

Regarding Driving in Japan with an International Driving Permit

Driving without a valid international driving permit has been occurring frequently.

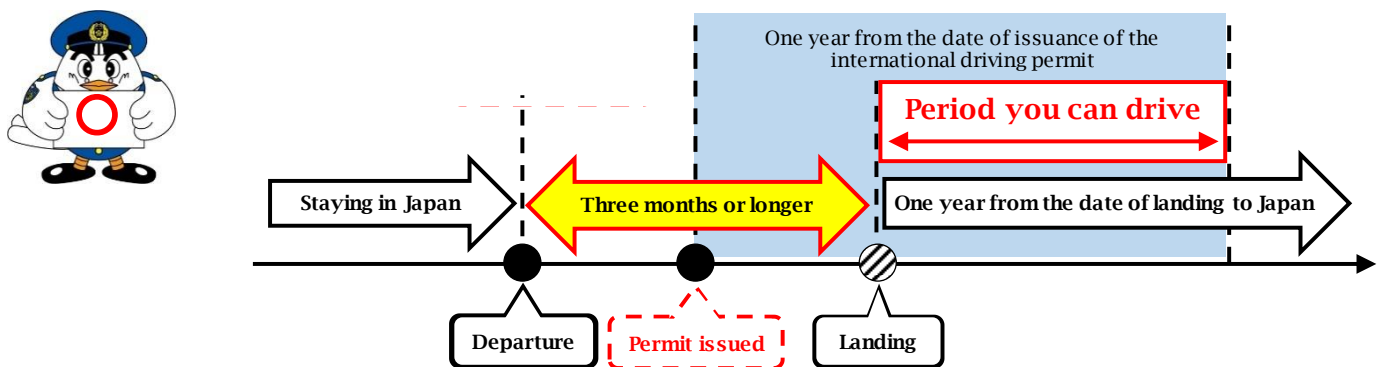
A person driving with an international driving permit in Japan without fulfilling the following conditions will be charged with "driving without a valid driver's license" and which is subject to imprisonment for not more than three years or a fine of not more than 500,000 yen. The same applies to Japanese citizens.

Conditions:

- (1) An international driving permit issued by a contracting state of the Geneva Convention is required in the format as prescribed in its Annex 9 or Annex 10.
- (2) A valid international driving permit is required, which is one year from the date of issuance and also within one year from the date of landing in Japan.
- (3) More than a three-month period from departure to landing in Japan is required. (See below)

Caution: If you are a Japanese national or non-Japanese mid-to long term resident registered in the Basic Resident Register and departed from Japan, obtained an international driving permit overseas, and returned to Japan after staying there for less than three months, your international driving permit that was obtained overseas is not valid in Japan. Since the period you stayed overseas is less than three months, the date of landing is not considered as the starting date of the period you can drive.

■ You can drive with your international driving permit in this case:



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