



No: 196/2019

Date: 20th March 2019

Technical Notice – No Deal Brexit – Driving in Spain

The United Kingdom Government and the Government of Gibraltar have this morning sought further clarification from the Government of the Kingdom of Spain in respect of the continued use of existing driving licences by UK and Gibraltar motorists.

This follows a degree of ambiguity in the substance and the recitals of the Spanish Royal Decree that was published earlier this month.

The Spanish Government have confirmed the following:

1. Spain will continue to accept existing driving licences issued in the United Kingdom and in Gibraltar for a period of nine months from the United Kingdom and Gibraltar's departure from the European Union.
2. There will be no need for an International Driving Permit in order to drive in Spain during that time for holders of UK and Gibraltar-issued licences who live in Spain or who travel to Spain for leisure purposes.

This means that Gibraltar motorists will have nine months from EU exit day in which to obtain an International Driving Permit in the event of a No Deal Brexit.

The Government has secured plenty of stock of both the 1949 and the 1968 permits and would advise the public that there is no need to rush to obtain one. There is plenty of time in which to do so whether is a deal or a no deal Brexit.

The situation will remain the same as it is today until the end of 2020, with no additional permits required, if the Withdrawal Agreement is approved by the UK Parliament.