



14



DRIVING IN AUSTRALIA

- What are the important factors for me to know about driving in Australia? 252**
- What information do I need to know about buying a car? 253**
- Is there other information I need to know? 253**

What are the important factors for me to know about driving in Australia?

If you are a permanent resident visa holder and have a current full Irish Driving Licence, you are allowed to drive for your first 3 months.

Within the first 3 months of arriving in Australia you should exchange your Irish Driving Licence for an Australian one. If you do this within 3 months you will not have to do a test. If you do not do this within 3 months you may have to take a theory and full test in order to get an Australian driving licence.

For more information on driving licence regulations, as well as information on driving in each State or Territory, please **see page 261**
- Websites for information on driving licences by State or Territory.

What information do I need to know about buying a car?

- Cars can cost a lot of money, whether they are used or new
- Some Australians choose to lease cars. Leasing can be handy, but there are a number of hidden costs involved, such as administrative fees and handling taxes
- Whichever option you choose, make sure you understand exactly what your financial obligations are
- All cars must be registered with the provincial motor vehicle licensing agency where you live, and must be insured. This is the law. For more information please see the website www.tc.gc.ca/road/menu.htm

Is there other information I need to know?

Insurance

If you own a car it is compulsory to have third party insurance to cover you if you injure another person in an accident. You may also like to take out comprehensive car insurance, which provides wider insurance cover.