



UK DRIVING LICENSES *Exchange or Registration of Address*

When moving to Portugal, sorting out new documentation requirements can often be a bit of a nuisance. Making mandatory changes in your UK Driving Licence falls into this category. Once you receive your *Residência* (Residency Permit), effectively transferring your residency status to Portugal, you have 30 days to make the necessary changes in your UK Driving Licence.

Since the United Kingdom has no formal Identity Cards as is common in most EU countries, your Driving Licence often takes on the role of a formal identification document. For this reason, the alternatives listed below can have far reaching consequences. While it is important to be compliant, it is also necessary to cope with different realities that continue to exist in different countries.

There are two options available: a) exchange for a Portuguese Driving Licence or b) registration of your new address.

Option n° 1: Licence Exchange

- *Residência* is a pre-requisite;
- A medical examination is required, documents and relevant forms submitted;

Original Licence is handed over to *Instituto da Mobilidade e dos Transportes Terrestres, I.P.* (IMTT) who issue a corroborative receipt which authorises driving in Portugal whilst Portuguese License is being processed;



- The receipt is not valid outside of Portugal;
- The receipt is valid for 90 days, after which re-validation is required for another 90 day period if the new Portuguese Driving Licence has not as yet been issued;
- The process generally takes 4-6 months;
- Original Licence is eventually returned by *DGV* to the issuing body.

Option n° 2: Registration of Address

- *Residência* is a pre-requisite;
- *IMTT* is informed of address in Portugal and issue a corroborative certificate to confirm;
- Driver now holds original Driving Licence and Portuguese certificate of registration of address;
- Process takes effect immediately;
- Back office process advised \pm 6 months;
- *DGV* enters details on to EU database;
- Issuing body advised in this way of registration of address;
- When licence is to be renewed, the individual must renew with local authority (*IMTT*, Faro), exchanging original UK Driving Licence for a Portuguese one.

Note on UK procedures:

- a) UK Driving Licences are only renewed at age 70;*
- b) Foreign addresses are not currently permitted on a UK Licence;*



- c) *A Driving Licence may not be renewed once holder has registered residence outside of UK. This may be important if you are over age 70.*
- d) *UK Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency also advises that there are rumours that, in time, it may become possible to put EU addresses on UK licences, as is the case in Holland. However, it is important to note this is not currently the case.)*

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