



Importing Personal Property Into Netherlands

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Customs Regulations:

All shipments are subject to inspection. Used household goods and personal effects are duty free provided: The customer has lived outside of the Netherlands for at least 12 months (six months if previous residence was within the European Union). The customer is transferring the primary residence to the Netherlands. The goods have been used and in the owner's possession for at least 12 months (six months if previous residence was within the European Union) prior to importation. The goods must not be sold or lent for at least 12 months (six months if previous residence was within the European Union) after importation. The goods are in accordance with the social status of the Customer.

Re-importation of used goods within one year requires special documentation for duty-free import.

If the customer is not staying in the Netherlands for a minimum of 12 months, a bond will have to be posted for duties and taxes.

NOTE: As of 19 August 2010 an EORI (Economic Operators Registration and Identification) number is required for all imports and exports to clear Customs in the European Union.

The requirement was introduced by the European Commission in July 2009 to enhance security. The EORI number must be used in all electronic communications with Customs Offices and other government agencies and departments. This number is valid in all EU member states and replaces ALL Customs identification numbers including the TIN (Traders Identification Number).

Required Documents:

- ✓ Passport Copy including photo page and Police Entry stamp
- ✓ Visa
- ✓ Certificate of Residence
- ✓ Residence Agreement (rental or purchase contract)
- ✓ Application for Exemption from import duties (Aanvraag Vrijstelling)
- ✓ Request for Import Permit – ALL anticipated shipments including vehicles must be included in the original petition. Import Permits are only granted once
- ✓ Customers from Non European Union countries applying for the Import Permit:
 - Application is to be provided from your Destination Agent
 - Original form of Registration in Customer's new city in the Netherlands
 - Statement from Employer attesting to length of employment & position in the firm
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill
- ✓ Comprehensive Inventory (5 copies) signed by the customer, preferably typed in English or Dutch
 - Electronics & appliances must state serial number, make & model
 - Vehicles must state make, model & engine/chassis numbers
 - Contents of each carton must be stated; Packed by Owner or Misc. are not acceptable

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. Customs reserves the right to inspect the shipment.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise
- ✓ Passport copy
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory list in English
- ✓ Import Document No. 39 – granted by Inspector of Taxes, The Hague

RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

- ✓ Electrical appliances
- ✓ Medicine require a physicians prescription – otherwise prohibited
- ✓ All firearms, ammunitions and weapons require specific licenses & registration documents issued by the police. Customer must be present at Customs clearance if weapons are in the shipment
- ✓ New items (less than six months)
- ✓ Computers are subject to import regulations
- ✓ Alcohol & tobacco products require detailed descriptions i.e. quantity, brand, size/weight
- ✓ Precious metal object require authorization from the “Kantoor Waarborg”
- ✓ Antiques and Works of Art

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Pornography and subversive material
- ✓ Explosives, ammunitions and weapons with out proper licenses
- ✓ CB radios
- ✓ Meat products and all species of cactuses and orchids
- ✓ Products made from endangered or threatened exotic animals

IMPORTATION OF PETS

If bringing a pet into the Netherlands the customer must be present at the Customs clearance process. Upon examination by a Customs officer your pet may be subject to quarantine. Cats and dogs are subject to regulations EU No. 998/2003 of the European Parliament. Pets may enter as checked baggage, in the cabin or as cargo. Psittacine birds (parrot type birds) need approval from the nearest Dutch consulate, Veterinary Service or local Ministry of Agriculture to verify breed of bird(s) are not endangered.

Customer is allowed up to 5 birds.

Birds are forbidden importation if arriving from a country infected with Avian flu. The import of psittacine birds from Australia, Bolivia, Colombia, Ghana, Hong Kong, Honduras, Indonesia, Nicaragua or Paraguay is also prohibited.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – including rabies, dated less than 30 days prior to arrival
- ✓ Health Certificate - dated less than 10 days prior to arrival or 2 months if importing birds

IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Customer's presence is required during clearance and at Customs Office to sign papers of Exemption to clear the vehicle. Vehicles are exempt of duties if owned and used for a minimum of six months and is listed on the original request for an Import Permit. The vehicle is not to be sold for at least one year after importation into the Netherlands. Keys must be readily available

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original
- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice – must be original
- ✓ International Liability Insurance Card (Green Card)
- ✓ Copy of Lease or Deed of Residence
- ✓ Dutch Registration
- ✓ Copy of Work Contract
- ✓ Original Form of Registration in client's new Dutch home town

NOTES:

Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials: As of 19 March 2010 Methyl Bromide is no longer permitted as an acceptable treatment for WPM. Certificates of treatment after this date may not be acceptable to certain destinations

New European Community import requirements provide that the WPM instead of being produced from debarked round wood will need to be free from bark with exception for the presence of any number of individual pieces of bark. These should be either less than 3 cm in width (regardless of the length) or, if greater than 3 cm in width, of not more than 50 cm² in area. This latter free-from-bark requirement will be applicable from 1 July 2009 onwards.

Electronics: Electronics, computers, TV's DVD players etc should be loaded to the rear of the container for easy access by Customs officials. Once Customs stamps all documents, the goods may be delivered to the residence.

Direct Representation: As of 6 April 2008 Dutch Customs implemented direct representation in the export and re-export procedures. Customs regulations require that Destination Agents have an authorization on file to act as your direct representative.

Request the "Authorization to act a Direct Representative" form from your Destination Agent of choice. The form must be signed by an authorized person within your organization/company. In addition to this authorization Customs also requires Destination Agents to have a copy on file of a recent excerpt of the entry of your company in the Trade Register of the Chamber of Commerce. More details can be found on the Customs website below.

Forms: All forms must be in Dutch, the English versions are for reference only.

Weapons Consent form: <http://www.netherlands-embassy.org/files/pdf/AanvrBconsent.pdf>

Exemption of Tax and Duties form: <http://www.douane.nl/download/en/170.html>

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Dutch Customs Website: www.douane.nl

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.