Umbrella Transfers®

Checked 3 November 2026

CHRISTMAS MARKETS 2026

London airport cheat sheet.

All six London airports on one page: what to carry, what to bring home, the border and the busy days.

AT SECURITY

Liquids in hand luggage, flying out of London

2 litres

Heathrow LHR · Gatwick LGW · Southend SEN

100ml

Stansted STN · Luton LTN · London City LCY

Flying home · most airports abroad — **100ml**

Per container. At all six, liquids can stay in your bag. At Heathrow and Gatwick, empty metal and insulated bottles before security. Jam, honey, mustard and mulled wine all count as liquids.

BRINGING IT HOME

Into Great Britain

- **No meat or dairy from EU countries.** Cheese, cured meats, sausages and milk are taken off you at the border.
- **Your allowance, per person:**

Wine	**18 litres**	Spirits	**4 litres**
Beer, cider	**42 litres**	Cigarettes	**200**
Other goods	**£390**		

- Market jars and bottles over 100ml go in your hold bag for the flight home.

BORDER BASICS

All five markets are in Schengen

- **Passport:** issued less than 10 years before you arrive, and valid for 3 months after the day you leave.
- **Fingerprints and a photo** are taken at passport control the first time you enter under the EU Entry/Exit System. Allow extra time.
- **90 days** in any 180 across the Schengen area.
- **ETIAS has not started** and no date is set, so you do not need it yet. When it opens, apply only at travel-europe.europa.eu.

LAST CHRISTMAS

Fri 19 Dec

The busiest UK departure day, with 2,853 flights scheduled. The peak at Heathrow, Stansted and Luton.

LAST CHRISTMAS

Sun 21 Dec

The peak day at Gatwick.

THIS CHRISTMAS

18 to 21 Dec

Flying then? Book your airport transfer early.

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To or from any London airport, agreed before you book.

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Rules change: check your airport's security page before you fly. Sources, checked 3 November 2026: each airport's security page, GOV.UK (personal allowances and passport rules), Defra (meat and dairy), the European Commission (EES and ETIAS), Cirium flight data for Christmas 2025 via UK Aviation News. Umbrella Transfers Ltd, 6-9 The Square, Stockley Park, UB11 1FW London, UK.