

SPAIN  
MADE ●  
SIMPLE  
SANDTONS

## NIE MADE SIMPLE

The NIE (Número de Identificación de Extranjero) is not just a tax number—it is your digital fingerprint in Spain.



[GET THE QUICK GUIDE](#)

## INTRODUCTION

---

The NIE (Número de Identificación de Extranjero) is not just a tax number—it is your digital fingerprint in Spain. You do not exist legally or financially without it.



# WHAT IS IT FOR?

1

## The Essential Uses

You cannot sign a deed, buy a car, or even accept a package from Amazon without it.

2

## The Golden Rule

It is NOT a residency permit. It is just a number on a piece of white paper (A4).

3

## The Common Mistake

Do not confuse the "White NIE" (Number only) with the "Green Card" (EU Residency) or "TIE" (Non-EU Photo ID).



# HOW TO GET IT: THE STRATEGIC CHOICE

You have three routes. Choose based on your timeline, not just cost.



**Slow & Steady**

## The Consulate

**Best for:** Planning months ahead

**Process:** Apply at the Spanish consulate in your home country.

**Timeline:** 1-3 months



**Fast & Frustrating**

## The Police Station

**Best for:** Those already in Spain needing it urgently

**Process:** Book an appointment (Cita Previa) online and go in person.

**Timeline:** 1-4 weeks (if you can get an appointment)



**Remote & Done**

## The Sandtons Way

**Best for:** Professionals who value time

**Process:** We use a Power of Attorney to handle everything. You don't even need to be in Spain.

**Timeline:** As fast as possible



## SANDTONS Insight: THE "APPOINTMENT BOTTLENECK"

The government website for booking appointments often shows "No appointments available." This is not a glitch; it is a feature of the system's scarcity. Slots are released randomly.

**Pro Tip:** If doing it yourself, check at 8:00 AM, 12:00 PM, and 2:00 PM when new slots often drop.

# QUICK DECISION: WHICH ROUTE?

Assess your situation with our quick decision matrix

## **Buying Property soon?**

**Use Power of Attorney**

We can get the NIE before you fly in to sign the deed.

**Action:** Use the Power of Attorney route.

## **Moving in 6 months?**

**Consulate Route**

It saves you a trip, though it takes longer.

**Action:** Use the Consulate route.

## **Already here and stuck?**

**Let Us Help**

Don't waste days refreshing the website.

**Action:** Let us secure the slot.

**LET SANDTONS GET IT FOR YOU**



**Link to NIE Service**

# EXPLORE THE SPAIN MADE SIMPLE SERIES

---

**Visas Made  
Simple**

**Mortgages Made  
Simple**

**Property Made  
Simple**

**NIE Made  
Simple**

**Living Made  
Simple**

& more on our geo-dedicated websites



## NEED PERSONALIZED GUIDANCE?

---

We've created dedicated resource hubs for different backgrounds. Get support tailored to your country of origin.

### Get personalized guidance on:

- Tax optimization for US expats and reporting to the IRS
- UK family relocation and post-Brexit implications
- EU residency requirements and Padron registration
- International school comparisons (US, UK, EU curricula)
- Accurate, not abstract cost of living comparisons from where you live to where you want to live in Spain

**US HUB**

**UK HUB**

**EU HUB**

## BEYOND THE GUIDE?

We handle everything—legal documents, tax registration, power of attorney, and complete relocation support including schools, insurance, and settling in.



**Explore Professional Services**