Spanish Regulations for vehicle combinations over 12 metres long

Any car/caravan or motorhome (with or without a trailer) travelling to Spain that is over 12m in length must have one long or two small aluminium boards attached to the back. The aluminium boards must have a yellow centre with a red outline, be reflective, and comply with ECE70 standards. (We would recommend that you check before purchase that the boards you are buying have the ECE70 mark stamped on them). There are two options available:

Two marker boards must be placed at the back of the outfit between 50cm and 150cm off the ground, they can be attached horizontally or vertically, and must be symmetrical. Dimensions of the marker boards can be 500mm x 250mm or 565mm x 200mm

One large maker board that must be placed at the back of the outfit between 50cm and 150cm off the ground, this board must be attached horizontally. Dimensions are 1300mm x 250mm or 1130mm x 200mm.

Marker plates can be purchased from most HGV suppliers including:

HGV Direct
Website: www.hgvdirect.co.uk
Telephone: 0845 686 0008

For advice on attaching/fitting marker boards to your outfit please contact your local dealer or manufacturer.

The following information has been confirmed by the DGT (Direccion General de Tràfico) and the Real Automóvil Club de España.

- Marker boards must be made of aluminium with a plain yellow centre with a red outline.
- Both boards need to be fitted to the outfit between 50cm and 150cm off the ground.
- This law applies to vehicles registered in Spain and abroad

This law is not new, it has been in existence since 1998, however as far as we are aware the Spanish authorities have only been enforcing the law since the beginning of 2009.

In order to display marker boards in the UK your vehicle must fall into one of the following categories: (Confirmed by the Transport Technology and Standards Department)

A motor vehicle with a gross weight exceeding 7500kg.
A motor vehicle first used before 1 August 1982 and having an unladen weight exceeding 3000kg.
A trailer with a gross weight exceeding 3500kg.
A trailer manufactured before 1 August 1982 having an unladen weight exceeding 1000kg

The marker boards are legal in Portugal and if the combined weight of your vehicles is over 3.5t they are also legal in France.

We have contacted both SOLVIT (which is an organisation set up to resolve problems caused by the misapplication of EU rules in Member States) and the European Commission who have both confirmed that Spain **can** apply this law to all vehicles circulating in Spain regardless of where they are registered.