

VISITING COACHES

GETTING AROUND THE ISLE OF MAN

CONTENTS

• DRIVING A COACH TO THE ISLE OF MAN	2
• LAWS AND LICENSING	2
• DRIVER REQUIREMENTS	2
• VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS- LENGTH	2
• VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS- WEIGHT	2
• CLEANING	3
• PARKING	3
• RESTRICTED ROADS	7
• ROAD WORK CLOSURES	11
• BUSINESS DIRECTORY	11

Driving a Coach to the Isle of Man

Here is some key information to assist group organisers and coach drivers when planning and during their visit to the Isle of Man.

Laws and Licensing

Isle of Man legislation regarding vehicle weights and dimensions may differ from those authorised in the country of registration of the visiting coaches.

The Isle of Man Road Transport Licensing Committee is responsible for regulating coaches brought temporarily into the Island and regulations have been made under the Road Transport Act 2001¹.

Buses and coaches may be brought temporarily into the Island for a period of up to but not exceeding one month. Passengers that may be carried are those making a temporary stay under a 'package tour' arrangement. All arrangements and payment must be made in advance, outside the Island. Cabotage Operations are prohibited, i.e. the carriage of goods or passengers that originates and terminates within the Isle of Man by an operator not licensed by the Road Transport Licensing Committee. There is no requirement for the passengers to physically accompany the vehicle to and from the Island, and therefore the passengers may travel by air or by ferry independently of the vehicle.

¹ The Road Transport Operators (Vehicles Brought Temporarily into the Island) Regulations 2002. SD 48/02 [Weight limits set out in the Explanatory Notes have been superseded by Construction and Use Regulations].

Driver requirements

Drivers of visiting coaches who are licensed to drive that vehicle in the country or territory of registration are granted a temporary exemption from Isle of Man Road Transport driver licensing requirements for one month².

² The Road Transport (Driver Licensing) (Exemption) Regulations 2002. SD 86/02

Vehicle requirements - length

The maximum permitted length for any coach is 13.5m providing they meet the EU turning circle directive.

Vehicle requirements - weight

Plated 2-axle coaches fitted with twin tyres and road-friendly suspension are permitted on Manx roads up to the maximum permitted weight specified on the latest plate carried by the vehicle. If such a vehicle does not have a plate, the maximum total permitted weight is 18,000kg. depending on the axle spacing, and the maximum axle weight is 11,500kg for the driving axle.

In the case of 2-axle coaches without twin tyres and without road-friendly suspension, Isle of Man limits apply. In such a case the total weight of the vehicle is limited to 16,260 kg. depending on the axle spacing, and its maximum axle weight is limited to 10,170kg. for each axle.

In the case of 3 axle coaches, whether or not they are fitted with twin tyres and road-friendly suspension, the permitted weights are 24,390kg for the vehicle as a whole depending on the axle spacing and 10,170kg for each axle.

Cleaning

Coaches may be cleaned and serviced, by prior arrangement, at the Bus Vannin's Bus Depot, situated to the west of the North Quay, between the Railway Station and Tesco's Supermarket. Contact: Bus Traffic Manager, tel. +44 1624 663366.

Parking

It is recommended that you use the Ordnance Survey Landranger Map No. 95 for planning days out on the Isle of Man.

Many of the small towns and villages have narrow roads and one-way systems. Coaches are prohibited on some narrow roads. Please refer to Traffic Signs when travelling around the Island. Please use the preferred routes to the coach parking areas described below.

The Island's historic sites and key attractions are regularly visited by coach parties and where possible coach parking is accommodated nearby but in some cases, for example, Castletown and Laxey Wheel, parking adjacent to heritage sites is not possible. Please see below for details.

