

Hire cars abroad – what you ought to know!

Following the idea „Spend less, save more“ many customers only pay attention to the price, when going through hire car offers. Attention: only if price and value add up, you can label an offer recommendable. It's likewise important to keep an eye open when enjoying your vacation! The Portal carhiremarket.com provides you with the most important hints and information regarding hire car reservations.



Dangers abroad

In general one can say: Unnecessary trips in fully packed cars should be avoided. As long as the luggage is not stored at the accommodation site or a safety deposit, do not leave your car unattended. Sightseeing with a fully loaded trunk is careless.

Moreover be aware of the following :

- Picking up hitch hikers (Is regarded as grossly negligent and prohibited in some countries)
- Staying overnight at highway service areas or other parking lots (When selecting a hotel pay attention to guarded or locked parking lots) Particularly in France signs are used to point this circumstance out!
- Unattended parking lots in general (When taking a break always keep an eye on the car, at a restaurant make sure to have a view facing the parking lot) e.g. in Eastern Europe, Spain or Italy.
- Placing items visible from the outside in the parked vehicle is alluring. In principle do not ever leave anything in the car.
- Fictitious breakdowns or accidents as traps.
- Never open the door, reach through the window or open the trunk at traffic lights or any other breakpoints. Never crank the window down far enough, for a hand to fit, not even a hand of a child.
- Pretentious hire car representatives (Return the key only in the designated drop-off box or at the desk)

Concerning the insurance

A big money pit is often hidden in the featured insurance. "It's important to differentiate between excess, reimbursement of the excess or no excess", says Pamela Oey of carhiremarket.com. If you don't have the **Collision Damage Waiver (CDW)** and **Theft Protection (TP) Insurance** you are liable for the equivalent value of the car! When choosing the CDW or TP insurance, the excess varies between 300 and 1500€ depending on the car group.

This amount can be reduced or excluded locally, but be aware of the effective additional costs. Some brokers speak of no excess, however a safety deposit in the amount of the excess will be blocked on your credit card. This amount will be unblocked after the drop-off of your hire car.

But in the event of damage or loss, reimbursement is granted only upon sending the **complete police report**. Damages on tyres, undercarriage, glass, interior as well as key loss or stored luggage in the vehicle are excluded and the customer can only eliminate those with an additional insurance upon pick up.

These charges vary as well depending on the respective supplier.

carhiremarket.com recommends: consult a qualified partner beforehand or contact us
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On the internet cheap rates can be found in a heartbeat. But don't be misled and choose a rate with sufficient insurance, which may cost you a bit more, but will protect you from higher expenses.

In Italy you are required by law to have at least the Collision damage waiver (CDW) insurance. If you buy these upon pick up, your rental price may double! In Spain customers are often forced to buy an additional insurance as well.

Don't let yourself be fooled: the insurance codes such as CDW and TP are valid internationally, therefore you are sufficiently insured!



Our advise:

Choose a supplier with no excess!

On location the safety deposit will be blocked on your credit card. Have the service representatives give you a receipt for the flawless condition of the vehicle and the release of the safety deposit amount. It's not so uncommon that afterwards charges are raised for supposed damages, not visible to the naked eye. Check the vehicle for damages before accepting the vehicle and if necessary have the service representative add this in the **handover certificate!** Place the information sticker „This is a hire car by...“ invisible if possible. Experience shows that less damages occur, if the vehicle is not recognisable as a hire car.



Crossing borders / Ferry rides

Good to know, that hire cars are not insured on ferries. Accordingly most ferries do not allow hire cars on board. Many suppliers do not permit crossing borders. Inform us about your travelling plans when you make the reservation. But in any case you are required to carry an **international insurance card** in the vehicle. Pay attention, that you receive this card upon pick up of the hire car.

One way rentals

Deliberate before making a reservation, if you would like to pick up a car in Gerona but drop it off in Barcelona. When travelling with a low cost carrier, for instance, it's common that the weekly price is less expensive than the one way rental fee for Gerona - Barcelona. If you're heading to the USA one way rentals within one region i.e. New York – Chicago are often free of charge, whereas one way rentals outside a region i.e. New York – Los Angeles may cost a couple of hundred dollars. Fees for international one way rentals vary between **300-1000 Euro** and are caused by the fact, that the vehicle needs to be driven back to the original pickup location.

Special equipment/ Extras

Check beforehand, if special equipment/ extras, i.e. child seats or an additional driver are included in the rental price. Depending on the supplier charges for a baby seat vary between **2-15 € per day**, for an additional driver up to **30 € per day**. Miss Oey: „Specify these extras precisely during the hire car reservation, meaning age and/or weight of the child, an infant needs a baby seat, a five years old child only a booster seat. Moreover such extras are of limited availability and therefore, especially in the main season, scarce goods.“ Clarify beforehand which **fuel arrangements** apply, because some suppliers charge overpriced fees for this service!

Reservation

Reserve your hire car for the main season at least 6-8 weeks before the rental so you won't have to pay twice as much for the rental price.

Last minute deals, commonly available for flights, do not exist in the hire car sector. On site suppliers make a virtue of necessity and often demand twice as much for the same vehicle. Your privacy is ensured with a **128 Bit codification provided by VeriSign**.

Thus your private data is forwarded to the hire car supplier in a completely secure manner. Carhiremarket.com uses your data solely to complete your reservation. Your data will never be passed on to third parties!

You can detect a secure site, if the URL where personal information is entered starts with **http://www.carhiremarket.com/....**



carhiremarket.com wishes you a pleasant journey