

# Follow the Rules for Safe Driving in Japan

## ① Do not drive without a license.

★ You must have one of the following licenses to drive in Japan:

- A Japanese driver's license
- An Permit (IDP) (\*1) governed by the Geneva Convention International Driving
- For drivers from the U.S., Italy, U.K., Canada, South Korea, Thailand, Philippines, etc.
- A driver's license issued in Switzerland, Germany, France, Belgium, Monaco, or Taiwan(\*1) with a Japanese translation attached (\*2)

★ Heavy penalties apply to those who drive without a valid license. The same applies to those who knowingly provide a vehicle to an unlicensed driver, as well as to any passengers in the vehicle.

\*1 You may drive in Japan for up to one year from your date of arrival in Japan or until your license expires, whichever is sooner (IDPs are valid for one year from the issue date).

\*2 The Japanese translation must be prepared by the consulate of the country that issued the driver's license, or by an entity designated by Japan's National Public Safety Commission.

A Japanese driver's license



IDP governed by the Geneva Convention



## ② Do not drive under the influence of alcohol.

★ If you drink, do not drive. In addition to heavy penalties, drunken drivers face strict administrative consequences, such as having their driver's license revoked.

★ Do not provide a vehicle to anyone at risk of driving under the influence. Do not ask or request to ride in a vehicle operated by someone who has been drinking. People who violate these rules also face heavy penalties.



Driving while hungover is also illegal!

## ③ Always report traffic accidents to the police.

★ When a traffic accident occurs, always report it to the police (dial 110), even if there are no injuries.

If someone has been injured, you should provide first aid to the injured, call an ambulance (119), and notify the police (110).

★ In addition to heavy penalties, you will face strict administrative consequences such as having your driver's license revoked, if you fail to respond to a traffic accident by providing aid to the injured or notifying the police.



## ④ Pay attention at intersections.

★ At intersections, remember: (1) Always yield to pedestrians; (2) When making a right turn, yield to vehicles proceeding straight or making a left turn.

★ You must come to a full stop when pedestrians are crossing the road or are about to cross the road.



## ⑤ Properly understand the meaning of traffic signals and signs.

Traffic rules and signs in Japan differ from those in your home country.



★ You must stop at a red light. You cannot go straight or make a right or left turn.

If there is a green-light arrow, you may proceed in the direction indicated by the arrow.



Stop signs

★ In places with this sign, you must come to a full stop and check the left and right sides to ensure it is safe to proceed.