Douglas

Coach drivers should use the spaces on Douglas Promenade and Mona Terrace first before parking at the Sea Terminal. Douglas Promenade: Parking is permitted during the day and overnight in seven dedicated coach parking bays situated in various places on Douglas Promenade. Five spaces are situated at the northern end of the Promenade on King Edward Road, opposite the horse tram terminus. A further two coach parking bays are situated on Mona Terrace behind the multi-story car park. There are two drop off points opposite the Villa Marina and two further drop off points outside the Penta and Hydro Hotel. Ferry Port at the Sea Terminal: Allocated parking for up to four coaches is situated on the Victoria Pier. Overnight parking is only permitted in this location between the hours of 6.30pm and 8am. Between the hours of 8am and 6.30pm is strictly drop off and pick up only. Any drivers parking their vehicles overnight in this area are requested to leave their contact details at the front of the coach.



Ramsey

During the summer months there are 2 dedicated coach parking bays in Dale Street, Ramsey, close to the West Quay. Setting down only is permitted in the nearby Market Place. The preferred route to Dale Street from the south is via Queen's Promenade, if using the A2 Coast Road. All other routes from the north, west or from the A18 Mountain Road is via the West Quay. The Victorian historic house at The Grove, Ramsey has free parking for coaches in the car park at the front of the site. For visits to the Mooragh Park, coaches may park on the car park at the northern end accessed via the Mooragh Promenade.



Peel

Peel has coach parking available on Marine Parade (sea front) in the Creg Malin car park. This car park can accommodate a maximum of 6 coaches. Access via the A4 is from Stanley Road, otherwise follow the signs to the Quay or House of Manannan and then to the Promenade.

Parking for coaches is available at the rear of the House of Manannan Museum and on the breakwater for visiting Peel Castle. Coaches can also drop off at the end of Shore Road and passengers then walk over the foot bridge to the castle.



Castletown

Castletown has several Manx National Heritage historic attractions in the town which means it can be relatively busy in the peak season and during cruise visits, it's recommended for drivers to co-ordinate with Manx National Heritage group bookings prior to visiting the attractions or call ahead. Castle Rushen, the Old House of Keys, the Nautical Museum and the Old Grammar School are all centrally located. The Manx Wildlife Trust Scarlett Nature Discovery Centre, is a 15 – 20 minute walk from the main coach park. Setting-down and picking-up for these sites should be undertaken at the dedicated coach parking area behind the main square in Farrant's Way.



Port Erin

Up to 10 coaches may park day or night on the car park to the rear of the Police Station. Access from Station Road (A5) is via Droghadfayle Road, (immediately before the Police Station).



Port St Mary

Two coach parking bays are provided on the car park opposite the Town Hall on the Promenade, close to the entrance to the Village. (First left after the school).

Laxey

Coaches over 12m length are advised not to enter lower Laxey and the Promenade. The Village of Laxey provides dedicated coach parking for 3 coaches at the Dumbells Terrace car park (opposite the war memorial) off the A2, just over the tram lines. Parking for the Lady Isabella Laxey Wheel is located further up Dumbell's Terrace behind the Fire Station. Access to the car park at the Wheel is unsuitable for coaches.



Cregneash

Cregneash Village in the south of the Island is a living illustration of a Manx farming and crofting community in the 19th and early 20th century. Coach parking is available in the Public Car Park at the entrance to the Village.

The Sound

The Sound at the southern tip of the Island has coach parking adjacent to the entrance to the café. This can be busy in peak season for coaches and general visitors so it is recommended to call the café to inform them of your planned arrival +44 (0) 1624 838123. There is narrow roads on the road to the Sound from Cregneash.

Rushen Abbey, Ballasalla

Parking for coaches in the car park at the front of the site.

Tynwald Hill, St Johns and Culture Vannin Centre

Coach parking at St Johns is situated on the A1 at the entrance to the Arboretum, Douglas side of the Tynwald site.

