



Homes for Ukraine Update 17 – Friday 31 March 2023

Welcome to our latest update for hosts taking part in the Homes for Ukraine scheme in Norfolk.

In this edition there's information about Eurovision Song Contest tickets for Ukrainians, Easter Celebrations and activities. There are also updates on community help sessions and visas.

Eurovision Song Contest 2023 tickets for displaced people from Ukraine – ballot now open

Ukrainians living in the UK can now apply to enter the ballot for tickets for the Eurovision Song Contest 2023.

The ballot allows individuals on the Homes for Ukraine, Ukraine Family, and Ukraine Extension visa schemes to apply for up to two tickets, as long as the person applying holds a biometric residence permit.

The ballot is open until 4pm on Thursday 6 April. Entries after this date will not be accepted.

The UK Government is subsidising these tickets. If successful in the ballot, individuals will only pay £20 per ticket. This is part of the UK Government's support to ensure the Eurovision Song Contest 2023 is a true collaboration with our Ukrainian friends, and that it celebrates the culture of both countries.

We'd be very grateful if you would share this information with your guests so that people who are eligible know where to apply.

To apply, individuals will need to complete [this form](#), providing their name, email address, and selecting which show or shows they wish to enter the ballot for. They will also need to upload a photo or scan of their biometric residence permit. This is essential to ensure that only those eligible for these tickets are entered into the ballot.

Those successful in the ballot will receive an email confirmation, and will then be able to purchase up to two tickets, at a cost of £20 per ticket. They will need a Ticketmaster account to purchase the tickets. If they do not have a Ticketmaster account already they will be able to set one up ahead of purchase.

For individuals unsuccessful in the ballot, the BBC will be broadcasting the shows, and the Grand Final will be shown live in selected cinemas across the UK. For those who wish to travel to Liverpool, there will be lots of free activities as part of their host city programme.

Anyone travelling to Liverpool will need to arrange their own travel and accommodation.

The [application form, FAQs and further information](#) are on the Government's website.

Community Help sessions in Cromer

As from April 2023 the North Norfolk Welcome/Drop-in Session will be held on the first Tuesday of each month at Cromer Library starting at 2pm.

For more information or if you have any specific questions you would like help with, please contact Sharon on 01263 516248 or email H4U@north-norfolk.gov.uk.

You can [find a full list of all the Community Help sessions](#) on our website.

Ukrainian Easter Celebration

Guests and hosts are welcome to join in a Ukrainian Easter Celebration on Sunday 16 April at St Botolph's Church, Trunch, NR28 0PZ.

The celebration begins with Paschal Vespers at 6pm followed at 6.30pm by a Ukrainian Dinner, with people asked to bring along a dish of food or drinks to share. There will also be a screening of 'Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore'. Please let Tim know in advance if you or your guests want to come along by calling 01692 402624.

Big Norfolk Holiday Fun opens for Easter Bookings

Children across Norfolk can benefit from a range of fun activities this Easter, as the Big Norfolk Holiday Fun scheme returns for the two-week school holiday.

Bookings are now open for the programme, which provides free activities and a healthy hot or cold lunch for children aged 5 to 16 eligible for means tested free school meals, young carers and children who are refugees. More can be found on this here www.norfolk.gov.uk/bignorfolkholidayfun. Further information on how to book can be found here [Big Norfolk Holiday Fun - Norfolk County Council](#) and the video ['What is Big Norfolk Holiday Fun?'](#) gives a great summary of the scheme.

Questions about your guest visas

One of the most frequently asked questions into our Homes for Ukraine scheme inbox are about visas. We often get asked why guest visas take so long and whether there is anything we can do to hurry up the process at all.

We therefore thought it might help to remind you that although we can view the current visa status of guests, visas are managed by the Home Office and unfortunately, we are not able to influence the process. If you do have any questions about visas under the Homes for Ukraine scheme you will need to contact the Home Office [Apply for a visa under the Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme \(Homes for Ukraine\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

When your hosting arrangement comes to an end

If your hosting arrangement is coming to an end for any reason, please get in touch with us at ncchomesforukraine@norfolk.gov.uk to let us know as soon as possible. Please also get in touch if you receive a 'thank you' payment that you think you are not entitled to. This helps us sort out all the paperwork out swiftly and means that we won't have to reclaim any money from you in the future. Thank you for your help with this.

For more information

More [information about the Homes for Ukraine scheme is available on our website](#) where you will find lots of additional information including a [toolkit for hosts](#) that you can download, sources of local support and all [previous updates](#).

However, if you can't find an answer to your question, please email us at ncchomesforukraine@norfolk.gov.uk

Thanks again for your generous support of the Homes for Ukraine scheme.