



Importing Personal Property Into Brunei Darussalam

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Customs Regulations:

The client **MUST** be in Brunei for clearance but is not required to be present during the clearance process. All shipments are inspected via x-ray with physical screenings done at random. Used household goods and personal effects are usually duty free provided goods have been owned and used by the customer for a minimum of one year.

NOTE: Please refer to the NOTES section for information regarding immigration for transferees.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Passport - copy
- ✓ Residence Visa
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill – original
- ✓ Comprehensive Inventory – 1 original, 1 copy in English, contents of each carton specified
- ✓ Power of Attorney – giving authority for Destination Agent to arrange customs clearance
- ✓ Proof of Employer – i.e. letter from employer
- ✓ Health Declaration Card – submitted upon arrival

Diplomat Status:

Foreign diplomats, members of government or international organizations are granted tax and duty free entry of their personal effects and household items including vehicles. Shipment is exempt from physical inspection.

Returning Brunei diplomats are no longer entitled to Diplomatic Duty Exemption status.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Diplomatic Exemption Permit– obtained from Brunei Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade Office
- ✓ Passport - copy
- ✓ Comprehensive Inventory – 1 original, 1 copy in English, contents of each carton specified

RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

NOTE: Fees are not incurred for the censorship process but subject to indefinite delay.

- ✓ Linens, fabrics, rugs & cosmetics
- ✓ Bicycles (new or used)
- ✓ Books & magazines – will be screened by Customs Authority
- ✓ DVD's, video's, tapes, films & other digital media will be screened by the Brunei Censor Board
- ✓ Fax machines – require approval by Telecommunications Department, incur duty & license fees
- ✓ New items
- ✓ Tobacco – 200 cigarettes or 250 grams of loose tobacco, in excess of these amounts incurs duty,

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind – subject to the death penalty if found in shipment
- ✓ Pornography, obscene and subversive matter
- ✓ Alcohol – including wine & beer
- ✓ Gambling devices
- ✓ Explosives, ammunitions and weapons of any kind – includes replicas, antiques, toy guns
- ✓ Hand-held radio & transmitting devices
- ✓ Political & religious materials, literature & icons offensive to Islam

IMPORTATION OF PETS

Pets including birds must be shipped as manifested cargo accompanied with copies of the required documents below. Quarantine is required, length of which varies by country of origin. 180 days is applicable to all cats and dogs imported from countries other than Australia, Ireland, Sabah, Sarawak, Singapore and the United Kingdom. Quarantine accommodations are limited; consultation with the State Veterinary Officer, Office of the Director of Agriculture, Brunei prior to dispatch.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – including rabies, dated less 30 days to 11 months prior to arrival
- ✓ Health Certificate - dated no more than 60 days prior to arrival, by a Veterinarian
- ✓ Import License – must be obtained prior to consignment from Department of Agriculture

IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

All documents for importing used vehicles must be sent pre-alert to your Destination Agent 7 working days in advance of arrival. Vehicles are subject to import duty. Amount to be paid depends on value, model, year, cubic centimeters and accessories.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original
- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice – must be original
- ✓ “AP” Permit – required prior to departure from origin port
- ✓ Driver’s License – origin license is valid for 90 days; endorsed to Brunei driver’s license at any Land Transport Department office

NOTES:

Entry & Exit Requirements: US Passport holders must have at least 6 months validity remaining on their passports prior to entry. Diplomatic and official passport-holders are also required to apply for a visa to enter Brunei. Immigration offenses are punishable by caning. U.S. citizens should be aware that the current immigration law is stringent and less flexible than the previous one, with harsher penalties. Workers who overstay their visas can face jail sentences, fines, and caning. Persons associated with violators, such as contractors or employers, are subject to the same penalties if the violator is found guilty. The Embassy strongly recommends that U.S. citizens on contract in Brunei be fully aware of their immigration status and of crucial dates regarding contract extensions and renewals, and have their employment documents in order. It would be wise to apply the same approach to any personal and domestic staff they may have hired, to ensure that they, too, do not run afoul of Brunei immigration regulations.

Health: Brunei has imposed HIV/AIDS restrictions as part of a ban on communicable diseases. The Ministry of Health (MOH) of Brunei Darussalam requires all travelers entering Brunei to fill out a Health Declaration Card and submit it to the Officer-In-Charge (MOH) upon disembarkation. Under Section 7, Infectious Diseases Order 2003 of MOH, travelers may be subjected to a medical examination upon arrival in Brunei Darussalam. There is adequate care for basic medical conditions in Brunei; however, for certain elective surgery or complicated care, the best medical care in the region is obtained in Singapore. There is a slight risk of malaria in border areas. Hepatitis B is highly endemic in the region, dysentery and hepatitis A and E also occur. Avian influenza (bird flu) has been on the rise recently. One should still be mindful of prolonged exposure to poultry or the consumption of poultry that has not been cooked to a high internal temperature.

Safety: Terrorist groups such as Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) that have transnational capability to carry out terrorist attacks in various Southeast Asian nations, including Brunei. JI is known to have cells operating in Southeast Asia and to have connections with Al-Qaeda. U.S. citizens in Brunei should continue to be vigilant with regard to their personal security, maintain a low profile, vary times and routes during their daily routines. JI also has been tied to previous regional terrorist attacks throughout Indonesia. As security is increased at official U.S. facilities, terrorists will seek softer targets. These may include but are not limited to facilities where U.S. citizens and other Westerners are known to live, congregate, shop or visit, including but not limited to hotels, clubs, restaurants, shopping centers, housing compounds, transportation systems, places of worship, schools, or outdoor recreation events.

Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials: Brunei does not impose ISPM15 regulations for wood packaging material (WPM).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Alltrade Services, SDN BHD
IATA Travel Centre
Department of State
Visa HQ

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.