



# *Importing Personal Property Into Tahiti (French Polynesia)*

## **HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS**

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

#### **Customs Regulations:**

Used household goods and personal effects are usually duty free provided goods have been owned and used by the client for a minimum of six months and customer has lived abroad for at least one year. All new items will be levied a tax. The goods must be imported within six months of arrival. Items can not be sold, lent or otherwise disposed of during stay or for a period of three years.

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Passport - original
- ✓ Residence Permit/ Work Permit or Letter from Employer –attesting to employment contract
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill – (rated) original, Express Release not allowed
- ✓ Comprehensive Valued Inventory – in French, dated & signed by owner
- ✓ Pack list - in French,
- ✓ Power of Attorney – giving authority for Destination Agent to arrange customs clearance
- ✓ Non Sale Certificate – declaration client will not sell belongings while in Tahiti

#### **Diplomat Status:**

All documents must arrive to the Destination Agent 15 days prior to arrival to obtain free entry from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise
- ✓ Passport - original
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory –dated & signed by owner
- ✓ Power of Attorney – giving authority for Destination Agent to arrange customs clearance

### **RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS**

- ✓ Appliances/Electronics – must have invoices/receipts
- ✓ Prescription medications – require a physician's prescription
- ✓ Firearms & ammunition- requires a permit from local police prior to arrival
- ✓ New items – (less than 6 months) must have invoices/receipts; subject to taxes
- ✓ Alcohol – 2L of still wine and 1L of spirits over 22% or 2L of spirits up to 22%
- ✓ Tobacco – 200 cigarettes or 200 grams of loose tobacco, in excess of these amounts incurs duty

### **PROHIBITED ITEMS**

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Pornography and subversive material
- ✓ Explosives, ammunitions and weapons unless otherwise approved
- ✓ All food of animal origin

## IMPORTATION OF PETS

Importation of pets and animals is highly regulated and new laws are currently under development. Consult with your service agent prior to bringing your pet.

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – including rabies
- ✓ Health Certificate - issued by a Veterinarian at origin

## IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Vehicles are subject to duties. 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 – if less than 6 months old
- ✓ Drivers License
- ✓ Non Sale Certificate – declaration client will not sell vehicle
- ✓ OBL - state chassis & engine number, cubic capacity, year of manufacture, brand and model

### NOTES:

**Entry & Exit Requirements:** There is a [U.S. Consular Agent in French Polynesia](#) who can provide assistance. The U.S. Embassy is located in Suva, Fiji, which oversees the U.S. Consular Agent in French Polynesia, can also provide assistance for U.S. citizens. A passport valid for six months beyond duration of stay is required. U.S. citizens are encouraged to carry a copy of their U.S. passports with them at all times, so that if questioned by local officials, proof of identity and U.S. citizenship are readily available. If detained, U.S. citizens are encouraged to request that the U.S. Consular Agent in French Polynesia be notified. French customs authorities may enforce strict regulations concerning temporary importation into or export from French Polynesia. The web site for French customs is <http://www.finances.gouv.fr/>.

**Safety & Security:** US citizens are encouraged to enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program, to stay current with the latest safety and security announcements dispersed by the Embassy in your area. Your enrollment can also help the Department of State reach your family and friends in case of emergency.

**Health:** Immunization against typhoid is recommended. Immunization against hepatitis A & B are recommended. Dengue fever and filariasis occur.

**Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials:** As of this posting French Polynesia does not impose ISPM15 regulations for wood packaging material (WPM).

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

AGS French Polynesia: Papeete, Tahiti; French Polynesia

Embassy of France: <http://www.info-france-usa.org/spip.php?rubrique=2>

Department of State: [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1119.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1119.html)

Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>

USDA: [www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov)

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.