More motorists gear up to avoid holiday havoc

More and more motorists are gearing up to avoid the potential holiday horror of vehicle breakdowns, according to industry experts.

A recent poll by the UK-wide Good Garage Scheme www.goodgaragescheme.com has revealed that 58 per cent of drivers do not have their cars checked at a garage before setting off on a motoring holiday.

And with 'austerity' prompting many to look at holidaying at home this year, experts at the Good Garage Scheme said the importance of checking vehicles before setting off is more vital than ever.

Phil Dugmore, technical manager at the Good Garage Scheme, said: "The results of our poll show that motorists appear to be taking risks by not checking their vehicles before going on holiday. Of course checking your vehicle is important at any time, but none more so than when you are using it to take family and friends on an anticipated holiday. After all, nobody wants the aggravation and stress of having to deal with vehicle repairs during what should be a well-earned relaxing break."

A comprehensive 21-point Holiday Check has just been launched by the Good Garage Scheme to its 3,000 plus members to give motorists more peace of mind about the state of their vehicles ahead of taking to the UK's roads on their holidays.

The 21-point Holiday Check includes:

- Air conditioning operation and cabin comfort
- Fluid levels
- Lights and wipers
- Tyres and exhaust

Phil added: "Our 21-point Holiday Check covers all of the areas that can help ensure motorists' vehicles are in the best possible condition before heading off to the UK's holiday hotspots. Taking preventative measures to avoid potential problems before they happen is certainly the best approach. Our member garages and workshops carry out work of the highest standard, giving motorists peace of mind for trouble free motoring."

Launched by Forté four years ago, the Good Garage Scheme's membership comprises of independent garages and workshops where customers are assured of service excellence. Now widely accepted as a mark of quality for independent garages across the UK, Good Garage Scheme garages are recognised as providing exceptional service to their customers based on a rigorously monitored mandatory code of practice. Customers looking for their nearest Good Garage can quickly locate one using the easy-to-use search facility on the Good Garage Scheme website www.goodgaragescheme.com.

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Editor's note:-

The Good Garage Scheme was set up as a self-regulatory body for independent workshops and MOT centres throughout the UK to ensure the best industry standards are maintained by its members. It has more than 3,000 members who adhere to a strict Code of Conduct and offer an Industry Standard Service.

Good Garage Scheme members:

- Adhere to a strict Code of Conduct and pledge to have their customers' best interests at heart
- Must agree what work needs doing with their customers before it is carried out
- Work to an Industry Standard Service checklist
- Must supply each customer with a feedback card allowing them to give their views on service directly to the Good Garage Scheme, which operates a stringent complaints procedure

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