

Working Holiday: coming home

PVTKit

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Là où tu vas, tout va

We're here to help you get ready for the trip home too · 19 steps, in order

- ☐ **Archive your visa grant, payslips, work references and host-country tax records**
~1 h · download everything before host employer/government portals are deactivated
 - ☐ **Register with a local GP surgery to restore your NHS care**
~20 min · GP registration is free for all; full NHS cover resumes once ordinarily resident again — bring 2 proofs you live in the UK
 - ☐ **Apply for Transfer of Residence (ToR1) relief before shipping belongings home**
Free, allow a few weeks for approval · needs 12+ consecutive months abroad, goods owned/used 6+ months, and the goods imported within 12 months of your move; apply before shipping
 - ☐ **Declare goods worth over your personal allowance to UK customs before you cross the border**
~15 min · declare online from 5 days (120 h) before you arrive, or at the border · free allowance £390 of goods (£270 by private plane or boat), 42 L beer, 18 L still wine, plus either 4 L spirits or 9 L of drinks under 22% · go over and you pay duty on the total value, not just the excess
 - ☐ **Declare £10,000 or more in physical cash to UK customs before you fly home (£10,000 for Northern Ireland)**
~10 min online, and no earlier than 72 h before you travel · physical cash only — notes, coins, bearer bonds, signed open cheques; a bank transfer needs no declaration · counts the total carried by a family or group even if each person has less · undeclared cash can be seized, with a penalty of up to £5,000 to get it back
 - ☐ **Re-register to vote at your new UK address**
~5 min online · re-register (no change-of-address route); give your old address and NI number
 - ☐ **Tell HMRC you are back to live in the UK and set your new address in your tax account**
~15 min · sign in to your personal tax account; wait until you have actually moved before entering the new address · updates Income Tax, NI and State Pension records at once
 - ☐ **Confirm your UK tax residency and split-year treatment with HMRC**
~30 min · resident from 183 days/tax year; no split-year if you were abroad less than a full tax year
 - ☐ **Claim Universal Credit or jobseeker support if you need it while job hunting**
Online claim · Habitual Residence Test applies even to returning Britons — evidence of settling back helps
 - ☐ **Update the address on your GB driving licence once you have a new UK address, and on your V5C log book if you own a vehicle**
Free, ~10 min online · new licence arrives within a week · Great Britain residents only, Northern Ireland goes through the DVA on nidirect · fine of up to £1,000 if you do not tell DVLA your address has changed
 - ☐ **Exchange your host-country licence for a GB one if you swapped yours abroad (DVLA D1)**
£43, ~3 weeks by post · AU/CA/NZ/JP licences swap without a test within 5 yrs of residence; valid to drive only 12 months
 - ☐ **Tell the Student Loans Company you're back in the UK (if you have a student loan)**
~15 min · required if you were away more than 3 months · ends overseas assessed repayments; deductions switch back to PAYE once you're employed — higher interest or arrears if you skip it
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- ☐ **File your final tax return in the host country**
Varies by host · lodge soon after leaving; keep final payslips and income statements as proof
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- ☐ **Claim your superannuation or pension refund from the host country**
Apply once visa ended and you have left · Australia DASP is taxed at 65% for working holiday makers
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- ☐ **Register for Self Assessment if you have foreign income or gains to declare**
~30 min · tell HMRC by 5 October following the tax year you earned in · back within 5 yrs of leaving; temporary non-residence rules can tax some non-wage income
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- ☐ **Claim Foreign Tax Credit Relief on the SA106 pages for tax you already paid abroad**
~30 min · claimed inside the return itself, never applied automatically · keep your host-country tax certificates and final payslips as proof
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- ☐ **File your Self Assessment return and pay the tax by 31 January, if you had to register for one**
11:59pm on 31 January online, 31 October on paper · register after 5 October and HMRC sets you a different deadline, 3 months from the date on its letter · initial £100 late-filing penalty
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- ☐ **Check your National Insurance record and fill State Pension gaps from time abroad**
~15 min online · top-ups allowed back 6 yrs via CF83; from Apr 2026 only Class 3 for time abroad, with tighter eligibility
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- ☐ **Close your host-country bank account once tax and pension refunds have landed**
~30 min · wait for the final tax refund and super/pension payout, transfer the balance home first
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These lists are free, with no email needed. Find your steps in the free PVTKit app, in your language and for your destination. You can tick them off even offline. Scan the QR or find us at pvtkit.com.
Information checked on May 29, 2026. This list is refreshed with the app's data.

