



USA

IMPORT REGULATIONS

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A Guide to Importation of Personal & Household Effects into USA

You can bring household goods, furniture and other personal items into the United States without a bond and free of duty and taxes. You won't have to pay duty to CBP when importing these items. It is important to know that when importing household effects, you must have owned the items for at least a year. Items purchased within the past 12 months can still be imported, but a fee might apply. Additionally, you cannot import household items for commercial use without following other rules.

RETURNING US CITIZEN

May re-import all personal belongings and tools of trade, which were exported by him from the US, known as "American Goods Returned". Returning US citizens may also import free of duty household effects acquired abroad as long as they are not imported for another person or for sale and have been used overseas for at least one year. This privilege does not include articles placed in storage outside the home.

VISITORS

should beware of sending goods in advance. Customs may require a copy of the I94 immigration form (as completed on the plane by non US nationals) which will only be available after you arrive. Customs require copies of valid visas where applicable.





DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

- Passport - copy, including biographical data with photo page – some ports require passports of all family members
- Visa – household goods and personal effects may be imported on long-term or temporary/visitor visas (B1/B2) · Form I-94W – for clients of Visa waiver countries only.
- Customs Form 3299 - “Declaration for Free Entry of Unaccompanied Articles”
- Supplemental Declaration “Unaccompanied Personal and Household Effects
- Power of Attorney Form – Authorizing Destination Agent to clear shipments through Customs
- Permanent Resident Card - copy
- Informal Entry – Form 5119-A (if applicable)
- DOT HS-7 – Applicable for importing a vehicle
- EPA Form 3520 – Applicable for importing a vehicle
- Bill of Lading/Air Waybill - copy
- Comprehensive Inventory List – in English, terms “PBO “ (packed by owner) & “Misc”. are not accepted
- Importers Security Filing

DIPLOMAT SHIPMENT

Foreign officials who are traveling to the United States on official business must obtain an A visa prior to their entry. They cannot travel on tourist's visas, or visa free under the Visa Waiver Program. U.S. visa law indicates that if a visa applicant is entitled to an A visa as a principal or





dependent, he or she must receive an A visa. The exceptions to this rule are extremely limited. Qualified A visa applicants traveling to the United States for assignments of less than 90 days will be issued visas annotated "TDY" (temporary duty).

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Passport - copy
- Visa – either A-1 or A-2 · Diplomatic Note - Written confirmation by the sending government of the applicant's status. A-3 applicants must also have a diplomatic note to confirm the official status of employers
- A-3 Visa - for staff members of Diplomat
- Form DS-1504 – submitted to the Dept of State at least 10 days prior to arrival of shipment
- Comprehensive inventory list in English

IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Vehicles are subject to import taxes and duties unless previously exported from the US and customer can supply the Export BOL and can prove that no modifications had been made during stay abroad. All imported vehicles must meet both the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Department of Transportation (DOT) requirements. If required conversions are not performed in the country of origin, Customer must post a bond, typically 50% of the value, in order to have the





necessary conversions performed in the US. If conversions are not made the vehicle must be exported or destroyed. All costs for exams, testing or modifications are made payable by the Customer. This includes any vehicle imported that was purchased overseas and does not have US title.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original
- Commercial/Purchase Invoice – must be original
- EPA Form 3520-1
- Driver's License copy · Make, model and year of vehicle must also be provided
- Type of gasoline the vehicle uses
- Type of engine (spark or compression ignition) Only required for vehicles purchased overseas
- Cylinder capacity that do not have a US title
- Picture of engine and door plates

IMPORTATION OF PETS

Importation of pets is regulated by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), US Public Health Service and US Dept. of Agriculture (USDA). Quarantine is generally not required for cats or dogs. All pets are subject to inspection at ports of entry for evidence of infectious diseases. Pets being imported into Hawaii are subject to 30 day quarantine.





NOTE: The USDA has restrictions on the importation of breeds utilized for herding livestock unless originating from Canada, Mexico, Central America, and West Indies. These dogs must be inspected and quarantined at port of entry. Pets coming from a country where screwworm is known to exist must be inspected by a licensed veterinary official within 5 days prior to shipment to the US. The pet must be accompanied with a health certificate attesting the pet is free of screwworm or was found to be infested, treated and quarantined until free of screwworm.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Certificate of Vaccination – Original, including rabies, dated more than 30 days, but less than 180 days prior to arrival
- Health Certificate - Issued 5-10 days prior to departure, from a licensed Veterinarian
- AWB copy
- Owner ID proof .
- Microchip #

WOOD PACKAGING

Any wood packaging used in personal effects consignments (crates, pallets etc) must be constructed of approved treated timber and must be stamped with the internationally recognized ISPM symbol verifying this. Any non-compliant timber may be destroyed, treated or re-exported to the country of origin at the owner's expense. Export cases supplied by us are compliant, embossed GB FC0122 DB HT Forestry Commission.





