



Automobile Club d'Italia



DRIVING IN ITALY: INFORMATION FOR VISITING MOTORISTS

CAR RENTING

The following documents are generally required to rent a car in Italy:

EU countries

- Driving licence issued by an EU/EFTA country and held for at least one year, which enables you to drive the rented vehicle type
- document of identification (passport or identity card)
- credit card in the name of the driver.

Non-EU countries

- If you hold a driving licence issued by a non-EU country, you also need an international driving permit* or a certified translation (*traduzione giurata*) into Italian of your driving licence**.

Additional car renting fees

- An additional charge is usually applied for a second driver
- GPS navigation device and child seat are to be requested in advance and paid on the spot
- Extra charge if the vehicle is to be driven abroad
- Extra charge if the vehicle is returned to a different location.

Please remember that babies and children up to 1.5 m in height must always be placed in an approved restraint system or seated in a child seat suitable for their weight.

Car rental tips

- Check any possible driving age limit. Some car rental companies require the driver to be aged 21 or 23, and not over 65-75. Usually drivers must have held their driving licence for at least 1 year
- carefully check the condition of the car, and any possible pre-existing damages and report them in the car's delivery paper to avoid being unduly charged. If you are not sure of the car's safety, have it replaced. When returning the car, check any possible damages occurred and mention them in the specific paper, annexing photographic evidence with date and time
- inquire about any costs not clearly indicated, concerning for example:
 - limited mileage
 - age of the driver (under 23), additional driver
 - VAT (Value Added Tax - 22% on the price of service), which is often not included in the final price



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- car child seat
- be fully aware of the refuelling policy
- check beforehand fuel level, and return the car with the same fuel level
- carefully check the insurance cover, in particular if you buy car insurance online through an intermediary. Limits of liability may vary from country to country. If possible, choose a comprehensive insurance cover and check that theft is also included. Check that all risks are actually covered. Damages to tyres, bodywork and caused by stones on the windscreen are generally not included. Check that legal costs and possible court costs are also included
- ask for a copy of the agreement you have signed. The contract must be drawn in a widely spoken language (usually English). Do not sign any incomplete or blank contracts
- the car rental company will deliver a certified copy of the vehicle's registration certificate
- inquire as to what you should do in case of breakdown, theft or accident. Ask for a telephone number you can dial in case of need
- make sure the car is clean before returning it. Consider car-washing. Some companies make no difference between damage and dirt, and charge expensive fees for cleaning
- it is advisable to return the car during the Car Rental opening hours and check the car's conditions together with Car Rental staff. You are responsible for the car's conditions until they collect it
- to avoid any undue charges, when returning the car it is recommended to request and make sure that Car Rental staff terminate the authorization you signed to charge your credit card for car rental expenses.

* International Driving Permits can be of the two following types:

- "Geneva Convention – 1949", valid for 1 year
- "Vienna Convention – 1968", valid for 3 years

Both types are valid provided that the associated national driving licences are also valid.

While some countries accept both types, others accept only one of the two. Italy accepts both types.

**A certified translation (traduzione giurata) is a full translation into Italian of the foreign driving licence. It can be made by:

- a representative of the Embassy/Consulate of the State having issued the national driving licence
- an official translator/interpreter who must certify before a Court clerk that the translation is a true copy of the original.