

## Registration of cars in Spain

*By Holmes Car Registration Service*

Registering a car in Spain can very easily become a headache. Yet it doesn't have to be if you seek professional help. If you want to use your car in Spain, we recommend that you re-register it, in the long run it is much cheaper and less stressful.

We can manage the registration process from start to finish and guarantee an easy and hassle-free re-registration. With almost 25 years of experience in Spanish car registration, Holmes Car Registration Service can offer fast, easy and professional help for all car and motorcycle related tasks.

Holmes Car Registration Service has six offices and our employees speak 7 different languages and can help you all over Spain.

We have direct contact with the Ministry of Transport (Tráfico) and can therefore make the registration process much shorter than the usual number of weeks (or even months) that it can take to register or re-register a car in Spain.

As a completely new practical option,

Holmes Car Registration Service can now register cars telematically, i.e. without seeing the car. Previously, an appraiser had to check everything. Today it can be done online and by phone. The Ministry of Transport (Tráfico) can find the technical data on all vehicles using the chassis number and certificate. Everything is checked online and the papers are signed electronically.

Re-registering a car is actually quite simple with the right professional help. You must submit a photocopy or scan of your passport and NIE number, as well as the deed, lease or empadronamiento and the original registration certificate.

Holmes Car Registration Service uses a courier service for practical purposes, and the documents are collected from your address. If you prefer, you can still come into one of our offices and make an appointment.

Once we have handled all the practical matters, in a few days they will send the number plates and the new registration certificate to you either in Spain or your home country (again by a courier service) and then you will

be ready to drive. We can also help you contact your insurance company.

Each member of Holmes Car Registration Service team is dedicated to providing a professional and efficient service.

Tim Holm says, "We are focused on coordination and organisation. We can of course be contacted by phone, and we really like personal telephone contact. You can also come in and visit us at one of our offices. However, written correspondence only takes place by e-mail. (No SMS or WhatsApp!) this way we ensure that all employees have access to all related correspondence so that an optimal service can be provided from everyone in our team".

Holmes Car Registration Service has re-registered more than 35,000 cars with Spanish plates and is the largest state-authorised car registration company in Spain. We have more than 20 permanent employees working in conjunction with employees from the state motor office and professional engineers, and we can handle all import and car registration related tasks.

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## Current rules for importing a car

You can drive your car in Spain for 30 days if you are a Spanish resident. If you are not a resident, you can have your car in Spain for six months, after which it must be out of Spain for 12 months before it can re-enter. If you are stopped by the police, you have the obligation to prove that the car has not been in Spain longer than the allowed period of time.

This is in contrast to other EU countries where it is the police who must prove that the car has been in the

country for too long. If you cannot prove that the car has not exceeded the legal period in Spain, it will typically be confiscated by the police.

The fine for not re-registering the car is 2,500 euros + expenses for towing and storage in the police parking facilities.

In addition to these expenses, a registration fee must be paid to have the car released.