



# What do I need in order to drive in Japan?

## Notice from Ota Police Station



In order to drive an automobile in Japan, you must possess one of the following types of driver's license below.

1. Japan
2. An international driver's license issued based on the road traffic convention.
3. A driver's license issued from one of the following six countries
  - Swiss Confederation (Switzerland)
  - Republic of Slovenia (Slovenia)
  - Federal Republic of Germany (Germany)
  - Republic of France (France)
  - Kingdom of Belgium (Belgium)
  - Principality of Monaco (Monaco)
  - Taiwan



However, licenses without a Japanese translation (from a certified translator/institution capable of translating legal content) of its content will not be accepted.

※ From December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, individuals who possess an Italian driver's license are unable to drive in Japan. However, it is still possible to drive using an international driver's license issued from Italy.

### Caution!

- Accepted establishments that provide translations for driver's license
- Establishment that issued the driver's license, or the foreign country's embassy / consulate located in Japan.
  - An establishment the Public Safety Commission has recognized and received a notice from the respective foreign country stating that it is capable of translating content into Japanese.
  - Japanese Automobile Federation (JAF)

### Respective driving periods in Japan

1. Japanese driver's license: until the expiration date specified on the license
2. International driver's license: 1 year from the date of arrival in Japan, or the expiration date specified on the license (shorter duration of the two)
3. Foreign driver's license with a Japanese translation attached: 1 year from the date of arrival in Japan, or the expiration date specified on the license (shorter duration of the two)

### Caution points concerning the date of arrival in Japan

Registered residents in Japan that have left and returned to Japan within a 3 month period (to attain a license), their 1 year validity for driving will not reset (arrival date in Japan). In other words, if you received an international license or foreign driver's license with a Japanese translation after returning to Japan within a 3 month period, you cannot drive in Japan (3 months must have passed since your departure from Japan in order for the licenses to be valid and arrival date to reset).



### Contact Information



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List of Designated Police Substations “Kouban” / “Chuzaisho” and Traffic Accidents/Incidents recorded in August 2016  
Information Provided by the Ota Police Station

Kouban/Substation designated to your town “Cho”		List of Incidents				Traffic Accidents		
Name of Police substations	Name of Town (cho)	R	PD	HI	PID	aPD	aID	
Ekimae Kouban	Kanayama; Kumano; Subaru; Nishihon; Hachiman; Hama; Higashihon; Hon	8	2	1	2	31	10	
Higashi nagaoka-cho K	Higashinagaoka; Uekino; Kamikobayashi; Shimokobayashi; Dainogo; Niragawa; Higashikanai; Yabashin-Machi; Yaba; Yasuraoka	20	4	1	0	41	15	
Ota Chuou K.	Arai; Asahi; Iida; Iizuka; Uchigashima; Komaigi; Niijima; Nishiyajima; Higashibessho; Higashiyajima	29	2	0	0	69	21	
Housen Kouban	Okino; Kamitajima; Josai; Shindo; Takara-Machi; Nakane; Nishishin-Machi; Nishinoya; Fujiyama; Fujikura; Bessho; Yura; Wakiya	12	0	2	0	29	14	
Takahayashi Kouban	Iwasegawa; Ushizawa; Shimohamada; Shoya; Suehiro; Takahayashi-Higashi; Takahayashi-Nishi; Takahayashi-Minami; Takahayashi-Kita; Takahayashi-Kotobuki; Tomizawa; Fukuzawa; Furuto; Hosoya; Minamiyajima; Yonezawa	5	1	2	0	55	14	
Ojima Kouban	Akutsu; Anyouji; Izumi; Idezuka; Iwamatsu; Otachi; Oshikiri; Ojima; Kasukawa; Kameoka; Kozumida; Shimotajima; Suzukake; Tokugawa; Bizenjima; Futatsugoya; Horiguchi; Maegoya; Maejima; Minamigaoka; Musashijima; Serada; Taishi	5	2	1	0	32	7	
Nitta Kouban	Nitta (Akahori; Ichi; Ichinoi; Ichinokura; O; One; Kane; Kamieda; Kaminaka; Kamidanaka; Kanai; Kizaki; Koganai; Kokin; GonEmon; Shimoeda; Shimodanaka; Sorimachi; Takao; Tamurashinden; Tameike; Tenra; Nakaeda; Hagi; Hanakazuka; Hayakawa; Mizuki; Murata)	10	1	0	0	48	15	
Yabuzukahonmachi K.	Obara; Okubo; Yabuzuka; Yamanokami; Yoriai; Rokusengoku	3	0	0	0	20	7	
Toriyama Substation	Oshima; Tsuruuda; Toriyama-Kami; Toriyama-Naka; Toriyama-Shimo; Toriyama; Nagate; Niino	2	1	0	0	16	4	
Ryumai Substation	Okinogo; Motegi; Yaegasa; Ryumai	10	0	1	0	21	3	
Godo Substation	Ishibashi; Owashi; Kamigodo; Kitakanai; Godo; Sugashio; Terai; Tenra; Narizuka; Nishinagaoka	3	0	0	1	14	2	
Tadakari Substation	Ichiba; Takaze; Tadakari; Tomiwaka; Higashishin-Machi	6	0	0	0	20	6	
Maruyama SS.	Kiyohara; Harajuku; Higashiimaizumi; Maruyama; Midori; Yatabori; Yoshizawa	0	0	0	0	14	3	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>121</b>

R- robbery / PD- property damage / HI- home intrusion (trespassing) / PID- public indecency aPD- accidents resulting in property damage / aID- accidents resulting in injury or death / K- kouban / SS- substation