

The Cyprus Highway Code

Sir,

I have now lived on the island for a few months but have yet to see a copy of the “Cyprus Highway Code.”

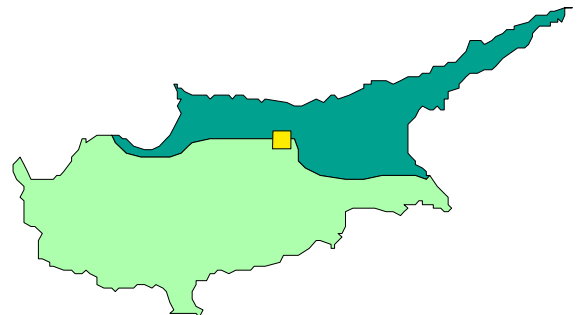
However having observed the driving over this period, I believe I now understand the local “Rules of the Road” and would seek to pass on my top ten tips to help new arrivals who will not be used to our ways.

1. Traffic emerging from side roads have full right of way to those on the main highway.
2. Likewise, traffic coming in the opposite direction and turning right in front of you have total priority.
3. If the vehicle in front of you is only just exceeding the speed limit you are entitled to overtake them, even on a blind bend. Do not be concerned about traffic coming towards you. It is their responsibility to take evasive action.
4. Always cut corners. You’ll be amazed at how much fuel this saves over a year.
5. At junctions, “Stop” does not actually mean “Stop” – it’s just that “Give Way if you really, really have to” would not fit on the sign.



6. A “Red Traffic Light” also does not mean “Stop” - You should edge forward for at least 10 meters ready to roar away the moment the lights change. That half second you save may be invaluable when you are older.
7. Please be aware that the intermittent flashing light found on each corner of your vehicle is strictly for ornamental purposes only. On no account should they be used to try and indicate direction of travel as this will only confuse other road users.

8. Parking in town and city centers is not always easy but fortunately there are some “Free Parking Areas” – these are easily identified by the black and white “zebra” style markings with zigzag lines either side. Should these spaces be full (they usually are) then you must not park on the double yellow lines. Instead park on the pavement alongside. Do not worry about the pedestrians as they will have ample room to go around your car and into the road.



9. If you are a motorcyclist ensure you cover your hair with lots of Extra Strong Gel. This will give your head great protection and alleviate the need to wear one of those nasty, unattractive “helmet” type hats.
10. Also a motorcyclist should remove any type of “silencer” from his bike. It is important that no one should be denied hearing the tuneful melody emitted by his souped up 50cc “Hotbird.”

The only exception to the above “rules” should, obviously, be taxi drivers. For as we all know they can do exactly as they like!

Happy Motoring!
Gerry Edmands

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