

Your friends Jürgen and Uta, from Austria, are planning a visit to Spain. They want to rent a car, but they think it might be dangerous. They have seen the text below, but they don't understand it very well. Based on the text, explain to them why it is safe to drive in Spain. You usually communicate with them in English, but their level is not very good. Write an email to them. Write 80-100 words.

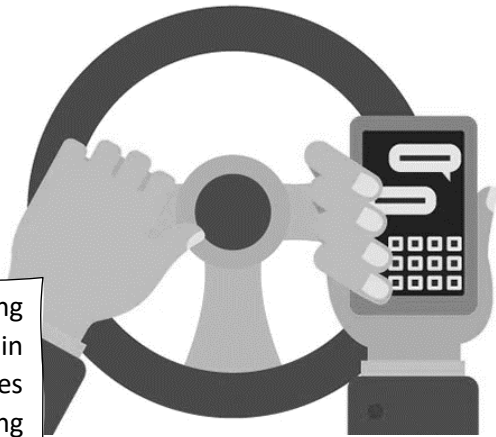
Hi Jürgen and Uta!

Freeways - *autovias* in Spanish - are abundant throughout the country of Spain, and these well-maintained roadways provide easy access to nearly every important destination. Unlike many other European nations where the roadways have a reputation for being rough and dilapidated, Spain has undergone an incredible amount of infrastructure remodeling and, as a result, today's Spain is home to one of the most modern and well-maintained roadway systems in all of Europe. Tourists are commonly surprised by the rarity of traffic jams, the ease of use, and the overall efficiency of the roads.

Although Spain is famous for its wine and offers travelers numerous outstanding vineyards, it is also famous for its harsh, yet necessary, punishments for those that choose to drive under the influence of **alcohol**. The legal blood alcohol limit is .05%, though even then it is strongly recommended that when planning to drive you do so completely sober. If stopped by the police, it is compulsory for all drivers to submit to a breathalyzer test if asked to do so. Failure to comply will result in immediate immobilization of the vehicle, legal fines, and potential jail time.



Like nearly every other European country, using a **cell phone** or mobile device while driving in Spain is strictly forbidden. Hands-free devices must be completely "hands-free," using headphones, ear-pieces, or speaker-phone while driving is also prohibited, and offenders may be fined.



All drivers traveling in Spain are required to wear their **seatbelt** when operating a vehicle. Drivers are considered responsible for fines, even those that apply to passengers not wearing their seatbelt. Unless over 4'9" tall, children under the age of 12 are not allowed in the front seat of a car and, once again, if they are found to be seated improperly, the driver will incur a traffic fine.

