

CHECKLIST:

For a european motorbike journey

For motorcyclists, the lure of the continent is especially strong: long bike rides through the spellbinding Tuscan countryside; thrilling jaunts down the unrestricted sections of the German autobahn; leisurely stays at picturesque French campsites.

But if you've never embarked on a continental bike ride, there's a few preparations you should make first...

Choose your bike

For those with the funds, it might be tempting to upgrade to a new bike before a European tour, but you may well find you're better off with your familiar bike. When you return home you can decide if you need to invest in a new pair of wheels for your next overseas jaunt.

Prepare your bike

- Restrict your **dip beam** to avoid dazzling other road users
- Apply a **UK sticker** (Previously GB) and avoid a fine
- Important documents**
- Spares, equipment and tools**
- Luggage**
Wide variety of cases and roll-bags to consider for your trip.
- Bungees**
To keep everything tied down.
- Rucksack for essentials**
- Maps**
- European **breakdown cover**