

LOW EMISSION ZONES IN LONDON

Dawsongroup



All you need to know about Low Emission Zones

Air quality is becoming increasingly more popular in political discussion. Various measures are being debated by the Government to try and tackle the issue and to discourage the more polluting vehicles from entering the areas in which the air quality is most poor. Low Emission Zones (LEZs) are part of the Governments air quality plan, as a method for local authorities to reduce harmful emissions in specific areas.

London already has a Low Emission Zone, along with various other cities across Europe. However, a lot of people remain uncertain about what LEZs mean in practice. Dawsongroup have put together this guide to help clear up the confusion about LEZs and how they can impact you. There are also plans to introduce the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) on the 8th April 2019. The ULEZ will come into place within Central London to help improve quality of the air, with stricter emission standards. It is hard for drivers to keep focused and complete their jobs safely. This handbook will provide drivers with a brief overview of the main areas of concern when driving in cities.



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London

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Edmonton Green 149

LTZ 1567

Which vehicles are affected by the London Low Emission Zone?

Currently, it is only larger vehicles that are affected by the London LEZ: pre-October 2006 lorries over 3.5 tonnes, larger vans, motorised caravans, minibuses and coaches over five tonnes. Pick-ups and light 4x4s registered new before 1 January 2002 are also required to pay it.

You can go online on the use the Transport for London website to enter your registration number and check to see if your vehicle requires payment for entry (<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/low-emission-zone>).





What will it cost you to enter the London Low Emission Zone?

This is dependent on what vehicle you are driving and where abouts you are.

The below table should give a clear suggestion of how much you are likely to pay.

	Vehicle	Weight	Daily charge
	Larger vans, motorised horseboxes, 4x4 light utility vehicles, pick-ups, other specialist vehicles	1.205 tonnes unladen or more	£100
	Motor caravans, ambulances	2.5 - 3.5 tonnes gross vehicle weight	£100
	Mini-buses (with more than eight passenger seats)	5 tonnes or less gross vehicle weight	£100
	Lorries, goods vehicles, motor caravans, motorised horseboxes, breakdown and recovery vehicles, snow ploughs, gritters, refuse collection vehicles, road sweepers, concrete mixers, tippers, fire engines, removals lorries, other specialist vehicles	More than 3.5 tonnes gross vehicle weight	£200
	Buses, coaches (with more than eight passenger seats)	More than 5 tonnes gross vehicle weight	£200

England currently has five Low Emission Zones:

- London
- Norwich
- Brighton
- Nottingham
- Oxford

However, other than the London LEZ, these only impact our Bus and Coach customers, due to them currently only effecting local buses. It is believed by many people that more cities are going to bring in LEZs which include a wider range of vehicles, due to inner-city pollution getting worse.

Scotland is also looking at bringing in low emission zones. These will have much firmer standards and will include more vehicle types. These will also prevent vehicles from entering certain areas of Scotland's four biggest cities, with penalty charge notices given to vehicles entering which do not conform to the zone's minimum emission standards.



How does it operate?

There are no barriers or toll booths within the LEZ. Instead, cameras will read your number plate as you drive within the LEZ and check it against the database of registered vehicles.

This database is made using information from the DVLA, DVANI, the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency. It includes generic vehicle weight data typical of the make and model, and drivers and operators who have registered with us.

This tells Transport for London automatically, whether your vehicle meets the LEZ emissions standards, is exempt, is registered for a discount, or if you've already paid the daily charge.

How to pay a LEZ charge

If your vehicle doesn't meet emission standards, charges will have to be paid before travelling to avoid a penalty fee. Payment can be made online, through the post (if posted at least 10 days before travel to ensure payment has been cleared) or over the phone Monday-Friday 08:00-20:00 UK: 0343 222 1111 and International: +44 20 7310 8998.

Payment for the daily charge can be made:

- Up to 64 working days before the day of travel
- On the day of travel
- Up to midnight on the day after driving within the LEZ
- If you travel in on a Friday, you have until midnight the next working day to pay the LEZ daily charge



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London Underground
Piccadilly Station
2 30 183
436 N2 N156

Piccadilly Station

BUS STOP



The Ultra-Low Emission Zone

As of 8th April 2019, the Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) will come into place within Central London to help improve quality of the air. Cars and vans will be included in the vehicles which need to meet the new, stricter exhaust emission standards – or pay a daily charge to travel in the ULEZ area.

