



CONDITIONS OF PRIVATE HIRE

These conditions apply to the private hire of transport, not operating as a package, as defined by the package travel, package holidays and package tour regulations 1992.

1. Application

These conditions apply whether a contract has been made verbally or in writing.

The hirer acts on behalf of all the passengers traveling on the vehicles. If the hirer is a company, group, or partnership, an individual must be named as a responsible person. The hirer is responsible for the actions and decisions of all the passengers on board including any additional costs incurred in performing the contract, whether or not they actually travel with the party.

If the hirer is not going to travel with the party, a representative must be chosen, and the company informed prior to the hire taking place. The company will only accept instructions from the hirer or their nominated representative.

Where a copy of these conditions has been given to the hirer at any time, or the hirer has been advised verbally of all significant terms, making a booking will be deemed to signify acceptance of them. Where a hirer makes a booking before receiving these conditions and without being advised verbally of all significant terms, the hirer may cancel the contract without liability to the operator within 48 hours of receiving these conditions. Otherwise, the hirer will be deemed to accept these conditions.

2. Quotations

Quotations are given on the basis of the most direct route and on information provided by the hirer. The route used will be at the discretion of the company unless it has been particularly specified by the hirer in which case it will be clearly shown on the confirmation.

All quotations are given subject to the company having available a suitable vehicle at the time the hirer accepts the quotation. Quotations are valid for 28 days unless otherwise notified.

Unless otherwise stated, accommodation, meals, admission charges, ferry crossings and Eurotunnel charges are not included in the price and the hirer agrees to pay such charges.

3. Use of the Vehicle

The hirer cannot assume the use of the vehicle between outward and return journeys, nor that it will remain at the destination for the hirer's use unless this has been agreed with the company in advance.

4. Route and Time Variation

The company reserves the right to levy additional charges for additional mileage or time to that agreed. The charges will be on a pro-rata basis and will be charged at the same rate as the original booking.

5. Drivers' Hours

The hours of operation for the driver are regulated by law, and the hirer accepts the responsibility of ensuring the hire keeps to the hours and times agreed by the Company. Neither the hirer nor any passenger shall delay or otherwise interrupt the journey in such a way that the driver is at risk of breaching regulations relating to driving hours and duty time. If any breach is likely to occur, the hirer will be responsible for any additional costs incurred unless it is outside the control of the hirer. The calculation of any additional costs will be as in condition 4.

6. Seating Capacity

The company will, at the time of booking, agree and specify the legal seating capacity of the vehicle to be supplied. The hirer must not load the vehicle beyond this capacity.

7. Conveyance of Animals

On a private hire, no animals (other than guide dogs and hearing dogs notified to the company in advance) may be carried on any vehicle without prior written agreement from the company.

8. Confirmation

Normally, written confirmation by the company is the only basis for the acceptance of a hiring or for a subsequent alteration to its terms. **The hirer is required to check their confirmation carefully on receipt and notify the company immediately if any of the details are incorrect.** Requests to alter a booking must be made in writing by the hirer or their nominated representative and should only be considered as accepted on receipt of a revised confirmation.

9. Payment

Account customers are required to pay any deposit requested by the date stated, and payment in full must be made within 30 days of the hire unless otherwise agreed by the company. Non-account customers are required to pay a 10% deposit to secure the booking and settle the remaining balance in full no later than 48 hours prior to the hire.

10. Cancellation by Hirer

If the hirer wishes to cancel any agreement, the company reserves the right to apply a cancellation charge against the hirer. The following scale of charges will apply in relation to the total hire charge.

28 days or more	Nil
14 - 27 days	10%
7 - 13 days	20%
1 - 6 days	30%
Day of hire	50%

The cost of accommodation, meals, parking, admission charges, ferry crossings and Eurotunnel charges or any other ancillary services which have already been purchased by the company at the request of the hirer, will be charged to the hirer at the rates stated in the cancellation policy of the suppliers used to provide such ancillary services.

Under certain circumstances, the company may agree to waive the above cancellation charges if the hirer is forced to cancel the hire due to inclement weather conditions.

11. Cancellation by the company

In the event of any emergency, riot, civil commotion, strike, lock out, stoppage or restraint of labour or on the happening of any event over which the company has no control (including adverse weather and road conditions) or in the event of the hirer taking any action to vary agreed conditions unilaterally, the company may, by returning all money paid and without further or other liability, cancel the contract.

12. Vehicle to be Provided

The company reserves the right to provide a larger vehicle than that specified at no additional charge unless any extra seats are used in which case an additional pro rata charge will be made to the hire charge.

The company reserves the right to substitute another vehicle (including those of other operators) or ancillary facilities for all or part of the hiring subject to such substitutes being of at least equivalent quality.

