



Company information

Guernsey

Guernsey companies are governed by The Companies (Guernsey) Law, 2008 and are available in a variety of forms. The most common type is a non-cellular company limited by shares; however, there are also protected and incorporated cell companies and guarantee, unlimited and mixed liability companies; as well as partnerships.

There is an efficient and timely incorporation service, where initial registration takes twenty-four hours with an option for rapid incorporation within two hours or special incorporation within fifteen minutes, subject to additional charges.

On incorporation, there will be a Memorandum of Incorporation and Articles of Incorporation that deal with the establishment and the regulations for the conduct of the company. There is no need for a maximum authorised share capital and issued shares may be denominated in any currency, no-par value shares are permissible and shares may be issued in different classes and with different rights.

Every Guernsey company is required to have a resident director or be represented by a local Corporate Service Provider who acts as the Resident Agent. The Resident Agent is required to ascertain the identity of the ultimate beneficial owner of the company, which information is retained solely by the Resident Agent and is not publicly available.

The company may operate with a single member and a single director and there is no requirement for a company secretary. In most circumstances, there is no need for the accounts of the company to be audited and the members can waive the need for an annual general meeting. The Resident Agent is required to submit an Annual Validation return by 31 January.

The tax system in Guernsey is such that companies are not subject to tax on their income and profits and there is no with-holding tax. A limited classification of income is subject to tax and this includes income arising to certain regulated banking services.

As a licensed and regulated Corporate Service Provider, Cogent is able to incorporate and provide Resident Agent services for Guernsey companies. We can also provide management and administration services.

The fees and charges for incorporating and maintaining a Guernsey company are:

Incorporation £750

For providing a standard Guernsey registered company, including Guernsey Registry charges. The additional charge for a rapid incorporation (two hours) is £250 and for a special incorporation (fifteen minutes) is £650.

Annual validation fee £250

Every Guernsey registered company is required to pay an annual validation fee to the Company Registry by 31 January. The charge is dependent upon the type, status and activities of the company, with regulated financial services businesses paying higher fees. Failure to pay the fee by 31 January annually incurs significant penalties.

Annual service fee

In addition to the statutory validation fee, we will charge an Annual service fee. The amount of this fee will depend upon the level of service provided and details are set out in separate Fee schedules. Our services range from providing local statutory representation to full management and administration.



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Company number: 40841

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Incorporation

Usual time required to incorporate	Within 24 hours
Rapid incorporation service, available at additional cost	Within 2 hours
Special incorporation service, available at additional cost	Within 15 minutes

Shares and shareholders

Minimum number of shareholders	1
Are bearer shares permitted	No
Are No Par Value shares permitted	Yes
Are Guernsey resident shareholders required	No

Directors and officers

Minimum number of directors	1
Are corporate directors permitted	Yes
Are Guernsey resident directors required	No
Is it necessary to appoint a secretary or other officers	No

Meetings

Is an AGM of shareholders required	No, members may waive AGM
Where may meetings of the shareholders be held	No restriction
Where may meetings of the directors be held	No restriction

Accounts and audit

Do annual accounts need to be filed	Required but not filed
Is an audit required	Most companies will be able to waive the need for an audit

Local Guernsey issues

Is a Guernsey registered office required	Yes
Is a Guernsey resident agent required	Resident agent or Guernsey resident director
Is an annual return required to be submitted	Annual Validation by 31 January
What records are available to the public	Annual Validation return Details of registered office Register of Directors Register of Members Register of Secretaries, if maintained
What records are held at the Registered office	Register of Directors Register of Members Register of Secretaries, if maintained Minute Book
How long do records normally need to be retained	6 years
When are the Government fees due	31 January
Is any tax payable by the company	No
Is the company subject to any exchange controls	No
Are there any double tax treaties	UK and Jersey with limited application

1 August 2008