States of Guernsey
Driver and Vehicle Licensing

Advice and information for new Guernsey Residents

Helpful advice and information on re-registering your vehicle in Guernsey and exchanging your driving licence

If you are a driver taking up permanent residence in the Island, Driver & Vehicle Licensing will be happy to offer you advice and assistance about registering a vehicle here and about obtaining a driving licence.

Re-registering your vehicle

If you are bringing a car with you into the Island, which has previously been registered in another jurisdiction, then you will need to re-register it in Guernsey within 14 days of your arrival.

From 1st May 2016 a one-off First Registration Duty will be applied to all 'new' and 'second-hand' vehicles being imported and registered in Guernsey for the first time. However, certain 'low emission' vehicles will be zero rated. The attached 'First Registration Duty – Public Advice Note' details the charges that will be applied at the point of registering the vehicle and provides information on exemptions and preferential rates that apply

To register your vehicle in Guernsey, you will require the original and current registration documentation for the vehicle from the country in which it is currently registered. (In the UK, this document is known as a

‘V5’ and in France ‘Certificat d’ immatriculation’). If your vehicle is being imported from another country, we will be pleased to advise you on the documents required. If you do not have the registration documents, then as an alternative, a Certificate of Permanent Export from the vehicle’s country of origin, will suffice.

It is no longer necessary to obtain a vehicle weight certificate on arrival into the island. However we retain the right to require such a certificate in the event that the vehicle’s weight is not contained on the registration document or there is any doubt as to whether or not a vehicle is actually in the Island.

A Customs declaration will be required if the vehicle is imported from anywhere other than the U.K. we is generally only able to accept original copies of the above paperwork.

When you visit our Bulwer Avenue Offices to register your vehicle you will be asked to complete an ‘Application to Register a Motor Vehicle/Motorcycle available form on the web site and pay the aforementioned First Registration Duty based on vehicle emissions plus a £40 First registration fee. Annual vehicle tax (road circulation fee) is not currently levied in Guernsey. At the time of going to print, there are no other taxes or charges currently levied in respect of the registration of vehicles.

In the event that you are registering a new vehicle that is unused and has not previously been registered elsewhere, then please contact us and we will be pleased to advise you on the associated requirements.

Your driving licence

New residents to the Island, who already has a driving licence issued in another jurisdiction, need to apply to exchange their licence for a Guernsey licence once they have moved permanently to the Island. You may drive on an overseas licence upon arrival in the Island, but for a maximum period of one year only. We are able to exchange full licences

issued by many countries, including the United Kingdom and European Union members, for Guernsey licences. We can also exchange a driving licence entitlement in a particular category or categories of licence, provided that you are able to prove that a full-licence was previously held in that category or categories within the last five years.

Licences from countries not included on the following list cannot be exchanged for a Guernsey driving licence. In such cases, it will be necessary to pass a driving test in the Island before a full Guernsey licence can be issued. You may drive on your overseas licence for up to one year after arriving in Guernsey until you take the test.

Proof of identification is required when applying for a driving licence in Guernsey for the first time. Please contact us and we will be pleased to advise you on the associated requirements.

Countries from which a driving licence may be exchanged:

Isle of Man

Jersey

E.C. and E.E.A. – Member countries

Andorra
Austria
Belgium
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany (including British Forces Germany Licences)
Gibraltar
Great Britain & Northern Ireland
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Netherlands
Norway
Poland

Portugal
Romania
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden

Designated Countries

Australia
Barbados
British Virgin Islands
Canada
Falkland Islands
Faroe Islands
Hong Kong
Japan (with official translation)
Monaco
New Zealand
Republic of Korea (with official translation) (see below)
Singapore
South Africa
Switzerland
Zimbabwe

Motorcycle licences from the Republic of Korea are not exchangeable.

Where to find us

Our offices are located at the address below. If you would like any further information or assistance on vehicle registrations, driving licences or any other aspect of motoring in Guernsey, then please feel free to telephone us on (+44) (0) 1481 243400. Alternatively, you can email traffic@gov.gg

Bulwer Avenue Office
Bulwer Avenue
St Sampson
GY2 4LR
Telephone: 01481 243400
Fax: 01481 241177
Website: www.gov.gg/traffic