



NEW LAW - Driving in France

CRIT-air – Vehicle emission stickers – Paris, Bordeaux (2024 on), Clermont-Ferrand, Grenoble, Lyon, Marseille, Montpellier, Reims, Rouen, Strasbourg, Toulouse + ALL cities of 150k+ population (2025 on)

In order to reduce air pollution in its major cities, France has decided to 'grade' vehicles according to their exhaust emissions, and is now banning the worst polluting vehicles from the inner areas of the above cities at certain times of day. (In Paris this area is **ONLY** inside the key 'Périphérique' ring road). There are six different emission grades, which are designated by a coloured sticker and, in order to 'police' this initiative effectively, **IF** a vehicle is going to drive in the specified area(s) it **MUST** have its appropriate 'grade' sticker displayed in the windscreen.

NOTE 1: From 2025 onwards ALL cities with a population of 150k+ will require the application of the Crit-air stickers.

NOTE 2: Drivers should be aware that the fines for failure to display stickers when driving within the specified areas range up to approx. £115.

To prevent drivers 'cheating' the system, by fitting a false 'lower emissions' sticker to their vehicle, the stickers can **ONLY** be purchased directly from the French Government website by the individual car owner – who will need to upload their vehicle's V5 logbook into the application form. This means all drivers, including British, have to apply for the sticker well in advance of their trip if they intend to travel through any of the specified areas.

The process takes approximately 30 days, and for UK drivers the £4.00 sticker has to be purchased from:

<https://www.certificat-air.gouv.fr/en/> or scan the QR code. →



NOTE 3: In theory, the Police **MAY** accept a 'digital receipt' from an application as both proof of purchase and the vehicle's emission grade - so, if already in France, British drivers may be able to get somebody back home to apply with the vehicle's V5 and then email the receipt to them.