

# European Driving Checklist

This essential checklist will help you plan for your trip abroad and stay safe while away

## Important documents:

- Full, valid driving licence and national insurance number
- Proof of vehicle insurance
- Proof of ID (passport)
- V5C Certificate
- Travel insurance documents
- European Breakdown Cover policy number and documents
- Before you travel ensure your vehicle's tax and MOT are valid and up-to-date
- Crit'air sticker (find out if you need one [here](#))

## Equipment:

- Reflective jackets (there must be one for each passenger and be kept within the cabin of the car).
- Warning triangle (compulsory in most countries)
- Headlamp beam deflectors (depending on your car, you'll either need deflector stickers or have to adjust the beam manually)
- Breathalyser (compulsory in France)
- Safety helmets are compulsory for riders and passengers of motorcyclists and moped users
- GB car sticker (if you don't have a GB Euro number plate)

- First aid kit (compulsory in Austria, France and Germany)

## Recommended:

- Fire extinguisher
- Replacement bulbs
- A high quality torch.
- A spare fuel can
- Additional engine oil and water (for topping up)
- An up-to-date road map or satellite navigation system
- Blanket
- Sun cream
- Refreshments and plenty of water
- If you have children, take some games you can play in the car during the journey
- Take extra supplies of medication in case you can't get these abroad
- Photocopies of important documents
- European Health Insurance card



## Useful information

### Driving tips

- Drive carefully and cautiously - remember the local driving style may be very different to that of the UK.
- We recommend that you get your vehicle serviced/checked before making any long journey, but particularly if you are planning to drive to Europe.
- Don't forget most European countries drive on the right-hand side of the road (the exceptions are: the UK, Irish Republic, Cyprus and Malta).
- You may be able to save time on your journey if you purchase a toll card in advance of travelling. Follow this link for more information. <https://www.saneftolling.co.uk/>
- For regular, up-to-date traffic news remember to download our app here to help you have a smoother journey.

### Breakdown advice

- Our English-speaking translators and technical experts will liaise with you in English and the garage in their local language.
- Our translators and technical experts will liaise with you and the garage to get your vehicle fixed, but any work done by the garage will be your responsibility.
- If you do require repairs on your vehicle remember that the costs of parts and labour may differ to those in the UK but our rescue teams in Europe will work towards ensuring that you get the best rate possible.
- Motorways in France are privately managed so law states that if you break down you must use the roadside emergency telephones or dial 112 as we cannot send out assistance. You'll be put through to the police or motorway services operators who'll send out a rescue company to come to your aid. If they don't, just call us.
- You may have to pay labour and towing charges on the spot but we will cover these charges as long as the vehicle is towed to the recovery company's depot.
- On a motorway, if you have a breakdown, it is vitally important that you get all people out of the car immediately, put your high-vis jackets on and move to a safe position.
- Our RAC vans do not operate in Europe so instead you'll be assisted by the service providers and partners that we have chosen to work with.

For further advice on driving abroad, our service in Europe and specific information on the rules of

- each country you may drive through visit <http://www.rac.co.uk/driving-abroad>