WEIGHT LIMIT LIST- RESTRICTED ROADS

Order	Road	Weight (not exceeding)	PVS Exempt
Douglas			
Traffic Regulations (No 1) (Crellins Hill) Order 1982	Crellins Hill from Windsor Road/Kingswood Grove junction to Finch Road	Laden of 2 tonnes	No
Belmont Hill (Douglas) (Weight Restriction) Order 1987	Belmont Hill from its junction with Peel Road to its junction with the entrance gate to Ballakermeen School	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes	No
Mona Drive (Douglas) (Weight Restriction) Order 1992	Mona Drive from its junction with Victoria Road to its junction with Empress Drive	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes	No
Tromode Road (Douglas) (Weight Restriction) Order 1995	Tromode Road from a point opposite the westerly entrance to the IOM Water Authority Head Office to its junction with Tromode Close	Laden of 3 tonnes	No
Port St Mary			
Village District of Port St Mary Road Traffic Act 1963-1974 Traffic Regulation Order 1980	Gansey Road southwards from its junction with the Promenade	Laden of 3 tonnes	No
Peel			
East Quay (Peel) (Weight Restriction) Order 2002	East Quay from Station Place to the Harbour Slipway in the vicinity of the House of Manannan	Laden + unladen of 17½ tonnes	Yes
Onchan			
Village District of Onchan (Various Roads) (Weight Restriction) Order 1985	(i) Auburn Road	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes	No
	(ii) Kelvin Road	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes	No
	(iii) Wybourne Drive from its junction with Governors Road to its junction with Mount View Road	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes	No
Village District of Onchan (Eskdale Road/Bibaloe Lane) (Weight Restriction) Order 1997	Eskdale Road/Bibaloe Lane	Laden + unladen of 7½ tonnes	Yes
Village District of Onchan (Eskdale Road/Bibaloe Lane) (Weight Restriction) Order 1997	Eskdale Road/Bibaloe Lane	Laden + unladen of 7½ tonnes	Yes
U39 Garey Road (Onchan) (Weight Restriction) Order 1998	U39 Garey Road from its junction with A2 Douglas to Ramsey Road to its junction with the B20 Begoade Road	Laden + unladen of 2 tonnes	No
Ramsey			
The Windsor Mount Order 1955	Windsor Mount from the entrance gates of Ballacloan House to the junction of Windsor Mount and Windsor Road	Laden of 2 tonnes	No

Order	Road	Weight (not exceeding)	PVS Exempt
Laxey/Lonan			
Parish of Lonan (Upper Clay Head Road) (Weight Restriction) Order 1984	Upper Clay Head Road (whole length of)	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes Width 8' 6"	No
Castletown			
Town of Castletown (Various Roads) (Weight Restriction) Order 1998	(i) Castle Street from its junction with Market Square to its junction with the Quay	Laden of 7½ tonnes	Yes
	(ii) Bowling Green Road from its junction with Douglas Street	Laden of 7½ tonnes	Yes
	(iii) Douglas Street from its junction with Bowling Green Road to its junction with Bridge Street	Laden of 7½ tonnes	Yes
	(iv) Bridge Street from its junction with Douglas Street to a point immediately opposite the footbridge in such street	Laden of 7½ tonnes	Yes
	(v) College Green from its junction with Shore Road to its junction with Bowling Green Road	Laden of 7½ tonnes	Yes
	(vi) Queen Street from its junction with the Parade to its junction with Farrants Way	Laden of 7½ tonnes	Yes
	(vii) George Lane from its junction with the Parade to its junction with Farrants Way	Laden of 7½ tonnes	Yes
	(viii) Market Square, the entire square including the Parade	Laden of 7½ tonnes	Yes
Port Erin			
The Traffic Regulation (Tower Road, Port Erin) Order 1996	Tower Road	Laden of 5 tonnes	No
The Traffic Regulation (Bradda Road Port Erin) Order 1969	Bradda Road, Port Erin from Cronk Hunna to Bradda West Road	Unladen 4 tonnes	No(except for School Bus)
The Traffic Restrictions Order 1956	(i) the Class No 14 Road between Sulby and Tholt-y-Will	Laden of 7 tonnes	No
	(ii) the Class 2 No 10 Road leading from the Class No 18 Mountain Road to Barregarrow	Laden of 3 tonnes	No
	(iii) the Class 2 No 22 Injerbreck Road leading from Baldwin to Brandywell Cottage on the Class 2 No 10 Bein-y-Phott Road	Laden of 7 tonnes	No
	(iv) the Class 3 No 37 Road leading from Ballaugh Glen to Brandywell Cottage on the Class 2 No 10 Bein-y-Phott Road	Laden of 7 tonnes	No

