



CHELTHENHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

TRADE TIMES

For Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers.

Happy Christmas to all our drivers

From all of our officers in the Licensing Team, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



We are committed to public safety in taxis and private hire vehicles through partnership working.



Gloucester City and South Gloucestershire partnership working

Officers from Licensing have been working during December evenings in partnership with Gloucester City Council and South Gloucestershire Council. We were also joined by Taxi Cop from Avon and Somerset Police.

We are committed to partnership working to ensure compliance and that vehicles are safe for public use. This follows recent work between the three councils which has resulted in both Gloucester City and South Gloucestershire geofencing all taxi ranks in the CBC area. This means any Uber driver licensed by either authority will receive an alert if they enter a taxi rank to show that they are not permitted to park in that area. The alert will also go to Uber directly so they are aware of the driver in question.

Fare rise survey

Thank you to all the drivers who participated in our fare rise survey. We received a good level of response and are always grateful to hear from as many drivers as possible to ensure our decisions are representative.

The consultation for the proposed fare rise will begin shortly, and we hope that as many of you as possible will provide us with feedback.

Maximum age limits for hackney carriage vehicles

As a reminder to our hackney carriage drivers, hackney carriage vehicles are only eligible for licensing upon renewal if they are under 14 years old from the date of first registration. Vehicles over 14 years will not be licensed in accordance with policy.

If any hackney carriage drivers are proprietors of vehicles that are approaching 14 years old, we ask that you are mindful of the policy and consider whether a new vehicle may be required. If you are unsure about the age of your vehicle or require any further guidance, please contact licensing@cheltenham.gov.uk in good time prior to your renewal date.

Drink driving over the festive period

With the festive season in full swing, Gloucestershire Constabulary have launched a new campaign to remind motorists to enjoy the Christmas period in a safe and legal way.

Drivers should plan ahead; consider their working schedule; and think twice before getting behind the wheel after drinking alcohol. Alcohol can stay in your system for days at a time so you should think carefully about working after a big night out. Please also be aware of the effects of drinking alcohol when taking prescription drugs.

You can expect more roadside police checks in urban and rural areas, alongside proactive operations and targeted patrols. The increased presence will be sustained until the end of the campaign on Wednesday 1st January 2025.

Further information can be found on the [Gloucestershire Constabulary website](https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/).



Comfort breaks whilst working

We encourage all drivers to plan ahead whilst working to ensure you have the opportunity to take comfort breaks.

If you are leaving your vehicle unattended during this time, please ensure it is parked appropriately and is not in breach of any restrictions.

Licensing Contact Details

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<https://www.cheltenham.gov.uk/>