

Pocket guide tips for an Italian road trip

Bags packed? Check. Excitement levels at fever pitch? Check. Ready to hit the open road? You sure? There are some important things to remember about driving abroad but, don't worry, because this handy little wallet (or glovebox) friendly foldaway guide should provide all the info needed to stay safe on the road.

Emergency number – 112 is the European version of 999. Only to be used in times of severe distress.



Pack the essentials

You might have remembered the sun cream, but what about the warning triangle, headlamp beam converters and hi-vis jacket? It's illegal not to carry these in your car while driving in Italy.



Carry your documents

Before setting off, it's worth ensuring you have all the right paperwork to avoid any potential headaches on the road. Do a quick double-check to make sure you have your passport, insurance documents, V5C certificate and, of course, a full driving licence including your paper counterpart.



Know your limits

Speed limits are different in Italy. The simple rules to remember are: it's up to 80mph on the motorway, 68 mph on dual carriageways, 55mph away from built up areas and 30mph when driving through towns. Stick to these and you should be fine.



Foot off the gas

Speed camera detectors are illegal in Italy so stick to the limit and drive responsibly. If pulled over, police can issue you with a hefty on-the-spot fine, and demand at least a quarter is paid up front. Don't refuse or your car could be confiscated.



Budget for toll roads

Toll roads are really common throughout Italy. They're the quickest way to get from A to B. Simply take a ticket when you enter and pay when you leave. Make sure you have the funds ready or it could get a bit awkward at the exit booth!



Get your fill

Be aware of your petrol levels if you're travelling on a Sunday. Smaller garages have limited opening times, so always plan ahead to make sure your journey doesn't come to an abrupt standstill.



Don't forget to take me with you

My car has broken down

La mia auto è in panne

If things do go wrong, don't panic. A few phrases (along with our helpful diagram) should ensure you get the message across.



3 other useful phrases to know

Do you speak English?
Parla inglese?

I am lost!
Mi sono perso!

Can you send me a mechanic/breakdown van?
Può mandarmi un meccanico/
carro attrezzi?

For more about the rules and regs of driving in Italy visit
www.swinton.co.uk/car-insurance/guides/driving-abroad/italy

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