

Update from Embassy 23 JUNE



RESIDENT BEFORE 1 JANUARY 2021?

For those who were resident in Spain before 1 January 2021, valid UK driving licences will now be **recognised for driving in Spain until 31 October 2021** (the previous deadline was 30 June). This extension applies **whether the person applied to exchange their UK driving licences before the end of last year or not.**

The announcement does not change the situation on the exchange of UK driving licences. If a person had **registered their details and intent to exchange before the end of last year**, they still have until 31 December 2021 to obtain an appointment with the DGT to complete the exchange (this will be without taking a theory or practical test). Given the above, however, I would encourage anyone in this group who has not yet sought an appointment to complete the exchange to do so as soon as possible.

FAILED TO REGISTER DETAILS/INTENT BEFORE END OF 2020?

If a person did not register their details/intent to exchange before the end of 2020, or has arrived in Spain since 1 January 2021, if they wish to exchange their licence at this time, they will need to follow the process for non-EU nationals, which does involve taking a theoretical and practical test. The theory test can be done in English, but the practical test is conducted in Spanish.

However, negotiations are underway between the UK and Spanish governments to agree long-term arrangements for the exchange of driving licences, without the need for a practical test. As and when there are any updates on this, the British Embassy Living in Spain guide will be updated.