

GoSwift – an electronic border crossing channel for vehicles at border posts between Estonia and Russia.

As from 1 August 2011, the system for crossing the border between Estonia and Russia will change. All motor vehicles heading towards Russia will have to book a place in an electronic waiting queue in order to cross the border.

How can I book?

Advance bookings in the *GoSwift* border crossing system can be made in Estonian, English and Russian by submitting data about the vehicle and the persons who plan to cross the border. This can be done:

- online at www.eestipiir.ee or www.estonianborder.eu
- by phone at +372 6 989 192
- directly at the border: a vehicle arriving at the border with no advance booking can register in a physical line in the waiting area near the border post. It is not possible to do an online registration while waiting in a line at the border post.

What information do I need to provide?

Upon making a booking, data about the persons and the vehicles planning to cross the border must be submitted.

Goods vehicles must submit the Customs document Movement Reference Number (MRN) or declare that they will cross the border with no cargo.

The booking cannot be made if the same person with a vehicle of the same category or with the same licence plate has already been added to the waiting line.

How can I pay?

The booking costs one euro, to which a fee for accessing the waiting area will be added (please see below section “What is a waiting area” for actual costs).

Bookings made online can be paid by bank transfer, credit card or through your mobile phone bill. Persons wishing to pay through their mobile phone operator will be asked for a confirmation. The fee will later be added to their mobile phone bill.

A booking made in the waiting area in a physical line can be paid in cash or by credit card.

In either case, the booking is only valid after payment.

How am I notified of the booking?

After the booking, you may, if you wish, receive a once-only notification e-mail or text message at no extra cost.

The status of the booking can also be viewed free on the websites: www.eestipiir.ee or www.estonianborder.eu.

In the waiting area, information is provided on electronic displays.

You may order additional paid notifications via SMS or ask for additional information by calling a hotline (you will be charged for this service). No additional free notifications are sent when the booking is changed.

When do I need to arrive at the border?

Vehicles are split into several categories, as follows:

A category - motorcycles

B category - private cars

D category - buses (vehicles with more than 9 seats, including the driver's seat)

C category – goods vehicles with a MPW > 3.5t

D category vehicles that have made an advance booking must arrive at the waiting area at least 1 hour prior to their crossing time. C category vehicles, 3 hours before their crossing time.

In a physical line, the required time for arriving at the waiting area is:

- D category vehicles must arrive 2 hours prior to the crossing time,
- C category vehicles, 6 hours prior to the crossing time.

What is a waiting area?

A waiting area is an official parking area near the border, where vehicles which have booked their place can wait until it is their turn to cross the border. The arrival of a vehicle at the waiting area is registered and the driver is notified when it is his vehicle's turn to cross the border. The driver can follow the position of his booking on screens available in the waiting area.

Access to the waiting area is charged as follows:

<i>Border crossing</i>	<i>C category</i>	<i>D category</i>
<i>Narva</i>	14 euros	14 euros
<i>Sillamäe</i>	n/a	n/a
<i>Koidula</i>	6 euros	6 euros
<i>Luhamaa</i>	n/a	n/a

Border crossing is not possible without time spent in the waiting area.

What are the conditions for crossing the border via a priority line?

The following vehicles may apply for a "priority line":

- a vehicle that transports a member of an international delegation or an employee of a foreign diplomatic agency or consular institution;

- a vehicle that is carrying goods which are mentioned in the list of time-sensitive goods;
- a vehicle that has been given the right to cross the border using a priority line due to an international agreement or foreign treaty;
- an A or A1 category motorcycle;
- a vehicle that has any other influential and urgent reason for crossing the border.

What are the benefits of Major Client Contracts?

Companies that have signed a *Major Client Contract* can manage all vehicles, goods and drivers of their company through the *GoSwift Major Client* webpage.

Accounting has also been made simpler for *Major Clients*. The fees for bookings and additional services can be paid by invoice for all company vehicles. The *Major Client* webpage will be in operation from July 2011.

Source: ERAA, July 2011