



Importing Personal Property Into Lesotho

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Customs Regulations:

Client must be in Lesotho 2 weeks prior to arrival of shipments and be made available during Customs clearance. All shipments are physically inspected. Used household goods and personal effects are duty free provided goods have been owned and used by the client for over 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.

Returning nationals must have resided outside of Lesotho for a continuous period of six months to qualify for duty-free importation.

Copies of all required documents must be supplied to the Destination Agent 2 weeks prior to arrival of the shipment to avoid demurrage. Original documents should be sent via courier as soon as possible. Keys for any locked items must be made available. Failure to comply with the requirements will result in demurrage and storage charges.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Passport - original or certified copy
- ✓ Residence Permit or Work Permit
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill – original, Express Release not allowed
- ✓ CE 1 Form
- ✓ DA65 or NEP Form – all items with serial numbers must be listed on this form
- ✓ Comprehensive Valued Inventory – original, in English, dated & signed by owner
- ✓ Letter of Value – Describe value of used shipment. New or commercial items require invoices
- ✓ Pack list
- ✓ Power of Attorney – giving authority for Destination Agent to arrange customs clearance
- ✓ Letter from Employer –attesting to client's employment contract

Diplomat Status:

Foreign diplomats, members of government or international organizations are granted tax and duty free entry of their personal effects and household goods. 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
- ✓ CE 3 Form – for Diplomatic shipments
- ✓ CE 6 Form – for Embassy shipments
- ✓ 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, state serial numbers on inventory

- ✓ Prescription medications – require current prescriptions
- ✓ Firearms/Hunting rifles - requires an Import Permit from local police
- ✓ New items – (less than 6 months) must have invoices/receipts
- ✓ Alcohol – requires an Import Permit
- ✓ Tobacco – 400 cigarettes or 250 grams of loose tobacco, in excess of these amounts incurs duty

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Pornography and subversive material
- ✓ Guns, explosives, ammunitions, knives, swords and any other weapons unless otherwise approved
- ✓ Gambling paraphernalia

IMPORTATION OF PETS

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – including rabies, less than 6 months prior to arrival
- ✓ Health Certificate - by a Veterinarian at origin

IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

The OBL must show chassis & engine numbers, cubic capacity, year of manufacture, brand and model. Used vehicle must be owned by the owner for at least one year. Second vehicle will incur duties and taxes.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original
- ✓ Passport – copy
- ✓ C/E Form 1,3 or 6 – determined by client status
- ✓ Work or Residence Permit
- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice – new vehicles, must be original
- ✓ Import Permit – obtained from Department of Trade and Industry (new vehicles)
- ✓ Letter of Value – Used vehicles
- ✓ OBL - original

NOTES:

Entry & Exit Requirements: Vaccination for yellow fever is a common requirement and travelers should carry their international vaccination cards with them. Some HIV/AIDS entry restrictions exist for visitors to and foreign residents of Lesotho. Lesotho border guards have the discretion to deny entry to visitors with HIV/AIDS.

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.

Crime: Foreigners are frequently targeted, robbed, car-jacked, and sometimes killed. Police have reported the presence of a number of armed gangs and unauthorized police checkpoints. Residences with 24-hour guards are reportedly less likely to be targeted.

There is a serious baggage pilferage problem at Johannesburg International Airport. Persons traveling by air to Lesotho must travel via Johannesburg. The pilferage problem particularly affects travelers changing airlines and those flying on smaller airlines. Make an inventory of items in checked baggage to aid in claims processing if theft does occur.

Health: US residents should carry with them an adequate supply of needed medicines and/or prescription drugs, along with copies of prescriptions. Lesotho has a very high HIV/AIDS prevalence rate, currently estimated at over thirty percent of the adult population. One should exercise proper precautions. Medical care is limited. Good medical service is available in Bloemfontein, South Africa, 90 miles west of Maseru.

Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials: As of this posting Lesotho does not impose ISPM15 regulations for wood packaging material (WPM). However South Africa does impose ISPM15 requirements which must be adhered to for shipments transiting through South African ports.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

AGS World Wide: Maseru West, Kingdom of Lesotho

Stuttaford Van Lines: Maseru West, Kingdom of Lesotho

Embassy of Lesotho: <http://www.lesothoemb-usa.gov.ls/home/>

Department of State: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_949.html

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

USDA: www.aphis.usda.gov

IATA Travel Centre

Visa HQ.com

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.