

CAR HIRE
EXCESS



Don't get fleeced

Car Hire Excess Policy Document



Combined Financial Services Guide (FSG)
and Product Disclosure Statement (POS)

18 October 2023

Don't get fleeced



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Important Matters

Your Insurer

Your policy is secured by HDI Global Specialty SE - Australia (the insurer).

Car Hire Excess is a registered Business Name of The Insurance Geeks Pty Ltd, ABN 35 612 507 785, a corporate authorised representative (CAR 1249296) of Coffre-Fort Pty Ltd ABN 66 125 358 518, AFS Licence No. 472457.

The insurer has appointed Insurance Geeks to issue, vary, renew or cancel the policy and handle claims on the insurer's behalf. Insurance Geeks is authorised by ASIC to provide general financial product advice on and deal in general insurance products.

Your Car Hire Excess Policy

If you buy the **policy**, this document and your **certificate of insurance** make up your insurance contract with us. Be sure to keep them in a safe place.

Your Duty To Us

In accordance with the Insurance Contracts Act 1984, you have a duty to act in the utmost good faith in all of your dealings with us.

This duty applies when you first apply for your **policy** and on any renewal, variation, extension or replacement of your **policy**.

If we ask you questions that are relevant to our decision whether to insure you and on what terms, you must take reasonable care not to make a misrepresentation to us when answering those questions.

For example, you will need to provide information which, to the best of your knowledge is accurate, complete and not misleading.

You and any other **nominated driver** must comply with this duty. Please make sure you explain the duty to anyone else insured under your **Rental Vehicle Agreement**.

If you do not take reasonable care not to make a misrepresentation, we may be permitted by law to cancel your insurance contract or reduce the amount we will pay you if you make a claim, or both.

If you make a misrepresentation which is fraudulent, we may refuse to pay a claim and treat the insurance contract as if it never existed.

Words with Special Meanings

Some words in this document have defined meanings. Where they appear:

- 'You' and 'your' mean the person(s) whose name(s) is set out on your **certificate of insurance**, and the insured drivers nominated on your **Rental Vehicle Agreement**.
- 'We', 'our' and 'us' means the Insurance Geeks Pty Ltd and the insurer who deals with you through **Car Hire Excess**.
- Words in **bold** have a special meaning which will be explained in the definitions section inside the back cover.

Product Disclosure Statement (PDS)

This PDS explains:

- How to buy the **policy**
- What the **policy** covers
- General conditions and exclusions
- How to claim under this **policy**

You should read PDS before buying the **policy** because you are responsible for ensuring that the insurance cover you select is suitable for your needs.

Any updates to this PDS, will be available at www.carhireexcess.com.au. We'll email you if any important changes happen while your policy is in force.

Buying The Policy

Before buying the **policy** you need to think about:

- The amount of excess cover you need?
- Geographically where you require cover?
- Whether you are eligible for cover?
- How much the **policy** will cost?
- What if you change your mind?
- What if you have a complaint?

Excess Amount Covered

We will reimburse you for the excess or repair costs up to a maximum of \$8,000. The most that you can claim in total will be shown on your **certificate of insurance**. This will range from \$4,000 to \$8,000 depending upon the excess amount you selected when purchasing your **policy**.

All amounts shown throughout this PDS are in Australian Dollars (AUD).

Geographical Location Covered

You are covered only when you use the **rental vehicle** in the geographical location specified on your **certificate of insurance**. This will be one of the following geographical areas:

WORLDWIDE

Anywhere in the World excluding any **journey** in, to, or through Afghanistan, Belarus, Cuba, Congo, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Liberia, North Korea, Myanmar, Sudan and Zimbabwe.

AUSTRALIA

Travel within Australia only.

Eligibility for Cover

Domestic (Australia) plan only

- you only have cover for travel within Australia;
- cover is available irrespective of your country of residency;
- you must purchase your policy before you collect the **rental vehicle** from the rental company;
- cover begins when you collect the **rental vehicle** from the rental vehicle company; and
- cover ends when you return the **rental vehicle** to the rental vehicle company, or on the end date specified on your certificate of insurance, whichever happens first.

