

21 MAY 2018

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

REVIEW OF TAXI FARES

In accordance with the requirements of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Highland Council is reviewing the **maximum level** of charges for the hire of Taxis or Private Hire Cars fitted with Taxi Meters.

It is proposed that with effect from October 2018, the maximum fares will be as follows:-

Tariff 1: Applies to vehicles carrying up to 4 passengers, except when a higher tariff applies.

- For the first 785 yards or part; or £3.30
The initial period of waiting time of 119 seconds; or
A combination of time and distance as above
- For each additional 88 yards or part; or .10p
Each additional period of waiting time of 14 seconds; or
A combination of additional time and distance as above

General effect – the price of a hire £4.50 for the first mile plus £2.00 per mile thereafter plus extras*

Tariff 2: Applies to vehicles carrying up to 4 passengers on Good Friday, Easter Monday or May Day and, except when a higher tariff applies, between **9.00pm and 7.00am on any day** and all day on Saturday and Sunday. When 5 or more passengers are being carried, it also applies **at any time** of any day or night, except where a higher tariff applies.

- For the first 560 yards or part £ 4.00
The initial period of waiting time of 119 seconds; or
A combination of time and distance as above
- For each additional 70 yards or part .10p
Each additional period of waiting time of 14 seconds; or
A combination of additional time and distance as above

General effect – the price of a hire £5.80 for the first mile plus £2.50 per mile thereafter plus extras*

Tariff 3: Applies between 6am and midnight on both Boxing Day and 2nd January. When 5 or more passengers are being carried, and except where Tariff 5 applies, it also applies between **9.00pm and 7.00am**, all day on Saturday and Sunday and on Good Friday, Easter Monday and May Day.

- For the first 444 yards or part £ 4.50
The initial period of waiting time of 119 seconds; or
A combination of time and distance as above
- For each additional 59 yards or part .10p
Each additional period of waiting time of 14 seconds; or
A combination of additional time and distance as above

General effect – the price of a hire £6.80 for the first mile plus £3.00 per mile thereafter plus extras*

Tariff 4: Applies to vehicles carrying up to 4 passengers at any time between 6.00pm on Christmas Eve and 6.00am on Boxing Day and between 6.00pm on New Year's Eve and 6.00am on 2 January.

- For the first 444 yards or part; or £4.50
The initial period of waiting time of 119 seconds; or
A combination of time and distance as above
- For each additional 44 yards or part, or .10p
Each additional period of waiting time of 14 seconds; or
A combination of additional time and distance as above

General effect – the price of a hire: £7.50 for the first mile plus £4.00 per mile thereafter plus extras*

Tariff 5: Applies to vehicles carrying 5 or more passengers at any time between 6.00pm on Christmas Eve and 6.00am on Boxing Day and between 6.00pm on New Year's Eve and 6.00am on 2 January.

- For the first 444 yards or part; or £4.50
The initial period of waiting time of 119 seconds; or
A combination of time and distance as above
- For each additional 35 yards or part, or .10p
Each additional period of waiting time of 14 seconds; or
A combination of additional time and distance as above

General effect – the price of a hire: £8.30 for the first mile plus £5.00 per mile thereafter plus extras*

*Extra Charges

- Booking ahead e.g. by telephone £1.00
- Any bridge tolls or ferry charges, where applicable.
- Any airport car parking charges (Only chargeable on production of a receipt to the hirer)

In addition, a supplementary booking charge may be applied to compensate for the cost of the outward journey for hires which commence 3 miles or more away from the taxi or taxi base (whichever is the nearer). The maximum charge shall be the actual cost at the tariff which applies at the time of travelling between the starting location of the taxi or the location of the taxi base (as the case may be) and the pick-up point or drop-off point, whichever is the closer to the taxi or taxi base. This booking charge is in addition to the fare chargeable at the appropriate tariff for the journey from the pick-up point to the drop-off point. This charge may only be demanded if the customer is informed of the amount of the charge at the time of booking.

When a taxi (or a private hire car fitted with a taxi meter) is called but not used, a charge shall be allowed as if it had been occupied from the time it left the stance or garage.

Soiling Charge – maximum of £100.00 payable by an offending passenger, where a vehicle requires to be removed from service for cleaning in order for it to be restored to a usable state and condition.

General effect of proposed changes

For tariff 1 the price of the first mile to be increased from £4.00 to £4.50 and the price per mile thereafter to be increased from £1.80 to £2.00.

For tariff 2 the price of the first mile to be increased from £4.70 to £5.80 and the price per mile thereafter to be increased from £1.90 to £2.50.

For tariff 3 the price of the first mile to be increased from £5.70 to £6.80 and the price per mile thereafter to be increased from £2.40 to £3.00.

Introduction of a new tariff 4 and tariff 5 in respect of the festive period, as detailed above.

The booking ahead charge increased from 50p to £1.00.

Airport car parking costs incurred may be charged on production of a receipt to the hirer.

The Council hereby invites the public to submit written representations about these proposals.

Please write to the Principal Solicitor (Regulatory Services) at the address shown below or send an e-mail to licensing@highland.gov.uk by **Thursday 21 June 2018**. Representations received will be considered by the Highland Licensing Committee on 7 August 2018 before the new tariff is agreed.

Susan Blease,
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The Highland Council,
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