

ONE WAY CAR RENTALS IN EUROPE

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Always a Smooth Rental Experience

Everything you need to know
about finding, booking and
driving a one way car rental
in Europe



One Way Car Rentals in Europe

A Consumer's Guide

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Everything you need to know about one way car rental fees in Europe

Auto Europe

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One Way Fees in Europe

Mr. Smith has never rented a car in Europe before, but he approaches the rental desk in Marseille, France with unwavering confidence, reservation voucher in hand and ID at the ready. Having rented many cars in the US before, he knows it's important to have a valid driver's license and credit card at the ready to pick up any rental. Credentials are validated and papers are exchanged, thereby verifying his pre-paid rental from Marseille to Genoa, just a few hours' drive away in Italy. All seems to be going smoothly until one line on the final bill stands out like a broken windshield on a brand new Ferrari:

"International One Way Fee: €800.00"



Navigating the One Way Fee Like a Pro

Disbelief is a common reaction among travelers when international one way fees come to light for car rentals in Europe; after all, Europe is a continent known for its ease of travel, right? It's easy to see why many Americans wouldn't expect high one way fees among countries in Europe, with short driving distances between nations and relatively easy border crossings. But the unfortunate reality is that, for car rental companies, international travel is still, well ... international travel!

One way fees are simply part of the game when it comes to crossing borders with your rental car in Europe but understanding the ins and outs of

additional fees can help you navigate your way to finding the perfect deal for your travel plans!

The best way to find answers is to call one of

our European travel experts (available

anytime, 24/7 and toll-free at **1-888-**

223-5555) but you can find some

quick information from the

questions below.



One Way Fee FAQs

- **What is a “one way fee”?**

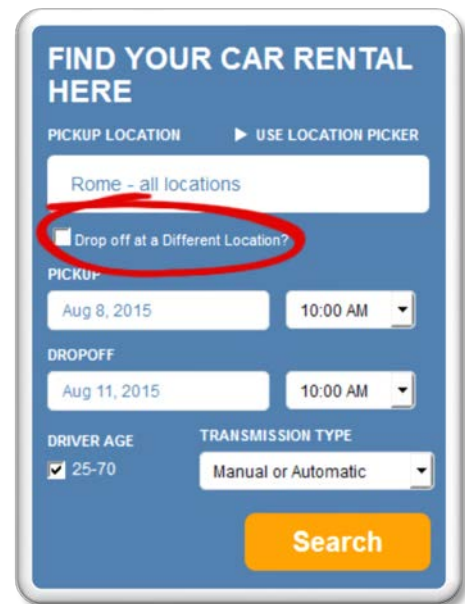
One way fees, otherwise known as “drop fees”, are extra charges that are due in addition to the total rate you paid for your car rental. These fees can be incurred when picking up your rental car in one location and dropping it off in another.

- **What types of one way fees are there?**

There are two different types of one way fees:

Domestic: Applicable when picking up and dropping off a car at two different locations within the same country.

International: Applicable when picking up a car in one country and dropping it off in another country.



- **Why are one way fees charged?**

One way fees are compulsory charges that cover the costs of getting a rental car back to the original location it was rented from.

- **Are there always one way fees when my pick up and drop off locations are different?**

International one way fees always apply for pick ups and drop offs between two different countries. Domestic one way fees are less common and may or may not apply to your rental depending on your unique itinerary and reservation.

- **What is the average cost of a domestic or international one way fee?**

There are no standardized fees for one way rentals, so the amount due in excess of your actual rental rate can vary greatly. As a very general rule, international one way fees tend to be more expensive (€100 EUR or more) while domestic one way fees are more mild (typically less than €100 EUR).

- **Why are international one ways so expensive?**

Despite the short driving distances between foreign nations in Europe, different countries still have their own laws, regulations, and insurance standards that can make getting a car back to where it came from



expensive for the rental car companies. The one way fee must cover the cost of transportation, additional insurance, and loss of use when you leave a rental car in a different country than it was rented from, which is why international one way fees can be pricey.

- **Are there restrictions on where I can drive and drop off my rental car?**

All one way fees and travel restrictions are at the discretion of each individual rental car supplier. You can generally travel to and drop your car off in most Western European countries without issue, but [Eastern European travel with a rental car](#) will be subject to restrictions. If you are planning on traveling to any Eastern European countries, we highly recommend you call one of our rental car experts (24/7 and toll-free at **1-888-223-5555**) to help arrange your rental.

