## Your Guide to a Smooth Journey

## **Before setting off**

Read the Terms and Conditions of Hire in full to understand your obligations.



## Check your Rental Agreement.

This includes a section for us to record the damage we have identified when we prepared your vehicle. You must ensure your Rental Agreement has all the damage listed.

# Let us know about any damage that is not recorded.

If there is any damage on your vehicle that is not listed on your Rental Agreement you must inform us immediately, ideally in person, before you leave the check-out branch. If you did not pick up your vehicle (or were not present when it was delivered) and you find any unrecorded damage, please call First Call Assist on **0800 0280 999** and advise them of it. You will need to quote your Rental Agreement number or the Vehicle Registration Number. This must be done within 24 hours of the vehicle being picked up from the Europear branch or being delivered. Failure to report damage will result in additional charges later.

### Familiarise yourself with the vehicle.

Make sure you know where the controls are for essential instruments such as headlights, hazard warning lights, where the parking brake is situated and what type of fuel the vehicle uses. For further information on the basic operating instructions for the vehicle, visit vic.europcar.co.uk. Should you require further assistance, please contact your nearest Europcar branch.

### Deposit

You will have paid the security deposit shown on the Rental Agreement. Any charges outstanding after the Hire Period, other than charges for damage, will be taken from the deposit.

- If you paid by credit card these funds will be authorised which
  means that the amount is 'marked' against the card but not
  actually charged to it. The authorisation therefore reduces the
  available credit against your approved limit. The amount will not
  appear on your monthly statement. It may take up to 10 working
  days for your bank to release a deposit authorised against your
  credit card.
- If you paid by debit card the amount will be blocked in your account by an electronic pre-authorisation and, provided there are no extra charges or fees to pay when you return the vehicle to us, it should be released within 10 working days of the Hire Period ending.

#### **Driving abroad**

We allow some of our vehicles to be taken overseas to a select number of European countries. There may be restrictions depending on the vehicle that you have hired. Please contact Central Reservations on 0871 384 9900\*\*\* to discuss your options or speak to your check-out branch at least 48 hours prior to travelling abroad. You will need either our Europdrive Pack if you intend to travel in Europe generally or our Cross Border Pack if you are crossing between the UK Mainland or Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Each of these packs include the VE103B, GB sticker and a Green Card if it is required by the country you are visiting or travelling in or through. There is a charge for the Europdrive or Cross Border Packs so please refer to the Tariff Guide included with your hire agreement for further details.

#### Fines, penalties & speed limits

As hirer of the vehicle you are responsible for and will pay for any London Congestion charges, Dartford Crossing charges and any parking fees that may apply during the Hire Period. You will also be responsible for any fines and penalty charges that occur during the Hire Period because of offences or infringements that are committed involving the vehicle. This includes but is not limited to parking fines, a failure to pay the London Congestion and/or Dartford crossing charge when applicable, bus lane penalties, speeding fines, clamping release and any other traffic offences or breaches of contract that occur whilst the vehicle is on hire to you. We will pass your details to the issuing authority or the contracting party as the person responsible for the fine or ticket and we will charge you our Third Party Administration Charge for doing so. Please refer to the Tariff Guide attached to the hire agreement for further details.

## **Mobile phones**

It is illegal in the UK to use a handheld mobile phone whilst you are driving any vehicle.

## Smoking

It is illegal to smoke or use e-cigarettes in any of our vehicles. All our vehicles display a non-smoking sign on the windscreen. You will be charged a special cleaning fee/valet charge if you smoke or use e-cigarettes within the vehicle. Please refer to the Tariff Guide attached to the T&Cs for details of the cost.

## Returning your vehicle

Our normal opening hours are: Monday - Friday 08:00 to 18:00 (closed Bank Holidays)\* Saturday 08:00 to 13:00 Sunday CLOSED\*

\* We are open on Sundays and Bank Holidays at major airports and large city locations. The opening hours of all our branches can be found at www.europcar.co.uk.

#### **Early returns**

If you return the vehicle before the return date and time stated on the Rental Agreement, then the Hire Period will end when you return the vehicle to the Europear branch and hand the vehicle keys to a Europear agent.

Please note, however, that the rental charges will remain the same (i.e. as if you had not returned the vehicle to us before the return date and time stated on the Rental Agreement) as we will not refund any unused daily rental or accessory charges to you.

#### Late returns

Always allow plenty of time to get back to the check-in branch, especially at airports. The Hire Period is calculated in 24 hour periods, starting from the date and time stated on the Rental Agreement at the check-out branch. However, we do allow a 29 minute grace period at the end of the Hire Period before the start of a new 24 hour period.

#### Out of hours returns

You can return your vehicle to some of our branches even when they are closed using our secure key drop-off box. Please ask the check-in branch beforehand to ensure this service is available at the location. There will be a charge for using this facility (please refer to the Tariff Guide for this) and you will remain responsible for the condition of the vehicle until it can be inspected by a member of our check-in branch team. When parking, ensure the vehicle is parked legally in a safe, well-lit area. If using a parking meter please ensure that you pay for at least eight working hours.

#### **Extending your hire period**

If you want to extend your hire beyond the agreed checkin time/date, please notify the check-in branch at least two working hours beforehand so they can amend your Rental Agreement accordingly. Failure to do so will result in a late check-in fee being applied in addition to the standard daily Rental Charge.

