

Driving restrictions, goods transport Bulgaria

There is no general driving ban for international traffic on Sundays or on public holidays. There are however several local restrictions.

Vehicles concerned	all goods vehicles of over 15t total laden weight
Prohibition	permanent
Road concerned	I-5, section Tchernootchene - Kardjali The vehicles concerned should use the following routes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · <i>direction Haskovo - Kardjali</i> : road I-5 - road III-505 - Manastir - road III-507 - Voyvodino - Most - Tchiflik - Kardjali · <i>direction Assenovgrad - Kardjali</i> : road II-58 - road I-5, direction Haskovo - road III-505 - Manastir - road III-507 - Voyvodino - Most - Tchiflik - Kardjali · <i>direction Mineralni Bani - Kardjali</i> : road III-506 - road III-806 - road I-5 - road III-505 - Manastir - road III-507 - Voyvodino - Most - Tchiflik - Kardjali
Vehicles concerned	all goods vehicles of over 10t total laden weight
Prohibition	Every day, from 5h30 to 8h50 and from 16h30 to 20h50
Road concerned	I-1 (Sofia – Kulata), section Dragichevo (km 286+300 – Vladaya Pass) – Sofia – Knyazhevo district (km 268 +100) The vehicles concerned should use the route Dupnitsa – Samokov – Sofia and Dupnitsa – Samokov – Ihtiman – “Trakia” motorway
Vehicles concerned	all goods vehicles of over 10t total laden weight
Prohibition	permanent
Road concerned	I-5 between km 155+250 and km 184 +000 (Shipka Pass) The vehicles concerned should use the route Radnevo – road II-57 – Pet mogili – Novoselez – road II-55 – Mlekarevo – Radevo – Nova Zagora – Road mir - Tchervena Mogila – road I-6 – Gurkovo – Prohod na Republikata – Veliko Tarnovo.
Vehicles concerned	All vehicles
Prohibition	From 1 November to 31 March. However, in case of bad weather conditions, restrictions may already be enforced in October and/or until April.
Road concerned	I-7, section Varbishki Pass The vehicles concerned should use the Kotlenski Pass (I-4 road), the Rijki Pass (II-73 road) or the Prohod na Republikata Pass (road II-55).
Vehicles concerned	all goods vehicles of over 10t total laden weight
Prohibition	permanent

Road concerned II-81, section Petrohan-Sofia
The vehicles concerned should use the route I-1 (E-79): Montana-Vratsa-Botevgrad-Sofia.

Vehicles concerned all goods vehicles of over 10t total laden weight

Prohibition Every day, from 7h00 to 9h00 and from 18h00 to 20h00

Road concerned II-82, section Samokov - Sofia

The vehicles concerned should use the route II- 62 – Samokov – Ihtiman – road I-8 – “Trakia” motorway.

Vehicles concerned all vehicles exceeding the maximum authorised weights and dimensions

Prohibition throughout the year:

- if visibility is less than 50m due to mist, heavy rain or snow;
- in icy conditions;
- during hours of darkness and at rush hours, except in cases of emergency or natural catastrophe

Vehicles concerned All goods vehicles and combination vehicles with more than 2 axles

Period of restriction from 20 May to 30 September 2011

- Prohibition**
- On Fridays and Sundays from 16h00 to 22h00, except on 22, 27 and 29 May and on 2, 4, 16, 18 and 23 September 2011;
 - On 24 May and on 3, 6 and 21 September from 16h00 to 22h00

Road concerned all motorways and 1st class roads

Exceptions transport of perishable foodstuffs (temperature controlled) and of live animals

SUMMER RESTRICTIONS (*NB: these restrictions were in force on the dates indicated in 2010. As they have not yet been confirmed for 2011, they are given as an indication only*).

Vehicles concerned all vehicles of over 3.5t

Prohibition from 1.7.10 to 15.9.10

Area vehicles travelling from Sofia to Burgas and vice versa are obliged to use the following routes:

- *direction Sofia-Burgas* : Trakia motorway - road II-66 - Stara Zagora bypass - road I-5 (Zmejovo - lagoda - Tulovo) - road I-6, km 319+600 - Petolychkata crossing - Burgas
- *direction Burgas-Sofia* : road I-6 (Sliven - Kazanlyk) - direction Sofia
- *direction Burgas - Plovdiv* : road I-6 (Sliven - Kazanlyk), km 319+600 - road I-5 (Tulovo - lagoda - Zmejovo) - Stara Zagora bypass - road II-66 (connection with Trakia motorway) - Trakia motorway

Temporary restrictions In temperatures of over 35 C, there is a prohibition on lorries and combined vehicles of over 20t total laden weight throughout the road and motorway network between 12h00 and 21h00. The exact dates of the beginning and end of the restrictions will be announced in the media at

least two days in advance.

SOFIA

Restrictions are enforced in the city centre of Sofia for trucks and combined vehicles of 4t MPW and above, and for coaches with more than 22 seats, every day, from 7h00 to 21h00. The limits of the zone affected by these restrictions are as follows: Opalchenska str. – Slivnitsa bld. – Gen. Danail Nikolaev bld. – Evlogui Gueorguiev bld. – Bulgaria bld. – Pencho Slaveikov bld. – Gen. Tottleben bld. – Gen. Skobelev bld. – Opalcheska str. (N.B.: the restrictions do not apply to the streets mentioned above, but only to the area bordered by these streets)

Restrictions for trucks and combination vehicles with a MPW of over 15t apply every day from 07h00 to 22h00 in the first zone. The limits of the zone affected by these restrictions are as follows: Konstantin Velichkov bld. – Gabrovo str. – Skopie str. – Nadejda crossroad – 202 str. – Kamenodelska str. – Malashevska str. – Parva balgarska armia str. – Rezbarska str. – Vassil Kanchev str. – Reka Veleka str. – Alexander Ekzarh str. – Madrid bld. – Sitniakovo bld. – Peio lavorov bld. – Nikola Vaptzarov bld. – Cherni vrah bld. – Srebarna str. – Gotze Delchev bld. – Jitnitsa str. – Nikola Mushanov bld. – Vazkresenie bld. – Konstantin Velichkov bld. (N.B.: the restrictions do not apply to the streets mentioned above, but only to the area bordered by these streets).

The following streets and boulevards are not affected by the restriction: Slivnica bld., Vladajska reka str., Zidarska str., Gradinarska str., Rezbarska str., Gen. Danail Nikolaev bld., Konstantin Stoilov bld., Kamenodelska str., Gen. Vladimir Vazov bld., Chavdar Bridge and Zletovo str.

Public holidays 2011

1 January	New Year's Day
3 March	National Day
4 March	Additional public holiday
22 April	Good Friday (Orthodox)
24 April	Easter Sunday (Orthodox)
25 April	Easter Monday (Orthodox)
1 May	Labour Day
6 May	Bulgarian Army Day
23 May	Additional public holiday
24 May	Day of Slavonic Alphabet
5 September	Additional public holiday
6 September	Day of Unification
22 September	Independence Day
23 September	Additional public holiday
1 November	Day of the Leaders of the National Revival (working day)
24 December	Christmas Eve
25 December	Christmas Day
26 December	St Stephen's Day

Source: AEBTRI, May 2011