- **How do I know if my rental will require a one way fee?**

When you are searching for a rental on Auto Europe's website between two different destinations the following prompt will appear, indicating that your rental may be subject to an extra one way fee:

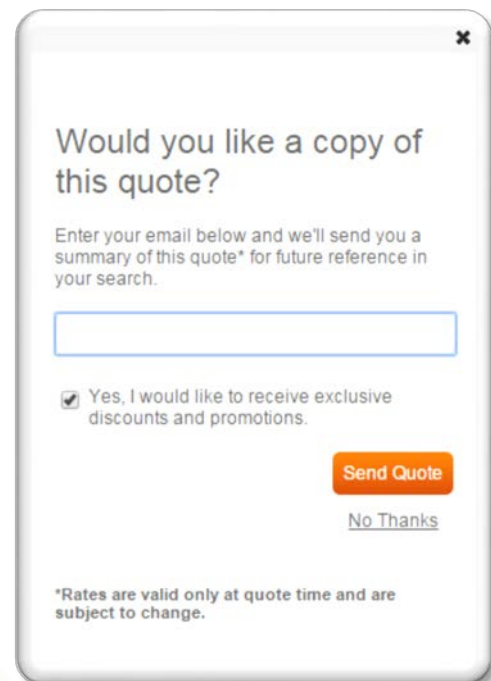
One Way Car Rental Information

Rental car suppliers sometimes have restrictions or additional fees for rentals picked up and dropped off in different locations, to be paid locally. The estimated fee will be displayed once a car is selected.

The specific one way fee amount will be listed on your [Auto Europe voucher](#) after you select a vehicle and create a quote.

- **Why do I have to create a quote in order to see how much a one way fee will be?**

One way fees vary based on everything from the supplier you rent from, to the type of car you choose, and everything in between. Since the fees vary so greatly, Auto Europe agents personally calculate them on an individual basis to ensure you get an accurate quote and are properly informed about the extra costs associated with your rental. It's one way we go the extra mile to ensure that our clients are informed and won't be hit with unexpected charges during their trip.



A screenshot of a web pop-up window with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The main heading is "Would you like a copy of this quote?". Below it is a subtext: "Enter your email below and we'll send you a summary of this quote* for future reference in your search." There is a text input field for an email address. Below the input field is a checked checkbox with the text "Yes, I would like to receive exclusive discounts and promotions." To the right of the checkbox is an orange button labeled "Send Quote". Below the button is a link that says "No Thanks". At the bottom of the pop-up, there is a small disclaimer: "*Rates are valid only at quote time and are subject to change."

- **Why aren't one way fees automatically included in my rental rate with Auto Europe?**

One way fees are incurred and collected by whichever one of Auto Europe's [trusted car rental companies](#) you choose to book with. Auto Europe does not collect or profit from one way fees in any way, but it's important to us that we inform our clients of all fees to help you make the best choice.

- **When and how do I pay a one way fee?**

If your car rental requires a one way fee, the amount will be due upon pickup of your vehicle. One way fees are charged in the local currency for whichever country your rental originates in.

- **Is there a way to avoid one way fees?**

Each supplier determines their own fees independently. For the same given pick up and drop off location, one company may charge far less than another while some may not allow the desired travel at all. Every supplier has different offices and rental locations, enabling each provider to offer different options.

- **How can I guarantee myself the best rate?**

Check rates and applicable fees from different rental outlets with Auto Europe's quick and easy 3-step booking engine to find out who can offer you the lowest overall price after considering the one way fee. Or, let us do the hard work for you! Call one of our rental specialists (24/7 and toll-free at **1-888-223-5555**) with the details of your desired travel; our agents are trained to find you the best overall rate for whatever your itinerary may entail.

The Great American Road Trip, Europe Edition

The complex realm of one way car rental fees in Europe can make finding the best rate a tricky process for US travelers to navigate. While similar domestic fees in the states are usually minimal, driving just a few hundred miles through Europe to drop a car off can bring you across multiple borders and incur significant additional fees.



Some good news for travelers planning a road trip in Europe, though, is the fact that simply traveling around Western European nations with a rental car is usually permitted for free or at a minimal cost, provided that the car is dropped off back in its home country; it's picking up a rental car

in one country and dropping it off in another that can incur serious fees. Domestic one way fees (between two locations within the same country) can sometimes take effect depending upon rental specifics and supplier, but these charges are always far smaller than those applied to international one ways. Savvy travelers will often tweak their itinerary somewhat and can sometimes save hundreds of dollars as a result.

The story of Mr. Smith details an unfortunate situation that can easily be avoided with some careful attention and awareness. Savvy travelers should make a point to always read a contract's terms and conditions before booking. Not doing so can derail a vacation, and in many cases high one way fees are avoidable through alternatives ... you just need to be prepared to ask an expert for help!

Contact Auto Europe

1-(888)-223-5555

• 24/7 & Toll-Free •

Still Skeptical About One Way Fees? We Can Help!

In the end, traveling from one country to another with a rental car is a fantastic way to have a truly immersive experience on the European continent. But it's important for you to be aware of the possible costs involved and, if you get confused, feel free to contact our European car rental specialists. One of Auto Europe's knowledgeable agents can advise you about pick up and drop off locations, help you make sense of [additional car rental fees](#), and assist with many other constantly-changing variables so you can avoid surprises and get the best value for your vacation!

Auto Europe's knowledgeable rental car agents are available to help with whatever you may need at any time of the day or night. Give us a call at our US-based headquarters in

Portland, Maine, open 24/7 and reachable toll-free at **1-888-223-5555**, to discover how we can help you plan and save big on your next vacation abroad!



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