

## Information about Portuguese Road Legislation

- **Roundabout circulation:** It is not allowed to occupy the right lane of the roundabout unless you pretend to take the first exit of the roundabout and you should take the right lane just after the last exit before the one you pretend to take. There is an exception to this rule regarding the circulation of buses and lorries, provided that they give way to vehicles that intend to take the right lane of the roundabout in order to take the next exit;
- To **overtake** is mandatory to occupy the lane on the left of the overtaken vehicle and you should keep an 1,5m minimum lateral distance between the overtaking vehicle and a bicycle, being mandatory, also, to slow down before overtaking a bicycle;
- The same 1,5m lateral distance must be secured when **passing by a pedestrian** walking on an hard shoulder;
- **Maximum BAC level** admitted is 0,49 g/l and it's reduced to 0,19 g/l for truck, lorry and bus drivers
- **General speed limits are as follows**
  - **Build up areas:** 50 Km/h for almost every type of vehicle and 40Km/h for N2+O a N3+O vehicles.
  - **Interurban Roads:** 90 Km/h for motorcycles and M1 vehicles without trailer, 80 Km/h for M2 and M3, N2 and N3 vehicles without trailer/ with trailer the maximum speed is 70 Km/h.
  - **Highways and motorways:**



100 Km/h for motorcycles and M1 vehicles without trailer, 90 Km/h for N1, M2 and M3 vehicles without trailer, 80 Km/h for N2 and N3 vehicles without trailer.



120 Km/h for motorcycles and M1 vehicles without trailer, 110 Km/h for N1 vehicles without trailer, 100 Km/h for M2 and M3 vehicles without trailer and 90Km/h for N2 and N3 vehicles without trailer.

## Penalties

### **Introduction:**

There are two major types of penalties: the **fine** is applicable to all type of violations and is graduated as described below, the **driving ban** is applicable to all serious and very serious offenses and can go from one month to one year, or from two months to two years respectively.

### **Speeding:**

Fines can go from €60 to €2500 depending on how much the driver exceeds the speed limits and when the motorcycle, M1 or N1 vehicle driver exceeds in more than 20Km/h in built-up areas and more than 30Km/h outside built-up areas the limit speed he commits a serious offence. Doubling the before mentioned values of speeding and the driver practices a very serious offense. For every other vehicle the above mentioned values of speeding are 10Km/h and 20Km/h to be considered a serious offence, and doubled this values he commits a very serious offence.

### **Maximum BAC limits violation:**

Fines can go from €250 to €2500 depending on BAC level. If it's considered a criminal offence the driver can be sentenced for up to a year in prison.

### Forbidden BAC levels in grams per liter

Drivers in general	Professional drivers (BUS, Taxi, Lorry, Truck drivers)	
0,50 0,79	0,20 0,49	Serious offence
0,80 1,19	0,50 1,19	Very serious offence
1,20 ...	1,20 ...	Criminal offence

## **Parking Violations:**

General parking regulations are as foreseen in both Vienna Conventions and the fine for not complying with parking rules, signs and signals can go from about €25 to €1250 depending on the seriousness of the offence.

Certain parking violations allow for the authorities to clamp and tow away the vehicle, for instance:

- Not paying the parking meter fee;
- Parking on a BUS lane;
- Parking on a BUS Stop;
- Parking on sidewalks;
- Parking in reserved parking spots;
- Parking in a way that blocks the access to building or garages.