International (Worldwide) plan only

- cover is available if you are **domiciled in Australia**;
- you must purchase your **policy** before you

collect the **rental vehicle** from the rental company;

- cover begins when you collect the **rental vehicle** from the rental vehicle company; and
- cover ends when you return the **rental vehicle** to the **rental vehicle** company, or on the end date specified on your **certificate of insurance**, whichever happens first.

Age Limits

Age limits are as at the date of issue of your **certificate of insurance**.

Cover is available to **insured drivers** 21-75 years of age (inclusive).

Cost of The Policy

We'll tell you the premium payable for your **policy** when you apply for cover. It will be based on a number of factors including the duration of your **journey** and the amount of excess cover you choose. It will also include some government charges and taxes such as GST and stamp duty.

Cancellation and Refunds

If you decide that you do not want this **policy**, you may cancel it within 14 days after you are issued your **certificate of insurance** and PDS. You will be given a full refund of the premium you paid, provided you have not started your **journey** and you do not want to make a claim or to exercise any other right under the policy.

After this period, you can still cancel your **policy** but we will not refund any part of your premium if you do.

Complaints

If you have any concerns about the **policy** or the insurance services you receive, please see the [Complaints Procedures](#).

Extending your cover

A **policy** may be extended any time before the **policy** end date stated on your **certificate of insurance**.

Cover will be extended subject to our approval, and your payment of the additional premium. You can apply to extend your policy:

- via the online [self-service policy manager](#) available on the website at any time.
- by emailing customer service at info@carhireexcess.com.au. We must receive your request to extend cover at least 48 hours before your original policy expires.

Where we have agreed to extend cover, we will issue you with a new **certificate of insurance**. The period of cover of your new certificate cannot exceed 180 days.

Extensions of cover are not available where:

- You have not first extended the rental vehicle agreement; or
- At the time of extension, you are aged 76 years or over; or
- You have not advised us of circumstances that have given (or may give) rise to a claim under your original policy.

Confirmation of Cover

To confirm any policy transaction, (if the **certificate of insurance** does not have all the information you require), please email customer service on info@carhireexcess.com.au.

What The Policy Covers

Car Hire Excess Reduction

This benefit only applies to a **nominated driver**.

We will pay

- a) We will reimburse the **rental vehicle** insurance **excess** or the cost of repairing the **rental vehicle**, whichever is the lesser, if, during the **journey**, the **rental vehicle** is involved in a motor vehicle accident while you are driving, or is damaged or stolen while in your custody. You must provide a copy of the repair account and/or quote.

This cover does not take the place of **rental vehicle** insurance, and only provides cover for the **excess** component up to the excess amount covered shown on your **certificate of insurance**. We will reimburse you for costs that you are charged under the terms of the **rental vehicle** agreement, for loss or damage to windscreens and auto glass, roof, tyres and underbody of the **rental vehicle**, which occurs while the **rental vehicle** is in your custody.

- b) We will also will pay up to \$500 for the cost of returning your rental vehicle to the nearest depot if your medical adviser certifies in writing that you are unfit to do so during your **journey**.

We will not pay

We will not pay a claim involving the theft of, or damage to, your **rental vehicle** if the claim **arises** from you operating or using the **rental vehicle**:

- in violation of the rental agreement;
- while affected by alcohol or any other drug in a way that is against the law of the place that you are in; or
- without a licence for the purpose that you were using it.

General Exclusions

To the extent permissible by law, we will not pay if:

1. You do not act in a responsible way to protect yourself and your property and to avoid making a claim.
2. You do not do everything you reasonably can to reduce your loss as much as possible.
3. Your claim is for consequential loss of any kind, including loss of enjoyment.
4. At the time of purchasing the **policy**, you were aware of something that would give rise to you making a claim under this **policy**.
5. Your claim arises because you act illegally or break any government prohibition or regulation including visa requirements.
6. Your claim arises from a government authority confiscating, detaining or destroying anything.
7. Your claim arises from any act of war, whether war is declared or not or from any rebellion, revolution, insurrection or taking of power by the military.
8. Your claim arises from a nuclear reaction or contamination from nuclear weapons or radioactivity.
9. Your claim arises from biological and/or chemical material, substance, compound or the like used directly or indirectly for the purpose to harm or to destroy human life and/or create public fear.
10. Your claim arises directly or indirectly from an act or threat of terrorism.
11. Your claim arises from, or is in any way related to depression, anxiety, stress, mental or nervous conditions.
12. Your claim arises from suicide or attempted suicide.

