

Legal Requirement to carry Snow Chains in Italy



From July 2010 local authorities in Italy have been authorised to pass bye-laws requiring the fitting of winter tyres/carriage of *anti-slip devices* on specified roads for specified periods during the year. Any winter tyres fitted must be marked as suitable for use on snow or on ice.

Full details are available on the Polizia di Stato web site:

<http://poliziadistato.it/articolo/21073/>

Failure to comply with the bye-laws will result in a fine of at least 80 euro (max fine 318 euro).

When a car is fitted with snow chains it is not permitted to exceed a speed of 50km/hr.

Snow socks made of textile material/Kevlar are lighter and easier to fit than chains, do not damage the road surface, and are much the same price. They are classified as "anti-slip devices" and are available at many Italian auto outlets. The downside: they are neither approved nor prohibited for use in Italy(!), are not particularly durable, and must not be used on stretches of road delineated by the blue snow chain signs.

If you want to purchase snow chains/socks in the UK have a look at:

<http://www.roofbox.co.uk/snow-chains/>



Requirements in the Lunigiana Region (Massa Carrara province)

Fitment of winter tyres/carriage of anti-slip devices required on the following roads between the following dates:

Autostrade:	A12 Genova-Roma	from 15.11 to 15.3
	A15 Parma-La Spezia	from 15.11 to 15.4
Strade statali (SS):	SS62 (Cisa Pass)	from 15.11 to 15.4
	SS63 (Del Valico del Cerreto)	from 15.11 to 15.4
Strade della provincia (SP):	All roads	from 15.11 to 31.3