Order	Road	Weight (not exceeding)	PVS Exempt
Rural roads			
The Regulation of Traffic (Northern Parishes) Order 1966	(i) Smeale Road from its junction with Bride – Ballaugh Coast Road at Smeale to its junction with Bride – Andreas Road at Braust Crossroads	Laden of 10 tonnes	No
	(ii) Thurot Cottage Road from its junction with the Bride – Ballaugh Road to its junction with the Bride – Andreas Road	Laden of 10 tonnes	No
	(iii) Jurby East Road – Bride to Ballaugh Coast Road to Summerhill Road	Laden of 10 tonnes	No
The Parish of Malew Phildraw Road and Bay Ballagawne (Weight Restriction) Order 1970	Phildraw Road from its junction with the Silverdale Road in Ballasalla to its junction with the Bay Ballagawne Road at Ballanank and in the length of the bay at Ballagawne	Laden + unladen of 10 tonnes	No
Parish of German (Switchback Road) (Weight Restriction) Order 2007	Switchback Road between its junction with the A4 Peel to Kirk Michael Coast Road and its junction with Staarvey Road	Laden + unladen of 7½ tonnes	Yes
Parish of German (Staarvey Road) (Weight Restricted) Order 2007	Staarvey Road from Ballaboie Road to a point 465 metres east of its junction with the Switchback Road	Laden + unladen of 7½ tonnes	Yes
The Glen Auldyn and Fern Glen Roads (Weight Restrictions) Order 1977	(i) Glen Auldyn Road southwards from its junction with Fern Glen Road	Laden + unladen of 10 tonnes	No
	(ii) Fern Glen Road	Laden + unladen of 10 tonnes	No
The Traffic Restrictions (Amendment) Order 1978	Creggans Hill section of A14 Tholt-y-Will extending from a point of 240 metres below the Alt entrance to Tholt-y-Will Glen to the lower entrance of such Glen	Laden + unladen of 2 tonnes	No
Ballaboie Road (Weight Restriction) Order 1982	Ballaboie Road from its junction with the A3 Peel/Kirk Micheal Coast Road to its junction with the C25 Staarvey Road	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes	No
Stoney Mountain Road (Weight Restriction) Order 1985	Stoney Mountain Road from its junction with the A24 Eairy/Foxdale Road to a point at map reference 288776	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes	No
TT Access Road (Weight Restriction) Order 1988	TT Access Road between its junction with A5 Douglas/Spring Valley Road near the Quarterbridge and a point 180 metres north of Braddan Bridge	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes	No
Corody Road (Lezayre) (Weight Restriction) Order 1990	Corody Road	Laden + unladen of 7 tonnes	No

