LeasePlan

Back on the road again!

Getting ready for the great British getaway Harness the power of electric

Driving under the influence... of hay-fever medicine!

My LeasePlan Driver App

High-speed update

Driving in Europe

Getting started with EV:

Harness the power of electric

An Introduction to Home Charging

Installing a home charging point is an important first step towards an easier life with an electric vehicle. Already a routine job, there are hundreds of different units to choose from and contractors nationwide who can get you up and running within hours, supported by grant funding from the UK Government.

Our Guide shows you what's available, what you need to consider, and what to expect from the installation itself.

Navigating the UK's Public Charging Networks

New technology and new regulations are making it easier to cover long distances in an electric car without needing a glovebox full of membership cards. However, with large price differences between operators and variations in the way units are accessed, journeys can still require some extra planning. Take a look at our guide to find out everything you need to know about the UK's biggest networks, with step-by-step instructions to help get you plugged in.

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We will help you understand your driving habits and how you use your car; looking at everything from your reasons for driving to your mileage and typical journeys.

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Could an EV work for you?

Use our online tool to analyse your driving habits and help you decide.

Driving tips : Driving under the influence... of hay-fever medicine!

Hay fever (or allergic rhinitis if you want to use its proper name) is one of the downsides of summer for many people – and as the symptoms include watery eyes and sneezing, it doesn't make driving any easier.

Antihistamines can help, but it's important to check the side effects of the drugs you choose. Some can cause drowsiness, confusion, dizziness and blurred vision. If this happens when you're behind the wheel, you could be at risk of a 'driving under the influence' charge, just as if you were drunk driving or had taken cannabis. The potential penalties for drug driving, which were introduced in 2015, include a 12-month driving ban, a criminal record, a fine of up to £5,000 and up to 6 months in prison. In addition, your driving licence will show you've been convicted of drug driving.

According to the NHS, chlorphenamine and diphenhydramine are more likely to produce these side effects, while they are less common with loratadine and cetirizine. However, individual reactions to these drugs vary significantly, so the most important thing is to make sure you've tested them thoroughly to see how they affect you before you decide to drive after taking one.

What else can you do?

- 01 Check the pollen forecast and the weather forecast
- 02 Make sure you are fit to drive
- 03 Consider installing a special pollen filter in your car
- Pull over if you feel a reaction coming on. Don't continue driving.

...it's important to check the side effects of the drugs you choose...



Haven't driven for a while?

Between lockdowns and working from home, many people found themselves driving significantly fewer miles last year than they would normally do. If you haven't been on the roads all that much recently, you might find these two articles from Highways England helpful:





Checking the safety of your vehicle...

What to do in an emergency...



Is your driving licence in date?

As part of its response to the pandemic, the DVLA provided an automatic 11-month extension to any licenses that were due to expire between 1 February 2020 and 31 December 2020. This means that many of these licences are now coming up for renewal, as are those that go out of date this year – and there are no further extensions announced. If you haven't checked your license for a while, it's a good idea to see when it's due for renewal. And if yours is coming up, remember to sort it out ahead of time, as processing may take longer than usual.

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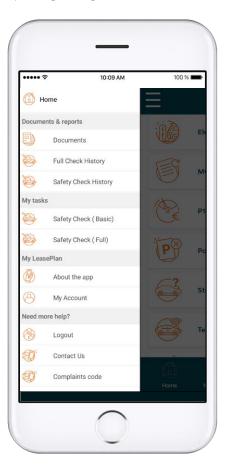
Latest news : Your high-speed update

 A lot has been happening in the last few months. Here's our quick overview of what you need to know.

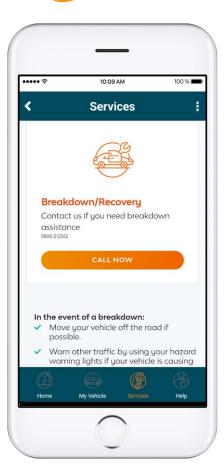
My LeasePlan Driver App

Our new app for LeasePlan drivers is coming to the Android and Apple app stores very soon. It will give you 24/7 access to all LeasePlan services, from booking maintenance, tyres and MOT appointments to reporting damage, updating mileage and much more.





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Updates to electric vehicle grants

A few weeks ago, the Government changed the rules for its plug-in car grant. As well as reducing the maximum grant to £2,500 (from £3,000), the maximum vehicle price for eligibility was cut to £35,000. This means some popular models no longer receive the grant, though many vehicles are still eligible.

These include:

- BMW i3
- BMW i3s
- Citroën ë-C4
- DS 3 Crossback E-Tense Prestige
- DS 3 Crossback E-Tense Perf. Line
- Fiat 500e
- Honda e
- Hyundai IONIQ Premium
- Hyundai IONIQ Premium SE
- Hyundai KONA SE Connect (39kWh)
- Hyundai KONA Premium (39kWh)
- Hyundai KONA Premium (64kWh)
- Kia e-Niro 2 (39kWh)
- Mazda MX-30
- MG MG5 EV
- MG ZS EV
- MINI Electric
- Nissan e-NV200 Visia (5 Seater)
- Nissan e-NV200 Visia (7 Seater)
- Nissan Leaf

