


Driving in Japan



Introduction

- Hello's 
- A word about Q & A
- Methods of transportation in Japan
- Situations define need

What will you learn today?



- Licensing
- Laws & Safety
- Non- car options
- Car options
- Accidents
- General driving tips
- Q & A

Laws & Safety

Drinking & Driving

– ZERO Tolerance

- Cars, motorcycles, scooters, & bikes
- Police roadside checks (kenmon)
 - Mini breathalyzers
- Fines/ Consequences
- Daiko/Taxis



DON'T DO IT !!

Laws & Safety con't

General Laws

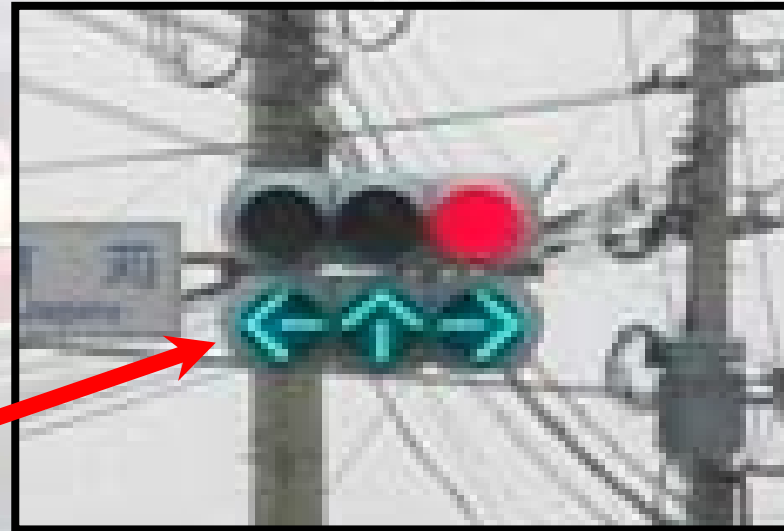
- Speeding
- Tailgating
- Tollways
- Seatbelts
- R/R crossings
 - Cell phones
- Green/Yellow or Orange/Yellow stickers
 - Point system



Laws & Safety con't

- **Lights & Turning**

- No turns on red
- Bike dangers
- People in crosswalks
- Traffic Lights
 - Flashing lights
 - Changing lights
 - Insane lights



Laws & Safety con't

- **Road signs**
 - Consult JET Diary
- **Construction timers**
- **Mirrors are your best friend**



Non-Car Options

- **Motorbike/Motorcycle**

- Costs: Free ~ ¥300,000
- License (3 types)
- Engine size determines fees/costs
- Under 250cc illegal on expressway
- Insurance
- Over 400cc need Shaken
- No parking fees

- **Motorbike Rules**

- Helmet
- Signs
- Engine size & roads



Non-Car Options con't



- **Scooter**

- Cost: Free ~ ¥80,000
- Illegal on expressway
- Licensing
- Insurance
- No parking fees

- **Scooter Rules**

- Helmet
- Roads

Non-Car Options con't

- **Bicycles**

- Costs “real bike”
 - Free ~ ¥90,000
- Costs “mamachari”
 - Free ~ ¥30,000
- Registration
- Parking
- Bike locks

- **Bicycle Rules**

- Helmet
- Light
- Bell



Car Options: Renting

- Costs
- What's included
- Limitations



Car Options: Buying

- Initial costs
- New vs. used
- White vs. yellow
- Taxes & registration fees
- Insurance & inspection (shaken)
 - Other costs



Initial Costs: White Plate

Cost of used car	¥200,000 – ¥300,000
Cost of new car	¥1,000,000 and up
Automobile Acquisition Tax	5% of the price of the car
Automobile Tonnage Tax (based on weight)	¥50,000 – 75,000
Change of Ownership	¥10,000 - ¥25,000
Car Inspection (<i>jidōsha kensa</i> or <i>shaken</i>) - typically once every 2 years	¥70,000 and up
Older-Than-10-Year-Inspection- If your car is older than 10 years, then you need a mini- <i>shaken</i> a year after you get <i>shaken</i> .)	(from ¥10,000 up to half the price of your <i>shaken</i>)
Compulsory Third Party Insurance(<i>jidōsha songai baishō sekinin</i>)	(included with <i>shaken</i>)
Mandatory Liability Insurance (per year)	¥30,000
Optional Insurance (per year)(<i>jidōsha ninni hoken</i>) (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)	¥30,000 – 60,000
Automobile Tax (per year depending on size)- usually paid in May	¥35,000 – 45,000
Approximate average 1st year expenses:	¥697,600

Initial Costs: Yellow Plate

Cost of used car	¥110,000 – ¥220,000
Cost of new car	under ¥1,000,000
Automobile Acquisition Tax	5% of the price of the car
Automobile Tonnage Tax (based on weight)	under ¥50,000
Change of Ownership	¥3,000
Car Inspection (<i>jidōsha kensa</i> or <i>shaken</i>) - typically once every 2 years	¥30,000 - ¥90,000
Older-Than-10-Year-Inspection- If your car is older than 10 years, then you need a mini- <i>shaken</i> a year after you get <i>shaken</i> .)	(from ¥10,000 up to half the price of your <i>shaken</i>)
Compulsory Third Party Insurance(<i>jidōsha songai baishō sekinin</i>)	(included with <i>shaken</i>)
Mandatory Liability Insurance (per year)	¥20,000
Optional Insurance (per year)(<i>jidōsha ninni hoken</i>) (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)	¥12,000 – 18,000
Automobile Tax (per year depending on size)- usually paid in May	¥5,000 – 20,000
Approximate average 1st year expenses:	¥388,500

Other Costs

- Petrol/Gas
- Parking spaces
- Snow tires
- Tollways (white vs. yellow)
- Maintenance
- Japan Auto Federation
- Disposal



Breakdowns



- **What to do?**
 - Remain calm
 - Move car if possible
 - Call for help
 - Numbers to have
 - Paperwork to have
 - Make friends with local dealership (omiyage)

Accidents

- **What to do?**
 - Stay calm!
 - Paperwork
 - Alien card, Shaken, IDL, medical insurance card
 - Numbers
 - Police/ambulance
 - Supervisor
 - % of blame
 - Hierarchy of blame



Driving Tips: Etiquette



- **Parking**
 - Costs
 - Limited spaces
 - Backing in
- **“Thank you”**
 - Wave
 - Nod
 - Hazard Lights
 - Quick “beep”
- **Turn lights off when stopped at light**

Driving Tips: Hazards



- Weather
 - Snow
 - Typhoons
 - Wet weather
- Bikes, old people, little white trucks
- Taxis
- Roadside ditches
- Roadwork
- Street lights
- Tight places

Further Information

- JET Handbook
- AJET Peer Support Group
- AJET Website
- Prefecture Website
- Prefectural Advisors
- Predecessor
- Current JET's
- Supervisor
- JET Diary
- The handout to this presentation





Q & A

