



## *Importing Personal Property Into Bermuda*

### **HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS**

#### **CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

##### **Customs Regulations:**

All shipments are subject to inspection. Customer's presence is advised to confirm appraisal of effects but not required. Used clothing and books are permitted duty free. Other items are subject to duty.

NOTE: Please seek the advice of your service agent regarding what is acceptable to import and what is restricted or prohibited to be imported into Bermuda. Bermuda Customs are very tough on those who evade paying duties. Fines are high on top of the already high duty on many items. Penalties can be up to \$12,000 or 5 times the duty of the item. Commercial penalties are up to 100,000. Court costs are incurred along with a possible criminal record. It is at the Customs Departments discretion to either prosecute and/or assess a civil penalty.

##### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Passport including photo page
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill (express B/L is acceptable)
- ✓ Customs Bond of 33.38 % of value of goods. Often compared to the insured amount of goods. If duties and customs fees are less than the deposit the difference will be refunded. If the duties and fees are more the difference will be billed to the customer
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory list
- ✓ Letter of Authorization- to allow Destination Agent to clear shipment
- ✓ Work permit – must be secured before departure

##### **Diplomat Status:**

**Foreign diplomats are granted duty free entry**

##### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise
- ✓ Passport copy
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory list in English

#### **RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS**

- ✓ New items are subject to duty, invoices must be supplied
- ✓ Alcohol – amounts beyond 1 liter of spirits or wine will incur duty
- ✓ Tobacco – amounts beyond 200 cigarettes/50 cigars will incur duty
- ✓ Medicines must have a prescription and be declared at Customs to avoid seizure
- ✓ Fruits, vegetables and soil- Import Permit required, subject to inspection by the Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries and Parks. Those not meeting inspection will be destroyed.
- ✓ Live plants need approval from the Department of the Environment
- ✓ Appliances will be levied duty 33.4% of value
- ✓ Antiques will be levied duty of 8.5% of value
- ✓ Furniture and sporting goods will be levied duty of 22.25%

## PROHIBITED ITEMS

Bermuda has a long list of prohibited items. Penalties are very severe if these items are found in the shipment. For more detailed information please view this link:

<http://bermuda-online.org/illegalimports.htm>

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Firearms, ammunitions, explosives, fireworks & pyrotechnics, toy guns
- ✓ Weapons of any kind including knives, blowguns, spears, crossbows etc
- ✓ Pornography of any kind
- ✓ Political literature
- ✓ Gold and/or silver coins

## IMPORTATION OF PETS

Bermuda does not have a quarantine period. The animal must be at least 4 months old to be allowed importation. Breed, date of birth, name and description of the pet is required. Pets must be licensed and micro-chipped. For animals other than cats or dogs the import procedure is very strict. Please consult your service agent or the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries in Bermuda prior to consigning exotic pets. Bermuda is one of 28 countries free of rabies thus having your pet free of rabies is essential.

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination - including Rabies
- ✓ Health Certificate – issued by a licensed veterinarian
- ✓ Import Permit – issued by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Parks is required
- ✓ Multiple Dog Permit – if importing more than one dog

## IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Vehicles must be less than six months old. Automobiles are restricted to size and engine capacity. Motorcycles over 100cc are prohibited.

Diplomats- No restrictions apply and the vehicle is free of

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration, owners log book
- ✓ Import Permit- From the Transport Control Department
- ✓ Commercial Invoice – if vehicle is new
- ✓ Insurance Policy & log book showing length of ownership if vehicle is used

## NOTES:

**Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials:** At this time Bermuda does not require the ISPM 15 requirement

**Importing animals from the UK:** The ban of importing pets and other animals from the UK has been lifted.

Animals from the UK must be micro-chipped, are free from Foot-and-Mouth disease and can be disinfected and certified in advance by a kennel service in London approved in Bermuda.

For more information visit the British/UK Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAFF)

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

<http://hamilton.usconsulate.gov/service.html>

Bermuda Customs: Hamilton Hall, 40 Front Street, Hamilton HM 11,  
P. O. Box HM 2084, Hamilton HM HX, Bermuda

Bermuda Customs: [www.customs.gov.bm](http://www.customs.gov.bm)

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IATA Travel Centre

**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.**