

# Driving Rules of Qatar

This document outlines the main driving rules and road regulations in the State of Qatar. It is intended for residents, visitors, and foreign drivers.

## 1. General Traffic Rules

- Vehicles drive on the **right-hand side** of the road.
- Overtaking is done on the **left**.
- Seat belts are **mandatory for all occupants**.
- Pedestrians have priority at **marked crossings**.
- Compliance with traffic signs, signals, and lane markings is strictly enforced.

## 2. Required Documents

Drivers must carry:

- Valid **Qatari driving licence** or an **International Driving Permit (IDP)** for foreign drivers
- Vehicle registration certificate
- Valid vehicle insurance
- Passport or national ID for foreigners

## 3. Speed Limits (km/h)

- **Urban areas:** 50–60 km/h
- **Main roads:** 80–100 km/h
- **Highways / Expressways:** 120 km/h

Speed limits are strictly enforced with cameras and patrols.

## 4. Alcohol and Driving

- **Zero tolerance** for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Penalties include heavy fines, imprisonment, and deportation for foreigners.

## 5. Seat Belts and Child Safety

- Seat belts are **mandatory for all passengers**.
- Children under **10 years** must sit in the rear seats.
- Child safety seats are recommended for young children.

## 6. Mobile Phones and Devices

- Use of a **handheld mobile phone** while driving is prohibited.
- Hands-free devices are permitted.

## 7. Vehicle Lights and Usage

- Low beam headlights must be used in poor visibility conditions.
- Hazard lights are used in emergencies only.

## 8. Road Tolls and Fees

- Certain expressways and bridges may have **toll fees**.
- Payments are usually electronic; follow road signage.

## 9. Parking Rules

- Park only in designated areas.
- Paid parking is common in cities, especially Doha.
- Illegal parking may result in fines, wheel clamping, or towing.

## **10. Traffic Enforcement and Penalties**

- Traffic laws are strictly enforced by police and cameras.
- Offences may result in fines, licence suspension, or imprisonment.

## **11. Emergency Numbers**

- **999** – Police
- **997** – Ambulance
- **998** – Fire

## **12. Practical Driving Tips**

- Drive defensively, particularly on highways.
- Be alert for sudden lane changes and aggressive driving.
- Keep all documents and vehicle insurance accessible.