Vehicles effected by the ULEZ include cars, motorcycles, mopeds, tippers, motorised tricycles, motorised horseboxes, large vans, 4X4 light utility vehicles, pick-ups, ambulances, motor caravans, lorries, buses, coaches, breakdown & recovery vehicles, small vans, gritters, minibuses, refuse collection vehicles, road sweepers and fire engines.

If you drive a lorry, van, bus, minibus or other specialist vehicle you should check your vehicle using TFL's ULEZ vehicle checker, because even if it currently meets the Low Emission Zone standards, it may not meet the new ULEZ standards.

The ULEZ is the same area as the Congestion Charging Zone. It will be clearly signposted to show where it is in operation. No barriers or toll booths will be used, cameras will read vehicle number plates as they are driven within the zone to check against the database to see if they meet the ULEZ emission standards. The signs will be put in place before the start of the ULEZ at every entry point along the boundary. They will be placed alongside or below already existing Congestion Charge signs.

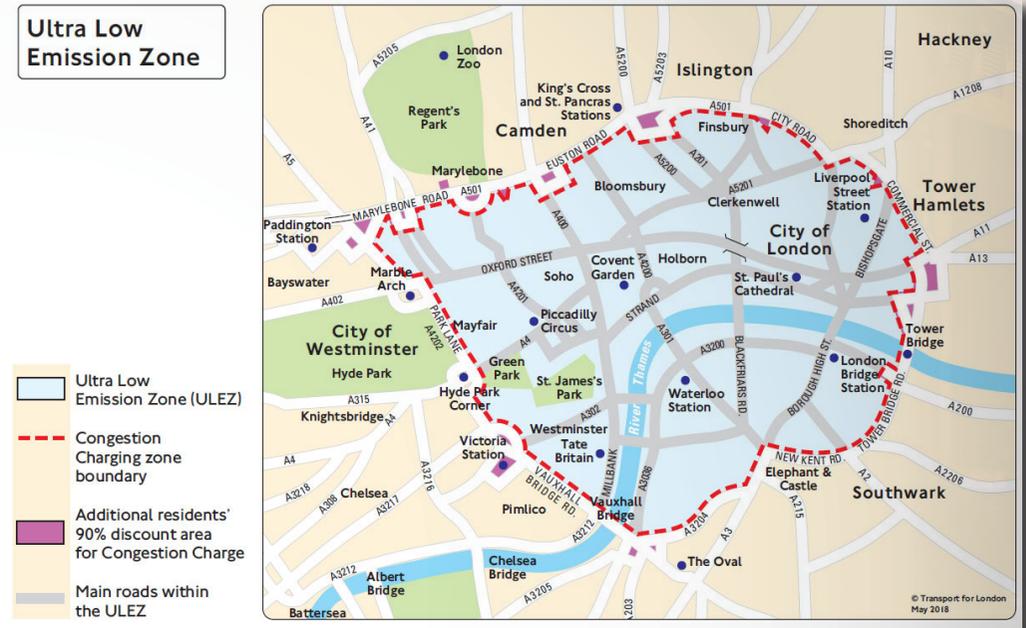


Image source: <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/ultra-low-emission->



Don't forget, if your vehicle doesn't meet the emission standards, it doesn't mean you don't have other options!

Upgrade to a second-hand vehicle that meets ULEZ standards

- Nearly all petrol vehicles produced since 2005 are compliant with the ULEZ standards and so will be 16 years old by the time ULEZ is expanded in 2021
- Vehicles which meet the equivalent of the Euro 4 NOx standard for petrol have been available to purchase since 2001 and so will be 20 years old by the time ULEZ is expanded in 2021
- The average cost of a 16-year-old vehicle is around £1000 and the average cost of a 20-year-old vehicle is around £500

Or, you could pay the daily charge.

You can rent a commercial vehicle from us, without having to worry whether its value will drop if it doesn't meet ULEZ standards, like you would if you were buying it. Low Emission Zones increase the likelihood of depreciation in the value of purchases. We have a fleet that is ready for what the contract hire, and rental market will demand, whilst taking all the risk on the residual value. This will protect your capital in the case of a dynamic LEZ requirement.





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We hope this helps you understand more about the Low and Ultra-Low Emission Zones. For more information on how our vehicles can benefit you, please get in touch!

Contact us on

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