

ROAD TRIP ESSENTIALS

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Italy Driving Guide

Italy's stunning natural scenery, comprehensive road network and passion for cars makes it a wonderful road-trip destination.

DRIVING LICENCE & DOCUMENTS

- ➔ All EU driving licences are recognised in Italy.
- ➔ Travellers from other countries should obtain an International Driving Permit (IDP) through their national automobile association. This should be carried with your licence; it is not a substitute for it.

When driving in Italy you are required to carry with you:

- ➔ The vehicle registration document
- ➔ Your driving licence
- ➔ Proof of third-party liability insurance

INSURANCE

- ➔ Third-party liability insurance is mandatory for all vehicles in Italy, including cars brought in from abroad.
- ➔ If driving an EU-registered vehicle, your home country insurance is sufficient. Ask your insurer for a European Accident Statement (EAS) form, which can simplify matters in the event of an accident.
- ➔ Residents of non-EU countries should contact their insurance company to see if they need a green card international insurance certificate.
- ➔ Hire agencies provide the minimum legal insurance, but you can supplement it if you choose.

HIRING A CAR

Car-hire agencies are widespread in Italy but pre-booking on the internet is often cheaper. Online booking agency Rentalcars.com (www.rentalcars.com) compares the rates of numerous car-rental companies.

Considerations before renting:

- ➔ Bear in mind that a car is generally more hassle than it's worth in cities, so only hire one for the time you'll be on the open road.
 - ➔ Consider vehicle size carefully. High fuel prices, extremely narrow streets and tight parking conditions mean that smaller is often better.
 - ➔ Road signs can be iffy in remote areas, so consider booking and paying for GPS/sat nav.
- Standard regulations:
- ➔ Many agencies have a minimum rental age of 25 and a maximum of 79. You can sometimes

Driving Fast Facts

- ➔ **Right or left?** Drive on the right
- ➔ **Manual or automatic?** Mostly manual
- ➔ **Legal driving age** 18
- ➔ **Top speed limit** 130km/h to 150km/h (on autostradas)
- ➔ **Signature car** Flaming red Ferrari or Fiat 500