



1 Driver's license

1-2 International Driving Permit and foreign driver's licenses

(1) International Driving Permit

If you hold an International Driving Permit issued by a signatory country of the Geneva Convention, you can drive in Japan during the period designated below:

●The valid period of an International Driving Permit

The valid period is the shorter of either of the following: for one year after the date on which you landed in Japan; or the remaining valid period of your International Driving Permit. However, this provision is exempted if you have registered as a foreign resident in Japan, thereafter departed Japan with a reentry permit and landed in Japan again after a period shorter than three months from the date of your departure. In this case, the valid period is calculated from the date of your first entry into Japan.

●Convention on Road Traffic (Geneva Convention) signatory countries

[As of May 2007]			
Albania	Algeria	Argentina	Australia
Austria	Bangladesh	Barbados	Belgium
Benin	Botswana	Bulgaria	Cambodia
Canada	South Africa	Chile	Congo
Cote d'Ivoire	Cuba	Cyprus	The Czech Republic
Democratic Congo	Denmark	Dominica	Ecuador
Egypt	Fiji	Finland	France
Georgia	Ghana	Greece	Guatemala
Haiti	Vatican	Hungary	Iceland
India	Ireland	Israel	Italy
Jamaica	Japan	Jordan	Kyrgyz
Laos	Lebanon	Lesotho	Luxemburg
Madagascar	Malawi	Malaysia	Mali
Malta	Monaco	Morocco	Nambia
The Netherlands	New Zealand	Niger	Norway
Papua New Guinea	Paraguay	Peru	The Philippines
Poland	Portugal	Republic of Korea	Rumania



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Russia	Rwanda	San Marino	Senegal
Sierra Leone	Singapore	Slovakia	The Central African Republic
Spain	Sri Lanka	Sweden	Syria
Thailand	Togo	Trinidad and Tobago	Tunisia
Turkey	Uganda	The United Kingdom	The United States of America
Venezuela	Serbia	Montenegro	Zimbabwe
United Arab Emirates			
Regions	Hong Kong	Macao	
(93 countries, 2 regions)			

http://www.pref.aichi.jp/police/menkyo/99_kokumen.html#teiyaku

(2) Renewal of International Driving Permit

In Japan you cannot renew any International Driving Permit issued in other countries: the International Driving Permit is independently controlled by each country pursuant to the treaty.

If your International Driving Permit has expired, you need to acquire a new one in the issuing country.

If you stay in Japan for longer than one year, you are advised to have a driver's license issued in Japan.

(3) Overseas driver's license (foreign driver's license)

If you have a driver's license issued in Germany, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Taiwan or Italy with a Japanese translation attached to it, you can drive in Japan for one year after your entry into Japan. Such a translation, however, must be prepared in any of the issuing organization of your driver's license, the embassy or a consulate of the issuing country located in Japan or the Japan Automobile Federation (see [2-4 JAF](#)).

You must carry your passport and the above documents when you drive.