



DRIVING IN ITALY: INFORMATION FOR VISITING MOTORISTS

TUNNELS

The Italian road and motorway network counts many tunnels*, both through the Alps and the Apennines chains. The major ones are toll tunnels.

When driving through tunnels, you must:

- switch on dipped headlights** even if the tunnel is well lit. In case of non-compliance, the fines indicated in the remarks section apply
- observe the speed limits. In case of non-compliance, the sanctions provided for in Article 142, paragraph 7 and seq. of the Italian Highway Code apply***
- not park or stop your vehicle. In case of non-compliance, the sanctions provided for in Article 158, paragraph 5 of the Italian Highway Code apply
- keep a safe distance from the vehicle in front. In case of non-compliance, the sanctions provided for in Article 149, paragraphs 4, 5, 6 of the Italian Highway Code apply****
- never make U-turns or drive in reverse
- switch off the engine when not moving due to heavy traffic
- wear a high-visibility reflective jacket or braces*****, when cycling. In the event of violation, the sanctions provided for in Article 182, paragraph 10 of the Italian Highway Code apply
- look out for emergency exits and S.O.S. posts
- in the event of a fire, extinguish the fire only if it is at an early stage. Otherwise, move away from the fire as soon as possible and let rescue personnel intervene. Leave the vehicle behind and exit the tunnel in the direction opposite the fire.

* The sign 'Tunnel' marks the start of a natural or artificial tunnel, and it is normally located at the tunnel entrance. It can be integrated by information concerning the name and length of the tunnel. In case of non-compliance with road signs, the sanctions provided for in Article 146, paragraph 2 of the Italian Highway Code apply. In case the violation is committed between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m., fines are increased by one third.

** In tunnels, parking lights, number plate lights and, if required, marker lights of motor vehicles and towed vehicles must be switched on even during daytime. Drivers of motor vehicles must also switch on dipped headlights. Sanctions for failing to use lights are provided for in Article 152, paragraph 2 of the Italian Highway Code, whereas sanctions for misusing of lights are provided for in Article 153, paragraph 11.

*** Fines for exceeding speed limits by up to 10 km/h are provided for in Article 142, paragraph 7 of the Italian Highway Code. Fines for exceeding speed limits by more than 10 km/h and up to 40 km/h are provided for in Article 142, paragraph 8 of the Italian Highway Code. Fines for exceeding speed limits by more than 40 km/h and up to 60 km/h are provided for in Article 142, paragraph 9 of the Italian Highway Code. A driving ban from 1 to 3 months also applies. Drivers committing this violation again within two years will face from 8 to 18 months of driving ban. Fines for exceeding speed limits by more than 60 km/h are provided for in Article 142, paragraph 9-bis of the Italian Highway Code. A driving ban from 6 to 12 months also applies. Drivers committing this violation again within two years will have their driving licence revoked.



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The fines provided for in Article 142 are increased by one third, if the violation is committed between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. (Article 195 of the Italian Highway Code).

Sanctions are doubled, if speed limit violations are committed at the wheel of specific types of vehicles.

Newly licenced drivers (holding a licence for less than three years) must not exceed 100 km/h. Fines for non-compliance are provided for in Article 117, paragraph 5 of the Italian Highway Code. A driving ban from 2 to 8 months also applies.

****Sanctions for failing to comply with safety distance are provided for in Article 149 paragraphs 4, 5, and 6 of the Italian Highway Code:

- (4): if driving in breach of Article 149
- (5): if the accident causes damage to the vehicle so serious that a technical inspection is needed. Drivers committing this violation at least twice within two years will face from 1 to 3 months of driving ban
- (6): if the accident causes serious injuries to any person, without prejudice to the application of the penalties imposed for manslaughter or personal injuries due to negligence.

The fines provided for in Article 149 are increased by one third, if the violation is committed between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. (Article 195 of the Italian Highway Code).

***** Reflective high visibility vests/braces must have specific technical features established by law. It is important to check that the garments bear the CE along with the international standard UNI EN 471 marks.