



# *Importing Personal Property Into Haiti*

## **HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS**

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

#### **Customs Regulations:**

All shipments are subject to inspection. The clearance process is lengthy. The client should be present at the destination during the clearance process. Used household goods and personal effects are duty free. Terms “Misc” and “PBO” are not acceptable descriptions on the pack lists or inventory.

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Passport - copy, including photo page, most recent entry stamp
- ✓ Visa – for all non Haitian citizens
- ✓ Certificate of Residence “ Permis de Sejour” only required if customer or employer has a tax free agreement with the Haitian Government
- ✓ Commercial Invoice – notarized at Consulate at origin
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory – original and one copy

#### **Diplomat Status:**

Foreign diplomats, members of government or international organizations are granted tax and duty free entry of their personal effects and household items either new or used.

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise
- ✓ Passport copy
- ✓ Letter from Embassy & Certificate from Ministry of Foreign Affairs at destination requesting clearance of shipment and confirming status of diplomat
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory – original and one copy

### **RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS**

- ✓ Sporting guns - written authorization obtained from Haiti Army Chief of Staff prior to importation
- ✓ Alcohol – 1 quart of wine or spirits
- ✓ Tobacco 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars

### **PROHIBITED ITEMS**

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Pornography and subversive material
- ✓ Explosives, ammunitions and weapons

### **IMPORTATION OF PETS**

Dogs, cats and most birds are allowed. Parrots and macaws are strictly prohibited.

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – not more than 7 days prior to importation, rabies vaccine should be issued between 21 days but not more than 9 months prior to importation.
- ✓ Health Certificate - not more than 7 days prior to importation

## IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Currently clearance processes for vehicles is very lengthy. Please consult with your Destination Agent prior to consigning a vehicle for the latest requirements.

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original
- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice – must be original

### NOTES:

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

**Safety and Security:** The Haitian government requires foreigners to pay a departure fee. U.S. citizens are encouraged to contact the Embassy of the Republic of Haiti for more details regarding current entry, departure and customs requirements for Haiti. The U.S. mission in Haiti issues security related messages warning U.S. citizens of violent or unstable conditions and has been forced to suspend service to the public or close the Embassy because of security concerns. These concerns have also prevented Embassy personnel from traveling to or through some areas. Since October 2004 Embassy personnel have been prohibited from entering central Port-au-Prince after dark due to security concerns. The Embassy has also imposed a curfew on its officers. As a result, the ability of Embassy officers to come to the aid of U.S. citizens in distress may be limited.

**Crime:** There are no "safe" areas in Haiti. There is a persistent danger of violent crime, which can be subject to periodic surges not obviously explained by other events or conditions. Haiti is among the four most important countries for drug transit to the United States. Law and order in Haiti has steadily deteriorated as a result. Kidnapping, death threats, murders, drug-related shootouts, armed robberies, home break-ins and car-jacking are common in Haiti. Generally, these crimes are committed by Haitians against other Haitians, although several foreigners and U.S. citizens have been victimized. Kidnapping remains the most critical security concern especially as children are frequent targets.

**Health:** Vaccines are recommended for Typhoid, Hepatitis A & B. Hepatitis E also occurs mainly in unsanitized water and raw or undercooked shellfish. Tuberculosis and malaria are major public health concerns. Dengue Fever also occurs.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

US Department of State: [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1134.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1134.html)

Embassy of Haiti: <http://www.haiti.org/>

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

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.