

PRESS RELEASE

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Where can I drive in Europe?

A single source of information about Low Emission Zones in Europe

Well over 70 cities and towns in 8 countries around Europe have, or are preparing, “Low Emission Zones”, or “Environment Zones” to help meet the health-based air quality standards¹. These include cities such as London (UK), Berlin (Germany), Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Utrecht (Netherlands).

Low Emission Zones (LEZs) are areas where the most polluting vehicles are regulated. This means that vehicles may be banned or in some cases charged if they enter the LEZ when their emissions are over a set level. They are also known as Environment Zones, Umweltzonen (Germany), Milieuzones (Netherlands), Lavutslippssone (Norway), Miljozone (Denmark), Miljözon (Sweden). For more information see www.lowemissionzones.eu.

Where are these zones? What kind of vehicle can drive into them? What emissions standard is my vehicle? Do I have to register before I drive in? What particulate trap can I fit to my vehicle so that I can drive in? The answers to these questions can be found on www.lowemissionzones.eu, the user-friendly one-stop-shop for Low Emission Zones in Europe. The homepage gives a map with all the Low Emission Zones marked on, and further information on each city can be found with either one or two clicks from the homepage.

The website contains lots of other information that will help drivers and vehicle operators to understand Low Emission Zones, such as that on vehicle emissions standards, air quality targets, the impact of Low Emission Zones on air quality. The website is currently in English, although the maps and emissions standards are easily accessible for all.

The website is run on behalf of a Network of LEZ cities and ministries who want to ensure that drivers can find the information they need on LEZs as easily as possible. This is a regularly updated, publicly funded website, with no cost to users or advertisements.

Editors Notes

¹ Air pollution kills. The human health damage that air pollution causes is estimated to cost the European economy between €427 and €790 billion per year. The European Union has set health-based air quality targets, which are not expected to be met in many parts of the EU. Low Emission Zones are one of the ways that can help these standards can be met.

² Most LEZs also have their own information campaigns, this website helps support this, providing transport operators a single ‘one-stop’ source of Europe-wide information on Low Emission Zones.