

## Car / Motorcycle

Switzerland has a well developed road system. Using most roads is free of charge. Traffic rules are very important. Not following the rules results in high fines.

### Traffic rules

Traffic rules are important for motorists in Switzerland. Fines are high compared to other countries. A serious violation of traffic rules can result in one's driver's licence being withdrawn.

Several important rules:

- Maximum speed in urban areas: 50 km/h; in rural areas: 80 km/h, on highways: 120 km/h
- Passing on the right is illegal on highways.
- Lights must also be on in daylight.
- All passengers must wear a seatbelt.
- Children must use in a child's seat (under age 12 or height of 150 cm).
- Talking on the phone while driving is only allowed via a hands-free system.
- Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs is punishable (limit 0.5 per mille).
- Pedestrians at pedestrian crossings always have the right of way (unless there is a traffic light).

### Road Tolls

Roads are funded by the confederation, cantons, and communities. Using roads is free of charge. Highways are the exception: Persons wishing to use the highway must purchase a toll sticker (Vignette) every year. The toll sticker is to be applied to the windshield. Toll stickers are available at service stations, post offices, and traffic offices.

### Insurance

Motor vehicles that are in use must be insured in Switzerland. Motor vehicle liability insurance (Motorfahrzeug-Haftpflichtversicherung) is offered by many private insurance companies. Insurance pays for damages to objects and persons which were caused by a motor vehicle. Damages to persons' own cars are covered by optional comprehensive insurance (Kaskoversicherung). Caution: insurance may not cover damages caused by gross negligence (e.g. driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs). Motor vehicle liability insurance is not included in private liability insurance.

## **Importing a Motor Vehicle**

Persons wishing to permanently import a vehicle to Switzerland must register and declare it at the customs office. The vehicle must also be technically inspected. Motor vehicle liability insurance, a driver's licence, and a Swiss license plate are necessary. Further information is provided by the Canton Aargau traffic office (Strassenverkehrsamt)

## **Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)**

[www.konnichiwa-aargau.ch/en/mobility/car--motorcycle](http://www.konnichiwa-aargau.ch/en/mobility/car--motorcycle)