

The NATO Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) limits the use of all tax-free base facilities to members of the visiting force. U.S. military personnel, members of the U.S. civilian component, and command sponsored dependents who are ASSIGNED to the United Kingdom are members of the visiting force.

Accordingly, to use Commissary or Exchange facilities within the United Kingdom, you must be assigned on temporary duty or permanent change of station orders to an installation within the United Kingdom. The purchase of tax-free gasoline from AAFES service stations within the United Kingdom is also limited to members of the visiting force. Personnel who are entitled to purchase tax-free gasoline and use Commissary and Exchange facilities in the United Kingdom may obtain ration cards from Military Personnel Flight. Base facilities will accept a ration card and military identification card as proof of entitlement to use base tax-free facilities.

How do these restrictions affect a military member on leave within the United Kingdom? While you are visiting the United Kingdom on leave, you are NOT entitled to use the Commissary or Exchange facilities. You are also not entitled to purchase gasoline from the AAFES gas station on base. Most items that are sold in the base Commissary or Exchange are also available on the local economy at comparable prices. However, you should be advised that gasoline prices for unleaded and diesel fuel on the local economy is substantially higher than AAFES' prices.

Many other base facilities are available to military members on leave in the United Kingdom. You may stay at billeting on a space available basis. The base fitness center is

available for your use. You may also utilize the enlisted or officers' club, if you are a club member. You may also eat at any of the AAFES or Services' establishments on base upon showing your military identification card.

Please feel free to contact the base legal office at DSN 238-2028 if you have any specific questions concerning your entitlements while on leave within the United Kingdom.

This handout is for basic information on topic covered as it relates to military personnel stationed in the United Kingdom. It is not intended to take the place of legal advice from a Judge Advocate. There may be important exceptions in some states to the information presented here. Please contact the Legal Office for questions and further information. You may view more information on various legal topics at the Air Force Legal Assistance website found at <https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil>. Additionally, complete legal worksheets for Wills, Living Wills, Powers of Attorney (General, Special, and for Health Care), and access to the Online Survey are found on the Air Force Legal Assistance website.

Scan Below to Access the:

RAF Mildenhall Legal Office Website
www.mildenhall.af.mil/Info/Legal-Office



Legal Assistance Website
<https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil>



Legal Assistance Information Series **BENEFITS WHILE ON LEAVE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM**



Hours of Operation (Walk-ins)
Notary Public & Powers of Attorney
Monday – Friday: 800-1630 hrs

Legal Assistance
By Appointment Only

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