



AUTUMN DRIVING GUIDE

Essential tips for a smooth journey

The Summer holidays are over, and the children are back to school. It's official, Autumn is on its way.

From the leaves starting to change colour and the days getting shorter, the change of seasons also brings new challenges for drivers; low, late summer glare, high winds and even frosty windscreens can all be a problem at this time of year.

Stay one step ahead with the seasonal switch by reading our handy guide to safe Autumnal driving and preparing for everything Mother Nature wants to throw at you.





Dealing with dazzle and glare

Be mindful of the low Autumn sun particularly in the early morning or late afternoon and keep some sunglasses to hand in your glovebox. Keeping your windscreen clean both inside and outside will certainly help too.



Driving in foggy conditions

Damper weather and lower temperatures are almost certainly to result in foggy conditions. Slow down, use caution and switch on headlights or fog lights if you have them. Never be tempted to drive on full beam though as this will dazzle other road users. Be sure to turn off your fog lights once the weather clears as leaving them on can be irritating to other road users and leave you liable to a fine.



Prepare for the inevitable rain

Be prepared to adapt your driving for any change in the weather; driving through Autumnal storms comes with its own challenges. Watch out for standing water and the sudden onset of windy conditions.



Be prepared for first frosts

With the nights getting chillier, the chance of frost increases. Have an ice scraper or de-icer aerosol handy to clear any frost but never be tempted to use boiling water as this may crack your windscreen.



Watch out for wet leaves

Falling leaves can gather in a pile and cause a driving hazard. Wet leaves can be very slippery so try to avoid breaking through areas of heavy leaf-fall. Fallen leaves can also hide road markings and obscure road hazards such as potholes.



Prepare your car

Time for a check-up? Check tyre conditions and pressures, clean your windscreen and replace wiper blades if necessary. If your headlights seem dim, check the bulbs and make sure they're aligned properly.



Look out for deer

Although deer are a hazard all year round, the Autumn breeding season brings an increase in their movement and activity. Deer tend to travel in groups so if travelling through deer-risk areas, slow down and keep a watchful eye on both sides of the road.