same procedure as they did for those applying for residency before the December deadline, though with particular attention paid to documentation that proves the individuals' residency pre-dated the end of 2020.

Keith Rule of law firm CostaLuz Lawyers comments:

"This is excellent news for UK citizens who, for whatever reason, have yet to make their residency in Spain official. They can now apply for the TIE residency document without fear of reprimands or penalties for having missed the 31 December 2020 deadline. The move is a key signal of the value that Spain places on its long-standing relationship with the UK and a positive indicator for post-Brexit relations."

The Spanish guidance states that British citizens arriving in Spain as of 1 January 2021 can also apply for residency in certain situations, such as if they have a family link with a beneficiary of the Withdrawal Agreement.

"All of this spells good news for a close relationship between Spain and the UK over the coming years," continues CostaLuz Lawyers' Keith Rule. "There are hundreds of thousands of British expats living in Spain, while some 18 million Brits spend their holidays here each year. Making it easier for residents to obtain the TIE, despite missing the deadline, should be well received by both expats here in Spain and policymakers back home in the UK."

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## Fury over last orders for bars and restaurants: Page 3

# THE END OF THE GREAT BRITISH FOOD SHOP

● British citizens are no longer allowed to bring in meat or milk products to Spain as a result of the European Union's laws governing food stuffs. See Inside



## British citizens barred again

British citizens, who are not legally resident in Spain, can't travel to Spain until February 2 after the Spanish government decided to extend the ban into next month as a result of the new variant of Covid which has been diagnosed in Britain.

Spain first introduced the restrictions on British citizens earlier this month and it has now been extended on two occasions.

If a British citizen wants to travel to Spain he or she must have the necessary Spanish residence documents, either the new TIE card or green residency certificate.

The Spanish government did say, though, that if the overall Covid situation improved in Britain the ban would be eased.