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For many people, a holiday abroad isn't complete without a hire car to explore their chosen destination. But nobody wants to pay over the odds for a car and end up rapidly bumping up their original holiday budget.

As well as cost it's also important to consider the legal and safety aspects of holiday car rentals. A holiday abroad is about relaxing in the sunshine safe in the knowledge that you got a great deal and are making the most of it.

Nobody wants to end up on the wrong side of the law, especially when it comes to a foreign police force.

To get the best deal on car hire, shop around online and book in advance. Many sites will search out the perfect option for you once you input your requirements.

What to consider before you book your overseas holiday transport:

- How many people does the car need to fit?
- How much luggage will there be?
- What distances and terrain do you intend to put the car through?
- How much extra will it cost for more than one registered driver?
- What are the driving regulations in your holiday destination?

What to take with you when travelling overseas:

- Photo and paper driving licenses for all named drivers
- A valid credit card
- Any documents regarding your booking and payment.

What to consider when you pick your holiday rental car:

- Check the terms and conditions you have been given
- Make a note of contact details incase you have any problems with the car during your holiday
- Record any marks on the car before you leave so you aren't wrongly charged for them when you return the car
- Check whether you are returning the car with the fuel tank full or empty.

As well as saving money, booking holidays in advance will also help ease the process when you

arrive at your holiday destination. Instead of having to traipse to the car rental desks and organise transport on arrival, when you touch down you can simply grab the keys, head to your car, and set off exploring.

By searching out your vehicle options beforehand you can also take the time to research the best insurance options for your party. Don't fall into the trap of paying extortionate excesses that will quickly bump up the price of your supposedly budget holiday. If you leave it too late you'II end up with the only option left, which usually ends up being the most expensive option.

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