

Budgetcampervans.com/Netherlands FAQ's Jan 14

**Amsterdam and Rotterdam** are the two main points of collection for campervans and motorhome hire in the Netherlands. You can pay extra to be met at the ferry port in the Hague. This is only on a request basis.

**Book early** to get discounts and select different pick up cities to see if there are cheaper deals. The smaller, older vehicles are cheaper than larger newer.

**McRent, Pure** and **Easycamper** are the three main suppliers in Holland. You can pick up in Germany and drive into the Netherlands as you may find a cheaper option to hire. **One way hires** are available between **most European** countries but there are one way fees to be added to your hire and these are always on a **request only basis**.

You often find **bicycle racks free** and bicycles as this is a very popular way to travel in Holland.

### **Driving Regulations**

**Please Note:** From the 1st of November - 15 April clients are not permitted to travel to Austria. (By Austrian law all vehicles require winter tires throughout this period)

#### **Driver**

For most campervans and motorhomes the driver must be at least 23 years old. In addition, the driver must have been in possession of a valid driving licence required for the rented vehicle for at least 3 years. Persons coming from a country other than the Netherlands must be in possession of a valid international driving licence that can be applied for in the country of origin. Exclusively the persons named in the vehicle reservation are entitled to drive the vehicle. In case a person other than the stated driver shall drive the vehicle that must be notified before the beginning of the rental period. In such case, also the other driver concerned must submit a driving licence that is valid for the respective period.

Netherlands (Western Europe)

This information should be read in conjunction with our general advice for motoring in Europe.

**Driving licence:** Minimum age at which a UK licence holder may drive a temporarily imported car and/or motorcycle 18.

**Motor insurance:** Third-party compulsory.

**Fuel:** Unleaded petrol (95 and 98 octane), diesel and LPG (Autogas) are available. No leaded petrol (lead substitute petrol available as 'super' 98 octane). Petrol in a can permitted but it is forbidden aboard ferries. Credit cards accepted at most filling stations; check with your card issuer for use in the Netherlands before travel.

**Speed limits:** Standard legal limits, which may be varied by signs, for private vehicles without trailers: In built-up areas 31 mph (50 km/h), outside built-up areas 49 mph (80 km/h) or 62 mph (100 km/h) and motorways 80 mph (130 km/h). Only vehicles capable of 37 mph (60 km/h) are permitted on motorways.

**Seat belts:** Compulsory for front and rear seat occupants to wear seat belts, if fitted.

**Passengers/children** in cars: Children up to the age of 18 and less than 1.35m in height cannot travel as a front or rear seat passenger unless using a suitable restraint system adapted to their size. Suitable child restraint systems must meet the safety approval of ECE 44/03 or 44/04. If the vehicle is not fitted with rear seat belts children under 3 are not permitted to travel in the vehicle. Children under 3 are permitted to travel in the front seats if using a rear facing child seat with the airbag deactivated (if fitted). If the vehicle's front seats are not fitted with seat belts, only passengers measuring 1.35m or more may travel in the front seat.

**Lights:** The use of dipped headlights during the day is recommended. At night it is prohibited to drive with only sidelights.

**Motorcycles:** The use of dipped headlights during the day is recommended. The wearing of crash helmets is compulsory for all motorcycles which are capable of exceeding 25 km/h this is also applicable to drivers and passengers of open micro cars without seatbelts.

**Drinking and driving:** If the level of alcohol in the bloodstream is over 0.05 per cent, severe penalties include fine, withdrawal of driving licence and imprisonment. The lower limit of 0.02 per cent applies to new drivers for the first five years and moped riders up to the age of 24. In some cases a blood test will be necessary after a breath test.

**Fines:** On-the-spot. In the case of illegal parking, the police can impose and collect on-the-spot fines or tow the vehicle away. Vehicles can be confiscated in cases of heavy excess of speed and drink driving.

Touring Tips

**Other rules/requirements** in the Netherlands:

Warning triangle or hazard warning lights must be used in case of accident or breakdown (recommended that warning triangle always be carried).

**Buses** have right of way when leaving bus stops in built-up areas.

Trams have right of way except when crossing a priority road. Beware of large numbers of cyclists and skaters.

Spiked tyres are prohibited.

The use of a **radar detector is prohibited**, if a person is caught using such a device by the police the radar detector will be confiscated and you will be fined **€420**.

Horns should not be used at night and only used in moderation during the day. High penalties are incurred for none compliance.

Parking discs can be obtained from local stores.

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