

Carrentals.co.uk Helps Holidaymakers Avoid Car Hire Mistakes



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Leading car hire comparator in the UK shows what not to do when hiring a car

17 May 2011 – With many people thinking about jetting off on holiday this year, there are some common problems that renters fall foul of and Carrentals.co.uk, the leading comparator in the UK, has devised solutions on how to deal with those problems.

Carrentals.co.uk's Gareth Robinson, the Managing Director, said: "We are know that [hiring a car](#) adds to the convenience of a holiday and they add a sense of freedom too, but many people fall into the trap of the mishaps of renting a car, such as not understanding the road rules of a different country or the insurance policies you need.

"Avoiding these mishaps can help the holiday run smoother and in turn, it helps people to have a more enjoyable trip."

Here are Carrentals.co.uk Top Ten tips for renting a car

1. Not checking the car before leaving – It is the renter's responsibility to check for any damage before leaving the car hire compound. If there is any damage not recorded upon your return, you will be charged for it, even if you didn't do it.
2. Pick up insurance policy – At the pick up point, you will be offered insurance and it is important to make sure you're not double covered for any items, if you have already sorted out your insurance.

3. Take out an insurance policy beforehand – Ensure you buy car hire insurance before you leave as on the day you can be charged more than you should be. [Total Damage Excess Waiver](#) is a good way to ensure you don't have to pay for tyres, wheels, excesses, windscreen, roof or the underside of the car damage.

4. Cheaper the better? - In most cases choosing the [cheapest car](#) is not always the best. If you stretch that little bit further your trip can be more comfortable and better value for money by hiring a larger car, such as an MPV for carrying around five or more people.

5. Booking a hire car late – It's more likely that a late booking will be more expensive than an early one, so book in advance to make sure you catch deals and it also secures your chances of the car you wish. People carriers are usually limited in their supply therefore booking in advance will make it yours.

6. Returns policy – In many cases, car suppliers prefer a full tank of fuel to be in the car on its return although others prefer them empty. If you do not do as they ask then they are well within their rights to charge a fee.

7. Credit card limits and hiring a car – Make sure you have enough funds available on your credit card before hiring a car. The company will authorise the card and then cancel it on your return unless there is any damage or excess to pay. If there are not enough funds available then the card and the rental will be cancelled.

8. Traffic laws abroad – Not every country in the EU or elsewhere follows the same road rules as the UK, so it is best to learn about the country and driving before you set off. Cars joining a roundabout in Turkey have right of way, rather than those already on the roundabout, so it is important to learn the rules in advance.

9. Book add-ons in advance – If you're travelling with small children then make sure you book child seats in advance, or other items such as snow chains, snow tyres and sat navs. The charges are usually higher on the day and those items are usually of limited supply too.

10. Paperwork check – Make sure you have the correct paperwork with your before you leave. Having your credit card, utility bills and return ticket (in the UK, for example), photocard ID and driving license, is of paramount importance or the supplier can reject the rental.

Carrentals.co.uk is the UK's leading online car hire comparator and compares the best hire car deals in more than 15,000 destinations, and over 50 car hire companies, including Holiday Autos, Alamo, Budget, Sixt, and Auto Europe. For the latest and greatest deals on car rentals

visit www.carrentals.co.uk
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About Carrentals.co.uk

Carrentals.co.uk was launched in February 2003 and grew to become one of the UK's leading online car hire companies by 2006.

In 2007 the company re-launched its site to create the first major online price comparator in the travel industry. Using the latest technology the Carrentals.co.uk site now searches up to 50 different car hire websites, providing an impartial comparison of the best prices available in over 15,000 locations.

Websites searched include Alamo, Auto Europe, Budget, Ebookers, Hertz, Holiday Autos, Opodo, Sixt and Thrifty, with the Carrentals.co.uk site quickly comparing prices and allowing customers to refine their search by car type.

The Carrentals.co.uk site also features over 5,000 pages of travel information in a mini-guide format.

In 2008 Carrentals.co.uk was voted Best Car Hire Website in the Travolution Awards, and in 2010 it was Highly Commended in the Best Meta-search/Price Comparison category. To book or for further information visit www.carrentals.co.uk

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