



UK & EUROPEAN - PERMIT, ROUTE SURVEY & PILOT CAR SERVICES

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Travel Bans in France 2026

Standard Loads at GVW of 7.50T and above:

General weekend ban from 2200hrs on Saturday, until 2200hrs on Sunday.

Public holiday ban from 2200hrs the day before a French public holiday, until 2200hrs on the public holiday.

Link to Brochure in French re bans for trucks + Calendrier Bison-Futé 2026 : <https://www.bison-fute.gouv.fr/calendrier-bison-fute,11601.html>

Decree (French Law) on ban times and exemptions for certain transports*:

http://www.bison-fute.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/Arrete_02_mars_2015-2.pdf

Summer Saturday bans this year are 11, 18, 25 July & 1, 8 August

These ban times are from 0700hrs on Saturday until 2400hrs in all of France (France métropolitaine / La Métropole) Except that there is a window of 4 hours 1900-0000hrs on these Saturday nights during which **standard vehicles** may travel (see Sunday permanent ban above). But no ab load movements allowed see below.

There are also additional winter traffic bans in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region for goods vehicles over 7.5t gross vehicle weight, with the exception of special vehicles and agricultural vehicles and material.

In Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, there are also **Winter Saturday bans February - March. 2026** dates: **7, 14, 21, 28 February & 7 March** from 07h00 to 18h00 and from 22h00 to 24h00, then from 00h00 to 22h00 on Sunday (NB: driving authorised on these days from 18h00 to 22h00). For a list of routes the Winter ban applies to, please ask.

*There is a permanent exemption that covers perishable goods, newsprint, sporting/cultural/educational or other tight deadlines. Proof of the status of the goods, & the deadlines which require a move during ban times, must be carried on board the vehicle. Otherwise, hauliers may apply for an exemption permit (individual or permanent). Sufficient grounds of urgency must be given, eg: AOG situations/ 'no interruption to supply being essential to round-the-clock operations' have been used as justification to obtain such permits. Documentary proof of the need to travel during the French ban must be carried on board the vehicle / strictures annexed to the permit must be adhered to. Not possible to get these bans lifted for ab loads.

Abnormal Load Restrictions

Over the weekends mentioned above, Abnormal Loads are banned from the end of daylight or 2200hrs (whichever is the latest) on the Friday until 0600hrs on the Monday.

General weekend ban is from 1200hrs on Saturday, until 0600hrs on Monday.

Public holiday ban is from 1200hrs on the day before a French public holiday, until 0600hrs on the day after a public holiday. See permits for rush hour bans in towns.

Check Cat 1 Motorway Ban times, many motorways have night only (2200hrs - 0600hrs) or complete bans 1st July – 1st September; some ban periods last until 15th September. There are additional restrictions for Paris.

Public Holidays and other bans – France 2026

New Years Day **1st Jan** (Thurs) | Good Friday **3rd Apr**: heavy traffic, not a public holiday except in Alsace/Moselle | Easter Mon **6th Apr** | Labour Day **1st May** (Fri) | VE Day **8th May** (Fri) | Ascension: **14th May** (Thurs) (not always a ban date - check) | Whit Monday **25th May** | Bastille Day **14th Jul** (Tues) | Assumption **15th Aug** (Sat) | All Saints Day **1st Nov** (Sun) | Armistice Day **11th Nov** (Wed) | Christmas Day **25th Dec** (Fri) | Boxing Day - only in Moselle, Bas-Rhin & Haut-Rhin – **26th Dec** (Fri) – Check also : Le Mans Test day & 24hr Le Mans race dates