

CLASSIC CAR HIRE NORTH

How pre-authorisation for the security deposit works

Pre-authorisations can be made on either debit or credit cards, and in both cases no money is taken at that point, it is simply reserved in case of damage to the car.

In the case of a credit card the effect is to reduce your card limit by the amount of the deposit, whilst on a debit card the amount will be blocked, i.e. you cannot use that deposit amount.

If you use a credit card, provided you don't need to max out the card then it's not really a problem. It's just reduced a credit limit that you didn't plan to use anyway.

If you use a debit card the value of the deposit has to be in the account and you will be unable to access it until your bank removes the pre-authorisation. Although the money is still in your account the bank treats it as unavailable. Provided you have sufficient funds in your account, again this doesn't really matter. However, if you normally keep money in a savings account with a minimum in your current account, then please be aware that once the hire is complete it's easy to forget about it and inadvertently become overdrawn. This means it's worthwhile transferring the security deposit amount to your current account so that it contains extra funds during that period.

From our point of view either credit or debit cards are fine, but from your point of view a credit card is usually better.

