

Setting up your business in the UK



Department for
International Trade

**INVEST
IN
GREAT**

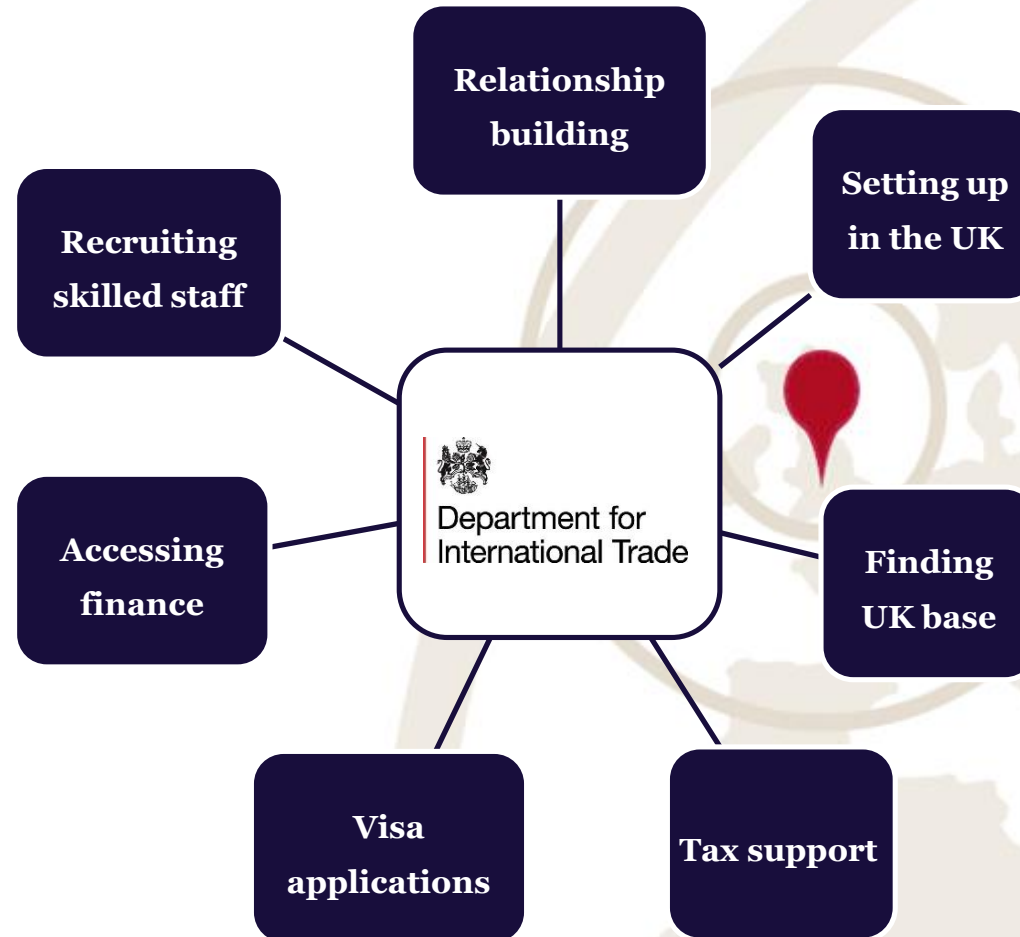
BRITAIN & NORTHERN IRELAND



Working with DIT

The Department for International Trade (DIT) is the specialist Government department that supports foreign companies seeking to set up or expand in the UK, and UK-based companies to trade internationally.

DIT and regional partners offer free, confidential and tailored support in a number of key areas



Why Invest in the UK?

Investing in the UK means you benefit from:



**Business friendly
environment**



**Internationally
competitive tax offer**



**Sophisticated research
and innovation landscape**



**Large, talented
and highly skilled
workforce**



**Strong digital
and physical
infrastructure**



**Locations with great
accessibility to the
rest of the world**

Strategic Benefits to a Direct UK Presence

Key strategic benefits key benefits for setting up a direct presence in the UK.

