



Low emission zone / Augsburg started level 3 at 2016-06-01

Information for vehicle owners



On 1 January 2008 the cities of Berlin, Cologne and Hanover introduced low emission zones to mitigate air pollution caused by fine particles. The city of Augsburg will follow now from the first of July 2009.

Low emission zones are identified by traffic signs and additional signs. The Ordinance on the marking of vehicles (35th BImSchV) stipulates that vehicles have to be marked with stickers (on the windscreen inside the vehicle) and lays down the criteria vehicles have to meet for the different kinds of stickers. Stickers are valid for all low emission zones in any city in Germany.

An overview of low emission zones, both existing and planned, was drawn up by the Federal Environmental Agency (in German). Link: Umweltzonen in Deutschland – Umweltbundesamt.

The city of Augsburg furthermore provides important information about her low emission zone on her website <u>link: Umweltzone in Augsburg</u> (size, exceptions, service, practical advice; unfortunately only in German).

Emissions groups

Vehicles are divided into emissions groups according to their particulate emissions and they receive a sticker of the colour marking the respective emissions group:

- red for emissions group 2,
- yellow for emissions group 3
- and green for emissions group 4.

Vehicles with green stickers (emissions group 4) may enter the currently existing low emission zone of Augsburg. Stickers are only mandatory for cars driven within these zones. They are not necessary for crossing the border into Germany.

Article 6 of the Ordinance on the marking of vehicles clearly lays down which vehicles belong to which emissions group. If registration papers do not identify the European emission standard of a vehicle, the date of the vehicle's first registration is used as a basis for classification. Vehicles with diesel engines can generally reach the next higher emissions group if they are retrofitted with an emission control device such as a particulate trap. Proof of the standard achieved through retrofitting (stipulated by the Ordinance on the marking of vehicles) must be provided in form of a certification issued by the garage.

Where to obtain emissions-control windscreen stickers

a. Ordering before departure

The sticker can be ordered from the technical inspection associations (e.g. <u>TÜV</u>, <u>GTÜ</u>, <u>DEKRA</u>). A legible copy of the vehicle registration documents must be sent to the issuing office by post or email. **The local licensing administration in Augsburg cannot process application online.** The sticker is valid throughout Germany. Therefore it also can be ordered from another city that has a corresponding online procedure (e.g. Berlin, Stuttgart). However, a lead time of three weeks should be taken into account.

b. On site at an issuing office

The stickers can be obtained directly from the local licensing administration (in Augsburg: Bürgeramt, An der Blauen Kappe 18, 86152 Augsburg), at the technical inspection associations (e.g. TÜV, GTÜ, DEKRA) and at car repair shops approved for exhaust emission testing. The issuing bodies charge between 5 and 20 euro for one sticker.

Further information on low emission zone at Augsburg:

link: Umweltzone in Augsburg

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