Toll Roads, Road Tolls & Via Verde Machines

By & copyright of Steve Robinson 5th December 2022

Portugal (and beyond) has a very comprehensive toll road network & these roads are generally in very good condition, have extremely light traffic volume (once out of the big cities) & although some people complain about the costs, they seem more than reasonable to me as long as you pay on time but if you don't, then costs can quickly escalate & the longer you leave them unpaid, the more those costs increase so be very sure to pay on time & there are various options to do that.

Most if not all of these toll roads have lanes that allow Via Verde 'transponder' equipped vehicles to pass straight through & some have cash & (sometimes) card payment (some manned & some auto) booths whilst others have only number plate recognition & Via Verde 'pass through' lanes that require you to pass through the appropriate option & if you pass through the wrong one then the number plate recognition catches you anyway.

If you have a foreign registered vehicle, then the easiest way to handle the tolls on the SCUT tolls (that is the ones with number plate recognition only) then you simply take the first exit after entering Portugal & register your number plate to a debit or credit card at the nearest machine & the tolls will be deducted automatically & another option is to go to the site below & simply buy yourself a toll card.

http://www.tollcard.pt/fetcwcm/wcmservlet/en/comprar/comprar-online.html j

Vehicles without Via Verde 'transponders' on number plate recognition toll roads have the option of either paying the tolls at the post office or online via the CTT website at www.ctt.pt & the current active link to check tolls & make payment is on the link below but note that you can only check/pay 2/3 days after you have used the toll road (depending on weekends etc) & it only stays on that site for a relatively short time so if you miss that time window, you'll probably have to wait for postal notification which will have a fine added to the toll.

Your other option is to get a Via Verde 'transponder' which you stick in your windscreen & you need to place it exactly in the spot indicated in the instructions & also check it's battery from time to time.

You can get the Via Verde 'transponder' either from the Post Office or order it online from the Via Verde site below & there are various options to choose from that mostly depend on what you think your usage will be & all options are on the website.

It should also be noted that by having a Via Verde 'transponder' you get several other benefits as well & all of those are also on the website.

Oh & in case you're wondering how different cars are classified for Class 1 or 2 etc. It's not by weight or size of vehicle or even engine size or emissions as you would expect but rather by an 'unusual' method of measuring from the ground to the height of top of bonnet in line with the centre of the hub of the front wheel & I have absolutely no idea why they decided on that method! Lol!

://www.ctt.pt/fepme/app/open/payment-

<u>reference/request.jspx?fbclid=IwAR3fVEQL71gRi3UfdnpirPJgoGHE9jt63E1WI2Je-5fiusB9USdKerpWeH4</u>

https://www.viaverde.pt/particulares/outros/adesao?s=identificador&gclid=Cj0KCQjwlN32BRCCARIsADZ-J4tOa32ojeBvR8UppMfNNOQuu5TASXyzbmxTK2M3IdIlpsJ5-8v-JX0aAnbmEALw wcB

https://www.pagamentodeportagens.pt/PPPHome.aspx?fbclid=IwAR0PeFSque8kOTZu7xhDE9Fi83OdfDW-OzVBxnrvdfbaDhb0sLRuy28oO90