

Driving Abroad

The essential information you should be aware of before driving in Europe.

DRIVING IN THE EU AFTER BREXIT



After Brexit, there may be significant changes for UK drivers in EU and EEA countries. Drivers from the UK may need a different international driving permit (IDP) to drive abroad. If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, UK drivers may also need an IDP and extra documentation to drive in the EU and EEA. Take a look at our summary points and check out the government website by [clicking this link](#) for more information.

▶ LICENCE EXCHANGE

If you are a UK licence holder living in the EU or EEA you should exchange your UK driving licence for a local EU driving licence as soon as possible, before Brexit. You can drive on your EU licence when visiting the UK.

▶ VEHICLE DOCUMENTS

Continue to carry your vehicle registration documents (V5C or VE103) with you when driving abroad for less than 12 months. Drivers of UK registered vehicles will need to carry a motor insurance Green Card when driving in the EU and EEA.

▶ ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

UK residents involved in a road traffic accident in an EU or EEA country should not expect to be able to make a claim in respect of that accident via a UK-based Claims Representative or the UK Motor Insurers' Bureau (MIB). [Click for more info.](#)

▶ DOVER AND EUROTUNNEL

Operation Brock may be activated if there are significant delays at the border between Dover and Calais. Before you travel, check if there are delays at the Port of Dover and Eurotunnel. If Operation Brock is active, check online for advice and look out for road signs telling you where to go. [Click for more info.](#)

▶ LICENCES AND PERMITS

You may need an international driving permit (IDP) in addition to your UK driving licence to drive when visiting EU and EEA countries. UK licence holders will not need an IDP to drive when visiting Ireland after the UK leaves the EU.

▶ NUMBER PLATES AND ID

After the UK's exit, it is recommended that you display a GB sticker on the rear of your vehicle, irrespective of whether you currently have a number plate which includes the GB identifier.

▶ TRAILER REGISTRATION

You must register commercial trailers over 750kg and non-commercial trailers over 3,500kg before travel to or through most EU and EEA countries. You can voluntarily register non-commercial trailers that weigh over 750kg.

▶ EU DRIVERS IN THE UK

The arrangements for EU and EEA licence holders who are visiting or living in the UK will not change. Visitors with EU and EEA driving licences will not need an IDP to drive in the UK. EU and EEA licence holders visiting the UK can continue to drive on valid EU and EEA licences.