

ROAD SAFETY IN FRANCE

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

French authorities have developed a campaign to encourage drivers to use their dipped-head lights outside built-up areas even in the daytime. This is not a compulsory measure. For the moment it is just a test since it was proved that having the lights on was a way of preventing accidents.

BREAKING THE SPEED LIMIT: CHANGES IN FINES RATES

Penalties due to speeding have been reduced but only when the offence is up to 20 km/h over the limit. However, the penalty has increased for speeding from 50 km/h over the posted limit (for more details, see the table below). These new penalties have come into force since 8th December 2004.

Furthermore, drivers should note that French authorities have put in a great number of additional speed cameras.

Offences	Fines		
	reduced¹	on-the-spot fine	increased²
<20km/h outside built-up areas	€ 45	€ 68	€ 180
<20km/h in built-up areas	€ 90	€ 135	€ 375
≥20 and < 50 km/h	€ 90	€ 135	€ 375
≥50 km/h	determined by a judge, € 1500 maximum		

For further information, please contact

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¹ When the fine is paid within 3 days

² When the fine is paid after 30 days