

Trailer Registration



Why are things changing?

Guernsey is ratifying the UN Convention on Road Traffic 1968 (“the Vienna Convention”) to ensure as far as is practicable that Guernsey driving licence holders and Guernsey registered vehicles can circulate legally throughout Europe and beyond.

When does trailer registration commence?

The requirements come into effect on 29th March 2019 but applications to register will be accepted from 18th March.

Do all trailers need to be registered?

No, only those trailers on a journey to or from a country that is a signatory to the Vienna Convention (excluding Jersey and the UK) and where the trailer meets the following requirements:-

- A ‘commercial’ trailer with a maximum gross weight exceeding 750 kg;
- Any trailer with maximum gross weight exceeding 3,500 kg;

EU / EEA countries who are signatories to the Vienna Convention are listed at the bottom of this advice note.

I’m not sure if my trailer is classed as commercial use?

A commercial trailer is defined as being used for the commercial transport of passengers or goods. It must also be used in relation to a paid occupation.

Can I voluntarily register my trailer for peace of mind?

Yes, a trailer ('non-commercial' use) with a maximum gross weight exceeding 750 kg and up to 3,500 kg can be voluntarily registered if towed through Europe. Trailers with a maximum gross weight of 750 kg or below and those not intended to be used in Europe cannot be registered.

I only take my trailer into Europe infrequently, why should I bother?

The changes are being made to reduce the risk of entry being refused to drivers of Guernsey registered vehicles/trailers when attempting to enter a country that is a signatory to the Vienna Convention. The voluntary register mentioned above can provide peace of mind for those who wish to hold official documents for their 'non-commercial' trailers.

How do I register my trailer?

Please complete an application form available from the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Office at Bulwer Avenue or download one here - www.gov.gg/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=118035&p=0

Return it along with the current first registration fee, foreign registration document if the trailer is registered elsewhere and provide proof of ownership (or a written explanation if proof of ownership is unavailable).

Will all trailers be accepted for registration?

Trailers are required to be registered to a Guernsey resident or Guernsey registered company and there is an expectation that the trailer will ordinarily be kept on island. Aside from that, there are technical requirements for the trailer such as braking, lighting and in some cases, side guards and under run devices. If the trailer has a Type Approval number then it is unlikely that Driver and Vehicle Licensing will require to view it prior to registration.

Will a registration number be allocated to my trailer once registered?

Yes, a registered trailer will be allocated with a registration number prefixed with the letter "T". The trailer registration document will normally be provided at the point of registration or posted out in the case of applications received through the post.

Do Driver & Vehicle Licensing supply the registration plate?

No, you will be required to obtain it yourself. There are Guernsey companies who produce registration plates and are aware of the requirements for "T" plates for registered trailers.

Where do I display my "T" plate?

The "T" plate must be displayed on the rear of the trailer but as far away as reasonably practical from the registration plate displaying the registration mark of the towing vehicle. Where the "T" plate cannot reasonably be fixed to the rear of the trailer it is permitted to affix plates to both sides of the trailer provided they are easily distinguishable from both sides of the trailer.

Do I need to keep the trailer registration plate/s displayed when I am towing it around Guernsey?

Yes, once registered the plate/s need to be displayed irrespective of whether the trailer is on a journey to or through a country that is a signatory to the Vienna Convention.

Are there any other requirements I should be aware of?

In addition to the registration plates required for the trailer and towing vehicle, the distinguishing mark for Guernsey (GBG) must be displayed on both the towing vehicle and trailer. This can either be displayed separately from the registration plates in the form of a sticker or included in the design of the registration plates. You should also remember to carry the vehicle registration certificate for both the towing vehicle and trailer when towing abroad.

Can I de-register a trailer?

Trailers which have been registered but are no longer going to be circulated in International Traffic can be voluntarily deregistered. However, re-registering them again will incur further costs. You can de-register a vehicle by completing the necessary application form which can be found here – www.gov.gg/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=118034&p=0

The Vienna Convention requires vehicles travelling in international traffic to be in good working order. Please ensure this is the case.

Need further assistance?

If you have any questions, please contact Traffic & Highway Services on tel. 223400 (option 1) or by email at traffic@gov.gg

EU / EEA Signatories to the Vienna Convention

Albania	Armenia	Austria	Azerbaijan	Belarus
Belgium	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bulgaria	Croatia	Czech Republic
Denmark	Estonia	Finland	France	Georgia
Germany	Greece	Hungary	Italy	Kazakhstan
Latvia	Liechtenstein	Lithuania	Luxembourg	Macedonia
Moldova	Monaco	Montenegro	Netherlands	Norway
Poland	Portugal	Romania	Russia	San Marino
Serbia	Slovakia	Slovenia	Sweden	Switzerland
Ukraine				