Market Research

Customer Service

Access to Resources

Marketing

Brand Awareness

Product Development

Cultural Understanding

Research &
Development

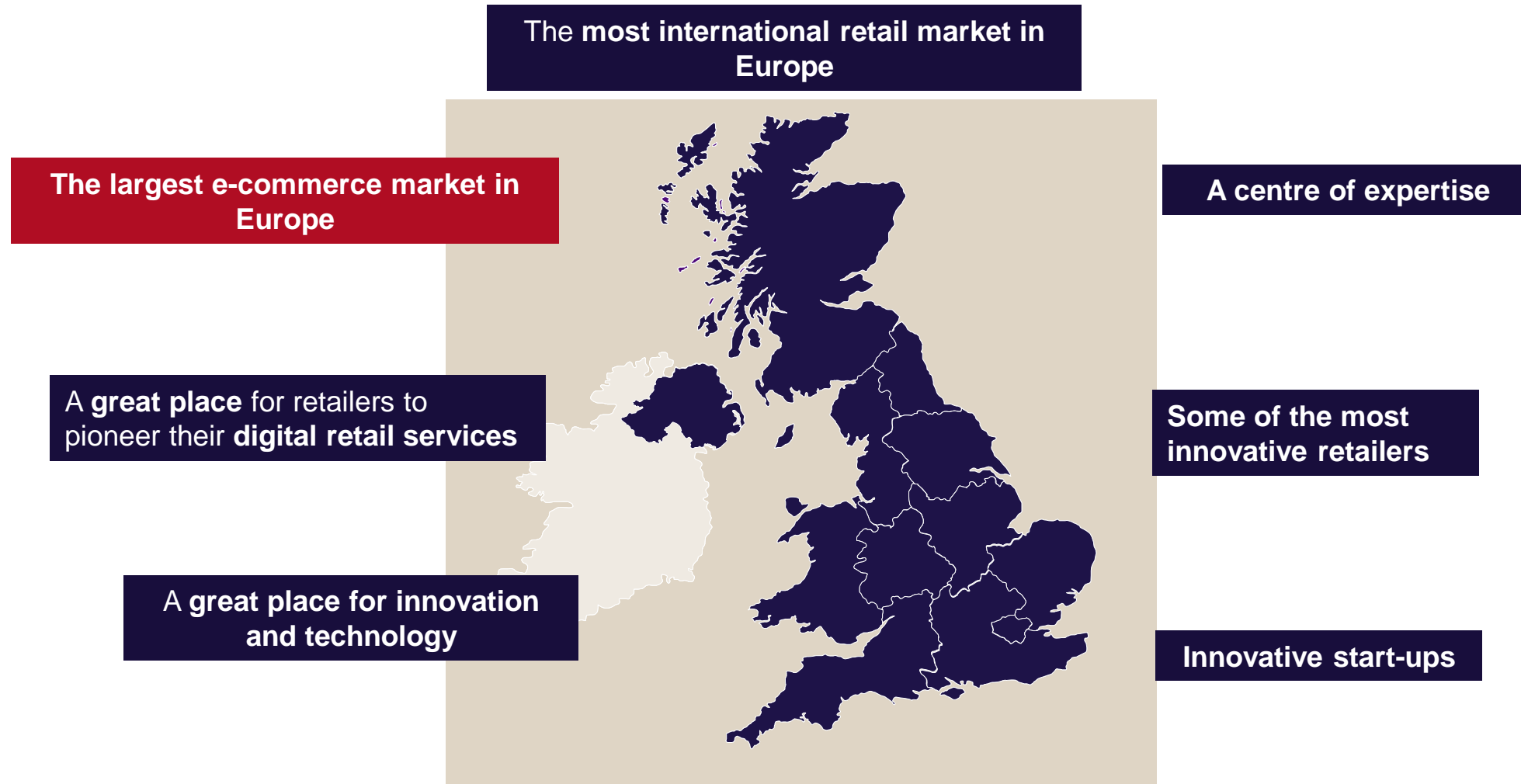
E-Commerce and Retail in the UK



Department for
International Trade



Key Strengths in E-Commerce and Retail



Source: ChargedRetail, 'UK's ecommerce growth rate to be overtaken by 10 EU countries by 2021', July 2019; Retail Economics, 'UK Retail Stats & Facts'; Great.gov.uk, Industries - Retail

UK Retail Sector

The UK has a worldwide reputation for heritage, innovative design and craftsmanship, and is home to world-renowned brands.

Home to internationally-renowned brands

London - a global fashion and retail hub

At forefront of ecommerce boom



Transportation Infrastructure

Overview

With a large integrated system of over 70 airports, 40 major ports, excellent rail links and toll-free motorways, the UK has the perfect combination of infrastructure to move goods and people quickly around the country in simple, affordable ways.

