EES Border Checks Explained: What Happens and Why

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What it Does

- Automatically registers non-EU nationals each time they cross a Schengen external border
- Gradually reduces waiting times at passport control
- Simplifies and automates border procedures

Who It Applies To

- Non-EU nationals travelling for short stays (up to 90 days within a 180-day period)
- Visa-required travellers
- Visa-exempt travellers

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What Information Collected

- Full name, date of birth, nationality/nationalities, sex
- Travel document details
- Facial image and/or fingerprints



What is Recorded

- Date and place of entry into and exit from Schengen countries
- Refusals of entry, where applicable

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Travellers Role

- Present valid travel documents to the border guard
- Provide biometric data (facial image and fingerprints)
- Ensure all information is correctly registered in the EES system

Arrive prepared — having your passport open and ready can speed up the process.

AT THE BORDER

The border guard verifies your details, may ask questions, and digitally records your entry in the EES.

QUICK TIP

Arrive prepared — having your passport open and ready can speed up the process.