

[New Information on French Motoring Laws 2012](#)

[Satellite Navigation Systems](#). New Laws are in force prohibiting sat-nav systems from showing where fixed speed camera positions are. Warning signs have also been removed from roads and motorways. Up to 1500Euro Fines and/or confiscation of your equipment is the penalty. Remedy is to download new software to your system which recognises the country you are driving in and removes the option from your settings menu. (Even disabling the option is not allowed)

Speed limits are implemented rigorously. Radar traps are frequent, with 400 additional fixed cameras installed early 2012. In France, anyone caught travelling at more than 25km/h above the speed limit can have their licence confiscated on the spot. [Radar speed camera detectors are illegal](#) (including SatNav - see [below](#)) **NEW RULES AS FROM JAN 3RD 2012.**

Radar detectors are illegal in France even when they are not in use. If you are caught with a radar detector in your vehicle, you could be fined up to €1500, have the detector confiscated, or even face confiscation of the vehicle. So make sure you remove any such device before taking your car to France. **NEW!** As from January 3rd 2012 even SatNav and GPS systems which can show where speed cameras are located are illegal, so ensure this function has been disabled on your device. Software updates are available for some systems which remove this function. If your device still shows speed cameras in France we suggest you leave it at home since you can be fined up to €1500 and have the system, and even the vehicle, confiscated.

[Breathalyser Kits](#). It is being proposed that from 1st July 2012 every vehicle must have available a breathalyser kit for the use of the driver. (2 are recommended as if you use one then are none left as kit) They will be available from Pharmacies, Ferry Ports and Supermarkets for approx. 2Euros each.

France has strict drink driving laws, blood alcohol levels being stricter than in the UK (0.5 mg/ml rather than 0.8). Rather than present you with meaningless figures relating to blood/breath alcohol levels, our advice is if you're driving, don't drink. **NEW! From July 1st 2012 you must carry a breathalyser kit in the vehicle**

Drinking and driving: Don't do it. Over 0.05 per cent and you could face anything up to imprisonment. **From July 1st 2012 it is compulsory to carry a breathalyser kit in the car.** Two kits per car are advised. 15 euro fines for non-compliance will be levied from November 1st 2012.

[Motoring Info Link](#)

drivealive.co.uk/driving-in-france.htm#Breathalyser