

Cabotage – the rules for foreign lorries in Norway

Upcoming episode

What cabotage is, and which rules apply to foreign lorries in Norway: three operations in seven days, the four-day cooling-off period, the documentation requirement, the rules for buses – and why the arrangement exists.

MAIN TOPICS

- What cabotage actually is, and what it is not
- Three operations in seven days
- The four-day cooling-off period
- The documents that must be produced
- Passenger transport, which follows entirely different rules
- The fines
- Why the rules exist at all
- What is hard to enforce

QUESTIONS THIS EPISODE ANSWERS

- What is cabotage?
- How many operations can a foreign lorry carry out in Norway?
- What is the four-day cooling-off period?
- What must the driver be able to document?
- Do the same rules apply to buses?
- What does breaking the rules cost?
- Why is cabotage allowed at all?

KEY POINTS

- Cabotage is transport between two places in a country other than the one the operator belongs to.
- Three domestic operations in seven days, with the same vehicle, after an international journey into Norway.
- After the last lawful operation comes a four-day cooling-off period before new cabotage can begin.
- Both the inbound international journey and each domestic operation must be documented.
- Passenger transport follows entirely different rules – 20 continuous days, and 30 days a year.
- The rules are a compromise between free movement of services and protection of the domestic market.

SOURCES AND REFERENCES

- Norwegian Public Roads Administration – International transport, cabotage and penalties
<https://www.vegvesen.no/en/vehicles/professional-transport/international-transport-and-cabotage-by-road/international-transport-cabotage-and-penalties/>

- Norwegian Public Roads Administration – What is new in the Mobility Package
<https://www.vegvesen.no/kjoretoy/yrkestransport/nytt-i-mobilitetspakken/>
- Regjeringen.no – International transport and cabotage
<https://www.regjeringen.no/no/tema/transport-og-kommunikasjon/ytransport/internasjonalt-transport-og-kabotasje/id485244/>
- Professional transport regulations, section 31 (Lovdata)
<https://lovdata.no/dokument/SF/forskrift/2003-03-26-401/%A731>

This is general information, not legal advice.

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