

Regulations on oversize vehicles



Helpful information detailing the sizes of vehicles that are permitted to circulate on Guernsey's roads

Maximum Vehicle Sizes

Guernsey has many narrow roads which are unsuitable for long, wide or heavy vehicles. This has led to the introduction of restrictions on the size and weight of rigid and articulated vehicles that can circulate Island wide.

Oversize vehicle permit applications for loads which are divisible are unlikely to be granted. Please contact Traffic & Highway Services for further information on 01481 243400.

Some larger vehicles are permitted between St Peter Port and St Sampson's Harbours and to some Industrial Estates at certain times of the day. These restrictions are detailed below.

Length

The maximum length of a vehicle allowed to circulate island wide is 9.45 metres (31') for a rigid vehicle and 10.67 metres (35') for an articulated vehicle.

Articulated vehicles up to 16.55 metres (54'3¾") are allowed on travel to the "Harbours Route" which is between the White Rock and the Vale Castle via St Julian's Pier, the Weighbridge, Gategny Esplanade, Saint George's Esplanade, Longstore, La Rue des Bas Courtils, Bulwer Avenue, Southside, the Bridge, Northside and Castle Road at any time.

In addition, they can travel to the Industrial Estates situated at Northside, Lowlands, La Route du Braye, La Rue de la Hure Mare and Pitronnerie Road between 9.00pm and 6.45am only.

In the case of a towing vehicle and trailer, the maximum combined length that is permitted is 12.19 metres (40 feet), subject to the towing vehicle or trailer not exceeding 9.45 metres in length. Not more than one trailer must be towed behind a vehicle.

Width

The maximum width of a vehicle allowed to circulate Island wide is 2.31 metres (7'6¾ ").

However, buses are permitted to travel up to a width of 2.49 metres (8'2") providing they are being used for a public service, a public excursion service or a private hire, on routes approved by Traffic & Highway Services.

Rigid vehicles up to a width of 2.5 metres (8'2½ ") are permitted to travel along the "Harbours Route".

Articulated vehicles up to 2.6 metres (8'6½ ") are also permitted to travel on the "Harbours Route" and to and from the Industrial Estates between the hours of 9pm and 6.45am.

Weight

The maximum individual axle weight of any vehicle must not normally exceed 9 tonnes.

There are also restrictions on the maximum gross weight of vehicles and these are detailed below:-

Vehicles with 2 axles 18 tonnes	Vehicles with 3 axles 24 tonnes	Vehicles with 4 axles 28 tonnes
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Articulated vehicles travelling on the “Harbours Route” between the White Rock and the Vale Castle are permitted to exceed these weights providing the combined maximum weight of the vehicle and the load does not exceed 44 tonnes in total or 9 tonnes on any one axle. Similarly, the same dispensation is available to vehicles travelling to the Industrial Estates referred to previously in this leaflet, but only between the hours of 9pm and 6.45am.

A trailer must not be used if it is in excess of 2cwt (102kg) unladen or if it has a laden weight which exceeds half the kerbside weight of the towing vehicle, unless the trailer is equipped with an efficient braking system which conforms to the requirements of section 5 (2) of the Road Traffic (Construction and Use of Motor vehicles) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1971. As mentioned above, not more than one trailer must be towed behind a vehicle.

Speed Limits

The maximum speed limit for a motor vehicle exceeding 2 tons unladen is 25mph. However, there is also legislation governing the maximum speed limits for vehicles of the following types:

- 8mph Steam boilers, tar boilers, concrete mixers, material spreaders & other trailers of any kind whatsoever with metal wheels
- 12mph Four-wheeled heavy trailers of the low loader type
- 20mph Caravan homes, horse and cattle boxes & two-wheeled trailer of any kind whatsoever
- 25mph An omnibus and an articulated vehicle

Summary of Island Wide Limit



Length: 9.45m
Width: 2.31m
Weight: Maximum of 9 tonnes per axle and gross weight up to 28 tonnes depending on the number of axles.



Length: 10.67m
Width: 2.31m
Weight: Maximum of 9 tonnes per axle and gross weight up to 28 tonnes depending on the number of axles.

Permits

Certain specialised vehicles that exceed any of these limits may be permitted to circulate, with a permit, subject to controls regarding routes and times.

Applications forms for a permit can be found on our website at this link www.gov.gg/vehiclepermits or can be obtained from our Bulwer Avenue office.

Vehicle Escort

In addition to a permit, some large vehicles may need to be moved under a vehicle escort. Vehicle escorts warn other road users of the presence of oversize vehicles or abnormal loads and direct traffic so that these vehicles can safely negotiate a route. These can be booked by telephoning Guernsey Outriders on 01481 723099.

Removal of street furniture for very large vehicles and/or loads

If it is necessary for street furniture, such as bollards, to be removed for the escorted load/vehicle to pass through, **3 clear working days' notice must be given to Traffic & Highway Service** by the escort service provider to arrange for this to be carried out. A charge will be made to the haulier for this work.

A leaflet giving detailed information on the vehicle escort service and what is required from a haulier before and during a movement under escort is found at this link <https://www.gov.gg/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=101000&p=0>

Please contact us for further information:-

Traffic and Highway Services
P.O. Box 145
Bulwer Avenue Office
Bulwer Avenue
St Sampson
GY2 4LR
Phone: 01481 243400
Email: traffic@gov.gg

Website: www.gov.gg/vehiclepermits