PROHIBITED ITEMS

There are a few personal items that can't be imported into the U.S. If you're importing personal items, you'll want to leave the following goods behind:

- Meat and meat-containing products like soup mixes, bouillon and canned meat
- Fruits and vegetables
- Fish and fish eggs
- Narcotics and medication containing controlled substances
- Soil, livestock and pests
- Products made from endangered wildlife
- Cat and dog fur
- Fully- and semi-automatic weapons
- Items that infringe on copyright regulations
- Ancient artifacts from the Byzantine period, Pre-Columbian period and Khmer sculptures
- Alcohol

According to CBP rules, you are allowed to import one liter of alcohol into the U.S. duty free. That means if there's a favorite wine or liquor you'd like to bring into the United States, you can bring in a bottle without paying duty. If you'd like to stock your entire liquor cabinet with libations from abroad, you'll need to pay duty on the additional bottles, we need list for all the liquor with make /brand/quantity and price for each items. .





Absinthe

Absinthe is a botanical liquor with a very high alcohol content. Some kinds of absinthe contain a chemical called thujone. Thujone is a toxic chemical and has been associated with hallucinations. Absinthe containing thujone is prohibited in the United States. This means you can bring absinthe without thujone into the U.S. The same duty rules surrounding other alcohols apply.

Cigarettes and Cigars

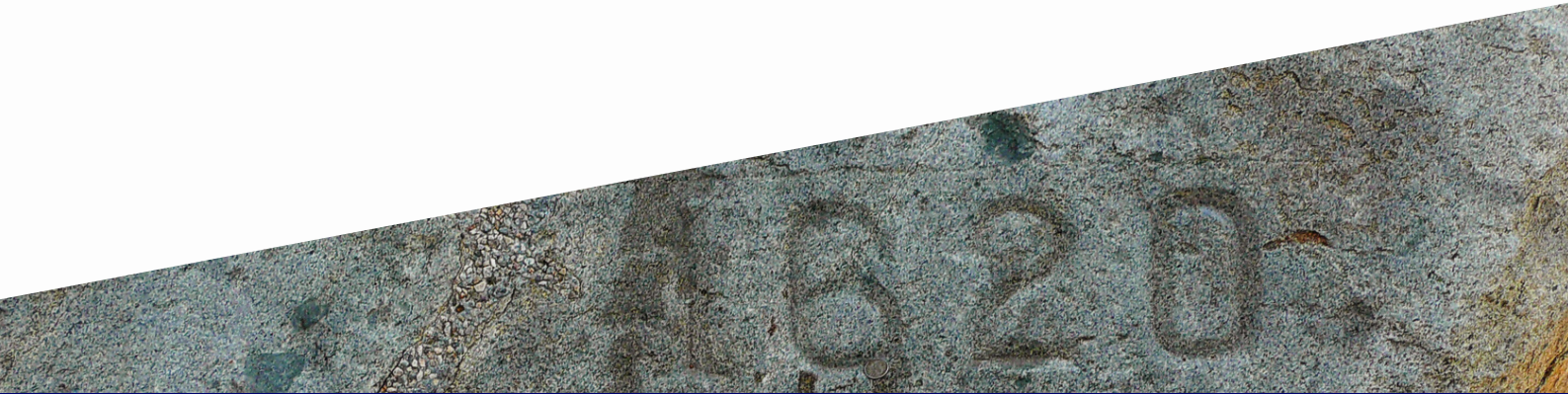
You can import tobacco products including cigarettes and cigars into the U.S. duty free. You can bring up to 200 cigarettes and 100 cigars without paying a duty. Additional cigarettes and cigars will be subject to duties and taxes. Some tobacco products, like Cuban cigars, have been subject to embargoes. At one time, it was illegal for Americans to import or consume Cuban cigars, even in foreign countries. Today Cuban cigars can be brought into the country for personal use in personal luggage.

Firearms

You'll need to follow a few rules for importing firearms for personal use. A permit from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) is required. The permit allows you to import guns and firearms into the U.S. as long as they are for personal use and not for resale. Some kinds of firearms, including armor piercing, tracer, or incendiary ammunition, cannot be imported.

Medications

If you are importing medications for personal use, there are a few rules to follow. Some medications, including narcotics and those with a high potential for abuse, cannot be imported at all. When bringing medication into the country, it is important that everything remain in its original containers, everything is declared to customs, and you bring in no more than you need





Estimated timing for clearance By SEA :

Sea shipments take an average of four to seven business days to clear customs if there are no additional customs exams required.

Estimated timing for clearance By AIR :

Air shipments take an average of two to four business days to clear customs if there are no additional customs exams.

Customs Fees:

When you move back to the U.S., you'll be considered a "returning resident" by CBP. As a result, you'll be allowed a Duty free for household goods like furniture, dishes, linens, books, artwork and other similar furnishings. CBP requires that these goods be intended for your personal use or previously used in a household where you were a resident for one year.

Exams:

If your ocean freight shipment is selected for an exam by CBP, you could end up paying fees that range anywhere from \$295 for an X-ray exam (the Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System or VACIS) or \$1,000-\$3,000 for an intensive exam.

When it comes to air freight, most air shipments will undergo an X-ray exam. CBP may also choose to physically examine your shipment. Most commonly, shipments are chosen for agricultural reasons, especially if the shipment contains outdoor items such as gardening equipment, patio items, bicycles, etc.





DISCLAIMER

The information presented herein is based on customs data available at the time of printing and is frequently subject to change without notice. It is the responsibility of the owner or importer of the household goods to comply with the current customs restrictions, regulations, and duties of the country to which the goods are imported. We strongly advise customers to contact the consulate or embassy of the destination country for the most current information on customs regulations, restrictions and duties for importing household goods, personal effects and vehicles.