- Peugeot e-208
- Peugeot e-2008 Active Premium
- Peugeot e-2008 Allure
- Peugeot e-2008 Allure Premium
- Renault ZOE
- SEAT Mii electric
- Škoda Citigo-e iV
- Škoda ENYAQ iV 60 Nav ecoSuite
- Škoda ENYAQ iV 60 Nav Lodge
- Škoda ENYAQ iV 60 Nav Loft
- Škoda ENYAQ iV 60 Nav Lounge
- Škoda ENYAQ iV 60 Nav Suite
- Smart EQ fortwo
- Smart EQ forfour
- Vauxhall Corsa-e
- Vauxhall Mokka-e
- VW e-Golf
- VW e-up!
- VW ID.3 Pro Life (58kWh 145PS)
- VW ID.3 Pro Perf. Life (58kWh 204PS)

These vehicles have CO2 emissions of less than 50g/km and can travel at least 112km (70 miles) without any emissions at all.





New ban on mobile phones

Strict new rules will remove the current loophole that phone usage behind the wheel must be 'interactive' (which meant people were able to dodge fines if they were taking photos or videos while driving). Drivers could now face a £200 fine and six penalty points just for holding, or potentially even touching, their phone while driving.



Watch out for learner drivers!

Driving lessons started again on 12 April after being put on hold during the third lockdown, with tests restarting on the 22 April.



Pavement parking bans?

Ministers are currently looking at extending London's ban on pavement parking to the rest of the UK, with fines of £70 for those who break the rules. Details still need to be confirmed, but the Department for Transport has suggested it could be introduced soon.



Cameras to spot litter louts New camera technology could mean fines of up to £120 for drivers who drop rubbish out of their cars.

Getting ready for the **great British getaway**

With the country in lockdown until recently, it's been a while since people could get away – even just for a weekend. But after the successful reopening of self-contained holiday accommodation in April, people will be looking at varying dates in May when hotels, hostels and B&Bs are set to reopen across the United Kingdom.

Please check the below websites for latest updates.

England	gov.uk	
Northern Ireland	nidirect.gov.uk	
Scotland	gov.scot	
Wales	gov.wales	

Wherever you're planning to drive, here are a few tips to get you ready for the trip.

If you're filling the boot with a lot of items, make sure the heaviest objects are properly secured, so they can't slide about and cause damage.

2 Soft-sided bags could give you more boot space and they are less likely to move around during the journey

If you're travelling with kids or pets, plan breaks into your journey before you leave - and make sure you have everything you will need when you stop, such as masks and hand sanitiser

- If you're using a roof box, make sure it is fitted correctly and filled safely
- 5 Try to avoid overpacking. A full car may handle quite differently to normal. You may need to be more careful when braking or cornering, as well as having to accelerate harder when pulling away or going up a slope

If you do have a fully loaded car, check you have the correct air pressure in your tyres, as it may need to be higher than usual – and remember that it could reduce your fuel economy, so make sure you have a full tank



Driving in Europe

Using your driving license

Most people will be able to drive in the EU using their UK driving licenses, but those with paper licenses will need an International Driving Permit, as will people with licenses from Gibraltar, Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man. If you're in this position, the best thing to do is check the rules for the country (or countries) you plan to drive in. You may find you need more than one International Driving Permit, as there are three used across Europe, though each individual country will only require one. The Government has guidance on their website.

A couple of points about insurance You must have a Green Card in Europe to show that you have insurance and you may need to request this several weeks before travelling. It's also worth checking what level of cover you will have in the EU, as the green card is only there to prove you have third-party cover.

In addition, it's worth being aware that there may be a requirement for any insurance claims after vehicle accidents in the EU (plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Sweden) to be made in the country where the accident happened. This could include making the claim in the local language.

Stickers and documentation

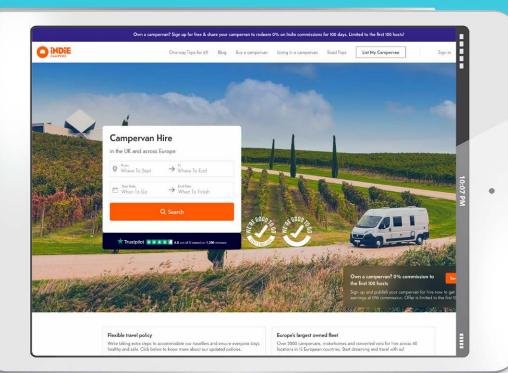
The rules around GB stickers are complicated, so it may be safest just to use one all the time when you're in the EU. The specific requirements are that you must use one in Spain, Cyprus and Malta. In other countries, you need to use one if your number plate has the GB next to an EU, English, Welsh or Scottish flag. But you don't require one if the GB is on its own or next to the union flag.

You will also need to take your V5C vehicle log book if you own your car, or a VE103 form on lease vehicles to show you have permission to take them overseas. In the case of LeasePlan vehicles, please contact the DriverLine to obtain foreign travel documentation and arrange European roadside assistance. The rules around GB stickers are complicated, so it may be safest just to use one all the time when you're in the EU.



LeasePlan and Indie campers partnership

Hit the road in a sleek van from Indie Campers, with an itinerary and extras like wifi, shower, bikes and even a BBQ. Effortless camping.



Camper vans are safe, clean, secure, and the perfect partner for holidays in the new normal!

DriverLine

For help with your vehicle please call the LeasePlan DriverLine on **0344 493 7644**