

Malaysian Driving License

ACCEPTANCE of the Malaysian Driving License overseas in countries like New Zealand & Australia face various hurdles due to lack of details required by the car rental companies and law enforcement authorities such as the police.

TWO of the problems are:-

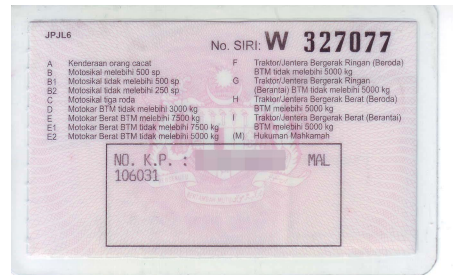
a. NOT written in English

b. No date of Birth

(date of birth can be found in the passport)

BELOW are some of our observations:-

Sample A

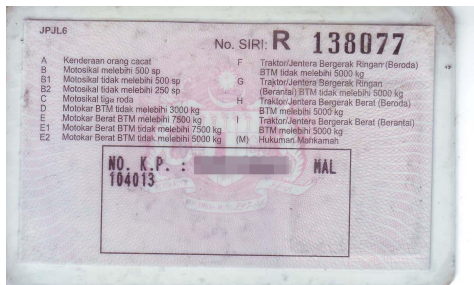


FRONT : Valid Driving License with PHOTO

Reverse side

Only English in this is (Malaysian Driving License). The rest of the information is NOT in English as such the Authorities do not understand. On the Reverse side ALL the information is NOT in English.

Sample: B - 1



FRONT: Expired Driving License

Reverse side

Sample: B-2 / Reference to Sample B-1



Front: RENEWED EXTENSION CARD

Reverse side/ *There is nothing written on the reverse side*

Slip to be produced with Driving License-

What does this mean ?? It is very **CONFUSING** to have an **EXTENSION** card.

This **EXTENSION** card Sample B-2 makes **EXPIRED** License Sample B-1 Valid?

Are you carrying the extension cards for the last 10 years??

This **EXTENSION** Cards do not make sense to anyone outside Malaysia.

WHAT CAR RENTAL COMPANIES SAY in GENERAL:

When it comes to drivers licences it really comes down to how our counter staff are able to read the licence. For those staff who have been around for a while they may have seen enough licences to be able to obtain the information they need but for the newer staff this may not be possible. The best thing I can suggest for all travellers that aren't carrying licences that are fully in English is to have an International licence with them to avoid any such confusion. This is also a requirement of the New Zealand Police that the driver must have a drivers licence in English or accompanied by an International Licence or recognised translation.

WHAT the New Zealand authorities SAY:

You can drive in New Zealand if you hold a driver licence from another country or an international driving permit and:

- your overseas licence is current and valid, and
- you've not received a disqualification or suspension in New Zealand, and
- you last entered New Zealand less than 12 months ago, and
- **your overseas licence is in English; if it's not, you must have an accurate translation, and**
- you've not been granted a New Zealand driver licence.

WHAT the Australian authorities (sample from ACT – Canberra) SAY:

Visiting drivers are not required to obtain an ACT Driver Licence providing their International Driving Permit and/or overseas licence are current. A visiting driver is a person from overseas who arrives in the ACT with no intention of becoming a permanent resident. This includes:

- tourists;
- business people;
- people on working holiday visas; and
- people studying or working temporarily in the ACT who intend to return to their home countries when they finish their courses or jobs.

When driving in the ACT a visiting driver must carry:

- Your foreign driver licence written in English; or
- Your international driving permit accompanied by your foreign driver licence; or
- **Your foreign driver licence that is not in English, accompanied by an official English translation of the licence. An official translation means a translation by an Embassy or Consulate, The Department of Immigration and Citizenship or the National Accreditation Authority For Translators and Interpreters (NAATI).**

In short, the emphasis is on **ENGLISH** ... English is the official language of Australia & New Zealand. The Aussies & Kiwis must be able to understand your Driving License. The same applies to other countries.

If they cannot do so, they will reject your license because there are many considerations by car rental companies:-

- a. Police – Law & Enforcement
- b. Insurance companies – Damage, Loss of lives etc
- c. Other enforcement agencies

Sometimes a “misunderstanding” can deny you claims for the vehicle, damage properties and for any loss of lives.

At MSL Travel, we are now insisting that you have an **INTERNATIONAL DRIVING PERMIT – IDP** to give yourself that **“PEACE OF MIND”** for a great self drive holiday any where !



... and we also recommend that you apply to be a member of the AA- Automobile Association (in Malaysia it is AAM- Automobile Association of Malaysia). AA offers its members roadside assistance; maps & guides etc worldwide at affiliated AAs.

Thank you

Happy Holidays & Drive with a peace of mind

AAM Special Offer at MSL:

AAM is offering a ONE YEAR AAM Membership and One Year International Driving Permit – IDP for MYR 250.00

Forms are available at MSL Offices for this special offer.

If you are already an AAM Member, you can get your IDP from the AAM office. It will cost MYR 150.00.

Please ensure your AAM Membership Card allows you for reciprocal membership rights and assistance overseas.

REMINDER: You must carry for AA card for AA membership benefits.