Equipment within the coaches (including such items as video players, toilet facilities and beverage facilities), is provided at the discretion of the company unless the quotation specifies that any such facility will be made available. Whilst every endeavour will be made to comply with the hirer's requests, the company cannot guarantee to meet such request.

13. Breakdown and Delays

The company gives its advice on journey time in good faith. However, as a result of breakdown or traffic congestion, or other events beyond the reasonable control of the company, journeys may take longer than predicted and in those circumstances the company will not be liable for any loss or inconvenience suffered by the hirer as a result.

14. Agency Arrangements

Where the company arranges ancillary facilities such as meals, accommodation, ferries, admission tickets or any other services provided by another supplier, it does so as agent for and on behalf of the hirer. Any terms and conditions imposed by such other suppliers through the company shall, insofar as they are supplied to the hirer, be binding on the hirer as if he had directly contracted such services and the hirer shall indemnify the company against any loss, claim, damage or award in respect of a breach of such supplier's terms and conditions brought about by the hirer's action.

15. Food and Alcoholic Drinks

Other than on a vehicle fitted expressly for that purpose, no hot food or alcoholic beverages may be consumed on the vehicle without prior consent from the company.

16. Package Travel Regulations

If the hirer organises other elements of a package in addition to the provision of transport, the hirer may be defined as an 'organiser' or a 'retailer' for the purposes of the Package Travel, Package Holidays, and Package Tours Regulations 1992 and as such may be required to comply with the provisions of those Regulations.

In this instance, the company cannot accept any liability that may be incurred for losses or damage that it would otherwise accept under the terms of those Regulations.

The hirer accepts responsibility for establishing whether they are so defined, and the company cannot accept liability for loss or damage incurred that should have been the responsibility of the hirer if the hirer was the legally defined organiser or retailer.

Where the company agrees to act as an organiser or retailer, it will issue separate conditions of trading relating to its liabilities and responsibilities under the Regulations.

17. Passengers' Property

All vehicles hired by the company are subject to restrictions on carrying luggage for statutory safety reasons. The hirer accepts that the driver shall be the sole judge as to whether and to what extent passengers' property is carried. Large bulky items may not be able to be carried, and the hirer should take all steps to notify the company in advance of such requirements.

The company accepts any personal property of the hirer and their passengers on the understanding that it will take all reasonable steps to avoid loss or damage. The hirer should notify the company or the driver if items of exceptional value are to be carried on the vehicle. It is the hirer's responsibility to minimise risk of loss when property is left unattended.

The company's liability for loss or damage, however caused shall be limited to £100 per bag or suitcase to a maximum claim of £200 per person. It is the hirer's responsibility to ensure that any items over this value are insured separately for loss and damage.

All articles of lost property recovered from the vehicle will be held at the company's premises where the vehicle is based and will be subject to the current Public Service Vehicle (Lost Property) regulations.

18. Conduct of Passengers

The driver is responsible for the safety of the vehicle at all times, and as such may remove any passenger whose behaviour prejudices safety or is in breach of the Public Service Vehicle (Conduct of Drivers, Inspectors, Conductors and Passengers) Regulations 1990. These regulations set out certain rights and responsibilities on all parties, and full details of these can be obtained from the company on request. The hirer is responsible for any damage caused to the vehicle by any passenger for the duration of the hire.

Where the hire is to a sporting event, the hirer should be aware of the legal requirements relating to alcohol, contained in the Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol) Act 1985, (as amended) and the conditions of entry to race courses as laid down by the Race Course Association Ltd. The company will provide details of these restrictions on request.

19. Good Behaviour Bond

The company reserves the right to request a bond for evening work in respect of any additional cleaning required, or damage caused to the vehicle as a result of bad behaviour or excessive drinking. The bond is payable by the hirer in advance and will be refunded after the hire if all is well.

20. Complaints

In the event of complaint about the company's services, the hirer should endeavour to seek a solution at the time by seeking assistance from the driver or from the company. If this has not provided a remedy, complaints should be submitted in writing and within 14 days of the termination date of the hire. The company will acknowledge all complaints within 14 days and will normally reply fully within 28 days.

21. Notices

No bill, poster or notice is to be displayed on any vehicle without the written consent of the company.

22. Surcharges

Once a confirmation has been issued to the hirer, providing there are 90 days prior to the departure date, the company reserves the right to pass on increases in the cost of fuel, taxes imposed by the Governments of the UK and of other countries to be visited during the journey, road tolls, and foreign currency. No surcharges will be levied within 90 days of departure. On notification of such surcharges, the hirer may cancel the booking subject to the scale of cancellation charges shown in paragraph 10. The liability of the company will be limited to the cost of the hire and any ancillary services supplied.