

VEHICLES



Many people ship one vehicle and buy an island “bomb” as a second one. It takes about 2 months for your personal vehicle to arrive, depending on where it is shipped from and how long it has to wait for the next ship.

Undercoating your vehicle is a great recommendation. Mud flaps are required for vehicles manufactured before the year 2000. It may be difficult to find OEM flaps for your car here, so try to purchase and install them before you ship your car. Fog lights are required. If you don’t have them you can purchase a Fog Lamp kit at Auto Hobby for \$17.55. The on-base Island Garage can install them for \$48.00. There is no trouble getting standard parts here. The Auto Hobby Shop does repairs and they are fast and efficient and carry a good supply of parts.

Word of caution: The roads here are narrow and curvy and the local residents drive fast and park anywhere, including on the side of very narrow streets. This makes an already narrow road very, very tight in which to maneuver. Large vehicles may be a challenge given these driving conditions, but with care, you can get around the island in them.

DRIVING:

All newly assigned personnel and family members who intend to drive, must attend the local driving conditions class and obtain a Lajes Field Form 13, Operator License (no test is required).

The course is offered during the Right Start Program.

Minimum driving age is 18.

Members stationed at Lajes must have either a valid stateside license or an International Driver’s License in order to receive the local Operator License.

The base will recognize the military clause that most states have allowing extensions after expiration dates; however, it is best to have a driver’s license that has not yet expired.

Detailed information may be obtained during “Right Start”.

LICENSE PLATES:

Once at Lajes, you can get your license plates made before your car arrives.

Step 1: Visit the Pass and ID section at building T-112. You will need the following to register your car:

Lajes Field Drivers License-you will get this at Right Start.

Current Overseas Insurance. This can be obtained through Geico or USAA. (The actual green insurance card or a print out.)

Shipping Document (788)

Step 2: Visit Auto Hobby in T-424 with your proof of registration to receive your plates. Cost \$30.00.

Once your car arrives:

1. Island Garage can assist you in getting your required vehicle safety inspection.

Call the Vehicle Processing Center (VPC) to find out if your vehicle is available for pick up at DSN 535-6417.

Current Overseas Insurance can be obtained through Geico or USAA.