



# SPRING DRIVING GUIDE

## Essential tips for a smooth journey

**Heading away for the Easter holidays?**

**Time for a vehicle safety Spring clean?**

It's tempting to think of Spring as a dry season simply because it isn't Winter, and longer, lighter nights are a nice, refreshing change.

However, April showers and blustery winds can cause all kinds of challenges for drivers and as quick as the first, warm sunlight starts to peep through the clouds, it's important to keep in mind that the Winter hazards aren't completely gone.

Unexpected weather changes and temperature drops can occur during Spring time too, so now might be the time to give your vehicle a quick, but important Spring clean before heading away to enjoy your long weekend.

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## Vehicle checks

- ▲ Wash off all the winter grime and salt.
- ▲ Check your tyre pressure and make sure you have plenty of grip and tread left on them, so they are adequate for safe traction, especially on wet roads.
- ▲ Top-up your oil, washer fluid and coolant.
- ▲ Make sure your windscreen wipers are working and don't have any damage, so you have clear visibility during spring showers.
- ▲ Check headlight, brake and indicator bulbs & replace if necessary.

## Beware cyclists, runners and pedestrians

- ▲ The lighter mornings and evenings attract more cyclists, runners and pedestrians, and warmer weather simply means more people outside, especially in urban areas and around parks.
- ▲ Take extra care in school zones.
- ▲ Be extra vigilant for runners and cyclists who may be wearing headphones and give them plenty of space as you approach and go past.

## Animals & wildlife on the move

- ▲ Be extra vigilant for animals and wildlife crossing roads, especially at dawn and dusk when they are more active.
- ▲ Animals and wildlife often move in groups. If you pass one, look out for more following on behind.

## April showers and changing weather

- ▲ Exercise caution on wet roads: reduce speed and increase safety distance in rainy conditions to avoid aquaplaning.
- ▲ Be cautious of potholes left behind by winter weather to prevent damage to your vehicle.
- ▲ Avoid driving through large puddles and be conscious of flooded roads.
- ▲ Never use cruise control on wet or slippery roads.
- ▲ Adjust driving habits to accommodate increased daylight and beware of sun glare during sunrise and sunset.

Following these spring driving tips will help ensure a safe and enjoyable journey as you navigate the changing road conditions of the season.