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Driving Restrictions, Goods Transport 2026
United Kingdom

There are no driving restrictions at weekends or on public holidays in the United Kingdom.

Local restrictions

Vehicles concerned	trucks exceeding 18t total permissible weight
Prohibition	during the week, from 21h00 to 07h00; at weekends, from 13h00 on Saturday to 07h00 on Monday
Area	Greater London - all roads, except motorways and certain major roads, in those areas administered by the London Boroughs' Transport Scheme (applies to all 33 London boroughs)
Exceptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•vehicles operating under special authorisation because they are carrying an abnormal indivisible load;•vehicles "whose load is required for the purposes of dealing with any emergency affecting the safety of persons or property".

THE CHARGING OF THE UK ROAD USER LEVY RETURNED ON 1 AUGUST 2023 for vehicle 12tns and above.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hgv-road-user-levy>

Transport operators must apply for exemption permits which are supplied free of charge by the

London Lorry Control Team
London Councils
59 ½ Southwark Street
LONDON SE1 0AL
Tel: (+44 20) 7934 9915
Fax: (+44 20) 7934 9591
URL: www.londonlorrycontrol.com
e-mail: lorry.control@londoncouncils.gov.uk

In certain circumstances short-term permits are available at short notice for single journeys. Operators should note, however, that permit conditions impose special routing requirements on drivers. For more detailed information, operators should contact the above office.

Local restrictions – outside of London

Outside of London there are numerous other restrictions for heavy goods vehicles both in town centres and rural areas of outstanding natural beauty. Drivers should follow the special signs guiding them through or around areas where restrictions are in place.

For information on the London Low Emission Zone, Ultra Low Emission Zone and Congestion Charging area go to www.tfl.gov.uk/low_emission_zone www.tfl.gov.uk/roadusers/congestioncharging
<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/ultra-low-emission-zone>

More and more cities in the UK are introducing Clean Air Zones. Information on those and other LEZs or city access regulations can be found at www.urbanaccessregulations.eu or <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/driving-in-a-clean-air-zone>.

Scottish LEZs in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow all became enforceable by Spring 2024. Vehicles must be Euro 6 to enter the zones. There is no pre-registration process therefore ALL owners of foreign vehicles who enter the zones will receive a penalty notice letter, which will need responding to with the evidence proving the Euro rating of the vehicle to enable a retraction of the penalty to be given. More information at <https://lowemissionzones.scot/>

LONDON - Direct Vision Standard (DVS) Permit & Safety Permit– Required for all vehicles over 12tns entering the Greater London area <https://tfl.gov.uk/info-for/deliveries-in-london/delivering-safely/direct-vision-in-heavy-goods-vehicles>

Direct Vision Standard requirements in London have changed. Since 28 October 2024, and to improve the safety of all road users, heavy goods vehicles over 12 tonnes will need to have a three-star DVS rating or be fitted with a Progressive Safe System (PSS) to be allowed to operate in Greater London. <https://tfl.gov.uk/info-for/deliveries-in-london/delivering-safely/direct-vision-in-heavy-goods-vehicles#progressive>

View a Map here <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/dvs-where-and-when>

Public holidays 2026

1 January	New Year's Day
2 January	New Year holiday additional (Scotland- Thursday)
17 March	St Patrick's Day (N. Ireland)
3 April	Good Friday
6 April	Easter Monday (not in Scotland)
4 May	May Day holiday
25 May	Spring bank holiday
13 July	Bank holiday (substitute) (N.Ireland)
3 August	Bank holiday (Scotland)
31 August	Summer bank holiday (not in Scotland)
30 November	St Andrew's Day (Scotland)
25 December	Christmas Day (Friday)
26 December	Boxing Day (Saturday)
28 December	Boxing Day (substitute)

Sources: RHA, November 2025