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Drivers planning 19.5m trips by car as double Jubilee bank holiday looms

The extra-long Jubilee bank holiday weekend will see drivers make an estimated 19.5m leisure journeys by car, research from RAC Breakdown suggests.*

In the region of 3.6m leisure trips by car are expected to be made on the Friday bank holiday (3 June), according to a study of 1,460 drivers' travel plans, as day-trippers combine with families making their way back home at the end of the half term break. Bank holiday Thursday is likely to be the next

busiest day (3.3m) followed by both Saturday and the Wednesday preceding the bank holidays (2.6m each day). An additional 5m will use their cars at some point over the full five days, boosting the overall numbers of cars clogging the roads.

Transport experts INRIX predict that traffic conditions could be worst in the mornings of the bank holidays and advise drivers to set off as early as possible or delay their trips until much later in the day to skip any jams. The M25, southbound M5, A303 and A720 Edinburgh city bypass are all highlighted as roads to watch for potential delays.

Separate research by the RAC** reveals that more than a third of drivers (37%) plan to stay close to home over the bank holiday rather than drive a considerable distance and of these, 11% say they won't be driving far due to the high price of fuel which hit new records again last week.*** A quarter (26%) meanwhile say they'll only set out for a leisure trip by car if the weather turns out to be good.

The RAC is reminding drivers to check over their vehicles before setting out after separate research** it carried out found that less than a fifth (17%) admit to always checking things like oil, coolant and tyres prior to a long journey, with nearly quarter (23%) never doing so at all. The remainder – 59% – say they check their cars only before some journeys.

RAC traffic spokesman Rod Dennis said: “Drivers clearly see a double bank holiday this close to the summer as a gift with so millions eager to make the most of it – although many appear keen to keep their car journeys short, perhaps mixing a daytrip or two with a Jubilee celebration at home. The fact the bank holidays coincide with the end of half-term in many places has the potential to put some extra pressure on the road network, so planning a journey carefully is important to beat the worst of any queues.

“The best way for drivers to avoid breaking down this week is to check over their vehicles before setting out – yet our research shows less than a fifth do this routinely. Making sure oil, coolant and screenwash are all at the right levels takes just minutes, as does ensuring tyres are free of damage and are inflated properly. A bit of TLC now could make the difference between a straightforward trip and one beset by a breakdown.”

The RAC has also put together a [comprehensive guide to how to avoid](#)

[breakdowns experienced in warmer weather](#) to help drivers.

Expected trips and traffic hotspots over the Jubilee bank holiday weekend

Date	Leisure trips by car	Worst times to travel on major roads	Suggested best times to travel on major roads	Roads to watch for delays
Wednesday 1 June	 2,641,504	7am to 9am	Before 6am or after 10am	M25 anticlockwise J4 to J1, mid-afternoon; A303 west Solstice Park to A36, late afternoon
Bank holiday Thursday 2 June	 3,301,880	9am to 2pm	Before 9am or after 4pm	M5 south J15 to J23, mid-morning; M25 clockwise J7 to J16, mid-morning
Bank holiday Friday 3 June	 3,632,068	7am to 2pm	Before 6am or after 3pm	M25 anticlockwise J17 to J12, middle of the day; A303 west Solstice Park to A36, mid-morning
Saturday 4 June	 2,641,504	10am to 7pm	Before 10am or after 7pm	A303 west Solstice Park to A36, middle of the day
Sunday 5 June	 2,311,316	6am to 7pm	Before 6am or after 7pm	A720 west A1 to Dreghorn Link, morning; M25 anticlockwise J4 to J1, early evening

Table: RAC, May 2022 • Source: Peak traffic and specific road data courtesy INRIX; estimated leisure trips data courtesy RAC

* Figures based on a survey of 1,460 UK drivers' travel plans for this weekend

** Figures based on a separate survey of 470 drivers

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About the RAC

The RAC, an iconic UK brand, provides complete peace of mind to 13 million UK private and business drivers, whatever their motoring needs. As well as its premium nationwide breakdown assistance service – with an expert branded patrol workforce attending more than two million breakdowns every year – it offers a wide range of market-leading products across insurance, legal services, vehicle inspections and service, maintenance and repair. The RAC is also at the forefront in helping drivers make the switch to electric vehicles and leads in the development of new solutions for businesses and OEMs, partnering with the best in the motoring and mobility space.

Visit the [RAC website](#).

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