You were under the influence of any intoxicating liquor or drugs, except a drug prescribed to you by a medical adviser, and taken in accordance with their instructions.

Your claim arises from motor sports of any kind.

General Conditions

Other Insurance

If any loss, damage or liability covered under this **policy** is covered by other insurance, you must give us details. If you are paid the full amount of your claim under one **policy**, you cannot make a claim under another **policy**.

If you are not paid the full amount of your claim under another **policy**, we will make up the difference provided your claim is covered by the **policy**. We may seek contribution from other insurer. If we do, you must give us any information or assistance we reasonably need to do so.

Subrogation

If you are aware of any third party that is or may be liable for your loss or damage, you must tell us about them.

We are entitled to and may (at our discretion) seek to recover compensation from any party in respect of anything covered by this **policy**, including bringing legal proceedings. We are entitled to control and settle any such recovery action.

You must provide us with the assistance we require and permit all acts that we require even if we have not yet paid your claim or the amount we pay does not fully compensate you for your loss or damage.

Recovery

Any money we recover from a third party under our right of subrogation will be applied in the following order:

1. To us, our costs (administration and legal) arising from the recovery;
2. To us, an amount equal to the amount we pay you under the **policy**;
3. To you, your uninsured loss.

Once we have paid your total loss, we will keep any money left over.

If we have paid the full amount of your loss and you later receive a payment from someone else for that loss, you must pay that money to us (but only up to the amount we paid you).

If we pay for lost or damaged property which is later recovered or replaced by a third party, you must repay us the amount we paid for that property.

Business Trip – GST

If you are entitled to claim an input tax credit in respect of a cost for which a claim is made, or would be entitled to an input tax credit if you were to incur the relevant cost (i.e. in replacing a lost or stolen item), the amount we would otherwise pay will be reduced by the amount of that input tax credit.

Jurisdiction and Choice of Law

This **policy** is governed by laws of New South Wales, Australia. If you purchase the **policy**, you agree to submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of that State.

The insurer agrees that:

- In the event of a dispute arising under this **policy** it will at your request, submit to the jurisdiction of any competent Court in the Commonwealth of Australia. Such dispute shall be determined in accordance with the law and practice applicable in such Court;
- Any summons notice or process to be served on the insurer may be served on HDI Global Specialty SE, Level 19, 20 Martin Place, Sydney NSW 2000NSW 2000 who has authority to accept service and to enter an appearance on the insurer's behalf, and who is directed at your request to give a written undertaking that he will enter an appearance on the insurer's behalf;
- If a suit is instituted against any one of the participating underwriters, all underwriters participating in this insurance will abide by the final decision of such Court or any competent Appellate Court.

Making A Claim

If you need to make a claim on the **policy**, it is important that you let us know as soon as practicable and where possible within 30 days of your return home.

Step 1 - Submit Your Claim

Generally, the easiest way to submit a claim is online, to get started visit:

carhireexcess.com.au/claims

Alternatively, you can email us at info@travelclaimscentre.com

When submitting your claim, make sure you provide us with full information. We will require your Rental Vehicle Agreement and receipt showing the excess amount paid.

If you delay submitting your claim, or provide us with insufficient information and we are disadvantaged as a result, we may need to reduce the amount we pay in settlement of your claim.

Step 2 - Claim Assessment

We will assess your claim within 10 business days of receiving it, provided we have all necessary information and documentation. If we need additional information, we'll let you know and provide an estimate of the expected turnaround and process for making a decision.

Once our assessment is complete, we'll decide whether to accept or deny your claim. If it is denied, we'll let you know in writing and give you our reasons.

Step 3 – Excess Reimbursement

If your claim is accepted, we'll pay the amount due to you in Australian dollars. We'll pay this to you unless you ask us to pay someone else.

Importantly: If you make a claim against someone else in relation to a loss covered by the **policy** and do not get paid the full amount of your claim, we'll make up the difference provided:

- the claim is covered by the **policy**; and
- you claim against the other person first.

Got A Complaint?

If you have concerns about the **policy** or our services, refer to the [Complaints Procedure](#).

