



Red licence plates for collectors of historic motor vehicles

German authorities have issued special transferable licence plates in order to provide collectors of collectible historical motor vehicles with a means of using their vehicles in traffic to participate in shows and car meetings that are held to present classic motor vehicles to the public and to show the historical and cultural aspects of collectible motor vehicles and of driving them to and from those events. These personal transferable licence plates may also be used for test drives and to transfer the vehicles from one storage location to another as well as for trips in connection with the repair, servicing and tune-up of the vehicle.

These transferable personal licence plates are issued to owner of the vehicle(s) in question by the local motor vehicle licensing authority in accordance with §17 of the German Ordinance on Motor Vehicle Road Registration and can be recognized easily by their colour (red letters on white background) as well as by their sequence of identification digits (1 to 3 letters indicating the home town or district where the vehicles are registered for road use followed by an identification number that starts with »07«). Those features set them apart from trade registration plates intended for use by commercial garages and car dealers, which have a set of identification digits starting with »06«.

A special vehicle identification document printed on pink paper will be issued by the local motor vehicle licensing authority to the owner for each vehicle that is authorized to be driven on public roads with this red collectors' licence plate. This vehicle identification document may also be issued in the form of an official vehicle registration logbook that includes the identification data of all vehicles that are authorized to be driven on public roads with the transferable personal licence plate that this document has been issued for.

To obtain a special registration document of this type, the following requirements must be met:

- Following an inspection by an authorized expert, a certificate must be issued for the vehicle to confirm that the vehicle is at least 30 years old, safe and fully roadworthy and that its overall condition is that of a collectible vehicle^{*)},
- it must be covered by third-party insurance at an adequate level,
- a certificate of good conduct and repute of the owner of the vehicle must have been issued by the authorities in charge.

The special pink-colour vehicle document attests to the fact that the vehicle described in the document is authorized to be driven on public roads when the red collectible vehicle licence plate is fitted to the plate and when the vehicle is used for one of the purposes outlined above.

If a vehicle fitted with red collectible vehicle licence plates bearing the licensing authority's stamp is driven on public roads and if the valid pink registration document belonging to the vehicle and the licence plates is carried by the driver, this documents that:

- The vehicle owner can be tracked by the authorities at any time on the basis of the registration number,
- adequate insurance coverage exists.

If a vehicle registered under the collectors' licence plate scheme described above and fitted with a valid red collectors' licence plate of this type and used for one of the above purposes within the scope of this licence plate is inspected in your traffic controls you are therefore asked to permit the driver to continue his trip after he has shown the valid registration document.

^{*)} If the vehicle registration document has been issued before 1st of march 2007, the registration authority in charge was authorized to establish the required minimum age and the collectible condition of the vehicle on its own but the safety and roadworthiness still had to be demonstrated by an appropriate certificate even before this date.