

Traffic Rules in Japan

Welcome to Urakawa

Please observe traffic rules and enjoy pleasant driving in Japan.

Japanese traffic rules you need to pay attention to:



Rules concerning driving

● Left-hand traffic

You must drive on the left in Japan.

● Stop at the center of an intersection and confirm safety before turning right.

Cars going straight or turning left have the right of way.

If you are going to turn right, you must wait until oncoming cars finish going straight or turning left.

● Speed limits

In Japan, the speed limit is 60 km/h on ordinary roads and 100 km/h on expressways.

Please note that you are not allowed to drive over 60 km/h on ordinary roads, even if there are no speed limit signs.



Speed limit sign

● Sections where it is prohibited to enter the opposing lanes

Yellow lines on the road mean that it is prohibited to enter the opposing lanes.

You are not allowed to overtake by entering the opposing lanes in those sections.



Sign for no entry into opposing lane

Rules concerning traffic lights

● Location of traffic lights

In some countries, traffic lights are at the entrance to the intersection, and cars stop at the traffic lights. In Japan, they are at the exit of the intersection.

When you stop at a red light in Japan, you must stop at the stop line before entering the intersection, not after entering the intersection.

● Always stop at red light

There is no left turn on red in Japan.

● Green arrow light

Even when the traffic light ahead of you is red, you can proceed in the direction indicated by the green arrow light.

The yellow arrow light is for trams, not for cars.

● Careful observation of traffic lights

In Japan, some traffic lights change according to the flow of traffic. At some intersections, all traffic lights for vehicles turn red at the same time to allow pedestrians to cross roads in all directions.

Please pay attention to the traffic light ahead of you.

Stop sign

● Japanese stop signs

In some countries, stop signs are hexagonal or circular. Japanese stop signs are inverted triangles with a red background.

● Full stop

You must come to a full stop at a stop sign. If you do not, you are breaking the law.

You must also come to a full stop at a railroad crossing.



Seat belts

In Japan, everyone in a car must wear a seat belt.

Children under 6 years old must use child seats that fit their age and build. If you travel with children and rent a car, you need to rent child seats, too.

Drunk driving is strictly prohibited in Japan.

It is prohibited to drive after drinking in Japan. Driving while alcohol remains in your body constitutes driving under the influence of alcohol.

People who get in a car knowing that the driver is drunk or under the influence of alcohol, and people who invite a driver-to-be to drink are subject to severe punishment.

If you have a traffic accident,
please call a phone number.

The police **110**

An
ambulance **119**