



FRANCE



CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND INFORMATION FOR IMPORTS

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

Documents Required

- Copy of Passport
- Visa, if applicable
- Detailed Inventory in French, valued in Euro and signed by the shipper
- Detailed Packing List in English and French
- Certificate of Change of Residence by the French Consulate (stipulating the date of arrival in the country and the date of change of residence during the last 12 months)
- Certificate of Transfer (on employer letterhead with date of employment in the origin country and date of transfer)
- Non-resale Attestation (priority must be obtained from the French Embassy abroad)
- Proof of residence in France, such as last phone or electricity bill, rental contract (less than 3 months old)
- Original Bill of Lading (OBL) / Air Waybill (AWB)
- Sales invoices for items purchased within 6 months prior to import (clearly identifying items, date, year and place of purchase)

Specific Information

- Used household goods in the owner's possession or use for at least 6 months are duty free if shipper's primary residence will be in France.
- If the payment of duties is required, authorization must be obtained from French Customs prior to arrival.
- Shipper presence for Customs clearance is not required.
- Items are subject to value added tax (VAT) of 19.6% if coming from European Community.
- For countries outside Europe items are subject to VAT of 19.6% plus duties (about 10%).
- Customs clearance takes approximately 3 to 4 days to clear the effects.

MOTOR VEHICLES

Documents Required

- Original Certificate of Title
- Current vehicle Registration
- Import Declaration
- Copy of vehicle Purchase Invoice showing taxes paid

Specific Information

- Customs duties are dependent on the vehicle's country of origin; however, all imported vehicles are subject to value added tax (VAT).
- Duties and taxes are paid when the vehicle is cleared through Customs.

PETS

Documents Required

- Vaccination Record
- Veterinary Health Certificate

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Specific Information

- Pets must be identifiable through tattoo or electronic identification, such as microchip.

RESTRICTED / DUTIABLE ITEMS

- Alcoholic beverages must be registered and are permitted within the limits indicated by persons 17 years and older as accompanied baggage (include a separate and detailed inventory of each item and an Import License / State Liquor License may be required):
 - Still wine (4 L), Beer (16 L)
 - Alcohol not exceeding 22% volume of alcohol (2 L)
 - Alcohol exceeding 22% volumes of alcohol (1 L)
- A reasonable quantity of wines and hard liquors may be brought in duty free if it can be considered as "Fond de Cave" (15 bottles).
- Tobacco products are subject to duty or tax payments and can be imported by persons 17 years and older as accompanied baggage.
- Firearms and weapons (proof of ownership, registration / certificates / licenses are required and must be obtained prior to import); contact agent for specific information as some weapons are prohibited.
- Medications for personal use only are permitted.
- Customs clearance takes approximately 3 to 4 days once required documentation is obtained.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Weapons, ammunitions and explosives
- Products made from animals (ivory, turtle shell, etc.)
- Endangered flora and fauna species and products made from them
- Items protected by the 1973 Washington Convention (CITES)
- Narcotics and drugs

CONSIGNMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Recommended: Contact the destination agent to ensure all requirements have been met prior to import, especially for differences regarding air / sea shipments.

IAM Note: *Customs regulations can change at any time with or without notice. This document is provided as a guide and for information only. While IAM has exercised reasonable care in publishing this document, IAM makes no representation, either expressed or implied, as to its accuracy or applicability.*

Helpful Website(s):

<http://www.state.gov/p/eur/ci/fr>

<http://www.ambafrance-us.org>