



Journey planning information

Driving restrictions

Germany- Goods transport

Here we have gathered information on HGV restrictions and restrictions related to public holidays.

Information provided by:



Driving restrictions

Are there any driving restrictions on international HGV traffic at weekends or on public holidays?

Yes

Germany has a national framework for Low Emission Zones, in place in numerous cities. To enter these zones, a sticker must be purchased from an authorised dealers. A proof of emission standards is required when purchasing such stickers.

All Low Emission Zones in Germany are accessible by using the link below:

The driving ban only applies to freight transports that are used for the business-like or paid transport of goods, including associated empty journeys.

Vehicle(s) concerned

Period

Location

Exception



Goods road motor vehicle (GVW >7.5t)



Trucks with trailers

01/01

to

31/12

Sundays

Public holidays

From 00h00 to 22h00

Nationwide throughout the road and motorway network.

See general restrictions below.



Goods road motor vehicle (GVW >7.5t)



Trucks with trailers

01/07

to

31/08

Saturdays

Sundays

Public holidays

From 07h00 to 20h00 (Saturdays)

From 0h00 to 22h00 (Sundays and public holidays)

Saturdays: on several stretches of motorway and trunk roads. See in the attached document below for details.

Sundays: nationwide throughout the road and motorway network.

See general restrictions below.

Exceptions

1. Combined rail/road goods transport from the shipper to the nearest loading railway station or from the nearest designated unloading railway station to the consignee up to a distance of 200km (no limitation on distance during the additional summer restrictions); also combined sea/road goods transport between the place of loading or unloading and a port situated within a radius of 150km maximum (delivery or loading).
2. Deliveries of fresh milk and other dairy produce, fresh meat and its fresh derivatives, fresh fish, live fish and their fresh derivatives, perishable foodstuffs (fruit and vegetables).
3. Transport of animal by-products acc. category 1 acc. Art. 8 as well as category 2 acc. Art. 9 f) i) of regulation (EG) No. 1069/2009
4. Use of recovery vehicles, tow services and breakdown vehicles in case of an accident or any other emergency
5. Transport of live bees
6. Empty vehicles in connection with transports mentioned under point 2-5
7. Transport operations using vehicles subject to the Federal Law on the obligations of service; the relevant authorisation must be carried on board and produced for inspection on request.

Also exempted from the prohibition are vehicles belonging to the police and federal border guard, fire brigades and emergency services, the federal armed services and allied troops.

For operations which are not covered by the above-mentioned exceptions, authorisations must be obtained. These, however, will be issued only in the event of an emergency, when delivery by other means of transport is not possible.

Additional information

There exist a certain number of night driving restrictions on specific routes. These are indicated by road signs.

A map with alternative routes during the summer driving restrictions (BGL-Ausweichstreckenkarte) can be found via the following link:

The "Autobahn app" with the interactive map is available in the google play store or in the apple store.

Driving restrictions 2025.pdf

(/system/files/jpi/dr/2025-07/Driving%20restrictions%202025.pdf)

Map with alternative routes

(<https://www.bgl-ev.de/fahrverbote-bgl/#ausweichstreckenkarte>)

Low Emission Zones - Germany

(<https://gis.uba.de/website/umweltzonen#home>)

Annual public holidays

3 Oct
2025

**German
Unification Day**

All country

31 Oct
2025

**Reformation
Day**

only in Brandenburg, Bremen, Hamburg, Lower Saxony, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, Schleswig-Holstein, and Thuringia.

1 Nov
2025

All Saints' Day

only in Baden-Wuerttemberg, Bavaria, North-Rhine Westphalia, Rhineland-Palatinate and Saar

25 Dec
2025

Christmas Day

All country

26 Dec
2025

**St Stephen's
Day**

All country

1 Jan
2026

New Year's Day

All country

1 May
2026

Labour Day

All country

Please note that at any other Public holidays in Germany than those referred to above there is no driving ban.

Further information may be obtained from
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