#### **Collections**

If you have asked us to collect the vehicle at the end of your Hire Period then you must ensure it is parked in a place that will allow us up to eight working hours from the end of the Hire Period to collect it without the imposition of parking, clamping, towing or compound charges. If you do not do so then you will be charged for any costs we incur as a result. You will remain responsible for the condition of the vehicle until our check-in branch is able to carry out a full inspection of it.

#### Mileage levels & excess mileage costs

You acknowledge that the mileage is recorded from the time the vehicle begins its delivery journey to you until it is returned to us and the keys are handed back at the end of the Hire Period. For the avoidance of doubt, the delivery distance will be excluded from the Excess Mileage calculation. If you exceed the Inclusive Mileage Allowance, you must pay us a charge that is calculated by multiplying the number of miles you have travelled in the vehicle in excess of the Inclusive Mileage Allowance by the Excess Mileage Charge.

Please ensure your mileage is updated every month via the Europear website www.mileageupdate.co.uk.

#### Fuel

Your vehicle was supplied with a full tank of fuel, and you would have been given a choice of the following options:

- To buy a tank of fuel upfront and save time by not having to refuel before returning your vehicle to the check-in branch.
- Refuel your vehicle and bring it back to the check-in branch with a full tank. If you don't return the vehicle to us fully refuelled then we will charge you according to the refuelling rules set out in section 18 of the Terms and Conditions of Hire.

### **Personal belongings**

We do not accept liability for any items or personal possessions that you may have left in the vehicle at the end of the Hire Period. Please be sure to check the vehicle thoroughly before you return it to us.

## Reporting damage

If you have damaged the vehicle during your Hire Period, please report this by calling First Call Assist on **0800 0280 999** as soon as it is safe to do so.

We will need to assess the cost of repair and you will be charged for any damage unless you have purchased one of our Protection products (see sections 12 and 26 of the T&Cs for more information relating to damage to the vehicle and our Protection products). This excludes damage caused by driver misuse.

#### Invoice queries

If you need any further information about your invoice or wish to reprint your invoice please visit **www.europcar.co.uk** from a desktop computer and select the options in the help menu.



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## **Assessing damage**

You are responsible for the condition of your vehicle and it should be returned to us in the same condition as it was provided at the start of the Hire Period with the exception of normal wear and tear.

You will be charged for any damage to the vehicle that is outside of our normal wear and tear policy (see section entitled "What is normal wear and tear" for more information).

The level of Protection you have taken (see section 26 of the Terms and Conditions of Hire for more information relating to our Protection products) will determine what your maximum liability will be (which means the excess amount shown on the front of your Rental Agreement) if, in the event of an incident, the vehicle is damaged outside of the normal wear and tear policy. This may include the cost of roadside recovery if it is necessary. Please refer to section 12 of the Terms and Conditions of Hire for further details of how we evaluate your liability in the event the vehicle is damaged outside of the normal wear and tear policy.

#### What is normal wear and tear?

Normal wear and tear is damage that naturally and inevitably occurs as a result of normal use of the vehicle or ageing. We regard the following items as normal wear and tear rather than damage - please use the diagrams in the yellow strip of this leaflet to guide you. These items will not be recorded and you will not be charged for the cost to repair them.

Any damage and wear and tear will be measured when the vehicle is checked in at the Europear branch.

## Body & paintwork

- A small area of stone chipping (up to 1cm) and light surface scratching (up to 15cm) typical of everyday use is acceptable.
- A small dent (up to 2cm) is acceptable, unless it has broken the paintwork or is on the swage line (side mouldings).

#### Glass & light units

 Small glass chips (under 1cm) are acceptable to windscreens and headlamps.

### Interior & luggage area

 Normal wear and soiling through everyday use is acceptable. You will be charged for any damage including rips and tears or for anything that is broken or missing, or for the removal of any permanent stains or for smoking.

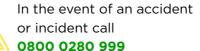
#### Wheels & tyres

- Tyres should have no obvious damage caused through kerbing or abuse.
- Wheel rim and wheel trim scuffing (up to 2cm total area is acceptable) excluding main wheel body scuffing or wheel distortion.

### **Damage management policy**

A copy of our damage management policy can be found here: europear.co.uk/terms-and-conditions/damagemanagement-policy.

# First Call Assist™



#### **Accident Reporting Process**

In the event of an accident or incident:

- · Do not admit liability.
- Call First Call Assist as soon as it is safe to do so on 0800 0280 999 and press option 1.

**Useful contact numbers** 

- Please quote your Agreement Number or your vehicle registration number.
- Provide all details of the incident to First Call Assist including:
  - Contact details for the 3rd party driver(s) and the 3rd party vehicle registration number(s).
  - Photographs of the incident so that we can deal with any claim.
- Tear off the relevant Accident Card from the back of this leaflet, and give it to the 3rd party along with the Europear vehicle registration number.

#### In the event of a breakdown

Please see the customer information sticker for contact details. This can be found on the **vehicle windscreen**.

In the event of tyre, windscreen or glass damage Please call First Call Assist on **0800 0280 999** and press the relevant option.

## **Congestion Charges and Tolls**

To pay the London Congestion charge call: **0343 222 2222**To pay the Dartford Crossing charge call: **0300 300 0120** 



To make or amend a booking call Central Reservations: **0871 384 9900\*\*\*** 

FAQs can be found by visiting  ${\bf faq.europcar.co.uk}$ 

In the event of an emergency call 999



Europear is proud to be associated with the BVRLA, the trade association for the UK vehicle rental and leasing industry.

\*\*\*Calls will cost 10p per minute, plus your phone company's access charge. Other networks and mobiles may vary. Calls may be recorded for training and monitoring purposes.





