

Driving licences and vehicles

Importing your UK-registered vehicle from the UK to Spain

If you spend longer than six months of the year in Spain with your UK-registered car, Spanish law says you must register your vehicle with the Spanish authorities. For information on how to do this (including how to change your licence plate) consult the Dirección General de Tráfico (<http://www.dgt.es/es/>) The RACE (Real Automóvil Club de España <http://www.race.es/>) also provides useful guidance about all aspects of importing your vehicle.

Please note that it is unlikely that you will be able to register right-hand drive vehicles such as vans and commercial vehicles.

UK-registered vehicles being driven in Spain must comply with all UK requirements for road tax, M.O.T. and third party insurance covering the full time period the vehicle is used in Spain, up to the six-month limit.

Vehicle import taxes

Payment of the following taxes (or acquisition of the relevant exemption certificate[s]) is required by the Dirección General de Tráfico when importing and registering your UK vehicle.

- a registration tax (or certificate of exemption) (impuesto de matriculación)
- a road/traffic tax (or certificate of exemption) (impuesto de circulación del ayuntamiento) - contact your local town hall for details
- VAT.(or certificate of exemption) – IVA.

Please see the Agencia Tributaria website <http://www.agenciatributaria.es/> for more details.

Depending on your circumstances you may be exempt from one or more of these taxes. If required, you can obtain a proof of change of address certificate (un certificado de baja consular) from your local British consulate.