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PURVES
FUNERAL DIRECTORS



Repatriation home from the UK A 2023 Guide for Consulates

Written by William Purves Funeral Directors,
repatriation specialists and fifth generation, family run business based in
Edinburgh with branches throughout Scotland and NE England.



MANY FLAGS.
ONE STANDARD.

Getting non-UK residents home safely

Our step by step guide to the practicalities and timescales to anticipate when arranging the repatriation of a non UK citizen.

1. The family has to authorise us, as funeral directors, to collect the deceased from any UK location: hospital, mortuary or residence to our care.
2. We will transport the deceased to one of our 30 branches throughout Scotland and NE England.
3. Embalming (also known as hygienic treatment) is necessary for all repatriation. If required, ritual washing can be arranged as can any specific religious or cultural requirements you specify.
4. Mortuary services are available for 14 days and longer-term storage is possible by arrangement for the necessary repatriation process to be completed.
5. We will assist with registration of death, medical certification, application of visas and custom declarations and any other practical administration required by the UK authorities.
6. We will provide additional copies of paperwork and arrange for translation if required.
7. Provision of a transport approved zinc lined coffin/casket. Suitable ashes caskets are also available.
8. We can retain and forward on personal effects as cargo or luggage.
9. Transportation of the deceased to any UK airport.
10. Tracking of the deceased will be available from when they leave our care until they arrive at the destination airport.

Some countries will have specific rules and legal expectations which we will negotiate at the time. The list above sets out a standard process.



Repatriation expertise 24/7, every day of the year

Why William Purves Funeral Directors?

1.

RELIABLE

Single point of contact

We handle all consultation, paperwork and coordination of arrangements through a single funeral director contact who is accessible to you in person, by phone or video.

2.

SPECIALIST

Cremation in the UK

Where a UK cremation is required, we can make arrangements with you and/or the family direct and then arrange for the repatriation of ashes. This can be unaccompanied or the family/authorised representative can be provided with the necessary paperwork.

3.

CARE

Family viewing

We make it possible to say goodbye to a loved one in the UK before repatriation, even if this takes some time to arrange.

Many flags. One Standard.

William Purves is a fifth generation family run funeral director. Based in Edinburgh, we have 30 offices throughout Scotland and North East England.

Our clients trust us to bring their loved ones home safely. As one of the largest independent funeral directors, we have a proven track record in seamless repatriation to and from the UK, steering a clear path through the complexities of documentation and funeral arranging.

We support consulate teams, working closely with third parties in the UK and abroad. If you have responsibility for students, employees, visitors or citizens temporarily based in the UK, lean on our experience in the event you have to arrange a repatriation home.

What we don't do

- Pay for burial, cremation or repatriation of people or ashes
- Intervene in legal matters
- Provide legal advice
- Investigate or intervene in any local police or medical investigations
- Cover insurance costs or expenses





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In our safe hands, you and your teams are placing your trust in our years of experience to provide a service that both cares and delivers citizens safely home with minimal delay.

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