

# Russian Federation (Eastern Europe)

## Touring Tips



This is additional to our [general advice for motoring in Europe](#).

### Driving licence

- You must have an [International Driving Permit](#) (IDP)
- You must be at Least 17 years old to drive a temporarily imported car or motorcycle.

### Motor Insurance

- You must have a minimum of third-party cover but it's recommend that you have fully comprehensive.
- You can buy additional insurance cover at the border.
- Green cards are recognised but you must ensure that the code RUS is included on the document.

### Fuel

- Leaded petrol is in short supply and will be low in octane.
- Unleaded petrol (92, 95 and 98 octane) and diesel (Solyarka) are available.
- It's recommended that you keep your fuel tank topped up whenever possible.
- You may not import spare fuel in a can but it's recommend that you carry spare fuel once you're in the country.
- Supplies LPG are limited.
- Credit cards are accepted at some filling stations but this is not widespread. You should check with your card issuer for usage in Russian Federation before travel.

### Speed limits

(Standard legal limits, which may be varied by signs, for private vehicles without trailers)

- Residential zones 13mph (20km/h), as signposted
- Built-up areas 37 mph (60 km/h)
- Outside built-up areas 55 mph (90km/h)
- Expressways 68 mph (110 km/h)

If you have held your licence for less than two years you will be restricted to a maximum speed of 43 mph (70 km/h).

Speed limits are strictly enforced.

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*For the  
road ahead*

### Seat belts

Front and rear seat occupants must wear seat belts if they are fitted.

### Passengers/children in cars

Children under 12 years of age cannot travel as a front or rear seat passenger unless using an appropriate child restraint.

### Lights

You must use dipped headlights during the day outside built-up areas and could be fined for not doing so.

### Motorcycles

- You must use your dipped headlight at all times.
- Riders of scooter or motorcycles must wear a crash helmet.
- You must not carry a child under 12 years of age.

### Drinking and driving

- The legal limit is 30 milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood.
- Driving under the influence of drugs is prohibited.

### Fines

- On-the-spot fines may be imposed and should be paid through a bank following instructions on the ticket given by the policeman. It is illegal to pay cash.
- If you park illegally your vehicle could be clamped or removed.

### It's compulsory to carry the following in Russian Federation

- **First aid kit**
- **Fire extinguisher**
- **Warning triangle**
- **Spare bulb set**
- **Winter tyres** (between 1 December and 1 March)

### Other rules/requirements in Russian Federation

You will have to pay a road/ecological tax at the frontier.

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If you are driving a vehicle with foreign plates you can expect State Traffic Inspectorate officials to stop you to check your documents.

It's recommended that you carry an assortment of spares for your vehicle such as a fan belt and spark plugs.

It is against the law to drive a dirty car where the registration plate isn't legible.

You must not use your horn in towns.

Picking up hitchhikers is forbidden.

You must not use 'anti-radar equipment which interferes with specific radio frequencies to jam police signals'.

It is important that you pre-plan your itinerary and book your accommodation before travelling.

If your vehicle is involved in an accident or breakdown you must contact the Militia. The police must always be called to the scene of an accident.

Avoid driving at night if possible.

You may use spiked tyres or snow chains.

Turning left is forbidden in large towns other than at crossing points with lights.

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