

International Driving Permit

22nd December 2019

- An International Driving Permit (IDP) is often mistakenly called an International Driving Licence (IDL).
- It is a legal document approved by International Treaty.
- It is not a driving licence and does not give any authority to drive.
- It is merely a translation of your National Driving Licence (NDL).
- It has no validity unless it is partnered with a valid NDL (the temporary driving permit issued in PT when you exchange your licence is not a NDL).
- It is valid for the duration shown on it, OR the expiry date of your NDL if that is earlier.
- They can only be issued by officially recognised bodies, usually a national licensing authority or an approved motoring club (IMT or ACP in Portugal).
- The approved body is only authorised to issue them to a resident of the country of issues.
- There are numerous websites online offering to sell you an International Driving Licence.
- If such site is not an approved issuer **DO NOT** use them; they are a scam.
- If you do use them the amount of personal information you supply puts you at risk of identity theft.
- Producing any document purporting to be an IDP (or an IDL) that has not been issued by the approved body, in the approved format, leaves you open to a criminal charge of using false documentation.