

426 Air Base Squadron Stavanger, Norway

General Vehicle Information

Driving License

Please ensure that your issued driver's license is still valid before you arrive to Norway. You must have a valid US, EU, or Norwegian drivers license to operate a motor vehicle in Norway. If you plan to drive to/in other countries while in Norway, an International Driving Permit is recommended and may be required dependent on the country.

Insurance

You must have a valid insurance certificate covering you for at least third party liability. Please contact your insurance provider to be issued a European Touring card which is commonly referred to as the "Green Card". This document is required as proof of insurance until you have passed the initial vehicle inspection and established permanent Norwegian insurance coverage. You must have valid registration, plates and insurance to operate a motor vehicle on the roads. In the event that your provider does not offer this service interim insurance providers are listed in the Vehicle Registration Handbook.

License plates

All vehicles registered in Norway must possess two registration (license) plates. Those that do not can be fined. Don't forget to bring your stateside license plates with you. You will put your stateside plate(s) on your POV until your vehicle meets the requirements to get your Norwegian license plates. If you only have one plate, it must be installed on the rear of your vehicle.

Vehicle Inspection

The Norwegian Public Roads Administration (Statens Vegvesen) conducts an initial bumper to bumper vehicle inspection. It is very involved and complex and is not an easy test to pass without making recommended changes to your vehicle first. The test itself should only take about 1 hour and the cost varies depending on vehicle size and modifications required. This inspection applies to all vehicles imported to Norway. You must have this inspection to drive your vehicle permanently on Norwegian roads. Driving vehicle that is not roadworthy may result in costly fines if cited by the local Police. In addition to the initial inspection a follow-up EU inspection is conducted on a biennial basis. The EU inspection is conducted four years after the vehicle manufacture date and two years thereafter and focuses primarily on vehicle safety features such as brakes, steering, lights, electrics, and axles.

Vehicle Lights

Norway requires the use of headlights during day and night operation. The headlights to include parking lights and lenses must be white/clear, not amber. The exception is the turn signal lights and covers may be amber which may be amber, yellow or orange. Additionally, headlights in Norway are angled differently than in the States and the re-aiming of your lights be done when you complete your initial inspection.

All rear turn signals must flash amber or orange, and must not adversely affect any other light (brake light, parking light). If required the price for a light conversion costs from \$300-1500, depending on the vehicle.

Tires (Summer and Winter):

The tread depth of the vehicle tires must be at least **3 mm** for winter tires and **1.6 mm** for summer tires. The winter timeframe is defined as 1 Nov until 7 days after Easter Monday each year. To determine if your tires meet winter tread requirements they should be clearly marked on the sidewall with M+S, MS, M&S or Mud and Snow.

Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)

All vehicles must have the VIN stamped or engraved in the chassis (permanent). Assistance is available to complete this upon arriving. (Look in the Vehicle Registration Handbook for VIN locations)

Inspection Documents

The documents you will need to register your vehicle include the original title or a certificate of origin with an original letter from your financial institution stating you are authorized to export the vehicle. Additional required forms will be provided by the Traffic Management office.

Older Vehicles

What should the guidelines be when deciding whether or not to bring an older vehicle to the Norway? The general rule is if you don't think your car will pass this test, it might be a good idea to consider the cost and length of time it would take to get the parts to repair it (generally from the States). As you will see vehicle parts and labor are significantly higher than in the US.

Follow Up Actions

Norwegian Registration documents are issued for all motor vehicles used on the road, describing them (make, model, etc.) and giving details of the registered keeper. After a successful inspection you will be provided with a temporary registration followed by a permanent in approximately 21 business days. Upon receiving this document secure Part I inside the vehicle and Part II (Norge Vognkort del 2) is the new title and should be kept in a secure location. If you do not receive this document contact the issuing office. You must also notify the Statens Vegvesen office in Stavanger as soon as possible when you buy or sell a vehicle, or if you change your name or address. Please contact the Traffic Management and Legal office for specific guidance and procedures on selling a duty-free vehicle.

Annual Inspection Sticker

All vehicles used or kept on the roads must have a valid registration (plate sticker) displayed at all times. If you fail to receive your annual registration sticker by 15 Jul contact the Statens Vegvesen office in Stavanger.

Motorcycle Requirements

All USAFE members planning on registering/operating a motorcycle/moped in Norway must have a current Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) training certification (MSF training certification is considered expired after three years and MSF classes are not offered in Norway). You cannot operate a motorcycle/moped in Norway without a current MSF training card; there are no exceptions to this policy. **You must ensure your MSF will NOT expire for the entire duration of your tour in Norway if you plan on riding your motorcycle.** Please see your base safety office for details prior to arriving.

Additionally, it is recommended that you obtain the following Personnel Protective Equipment for use within the Norway:

- Brightly colored reflective vest which is clearly visible, examples include day-glow green, yellow or orange, use of reflective belts does not qualify as a vest.
- DOT approved helmet (or host nation equivalent)
- Impact resistance goggles / full face shield
- Long sleeve shirt / jacket, full-fingered gloves or mittens and long pants
- Sturdy footwear, leather or over the ankle shoes are encouraged