

### **Tourists intending to drive in Mauritius**

Tourists are allowed to drive in Mauritius with their domestic licence for up to 4 weeks during their visit in Mauritius. Therefore, an international driving license is not required for a **period of up to 4 weeks**.

However, if the tourist intends to stay, and drive, for a period of **more than four weeks**, he/she needs to:

either

(i) apply for an extension for the permission to drive in Mauritius at the Mauritius Police Force, Traffic Branch, Line Barracks, Port Louis;

or

(ii) have a valid International Driving Permit (issued in the home country).

The details of the Mauritius Police Force Traffic Branch are:

Mauritius Police Force Information Desk opening hours:

From 0830 hrs to 1600 hrs, Monday to Friday  
From 0830 hrs to 1100 hrs, Saturday

Phone: +230 211 8434  
+230 211 8478  
  
+230 208 1212 Ext 1251 and 1265

### **International Driving Permit**

Any person holding a valid International Driving Permit or Driving Licence issued by a competent foreign authority shall entitle the holder to drive within the State of Mauritius any vehicle of the types specified thereon, provided that such Permit/Licence is valid for more than three years at the time of the registration thereof in the State of Mauritius.

Mauritius recognizes the Geneva Road Traffic Convention of 1949 and the law stipulates that:

“Any person holding a valid International Driving Permit or Driving Licence issued by a competent foreign authority, shall not be required to pass a test. Any such permit or licence shall entitle the holder thereof to drive within the State of Mauritius any vehicle of the types specified thereon.” (Sections 57 and 59 of Road Traffic Regulations 1954).

Please note that:

- The steering wheel of vehicles in Mauritius is located on the right hand side;

- Driving of vehicles is on the left hand side and the priority is for vehicles coming from the right at roundabouts;
- All roads sign posts are of international standards;
- When driving in Mauritius, the alcohol consumption limit is 20mg/100ml of alcohol in the bloodstream; 09 mcg/100ml in the breath; 27mg/100 in the urine;
- It is strictly illegal to use a hand held mobile phone when driving;
- There are no road tolls in Mauritius;
- Wearing seat belts is mandatory at any given time for drivers and all car passengers;
- In a police check, they often ask for your car rental contract in addition to your driver's licence;
- You are most likely to encounter heavy traffic during peak hours: 07:30 am – 09:30 am, and 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm, mainly in Port Louis (capital) area and at the entrances/exits of the main cities.