



# Unlock United Kingdom

**Develop your business and  
#GoBeyond**

Jan 2026

# Expanding your business in the United Kingdom

Expanding into new international markets can be challenging due to the many issues to consider and resolve. Our Unlock UK service can provide expert advice and insight to support you every step of the way. From helping you find the best location, to setting up a branch or subsidiary, we are committed to providing pragmatic and timely advice that allows you to focus on achieving your business goals.

International expansion is an important step, but with a dedicated international business adviser, who takes time to understand your business and customise the specific services you require, you'll know you have the support to manage the risks and maximise the potential a new market offers your business.

Our advisers can help at every stage of your company's growth cycle - from starting-up, raising venture funding, listing on a global exchange, acquiring or merging with another company, or using the UK as a base to expand into other markets - which means that whatever the challenge, we're at your side.



# Why choose UK?



The UK is a global leader in foreign direct investment, making it one of the most attractive destinations for businesses worldwide.



## Market opportunity

- Population of 69 million <sup>1</sup>
- One of the largest economies in the world
- Among the top 10 investment destinations in the world <sup>2</sup>



## Magnet for talent

- Ranks high in the world for attracting world-class talent
- 3 of the top 10 best universities in the world <sup>3</sup>
- A nation of entrepreneurs



## Business friendly environment

- At the centre of the world's time zones
- Business-friendly tax which is the lowest in the G7, with simple to understand taxation rules <sup>4</sup>
- Full business rates relief available to eligible new business within an Investment Zone tax site, and certain existing businesses where they expand

<sup>1</sup> [Population estimates time series dataset - Office for National Statistics](#)

<sup>2</sup> [\(Foreign Direct Investment Increased to a Record \\$41 Trillion\), World Investment Report 2025: International investment in the digital economy | UN Trade and Development \(UNCTAD\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> [World University Rankings 2026 | Times Higher Education \(THE\)](#), [17 UK Universities Ranked in the World's Top 100 – QS World University Rankings 2026 | UKEC News](#)

<sup>4</sup> [UK tax and incentives article business.gov.uk international](#)

# Why choose UK? (continued)



With over 2,000 years of trading history, the UK offers an open, welcoming, and business-friendly environment. Its strong and fast-growing economy, highly skilled workforce, and world-class innovation hubs provide the perfect foundation to drive your business growth.



## Quality of life

- A diverse, welcoming and tolerant country
- Huge choice of residential and educational opportunities
- Access to unrivalled heritage, culture and countryside



## Access to finance

- Global financial hub
- Variety of debt and equity funding opportunities
- The London Stock Exchange is one of the largest listings markets in the world



## Innovation Hub

- Top 6 rated major world economy in the Global Innovation Index (2024)<sup>5</sup>
- Generous incentives to support research & development
- The most knowledge-intensive workforce in the G20
- Fastest growing financial technology sector in the world.
- 23% of businesses are now using AI technologies.<sup>6</sup>

# We can help you with the following services



## Company set up

- Corporate structure
- Intellectual property
- Post-Brexit advice
- Company registration and registered office - referred to a 3rd party



## Location advice

- Research service to determine optimum location for your business
- Identification of potential locations based on the factors most important to your business



## Employment issues

- Reward packages
- Risk and regulation compliance support
- Employment tax issues
- Remote workers
- Pensions and benefits
- Global mobility, including post-Brexit issues



## Taxation services

- Corporate and international taxes
- Indirect taxes, including VAT
- Transfer pricing
- Personal taxation advice
- Stock options and repatriation of funds

# We can help you with the following services (continued)



## Back-office services

- Transactional accounting and bookkeeping
- Payroll services
- Company secretarial compliance
- Financial reporting and accounting services



## Financing your growth

- Debt or equity funding advice
- London Stock Exchange listing
- Mergers and acquisitions
- Buy-side and vendor due diligence



## Business growth support

- Expert, tailored support to help you grow your business in the UK and globally
- Market assessment and competitor analysis
- Market entry strategy
- Introductions to key business communities



## Audit and assurance

- Statutory and non-statutory audits
- New GAAP conversions
- Financial reporting advisory
- International financial reporting standards advisory
- Royalty/contract assurance

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Grant Thornton is a global leader in assurance, tax, and advisory services, empowering businesses to succeed locally and internationally.

Wherever you operate, our experts bring innovative ideas and strategic insights to drive your growth. With 22 International Business Centres (IBCs) led by top professionals worldwide, we seamlessly connect you to Grant Thornton's extensive resources, ensuring consistent and coordinated support for your business needs.



**UK**

**23**

Offices

**5,000+**

Employees

**\$906m**

Revenue (USD)



**Global**

**690+**

Offices

**\$8bn**

Revenue (USD)

**150+**

Markets

**76,000**

Employees



## Your guide to doing business in the UK

Thinking about expanding into the UK? This guide provides practical insights on setting up your business, navigating tax and legal requirements, finding the right location, and accessing funding opportunities.

[Read the full guide →](#)

## Contact

For more information about how we can help you Unlock UK, please contact:



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