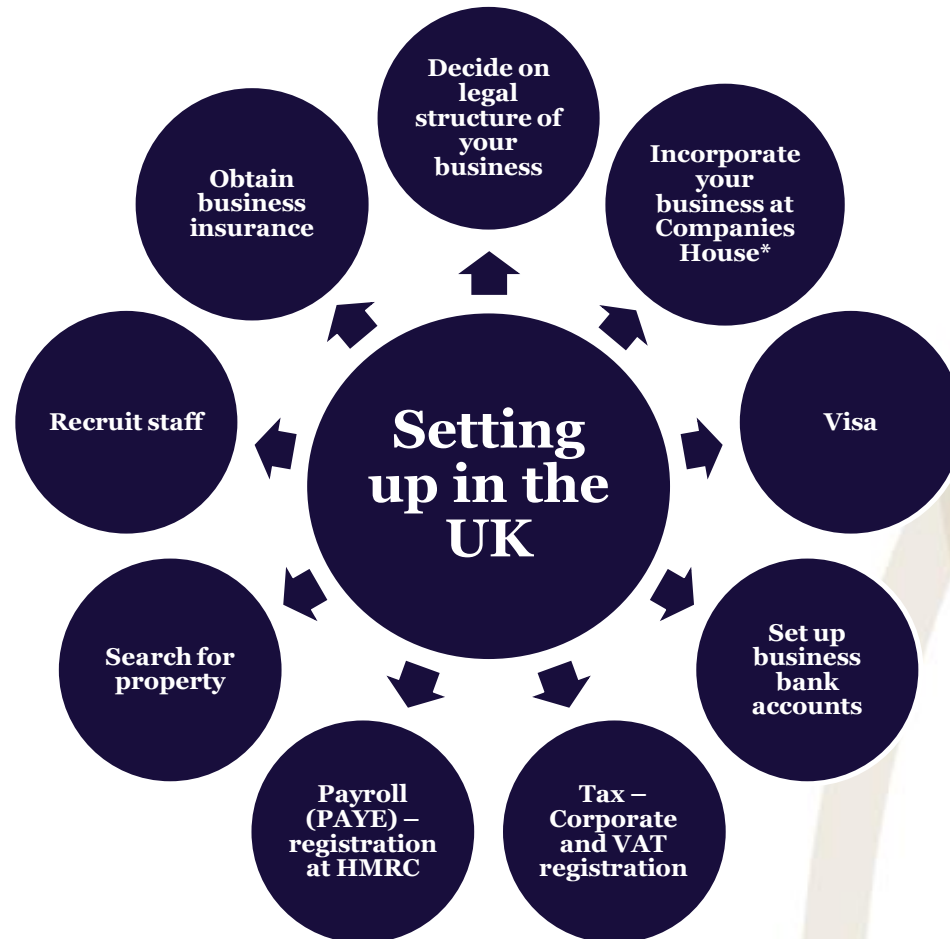
Highlights of the UK's transportation infrastructure include:

- The **largest air transport system in Europe**
- Advanced, comprehensive **road**
- The **most improved rail network in the EU**: a modern, privatised rail network linking all locations across the UK and locations across mainland Europe via the world-class Eurostar rail service.
- **Over 100 ports in total**



Setting up in the UK

From the processes of setting up tax and legal entities through to organising visas and recruiting staff, a number of simple requirements are needed to set-up a business in the UK



Indicative Timescales	
Setting up in the UK	Time
Decide on legal structure	n/a
Register at Companies House	1 day
Apply for visas	3 weeks
Set up bank accounts	< 2 months
Tax registrations	1 month
Payroll registrations	2 weeks
Search for property	< 4 months
Recruit staff	< 4 months
Obtain business insurance	< 1 month

DIT Investment Services Team

Jana Fleske, Invest Project Analyst, EMEA

jana.fleske@invest-trade.uk

DIT Investment Services Team

W: www.great.gov.uk/international/invest

E: enquiries@invest-trade.uk

T: +44(0) 207 000 9012

www.invest.great.gov.uk/uk-setup-guide/

Contact DIT Germany: DITGermany@mobile.trade.gov.uk



Department for
International Trade

gov.uk/dit

You may re-use this publication (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence visit: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/opengovernment-licence or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

Where we have identified any third party copyright information in the material that you wish to use, you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holder(s) concerned.

© Crown copyright 2020