Order	Road	Weight (not exceeding)	PVS Exempt
Rural roads			
Glen Chass Road (Rushen) (Weight and Size Restriction) Order 1992	Glen Chass Road from its junction with Howe Road to the Port St Mary Village boundary on Fistard Road	Laden + unladen of 12½ tonnes Width 7'6"/2.3 metres (width) 28'0"/8.5 metres (length)	No
Clannagh Road (Lezayre & Jurby) (Weight Restriction) Order 1994	Clanagh Road from its junction with Ramsey to Ballaugh Road at Sulby Crossroads to its junction with the Sandygate/Cronk Road at Sandygate Crossroads	Laden + unladen of 7½ tonnes	No
The Parish of Ballaugh (Various Roads) (Weight Restriction) Order 1995	(i) Ballaugh/Jurby Coast Road from its junction with the Ballacrye Road at The Cronk to its junction with the Kirk Michael/Ramsey Road in Ballaugh Village including its extension to join the Ballacrye Road at Ballaugh Old Church	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes	No
	(ii) The Ballaugh Beach Road	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes	No
	(iii) Dollagh Mooar Road from its junction with the Ballacrye Road to its junction with the Jurby Coast Road	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes	No
	(iv) Ballaterson Road from its junction with the Ballacrye Road to its junction with the Ballaugh/Jurby Coast Road	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes	No
	(v) Bollyn Road, Ballaugh from Orrisdale Loop Road to Ballaugh Cronk Road	Laden + unladen of 3 tonnes	No
B37 Clanna Road (Santon) (Weight Restriction) Order 1996	B37 Clanna Road from its junction with the Douglas to Castletown Road at Newtown to its junction with Glen Vine to Ballasalla Road at Stuggadhoo Crossroads	Laden + unladen of 7½ tonnes	No
C21 Mount Murray Back Road (Santon) (Weight Restriction) Order 1996	C21 Mount Murray Back Road from its junction with the A24 Foxdale to Kewaigue Road to a point 1120 metres north of its junction with the A5 Douglas to Castletown Road	Laden + unladen of 7½ tonnes	No
C32 Glen Vine Road (Marown) (Weight Restriction) Order 2000	C32 Glen Vine Road	7½ tonnes	Yes
A22 Strang Road (Braddan) (Weight Restriction) Order 2003	A22 Strang Road from its junction with the A1 Douglas to Peel Road in Union Mills to its junction with the A23 Braddan Bridge to Crosby Road at Strang Crossroads	Laden + unladen of 3½ tonnes	Yes
The Traffic Regulation (Douglas Head Marine Drive) Order 1965	Douglas Head to Keristal at the junction of the Drive with the road leading from Oakhill to Port Soderick	Unladen of 30 cwts	Only if under 4½ tonnes unladen; and under 2 tonnes unladen if travelling in a northerly direction

Order	Road	Weight (not exceeding)	PVS Exempt
Rural roads			
Rhennass Bridge (German) (Weight Restriction) Order 1999	Rhennass Bridge (the whole of) on the U189 Rhennass Road approx. 890 metres south of its junction with the D19 Little London Road	Laden + unladen of 10 tonnes	No
B32 Lhergy Cripperty Road (Braddan) (Weight Restriction) Order 2001	Lhergy Cripperty Road from its junction with the A1 Douglas to Peel Road to its junction with the A24 Kewagigue to Foxdale Road	7½ tonnes laden	Yes
B19 Dreemskerry Road (Maughold) (Weight Restriction) Order 1999	Dreemskerry Road from its junction with A15 Hibernian to Maughold Road to its junction with the entrance to Dreemskerry Quarry	7½ tonnes laden	Yes
Parish of Arbory (Various Roads) (Weight Restriction) Order 2004	(i) A27 Colby Glen Road from Colby Glen Bridge to Earystane Road junction	7½ tonnes laden	Yes
	(ii) B43 Ballagawne Road for the whole of its length	7½ tonnes laden	Yes
	(iii) B42 Ballabeg to Ronague Road from its junction with the Grenaby Road to Ronague Chapel	7½ tonnes laden	Yes
Parish of German and Patrick (Station Road, St John's) Weight Restriction) Order 2005	Station Road between A1 and junction with Patrick Road (except for access), DoI vehicles, Emergency vehicles, PPV's, Tynwald Day, TT & Grand Prix Races and Practices)	Laden + unladen of 7½ tonnes	Yes
D7 West Craig Loop Road (Andreas) (Weight Restriction) Order 1994	D7 West Craig Loop Road, Andreas (whole length)	Laden + unladen of 2 tonnes	No
Rencell Hill (Laxey) (Weight Restriction) Order 1994	Rencell Hill from its junction with New Road to its junction with Ballacollister Road	Laden + unladen of 7½ tonnes	No

This Information can also be found on www.gov.im and follow these steps-
Home>Travel, Traffic and Motoring> Abnormal loads>Weight limit list>restricted roads

Road Works and Closures

Before and during your visit check the latest information on road closures, diversions, roadworks and forthcoming events by clicking the [Roadwatch link](#) or go to the Isle of Man Government site www.gov.im and follow these steps-
Home>Travel, Traffic and Motoring>Roadwatch

Business directory

As a group organiser, please contact accommodation, attraction/activity and eating out establishments directly before you make any plans and before you travel to check on their individual policies with respect to new and changing procedures in relation to Covid-19.