

DRINK AND Drug DRIVING

FATAL 5

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Drink and drug driving are major contributors to death and serious injury on South Australian roads. Alcohol and drugs reduce your ability to drive safely, with some common effects being:

- slow reaction time
- poor judgement
- impaired vision and hearing
- poor physical coordination
- over confidence.

Alcohol

The consumption of alcohol affects everyone differently and is influenced by a variety of factors including a person's age, gender, physical condition, food consumed prior to drinking, the amount of alcohol consumed and how quickly it was consumed.

Drugs

The level of drugs which remain in a person's system over time depends on a range of factors including the quality and quantity of the drug, if it was taken in combination with other drugs and/or alcohol, and a person's metabolism.

What the law says

In South Australia it is an offence to:

- drive under the influence of intoxicating liquor and/or a drug
- drive while having the prescribed concentration of alcohol in blood
- drive with a prescribed drug in oral fluid or blood
- refuse or fail to comply with directions from a police officer in relation to submitting to an alcoltest, breath analysis, drug screening test, oral fluid analysis or blood test.

Driving under the influence (DUI)

A person must not drive a vehicle while so much under the influence of intoxicating liquor and/or a drug as to be incapable of exercising effective control of the vehicle.

A vehicle includes a motor vehicle, tram, a bicycle, an animal drawn vehicle, an animal that is being ridden and a motorised wheelchair that can travel over 10 km/h.

A person is deemed incapable of exercising effective control of a vehicle if any mental or physical faculty is lost or appreciably impaired (e.g. slow or slurred speech, unsteady on feet, bloodshot eyes).

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THINK!
ROAD SAFETY



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Prescribed concentration of alcohol (PCA)

A person must not drive a motor vehicle while there is present in the person's blood the prescribed concentration of alcohol.

Learner, provisional and probationary licence holders must maintain a zero blood alcohol concentration level.

Drivers of buses, taxis, heavy vehicles and vehicles carrying dangerous goods must maintain a zero blood alcohol concentration.

Any other person must not drive with a blood alcohol concentration level of 0.05 grams or more of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood.

Prescribed drug

A person must not drive a motor vehicle while a prescribed drug is present in the person's blood.

Police conduct roadside saliva tests to detect the presence of these prescribed drugs:

- delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (cannabis)
- methylamphetamine (speed)
- 3, 4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) (ecstasy).

The penalties

The penalties for drink and drug driving include fines up to \$2900, imprisonment, licence disqualification, loss of demerit points, vehicle impoundment or forfeiture.

Don't drink and drug drive. Make sure you plan ahead and consider:

- **Nominating a designated driver.**
- **Organising someone to transport you to and from the venue.**
- **Catching public transport.**
- **Catching a taxi or consider ride sharing.**
- **Staying the night.**

The SA Police Road Safety Centre is a leader in road safety education, playing a vital role in reducing road trauma through enhancing the awareness, knowledge and skills of all road users through lifelong learning. For more information on our range of programs visit www.police.sa.gov.au/road-safety or use the QR code below to take you straight to SAPOL's road safety page. To book a FREE road safety session email SAPOL.RoadSafetySection@police.sa.gov.au

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