

ROAD TRIP CLUB

Designed to be Different

BEFORE WE DRIVE

Your Alpine Tour Companion

Everything you need before we hit the road

16 – 20 September 2026

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Your Countdown

Just a few things before we leave.

BEFORE WE LEAVE

- ☐ Check your passport is valid for the trip
- ☐ Order your German emissions sticker (Umweltplakette): www.umwelt-plakette.de/en — delivery takes
- ☐ Download Google Maps offline
- ☐ Check your European breakdown cover & travel insurance

DEPARTURE MORNING — SEE YOU AT FOLKESTONE

- ☐ Meet us at Eurotunnel between 06:45 – 07:30
- ☐ Your crossing departs at 08:46 (the standard tour crossing — unless you've chosen a different time o

Where to go: Eurotunnel Folkestone Terminal, Ashford Road, Folkestone CT18 8XX — leave the M20 at Junction 11A, straight to check-in. In your sat nav, search "Eurotunnel Terminal Building" rather than the postcode, which can misroute you. We'll be there to welcome everyone before the adventure begins.

Your Essential Documents

Keep these with you in the car — plus digital copies on your phone.

- ☐ Passport
- ☐ Driving licence
- ☐ Vehicle registration document (V5C)
- ☐ Vehicle insurance certificate
- ☐ European breakdown cover details
- ☐ Travel insurance
- ☐ Eurotunnel booking confirmation
- ☐ Hotel confirmations

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS — MUST BE IN YOUR CAR

- ☐ UK identifier (on your number plate or separate sticker)
- ☐ Warning triangle
- ☐ High-visibility vest for every occupant
- ☐ First aid kit
- ☐ Headlamp deflectors (if required)

Driving in Europe

Three countries, three sets of rules — nothing complicated.

GERMANY

— You'll need a Green Umweltplakette — the green group-4 emissions sticker — for this tour, as we drive through several environmental zones. Virtually all modern petrol and diesel cars qualify.

— Order online with a photo of your V5C: www.umwelt-plakette.de/en — the sticker is registered to your number plate and never expires. Standard delivery to the UK takes around 2-3 weeks (1-3 days' processing plus 10-14 days' postage), so order by the end of August. Express options are available.

— Some Autobahn sections are unrestricted, but many aren't. Limits change regularly — watch the overhead signs.

— If traffic stops completely, form the emergency corridor ("Rettungsgasse") between lanes for emergency vehicles.

— Undertaking on the motorway isn't permitted.

— The Rossfeld Panorama Road has its own toll — EUR 9.50 per car including everyone on board, payable at the toll station.

FRANCE

— Our route includes a few stretches of French motorway, mainly as we head out from Calais and home again.

— Some of these are toll roads. Most booths accept contactless cards, but carry a physical bank card and a small amount of cash just in case.

Driving in Europe — Austria

Vignettes and mountain tolls, sorted before you go.

AUSTRIA

— Austria requires a motorway vignette. The easiest option is the digital vignette from ASFINAG's official shop: shop.asfinag.at/en — it's linked to your number plate, so there's nothing to stick on the windscreen.

— For our dates the 10-day vignette is the one you'll want, and it's valid immediately when bought online. Steer clear of the 2-month and annual digital vignettes — consumer-protection rules mean those only become valid 18 days after purchase. We'll confirm everything before departure.

— The Grossglockner High Alpine Road has its own toll — EUR 46.50 per car for a day ticket (2026 price). It isn't covered by the vignette. Buy your ticket online in advance to avoid queueing at the booths: www.grossglockner.at/en/shop/tickets

— Speed limits are well enforced, so keep an eye on your speed as you leave the motorways.

Routes & Navigation

Never miss a turn — even when the signal disappears.

We'll send Google Maps links and QR codes for every driving day before departure.

We'd strongly recommend downloading offline maps before leaving the UK, so you'll still have navigation if mobile signal disappears in the mountains.

HOW TO DOWNLOAD OFFLINE MAPS ON YOUR PHONE

1. Connect to wi-fi and open the Google Maps app.
2. Tap your profile picture in the top-right corner, then choose "Offline maps".
3. Tap "Select your own map", frame the area you want, and press Download.
4. Repeat for each day's driving area — we'll remind you exactly which areas to save when we send your route links.

Offline maps expire if they're not refreshed, so it's best to download them in the final week before we leave. Full instructions: support.google.com/maps/answer/6291838

If you prefer using Garmin or another sat nav, GPX files are also available — just let us know.

Need Help?

We're only ever a call away.

If anything comes up before departure — or while we're away — please get in touch.

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You can request to join the tour WhatsApp group now via the link in the online guide — we'll open the group once everyone's in, so nobody misses anything.

SEE YOU AT FOLKESTONE

Thank you for choosing to travel with Road Trip Club. Safe travels — and we'll see you on the 16th September.