

Driving in Spain and Medical Matters

- Q. I have recently bought a Spanish registered car and I would like to put it into my name. How do I do this and how much will it cost me?
- A. *On all used vehicles in Spain there is a 4% tax to be paid. The amount of this tax depends on the make, model and the year of first registration of the vehicle This is calculated by the Hacienda (Tax Office) in Spain. If you have never been the registered owner or keeper of a vehicle in Spain, then due to recent changes in the Law, you now need the Certificado de Registro from the Policia National.*
- Q. I am a resident in Spain and I would like to know if I need to exchange my British Drivers licence for a Spanish one?
- A. *If you are a Resident in Spain (i.e. if you spend more than 184 days in any given year in the Country) you MUST change your British drivers licence for a Spanish one.*
- Q. Do I need a medical and where do I get one?
- A. *The medical for Trafico is an extremely simple procedure. The process consists of a blood pressure test, hearing check and a short examination on a driving simulator. Most private medical centres carry out this Medical and the fee is approx. 35/40 Euros. This should be carried out every 10 years from 18/45 years of age every 5 years from 45/70 years of age and then every 2 years from 70 years of age Onwards.*
- Q. I read somewhere that there are new rules regarding British Expats visiting the UK. Can you tell me what these new laws are and when they come into force?
- A. *The Department of Heath has warned that from 1st April 2008 British nationals living permanently in Spain should carry La Tarjeta Sanatria Europa to entitle them to free treatment while in the UK or any other European Union members state. The Spanish EHIC can be applied for locally at a Social Security Office, INSS. The cards have to be renewed annually. More information is available from <http://www.dh.gov.uk/travellers> or by calling 0044 191 218 1999.*
- Q. How long can I keep my British registered vehicle in Spain before I have to transfer it?
- A. *The law states that the vehicle can be kept in Spain for 6 months and then it MUST be reregistered onto Spanish plates.*