



## DRIVING IN ITALY: INFORMATION FOR VISITING MOTORISTS

### EU Countries:

- moped registration document (or technical certificate)
- valid national driving licence\*\* entitling to drive a moped
- third party liability insurance bought in an EU country
- road tax receipt (this only applies for mopeds registered in Italy).

### MOTORHOME DRIVERS

To drive a motorhome\*, you need to have the following documents in your vehicle.

#### EU countries:

- Driving license\*\* issued by an EU/EFTA country, which entitles to drive the corresponding vehicle type
- third Party Liability insurance cover, including passengers but excluding the driver; there is no particular difference between a car insurance and a motorhome one.
- vehicle registration certificate.

#### Non-EU countries:

- Driving license issued by a non-EU country
- either an international driving permit\*\*\* or a certified translation (traduzione giurata) into Italian of the driving license\*\*\*\*
- vehicle registration certificate
- residents of non-EU countries should contact their insurance company prior to departure and check whether they need a green card (international insurance certificate)\*\*\*\*\* or a short term insurance\*\*\*\*\*.

All non-EU-registered vehicles circulating in Italy must display a sticker at the rear bearing the respective country code.

Theft, fire and comprehensive insurance, i.e. an insurance policy covering all risks for the vehicle and all passengers including the driver, is optional. For motorhomes it is possible, but not mandatory, to have additional guarantees, not provided for passenger cars.

### Speed limits

The maximum permitted speed is:

for motorhomes with a laden weight up to 3.5 t:

- 130 km/h on motorways. According to the Italian Highway Code, motorway owners/concessionaires can raise the speed limit up to 150 km/h, which has to be indicated by appropriate road signs, on some motorway sections with three lanes in each direction of travel
- 110 km/h on the main roads outside built-up areas
- 90 km/h on the secondary and local roads outside built-up areas
- 50 km/h in built-up areas; specific signs can indicate a speed limit up to 70 km/h on



Automobile Club d'Italia



some urban streets having appropriate architectural and functional features;

for motorhomes with a laden weight over 3.5 t and up to 12 t:

- 50 km/h in built-up areas
- 80 km/h outside built-up areas
- 100 km/h on motorways

for motorhomes with a laden weight exceeding 12 t:

- 50 km/h in built-up areas
- 70 km/h outside built-up areas
- 80 km/h on motorways.

You must adapt your driving speed to your vehicle's load and to the road conditions, and comply with the speed limits shown on road signs, even if temporary, on any type of road. On motorways with three or more lanes, motorhomes longer than 7m must use the two rightmost lanes.

### **Motorhome stopover and parking**

Stopover/parking areas\*\*\*\*\* are indicated by specific road signs and can be found on dedicated websites. Motorhomes may be parked in areas reserved for vehicle parking, displaying the payment receipt on the dashboard (if required).

### **Power recharging and wastewater disposal**

Electricity can be recharged at electric hook-up points located within campsites, or at private car parks or stopover/parking areas. Wastewater must be drained into specific areas available in each town or within campsites.

### **Transportable loads**

Mopeds and bikes can be transported provided that the motorhome is equipped with the appropriate carrier. Protruding loads may not exceed 30% of the length of the vehicle and may only protrude to the rear. A protruding load must be indicated by a square panel (50 cm x 50 cm) with reflective red and white diagonal stripes.

A roof rack may be installed on a motorhome to transport inflatable dinghies, windsurfs or small boats.

---

\* Motorhomes are also referred to as auto caravans. A motorhome is a vehicle with a special bodywork, equipped as a self-contained travelling home, that can accommodate up to seven people including the driver (Article 54 paragraph 1 letter m of



Automobile Club d'Italia



the Italian Highway Code). Motorhomes are classified as motor vehicles; they have a more complete set-up to allow greater comfort for the occupants and can travel without any towing as they are equipped with an engine.

However, please note that the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport's Circular letter no. 2851 /M362 of 6 June 2005 states that motorhomes can be classified as M1, M2 or M3 depending on the number of seats. M2 category refers to passenger vehicles having more than eight seats, in addition to the driver's seat, and not exceeding 5 t full laden weight. M3 refers to passenger vehicles having more than eight seats, in addition to the driver's seat, and exceeding 5 t full laden weight.

\*\* You need a B driving license to drive a motorhome, provided that the full laden weight does not exceed 3.5 t; if this limit is exceeded, a C license is required (Article 116 paragraph 3 of the Italian Highway Code).

\*\*\* 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 licenses 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 license. It can be made by:

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

\*\*\*\*\* A Green Card (*Carta Verde*) is an international motor insurance certificate allowing a vehicle to enter and travel in a foreign country and proving its compliance with the insurance obligation for third-party motor liability (TPL).

The Green Card is released under the responsibility of the National Insurance Bureau of the country where the vehicle was registered. It is issued by a motor insurer together with the insurance policy or upon request. To get your green card, you need to contact your motor liability insurer.

\*\*\*\*\* A short term border insurance is a temporary third party liability cover. It can be issued only for vehicles registered in foreign countries not belonging to the European Economic Area, which are temporarily being driven in Italy.

\*\*\*\*\* Parking motorhomes, where permitted, is not considered camping as far as the vehicle stands on the ground just with the wheels, discharges only exhaust emissions and does not take up more space than the size of the motorhome itself (this means windows, canopy and steps must stay closed). In the event of pay and display parking, the fees applied to motorhomes are 50% higher than the ones applied to cars in the same area.