Financial Services Guide (FSG)

This FSG describes the financial services provided by **Car Hire Excess** and is designed to assist you to decide whether to use these services. It also describes how **Car Hire Excess** is paid, our professional indemnity insurance and how we manage complaints.

About Us

Your **policy** is underwritten by HDI Global Specialty SE - Australia (the insurer).

The insurer has appointed **Car Hire Excess** to issue, vary, renew or cancel the **policy** and to handle and settle claims on the insurer's behalf. **Car Hire Excess** is authorised by ASIC to provide general financial product advice on and deal in general insurance products.

Car Hire Excess acts as an agent of the insurer and not as your agent.

Remuneration and Associations

How we are paid

The premium for the **policy** is payable to the insurer.

Car Hire Excess is paid 32% (inc GST) of the premium paid for the **policy** for our costs of issuing the **policy** and managing claims.

Who we pay

If you are referred to **Car Hire Excess** by one of our referral partners, **Car Hire Excess** will pay the person a referral fee; of up to 15% of the premium we receive.

Car Hire Excess's employees and representatives receive an annual salary.

To obtain more information about our remuneration arrangements please contact **Car Hire Excess** before we provide any financial services to you.

Professional Indemnity Insurance

Car Hire Excess has professional indemnity insurance covering errors and mistakes made in relation to our insurance services. This insurance meets the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) and covers the services provided by **Car Hire Excess** and our representatives after they cease working for us, provided claims are made when they arise and during the relevant **policy** period.

General Insurance Code of Practice

Car Hire Excess and the insurer comply with the General Insurance Code of Practice (Code). The Code sets minimum standards that we will uphold in relation to this insurance and the services we provide. Further information and the Code is available at www.codeofinsurance.com.au and on request.

Complaints

We treat complaints seriously. If you have a concern about this **policy** or the insurance services we provide, please let us know.

Step 1: Let Us Know

We want to resolve any complaint or dispute for you as quickly as possible. The best place to start is to contact our Customer Disputes Resolution Team. You can lodge a complaint with them online at:

carhireexcess.com.au/complaints

We will acknowledge your complaint and provide you with the contact details of the person handling your complaint. We will try to resolve your complaint within 10 business days. If more time is needed to collect necessary information or complete any further investigation, we will agree with you a reasonable alternative timeframe.

Step 2: Escalation To Our Insurer

If we are unable to resolve your complaint to your satisfaction, we will escalate it to the insurer, HDI Global Specialty SE - Australia.

Email: HGABdisputes@hdi-specialty.com

Mail: HDI Global Specialty SE
Level 19, 20 Martin Place, Sydney NSW 2000

Step 3: External Independent Review

We aim to resolve complaints within 30 days. If we are unable to do so or you are dissatisfied with our final decision, you may lodge a complaint with Australia Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA) for external dispute resolution.

You can contact AFCA online at www.afca.org.au or

Email: info@afca.org.au

Telephone: 1800 921 678 (free call)

Mail: Australian Financial Complaints Authority GPO
Box 3, Melbourne VIC 3001

Privacy

Car Hire Excess and the insurer are committed to ensuring the privacy and security of your personal information. We use the information you provide to assess the risk of, provide you with insurance cover, and assess and manage claims.

We may also use your contact details to send you information and offers about products and services we believe will be interest of you. If you don't provide us with full information, we may not be able to provide insurance or assess a claim.

If you provide us with information about someone else, you must obtain their consent to do so.

When issuing and administering your insurance, **Car Hire Excess** will provide your information to the insurer in the United Kingdom. This may include your medical information if you have made a medical related claim. Your information may also be provided to contracted third party service providers (e.g. emergency assistance and claims management companies), but reasonable steps will be taken to ensure that they comply with privacy legislation.

Car Hire Excess has a **Privacy Policy** containing information about how you can access or correct the information we hold about you, or make a privacy related complaint. You can obtain a copy here: carhireexcess.com.au/privacy or by emailing info@carhireexcess.com.au.

In providing your personal information, you consent to its collection and use as outlined above.

Contact Us

You can contact **Car Hire Excess** at any time using the Contact Details on our website at: carhireexcess.com.au/about-us

Insurer's Privacy Policy

We are bound by the Privacy Act 1988 when collecting and handling Your personal information including health information. We will only collect personal information from or about You for the purpose of assessing Your proposal for insurance and administering Your insurance Policy, including any claims You make or claims made against **You**.

