

HIGHWAY TO HELL: EUROPE'S WORST DRIVERS REVEALED IN TRIPADVISOR'S "ROWDY ROAD RUNNERS" LIST

Survey of British Travellers Uncovers Trials and Tribulations of Driving Abroad

LONDON, U.K. – 29 JUNE, 2009 – A new survey by TripAdvisor®, the world's most popular and largest travel community, has identified the worst motorists in Europe, according to British

holiday-makers, with Italian drivers taking pole position in the top ten and British drivers also making the list.

The survey of 819 British travellers reveals that 46% plan to drive whilst abroad this summer, whilst almost three quarters (73%) have done so in the past. Despite this, over one third (35%) of these remain nervous at the prospect of hitting the roads outside of the U.K.

EUROPE'S WORST MOTORISTS: DRIVING TRAVELLERS UP THE WALL

Almost one third of travellers (31%) consider the biggest challenge of driving abroad to be contending with the locals' driving style. According to British travellers, Italy boasts the worst drivers in Europe, with French motorists second across the line.

1. Italy
2. France
3. Greece
4. Turkey
5. Spain
6. Portugal
7. U.K.
8. Malta
9. Belgium
10. Russia

ROCKY ROAD: DRIVING ABROAD FRAYS TRAVELLERS' NERVES

The survey also reveals that brushing up on the local driving laws, including speed limits and which side of the road to drive on, remains low on travellers' priorities. Whilst 14% confess to never researching these before getting behind the wheel when they are abroad, a further 48% admit they do so infrequently.

As a result of the stress that unfamiliar roads and rules can present, 45% of travellers have misread their map and found themselves lost, and over one third (38%) of holiday-makers have argued with their partner. Meanwhile, anxiety at the wheel has led to 11% losing their tempers with other drivers, 4% vowing never to drive abroad again and 4% receiving a fine.

Luke Fredberg, TripAdvisor spokesman, said: "Hitting the open road can be one of the most rewarding and cost-effective ways of exploring a new destination, but some travellers find the notion of a relaxing road-trip vanishes as soon as they encounter unfamiliar driving laws and styles."

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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Notes to editors

819 British travellers took part in the TripAdvisor survey (June 2009).

<https://tripadvisor.mediaroom.com/2009-06-29-HIGHWAY-TO-HELL-EUROPE-S-WORST-DRIVERS-REVEALED-IN-TRIPADVISOR-S-ROWDY-ROAD-RUNNERS-LIST>