How to skip lines at passport control in UK airports like Gatwick and Heathrow

People are anxious to for holidays, but when you arrive at an airport tired and sleepy, they still have to face long queues.

The issue is that sometimes airports are crowded and the feeling is compounded by lack of information and the dismissive attitude of staff, who are themselves under enormous pressures, and one suspects even more stressed out than many of their passengers.

So the question is? How to skip queues?

Increasing numbers of passengers are shelling out cash to skip passport control when they arrive in the UK.

Many airports like Gatwick and Heathrow have arrival Fast Track, where you pay anywhere from £5 to £15 to skip the lines at passport control.

At Gatwick, their premium passport control service charges £7 per person for access to an exclusive lane through passport control that is limited to just 50 passengers per hour.

The line, which is available to all airlines and classes of travel, should be booked ahead of time on the airport's website.

On arrival at the airport, passengers just need to make their way to the 'Premium' line and present their confirmation email to be granted access.

Plans to expand the fast-track passport control scheme surfaced in 2013, when government ministers suggested the money could be used to "help fund the immigration system, secure the border and invest in improving processes."

Savvy passengers have also been paying money to skip the security lines before boarding a flight.

Many airports in the UK, including Manchester and Gatwick airport, charge around £5 for a fast-track service in the departure hall to enable passengers to skip queues at security.

If you want to save the pennies for some fun on holiday though, there's another sneaky way to avoid the longer lines at security – turn left.