

HOW TO MOVE TO GIBRALTAR



UNDER CATEGORY 2 (CAT2) RESIDENCY



BLACKTOWER
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT GROUP

AN HNWII GUIDE FROM BLACKTOWER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Gibraltar is considered attractive by many high-net-worth individuals (HNWIs) seeking tax efficiency, lifestyle benefits, and British legal certainty within a Mediterranean setting. Through the Category 2 (CAT2) residency regime, individuals can legally reside in Gibraltar while benefiting from a low-tax environment that excludes worldwide income from taxation.

At Blacktower Financial Management, we help international clients navigate the residency and financial planning process with confidence. Here's what you need to know about Gibraltar's CAT2 programme in 2025.

WHAT IS CATEGORY 2 (CAT2) RESIDENCY?

Gibraltar's Category 2 residency is a specialist tax status available to individuals of substantial net worth. It enables eligible applicants to benefit from a fixed and capped income tax liability while maintaining international income streams without local taxation.

This makes it particularly attractive for international investors, entrepreneurs, digital nomads, and retirees looking for a safe, stable and tax-efficient base in Europe.

Key Tax Advantages:

- Only the first 118,000 of income is taxable
- Maximum annual tax payable: 44,740
- Minimum annual tax: 37,000
- No tax on foreign income, interest, dividends, or capital gains
- No inheritance, wealth or gift taxes
- Straightforward reporting and compliance

CAT2 residents are not taxed on any income earned or received outside Gibraltar. This

regime is often used as a core part of broader international tax planning and succession strategies.

WHO QUALIFIES FOR CATEGORY 2?

To be considered for CAT2 residency, applicants must meet several criteria designed to ensure that the regime is reserved for globally mobile HNWIs.

REQUIREMENT	DETAILS
Net Worth	Personal wealth of 2 million+, provable through documentation
Accommodation	Must lease or purchase approved residential property for exclusive use
Non-residency	Must not have been resident in Gibraltar during the previous five years
Good Character	Subject to due diligence and references
Physical Presence	Minimum of 30 days per calendar year in Gibraltar

There are no nationality restrictions, and both UK and EU nationals can apply without visa limitations.

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE: HOW TO APPLY FOR CAT2 RESIDENCY

With the right support, your CAT2 residency can be structured and approved in as little as 6–8 weeks. Blacktower can guide you through each step.

1. Initial Consultation

Begin by discussing your financial position, lifestyle goals, and eligibility with one of Blacktower's Gibraltar-based advisers. We will provide personalised guidance based on your global assets, tax exposure, and future plans.

2. Secure a Qualifying Property

CAT2 applicants must have exclusive use of qualifying property—either rented or purchased. Properties in the following areas are popular:

- Ocean Village
- South District
- Upper Town
- Marina Bay

Blacktower works with established real estate professionals to help you find suitable accommodation that meets CAT2 standards.

3. Submit Your Application

Blacktower can put you in touch with experienced local specialists who will help you with your application:

- Completed CAT2 application form
- Proof of identity (e.g. passport)
- Lease or title deed for Gibraltar property
- Proof of wealth (e.g. bank statements or investment portfolio)
- Professional references
- Evidence of non-residency over the last 5 years
- Police clearance (if applicable)

4. Receive Your CAT2 Certificate

Once approved, you will be issued a Certificate of Category 2 Individual Status. You'll also be registered for income tax and required to file an annual return, showing the capped tax payment.

LIVING IN GIBRALTAR AS A CAT2 RESIDENT

Though only 30 days of presence per year are required, many CAT2 residents spend more time in Gibraltar to enjoy its advantages:

- English-speaking population and legal system
- Easy access to Spain, Portugal, and Southern Europe
- Efficient healthcare and clean environment
- Strong private banking and financial services
- Mild Mediterranean climate and safe communities

Whether you maintain a global lifestyle or spend extended periods in Gibraltar, the CAT2 framework offers maximum flexibility with minimal bureaucracy.

MAINTAINING CAT2 STATUS

Your CAT2 residency is renewed annually. Ongoing compliance includes:

- Maintaining your Gibraltar property
- Maintaining minimum net worth of 2 million
- Filing annual income tax return with capped contribution
- Spending at least 30 days in Gibraltar annually

WHY WORK WITH BLACKTOWER?

Founded in the UK in 1986, Blacktower Financial Management has since established a strong presence in Gibraltar, helping many families with cross-border financial planning. As a regulated wealth management firm with cross-border experience, we support clients throughout their relocation and financial planning journey.

SUMMARY: CAT2 RESIDENCY AT A GLANCE

Feature	Details
Table Income	First 118,000 only
Max Tax Payable	44,740/year
Foreign Income Taxed?	No
Capital Gains Taxed?	No
Minimum Presence	30 days/year
Net Worth Requirement	2 million+
Employment Required	No
Approval Time	~6–8 weeks

READY TO RELOCATE TO GIBRALTAR?

At Blacktower, we help you do more than just relocate—we help you optimise your financial future.

Call: +350 200 42353

Email: info@blacktowerfm.com

Explore: www.blacktowerfm.com

Start your Gibraltar CAT2 journey today with confidence and clarity.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How long does it take to get CAT2 residency?

A: With complete documentation and expert assistance, approval usually takes 6–8 weeks.

Q: Do I need to buy a property in Gibraltar?

A: Not necessarily. Renting a qualifying property for exclusive use is acceptable.

Q: Is my foreign income taxed under CAT2?

A: No. Only Gibraltar-source income up to 118,000 is taxable.

Q: Can I work in Gibraltar under CAT2?

A: Generally, CAT2 is not suitable for full-time local employment, though you can manage overseas businesses.

Q: Can my family move with me?

A: Yes, though they must also meet accommodation and presence requirements. Blacktower provides full family relocation support.

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Our Heritage Protects Your Horizon



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