

Croatia (South East Europe)

Touring Tips



This information should be read in conjunction with [general advice for motoring in Europe](#).

Drinking and driving: Strictly forbidden for all drivers less than 24 years of age - nil percentage of alcohol allowed in driver's blood. Legal limit for drivers 24 years and over; alcohol in drivers blood is 0.05%, exceptions to this rule apply to professional drivers. Tests for narcotics may be performed, if tests prove positive severe consequences include confiscation of vehicle, severe fine and removal of driving licence. It is prohibited to drive after taking any medicine whose side effects may affect the ability to drive a motor vehicle.

Driving licence: Minimum age at which a UK licence holder may drive temporarily imported car and/or motorcycle (exceeding 125cc) 18.

Fines: The police officer will impose a fine on the spot; the fine must be paid within eight days at a post office or bank. The police may hold your passport until evidence of payment is produced. The driving licence of a foreign motorist can be suspended for up to 8 days for driving with excess alcohol, driving without prescribed medical aids e.g. glasses, driving in a state of exhaustion or whilst ill. The licence must be collected within 3 days of the end of suspension. Illegally parked cars can be wheel clamped.

Fuel: Unleaded petrol (95 and 98 octane), diesel (dizel) available and LPG available at most filling stations located on motorways. It is forbidden to carry petrol in a can. Credit cards accepted at filling stations; check with your card issuer for usage in Croatia before travel.

Lights: Dipped headlights are compulsory for all vehicles in reduced visibility, fine imposed for non-compliance. Dipped headlights are compulsory in the daytime from the last Sunday in October to the last Sunday in March (out of the daylight saving time period), fine for none compliance.

Motorcycles: Use of dipped headlights during the day compulsory. The wearing of crash helmets is compulsory for both the driver and passenger. Children under 12 cannot travel as a passenger. A fine will be imposed if the passenger on a motorcycle is found to be under the influence of alcohol or narcotics.

Motor insurance: Third-party compulsory. It is recommended that all visitors obtain a green card prior to travel to facilitate insurance formalities in case of an accident. The green card must cover Croatia (HR) as well as Bosnia Herzegovina if travelling on a 20km section of coastline at Neum, along the Dalmatian coastal highway.

Passengers/children in cars: Children under the age of 12 cannot travel as a front seat passenger, with the exception of a child under 2 years seated in a suitable child seat. The seat must be fitted facing in the opposite direction of travel with the passenger airbags turned off.

Children from the age of 2 up to 5 years of age must be seated in a suitable child seat; other children must be seated using a suitable child restraint, using a booster seat where necessary.

Seat belts: Compulsory for front/rear-seat occupants to wear seat belts, if fitted.

Speed limits: Standard legal limits, which may be varied by signs, for private vehicles without trailers.

In built-up areas 31 mph (50 km/h), outside built-up areas 55 mph (90 km/h) but 68 mph (110 km/h) on expressways and 80 mph (130 km/h) on motorways, unless otherwise indicated by road signs. If towing a trailer/caravan the speed limit is reduced to 55 mph (90 km/h).

All motorists under 24 years of age must not exceed: 49 mph (80 km/h) on normal roads outside built-up areas: 62 mph (100 km/h) on expressways and 74 mph (120 km/h) on motorways.

Minimum speed on motorways: 37 mph (60 km/h).

Compulsory equipment in Croatia:

- **Spare bulbs** - This does not apply if the vehicle is fitted with xenon, neon, LED or similar lights.
- **First-aid kit** (excludes motorcycles)
- **Warning triangle** - two triangles required if towing a trailer (excludes motorcycles).
- **Snow chains** - During winter months, in the Gorski Kotar and Lika regions, chains are compulsory regardless of the type of tyre*
- **Reflective jacket** - All drivers of motor vehicles (except motorcycles with sidecars and mopeds under 50cc) must have a reflective safety jacket (EN-471) in the vehicle and wear it whenever they have to get out of the vehicle at the roadside, in an emergency. Be aware however that car hire companies may not supply them to persons hiring vehicles.

Other rules/requirements in Croatia:

The use of spiked tyres is prohibited.

*It is generally necessary to have winter equipment ready between November and the end of April. This may consist of winter tyres marked M+S on the side walls or snow chains for the driving wheels. Vehicles not adapted to winter conditions may be prohibited from driving and can also encounter a fine. Snow tyres must have a minimum tread depth of 4 millimeters.

The authorities at the frontier must certify any visible damage to a vehicle entering Croatia and a certificate obtained; this must be produced when leaving the country.

Radar detectors are forbidden.

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