

# Sweden (Northern Europe)

## Touring Tips



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

**Drinking and driving:** If the level of alcohol in the bloodstream is 0.02 per cent or more severe penalties include fines, withdrawal of licence and / or prison.

**Driving licence:** Minimum age at which a UK licence holder may drive a temporarily imported car 18. NOTE UK driving licences, which do not incorporate a photograph, will not be recognised unless accompanied by photographic proof of identity e.g. passport.

**Fines:** Police can impose but not collect fines on the spot for minor traffic offences. Fines must be paid at a bank within 2-3 weeks. Illegally parked vehicles may be towed away and the release charge is up to 1,400 SEK.

**Fuel:** Unleaded - Blyfri (95, 96 & 98 octane) and Diesel is available, very limited LPG availability. Petrol in a can permitted. Credit cards are accepted at filling stations, check with your card issuer for usage in Sweden before travel.

**Lights:** Use of dipped headlights during the day compulsory. Fines will be imposed for inadequate lighting.

**Motorcycles:** Use of dipped headlights during the day compulsory. Wearing of crash helmets is compulsory.

**Motor Insurance:** Third-party compulsory.

**Passengers/Children in cars:** Children under 3 must use a child restraint appropriate for their weight, in any vehicle. There is only one exception in that they are permitted to travel unrestrained in the rear of a taxi if the right child restraint is not available. A rear facing baby seat may only be used if the air-bag has been deactivated. Children aged under 15 or under 135cms must use an appropriate child restraint. A child aged 15 and over or 135cms in height may use an adult seat belt.

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

**Speed limits:** Speed limits are no longer based on the type of road, but on the quality and safety of the actual road itself. Speed limits may subsequently vary along the same road. It is therefore recommended to pay particular attention to road signs. The lowest speed limits, which may be varied by signs, for private

vehicles without trailers. In built-up areas: 18 mph (30 km/h), outside built-up areas 43 mph (70 km/h) and motorways 68 mph (110 km/h).

### Compulsory equipment:

- From the 1<sup>st</sup> Dec to 31<sup>st</sup> March, it is compulsory to use Winter tyres (marked M&S) with a minimum tread depth of 3mm.

### Other rules/requirements:

Warning triangle and first aid kit recommended.

Beware game – moose, deer, etc. – As this constitutes a very real danger on many roads (a yellow warning triangle with a red border depicts animal most common on a particular stretch of road).

Spiked tyres (which must be fitted on all wheels) may be used 1<sup>st</sup> October to the 15<sup>th</sup> April, however, local authorities have the power to ban spiked/studded tyres on their roads. Snow chains may also be used if the weather or road conditions require.

Congestion charges in Stockholm do not apply to foreign registered vehicles.

The use of radar detectors is strictly forbidden.

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