THE LOW EMISSION ZONE IN PRACTICE

In January 2018, the Brussels-Capital Region became a Low Emission Zone. Does this affect you?
WHAT IS THE LOW EMISSION ZONE?
A low emission zone is a zone within which certain vehicles can only travel if they comply with specific environmental criteria. These zones are also referred to by the abbreviation “LEZ”. The Brussels LEZ is in operation 24/7. In the same way as in other European towns, the access criteria are based on the vehicle’s fuel and Euro standard.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE LEZ?
Certain pollutants from vehicle traffic can have a negative effect on our health, including increased respiratory disorders and conditions, bronchitis, asthma, etc. By progressively banning the most polluting vehicles from entering the Brussels Region, we are reducing emissions of the pollutants which are most damaging for our health (fine particles, nitrogen oxides, etc.) and helping to improve air quality for the benefit of everyone.

WHAT IS THE AREA AFFECTED BY THE LEZ?
The LEZ covers the whole of the Brussels-Capital Region. This means that all 19 communities in the Region are affected. The Ring is not affected by the LEZ, nor certain routes providing access to the 3 park and ride facilities (CERIA, Kraainem and Stalle) where you can leave your vehicle and continue into Brussels using the alternative transport available.

HOW DO I RECOGNIZE THE LEZ?
All the low emission zone entries and exits are identified by road signs. Approximately 300 signs have been installed along the boundaries of the Region.

HOW ARE THE CHECKS CARRIED OUT?
Checks are based on the vehicle licence plate, using cameras with automatic number plate recognition. Then the access criteria of each vehicle are checked, in particular with the Vehicle Registration Department (DIV) data base. A network of almost 300 cameras has been set up throughout the Region and along its boundaries.

ANY QUESTIONS?
www.lez.brussels · 02 775 75 75 · info@lez.brussels
HOW DO I FIND OUT WHAT MY EURO STANDARD IS?
The Euro standard is a European environmental standard which vehicle engines must comply with. A vehicle’s Euro standard determines, according to the fuel it uses, whether or not it is allowed to access the low emission zone (LEZ).

The Euro standard of every vehicle is shown on the vehicle’s registration document. This document also contains other information, such as the category of vehicle, the fuel it uses, and its first registration date.

Use the simulator available at www.lez.brussels which, based on the licence plate of your vehicle, allows you to find out its EURO standard and the date until which the vehicle will be able to circulate within the low emission zone.

If the Euro standard is not shown on the vehicle’s registration document, the first registration date will be taken into account. This is also shown on your vehicle’s registration document.

WHAT DO I DO IF THE INFORMATION REGARDING MY VEHICLE IS INCORRECT?
An administrative exemption can be applied for, which will allow the incorrect data to be corrected. In fact, if the EEC certificate of compliance - or any other document approved by a public body - shows a different Euro standard, category or fuel type from that shown in the DIV and/or LEZ database, the vehicle owner can have the Euro standard, category or fuel type amended in the LEZ database.

WHICH VEHICLES ARE AFFECTED?
The following vehicles are affected (whether they are registered in Belgium or abroad):

- Passenger cars
- Light commercial vehicles and vans ≤ 3.5 tonnes (vehicle category shown as N1 on registration document)
- Buses, minibuses, and coaches

These vehicles may travel inside the low emission zone depending on their Euro standard or fuel. The conditions for access to the low emission zone will be applied progressively on scheduled dates up to 2025.

WHICH VEHICLES ARE NOT AFFECTED?
Some vehicles are not affected by this measure. These are mopeds, lorries over 3.5 t, vehicles with a 100% electric or hydrogen propulsion, tractors, etc. No actions are required for any of these vehicles. As they are not affected, they are automatically exempted.

Some of the vehicles which are affected, however, may benefit from exemptions subject to certain conditions (see page 5 or www.lez.brussels).

ANY QUESTIONS?
www.lez.brussels · 02 775 75 75 · info@lez.brussels
Depending on the vehicle’s Euro standard and the type of fuel it uses, it can be driven in the low emission zone. The procedures for accessing the low emission zone are progressive and set in a schedule up to 2025.

