GERMANCARREGISTRATION / PREPARATION

Your non-resident registration checklist

For international owners keeping a vehicle in Germany. Review the correct keeper model and final document requirements before buying, booking or sending private documents.

Reviewed 2026-10-27 · Contact: P. Dornauer

Preparation only, not an official application, registration certificate or eligibility approval. Keep documents private; request the final checklist before sending them.

01 Residence and vehicle use

Your real country of residence, where the vehicle is normally kept, intended countries of use and travel dates. No fictitious German residence.

02 Identity and authority to act

Passport or accepted ID and power of attorney. Our Model B preparation includes apostilled ID, notarised power of attorney and proof of foreign residence; confirm the final requirements for your case.

03 Ownership and existing vehicle papers

Purchase contract or invoice, plus available registration certificates. Registration identifies the keeper; it does not by itself prove ownership.

04 Vehicle approval

Certificate of Conformity (CoC) or other accepted approval evidence, as applicable. A non-EU import may need customs evidence, technical conversion and individual approval.

Model A names the company as keeper; Model B names you as keeper using your documented foreign address. Ownership remains a separate purchase-contract question.

Review own-name registration and qualifications

Insurance, tax and handover

05 Roadworthiness (HU/TÜV)

A valid inspection report where required. Confirm whether a new inspection is due before arranging the registration appointment.

06 Insurance (eVB)

Electronic insurance confirmation for the chosen keeper arrangement. Confirm named drivers, countries, liability/casco cover and any seasonal restrictions with the insurer.

07 Vehicle tax (SEPA)

The required vehicle-tax payment mandate or an accepted alternative confirmed with the authority. Tax is separate from our service fee.

08 Handover or storage

Agree where plates and papers go and where the vehicle is kept between trips. Seasonal vehicles must be off public roads outside their authorised season.

Service costs and timing

€500 setup plus €1,188 annual service, paid upfront: €1,688 first-year base. Insurance premiums, vehicle tax, official charges, transport, customs and optional services are additional where applicable. Storage coordination does not include the inspection charge. Typically 5–7 days after complete accepted documents; not a guaranteed completion date.

Do not send passports, vehicle papers or insurance records by WhatsApp. Ask about document-handling arrangements after the initial review. A WhatsApp draft is not delivered until you press Send.

Request an individual case assessment

Read the full preparation guide and official certificate examples

§ 6(1)–(2) FZV — keeper details and foreign-address applicants

§ 75(2) FZV — responsible registration authority

General information, not legal or tax advice. This checklist is not an official registration application, certificate or approval.