

# Majorca Daily Bulletin

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## EU sends stark warning to airlines on post-Brexit flying

**B**ritish airlines will lose all flying rights to the European Union if there is no transition agreement after Brexit, the EU executive said yesterday, a stark reminder of the risks facing the aviation sector if there is no deal.

In a notice to all airlines, the European Commission said UK air carriers would no longer enjoy traffic rights under any air transport agreement to which the EU is a party, meaning they would no longer have the right to fly to the EU and between its member states.

They would also lose flying rights under agreements between the EU and third countries, such as the U.S.-EU Open Skies agreement.

Airlines based in the EU have the right to fly to, from and within any country in the bloc thanks to the single aviation market created in the 1990s, but Britain now has less than two years to renegotiate access or come up with an alternative system.

British carriers include easyJet, British Airways, Flybe, Jet2 and Virgin Atlantic. Budget airline easyJet has already moved to establish a new airline in Austria to protect its flying rights within the EU once Britain leaves the bloc.

Airlines have been vocal about the risks posed by the no-deal scenario and have urged London and Brussels to quickly provide certainty for the industry.

Without a deal airlines would have to rely on a decades-old traffic rights accord between the UK and EU states. These are typically more restrictive and do not allow airlines to fly within member states. Britain and the EU clinched a divorce deal last Friday, paving the way for them to start talks on future trade ties and a two-year Brexit transition period that will start when Britain leaves the EU on 29 March, 2019.

# Two holiday websites facing big fines from Balearic government

● Minister for tourism says they may have contravened holiday rentals law: See Page 3.



## Duchess meets victims of Grenfell fire

**London.**—Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge holds a present as she speaks to people affected by the Grenfell Tower fire, and other local guests, during a visit to the Rugby Portobello Trust's Christmas party, at its community centre in North Kensington, London.