### DIESEL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>EURO 6, 6b, 6d, temp / VI</th>
<th>EURO 5, 5a, 5b / V or EEV</th>
<th>EURO 4 / IV</th>
<th>EURO 3 / III</th>
<th>EURO 2 / II</th>
<th>EURO 1 / I</th>
<th>No EURO standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* A maximum of 8 days’ per year and per vehicle is possible by purchasing a paid-for day pass.

### PETROL/LPG/CNG

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>EURO 6, 6b, 6d, temp / VI</th>
<th>EURO 5, 5a, 5b / V or EEV</th>
<th>EURO 4 / IV</th>
<th>EURO 3 / III</th>
<th>EURO 2 / II</th>
<th>EURO 1 / I</th>
<th>No EURO standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>No access*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* A maximum of 8 days’ per year and per vehicle is possible by purchasing a paid-for day pass.
CAN I BENEFIT FROM AN EXEMPTION?
Some vehicles may benefit from exemptions to enable them to travel inside the low emission zone.

The exemptions will be generated automatically for vehicles whose data we hold via the DIV. This means that no formalities are required for the following vehicles:

- Vehicles registered in Belgium as “classic / old-timers” which have Belgian “O” licence plates (“1-O” or a customised numberplate) **AND** are more than 30 years old;
- Emergency vehicles (police cars, ambulances, etc.);
- Vehicles belonging to the armed forces.

An exemption can be obtained free of charge for other specific vehicles. This is available subject to certain conditions and only for:

- Vehicles which have been adapted for the disabled, on condition that the owner of the licence plate or a person living at the same address has a special disabled parking permit. The vehicle must have been registered before the new access criteria came into force;
- Vehicles equipped with wheelchair lifts;
- Vehicles more than 30 years old (considered to be “oldtimers”) which are registered abroad;
- Vehicles more than 30 years old used for commercial purposes. These include, for example, rental cars used for weddings or other events;
- Vehicles especially adapted for markets, fairs, parades, and mobile shops;
- Caravans (mobile homes);
- Vehicles especially equipped for the maintenance and inspection of public installations and infrastructures.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR AN EXEMPTION?
You can apply for free for an exemption on line at www.lez.brussels. Supporting evidence must be supplied for all applications (scan or photo of registration document, etc.). **NB:** to make an application regarding a vehicle registered in Belgium, you will need an identity card reader and the PIN of your identity card.

ANY QUESTIONS?
www.lez.brussels · 02 775 75 75 · info@lez.brussels
MY VEHICLE IS REGISTERED ABROAD - DOES THIS APPLY TO ME?
YES! In order to be able to travel inside the LEZ, vehicles registered abroad must comply with the access criteria AND register in advance. Registration is free of charge via the website www.lez.brussels. Vehicles registered abroad which travel inside the LEZ without being registered in advance will be fined €150.

HOW CAN I BUY A DAY PASS TO ACCESS THE LEZ?
In the case of vehicles which do not meet the criteria for accessing the low emission zone, a day pass can be purchased, with a limit of 8 days per year, per vehicle. The pass costs €35 per day. It must be purchased before entering the LEZ, via the website www.lez.brussels (on-line payment).

HOW MUCH IS THE FINE?
Failure to comply with the criteria for access to the Brussels low emission zone is subject to a fine of €350. However, to allow sufficient time to adapt, a second fine can only be sent 3 months after the previous one.

To find out more about the details on the vehicles affected and the conditions required for the exemptions and to submit your application, as well as to register your vehicle registered abroad, go to www.lez.brussels
WHAT ARE THE ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF TRANSPORT AVAILABLE IN BRUSSELS?

There are many ways of getting into Brussels and moving about there - on foot, by bicycle and bike-share (Villo, Bluebike, etc), by public transport (SNCB, STIB, TEC, De Lijn), in shared cars or taxis and carpools!

To help you move over to these alternatives, if you live in the Brussels Capital Region you can benefit from the Bruxell’air grant. Some grants are also available for professionals.

You can find all the information on these grants at www.lez.brussels.

The implementation of LEZ is a project involving the collaboration of several government bodies, in particular: Bruxelles Environnement, Bruxelles Fiscalité, le Centre d’Informatique pour la Région Bruxelloise, Bruxelles Prévention Sécurité, and Bruxelles Mobilité.