We may need to disclose personal information to other entities within Our group, re-insurers (who may be located overseas including Australia, the UK and EU), insurance intermediaries, insurance reference bureaux, credit reference agencies, Our advisers, Our agents, Our administrators and those involved in the claims handling process (including assessors, investigators and others), for the purpose of assisting Us and them in providing relevant services and products, or for the purpose of recovery or litigation.

We will disclose Your Personal Information to someone overseas only if we have:

- reasonable grounds to believe that they are subject to privacy laws that, overall, provide comparable safeguards to those in the Privacy Act 1988;
- reasonable grounds to believe that they are subject to privacy laws of a prescribed country under the Privacy Act 1988; or
- they agree to protect your information in a way that, overall, provides comparable safeguards to those in the Privacy Act 1988.

We may disclose personal information to people listed as co-insured on Your Policy and to family members or agents authorised by You. Disclosures may also be made to government, law enforcement, dispute resolution, statutory or regulatory bodies, or as required by law. We will request Your consent to any other purpose.

By providing Your personal information to Us, You consent to Us making the disclosures set out above which require consent. This consent to the use and disclosure of Your personal information remains valid unless You alter or revoke it by giving Us written notice. Without Your personal information, We may not be able to issue insurance to You or process Your claim.

You also have the opportunity to find out what personal information We hold about You and, when necessary, correct any errors in this information. Generally, We will do this without restriction or charge. For further information about Our Privacy Policy or to access or correct Your personal information, please contact Us at the following address:

HDI Global Specialty SE – Australia
Level 19, 20 Martin Place
Sydney, NSW, Australia, 2000

E-mail: PrivacyAustralianBranch@hdi-specialty.com

If You believe that We have interfered with Your privacy in the handling of Your personal information You may lodge a complaint by contacting Us. We will attempt to resolve Your complaint in accordance with Our Privacy Complaints Handling Procedure.

If You would like more information about Our Privacy Complaints Procedure please visit <https://www.hdi.global/en-au/legal/privacy/>

Definitions

Some words used in this PDS have a special meaning. When these words are used, they have the meaning set out below.

'Car Hire Excess' is a trading name of Insurance Geeks Pty Ltd ABN 35 612 507 785. **Car Hire Excess** issues the policy to you and handles claims as an agent for the insurer.

"arise", "arises" or "arising" means directly or indirectly arising from or in any way connected with.

"domiciled in Australia" means that you consider your permanent place of residence; abode house or home to be within Australia.

'certificate of insurance' means the document we give you which confirms that we have issued a **policy** to you and explains the details of your cover.

"excess" means the amount as stated in the rental agreement that you are responsible for in the event of loss or damage.

"insured drivers" means you and other drivers covered by this policy, so long as they are named on the rental agreement and qualify for cover.

"journey" means your journey from the time when you collect the **rental vehicle** from the rental vehicle company, and ends when you return the **rental vehicle** to the rental vehicle company, or on the end date specified on your **certificate of insurance**, whichever happens first.

"medical adviser" means a qualified doctor of medicine or dentist registered in the place where you received the services.

“**nominated driver**” means the person(s) whose names(s) are set out on the **rental agreement**.

“**policy**” means your car hire excess insurance policy with us and is made up of this Product Disclosure Statement, your **Certificate of Insurance** and any other document we tell you forms part of this policy. Together these documents make up your contract with us.

“**rental vehicle**” a car (coupe, convertible, hatchback, sedan, SUV, 4WD, utility, van), minibus, people mover, campervan, motorhome, or light commercial vehicle including moving trucks that is equal to or less than 4.5 tonnes that can be hired with a standard car drivers licence from a commercial rental motor vehicle company, agency, not-at-fault accident replacement centre or car share platform with its own fleet of vehicles.

“**rental agreement**” and “**rental vehicle agreement**” means the contract signed by the lead named insured driver and the car rental company or agency for the hire of a rental vehicle for business or pleasure purpose.



GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Email: info@carhireexcess.com.au

CLAIMS ENQUIRIES

Email: info@travelclaimscentre.com.au

WEB ADDRESS

carhireexcess.com.au

