

# Spain



Capital	Madrid
Language(s)	Spanish
Currency	€uro
Surface	504,782 km <sup>2</sup>
Population	47, 042, 000 inhabitants
Population density	93.2 inhabitants/km <sup>2</sup>
GDP(2011)	1, 537, 000 \$
Car fleet in 2011	27, 657,000 vehicles
Length of the road network	163,273 km
Nb of vehicle for 1000 inhabitants	478
Time zone	GMT + 1
Number of persons killed on the road in 2009	2605

High plateaux and mountain ranges such as the Pyrenees and the Sierra Nevada dominate mainland Spain. Running from these heights are several major rivers such as the Ebro, the Duero, the Tagus and the Guadalquivir. The Balearic Islands lie offshore in the Mediterranean while the autonomous Canary Islands are to be found off the African coast.

Spain is a constitutional monarchy, with a hereditary monarch and a parliament with two chambers: the *Cortes*. The 1978 constitution values linguistic and cultural diversity within a united Spain. The country is divided into 17 autonomous communities (regions) which all have their own directly elected authorities. In Catalonia, the Basque Country and Galicia, the regional languages have official status alongside the national Spanish language, which is also called Castilian.

Spain's service and manufacturing sectors are strong, while agriculture (especially fruit and vegetables, olive oil and wine) and tourism are also very profitable.

From Velázquez in the 17th century, through Goya in the 18th and 19th, to Picasso, Dali and Miro in the 20th, Spain has a rich artistic culture. Spanish Flamenco music and dance are widely admired around the world while Cervantes' novel *Don Quixote* is one of the landmarks of modern European literature. Spanish film directors such as Pedro Almodóvar, Alejandro Amenábar and Luis Buñuel have received several international prizes. Spanish cuisine is known for its *paella* (a rice dish with chicken, seafood and vegetables), *tortilla* (omelette with potatoes) and *sangria* (red wine served with fruit).

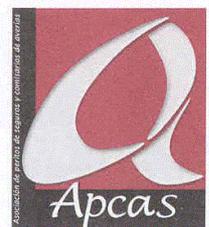
## Automotive expertise in Spain

To become automotive expert some corresponding qualifications are necessary, current minimum required: Professional formation automotive grade II and take a course of 280 hours of theory and 40 hours of practice in the modality, which must contain the minimum materials program contained in the training program developed jointly by APCAS and UNESPA, which has also to be approved by the insurance Department of the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

One of the important activities of APCAS was the participation in the committee of the Spanish accreditation body "AENOR" AEN / CTN 197 "Reports of expert performances", whose mission has been to develop the standard UNE197001 regarding standardization of reports generally expert.

Although the rule (UNE19700) refers to some general criteria to be applied in the expert reports, this rule does not indicate which technical system should be used but this rule will be very important in our sector and will improve with the time.

## Professionals Associations



Latest update  
27/02/2013