



DRIVING IN ITALY: INFORMATION FOR VISITING MOTORISTS

ROAD SIGNS

Road users must follow road signs and traffic officers' instructions. In case of non-compliance, the sanctions provided for in Article 146 paragraph 2 of the Italian Highway Code apply. Direction signs can be identified by their background colours:

Green:	motorways	
Blue:	extra-urban roads	
White:	urban roads or towards urban destinations; to indicate hotels and accommodation facilities in urban areas	
Yellow:	temporary signs indicating construction sites, mandatory detours, or alternative routes due to roadworks	
Brown:	direction signs for historic, artistic, cultural and tourist destinations. Also used to indicate natural or recreational areas and camping sites	
Black:	direction signs for factories, industrial areas, handicraft businesses and shopping centres on the outskirts of a city or town	
Orange:	signs for public service vehicles (taxis and school buses)	



SPEED LIMITS

Motor vehicles

The maximum allowed speed for motor vehicles, unless otherwise indicated on signs, is:

- 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 main roads outside built-up areas
- 90 km/h on secondary and local roads outside built-up areas
- 50 km/h in built-up areas; road signs can indicate a speed limit up to 70 km/h on some urban streets having appropriate architectural and functional features.

In bad weather conditions, the maximum allowed speed is 110 km/h on motorways and 90 km/h on main roads outside built-up areas.

In case of non-compliance, the sanctions provided for in Article 142 paragraph 7 et seq. of the Italian Highway Code apply.

Motorhomes

Speed limits for motorhomes are:

- 50 km/h in built-up areas; 80 km/h outside built-up areas; 100 km/h on motorways (if laden weight is over 3.5 t and up to 12 t)
- 50 km/h in built-up areas; 70 km/h in built-up areas; 80 km/h on motorways (if laden weight is over 12 t).

Mopeds e micro cars

The maximum allowed speed for mopeds and micro cars up to 50 cc is 45 km/h unless lower limits are indicated on road signs.



Micro cars have reduced size and passenger space. The driver can be a minor provided he/she has an AM license in case of European citizens or a valid driving license in case of non-European citizens.

If specified in the moped registration certificate, it is possible to carry only a passenger, provided the driver is at least 16 years old.

Seat belts are compulsory both for the driver and passenger of micro cars. In case of non-compliance, the sanctions provided for in Article 172 paragraph 10 of the Italian Highway Code apply.

Mopeds and micro cars are not allowed on motorways, main roads outside urban areas and any other no thoroughfare road for mopeds and micro cars.

In case of non-compliance, the sanctions provided for in Article 175 paragraph 16 of the Italian Highway Code apply.



Automobile Club d'Italia



Lights and headlights

Parking lights and dipped headlights must be switched on outside built-up areas. Full beam headlights can be used when visibility is poor as far as they do not dazzle oncoming/preceding vehicles or other road users.

In urban areas, parking lights and dipped headlights must be switched on from half an hour after sunset to half an hour before sunrise or when visibility is poor (e.g., rain, fog, snow).

Motorcyclists and moped riders must always switch on parking lights and dipped headlights in and outside built-up areas.

Daytime running lights - if fitted on the vehicle - can be used as an alternative to dipped headlights during daytime when visibility is good (but not in tunnels).

In case of non-compliance, the sanctions provided for in Article 152 paragraph 2, and Article 153 paragraph 11 of the Italian Highway Code apply.