



Importing Personal Property Into Slovakia (Slovak Republic)

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Customs Regulations:

Used household goods and personal effects are tax and duty free provided goods have been owned and used by the customer for a minimum of six months and client has lived abroad for at least one year. The goods must be imported within one year. Items can not be sold, lent or otherwise disposed of during stay. The client's Residence Permit must also be approved prior to importation of goods,

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). All business operators and private individuals not established in the EU must obtain the EORI number from the authorities in the respective EU member state wherein the client intends to operate or reside. Please consult with your Destination Agent for further details and assistance.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Passport - copy
- ✓ Residence Permit – copy of application is acceptable
- ✓ Bank Guarantee or cash deposit
- ✓ Lease/rental contract – notarized, 2 year minimum required, no exceptions
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill – original
- ✓ Comprehensive Valued Inventory – in English or Slovak; all electronics, computers etc must state make, model & serial numbers on the inventory, dated and signed by owner
- ✓ Power of Attorney – notarized, giving authority for Destination Agent to clear customs
- ✓ Letter from Employer – attesting to client's length of stay, position, and that employer will pay any applicable taxes or duties. Client's name, date of birth & passport number must be on the statement

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. Shipment must arrive within six months of the client with "Diplomat" status.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Accreditation Card – obtained from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovakia or confirmation from client's Embassy
- ✓ Passport - copy
- ✓ Comprehensive Valued Inventory – in English or Slovak; all high-tech equipment, computers, electronics, stereos etc must state make model & serial number
- ✓ Power of Attorney – notarized & stamped by Embassy, giving authority for Destination Agent to arrange customs clearance

RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

- ✓ Firearms - require a gun license obtained from Slovak Police or Consulate prior to importation
- ✓ Appliances/electronics – must state brand & serial numbers on inventory
- ✓ Plants – require quarantine
- ✓ Medication
- ✓ New items & foodstuffs
- ✓ Alcohol – wine; 2 litres per person, spirits; 1 litre per person

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Alcohol & Tobacco
- ✓ Pornography and subversive material
- ✓ Explosives, ammunitions and weapon
- ✓ Vehicles intended for non-personal use

IMPORTATION OF PETS

Cats and dogs are subject to special regulations (EC) No. 998/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council. For more information contact the Ministry for Soil Management, Veterinary Dept. (www.svssr.sk). Veterinary examinations occur upon arrival and quarantine is not required once the pet passes the exam. Pre-advice of arrival must be sent to the station manager of the transporting airline at least 24 hours before arrival.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – including rabies, dated less 30 days to 11 months prior to arrival
- ✓ Health Certificate - dated no more than 5 days prior to arrival, endorsed by a Veterinarian

IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Vehicles must have been used abroad by the client for at least six months prior to importation.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original
- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice –
- ✓ Drivers License & International Insurance Policy (green card)
- ✓ Bank Guarantee

NOTES:

Entry & Exit Requirements: Everyone in Slovakia over the age of 15 is required by law to carry a passport at all times. It is not sufficient to carry a photocopy of the passport, although we recommend that you keep a photocopy of your passport in a safe place. The police have the right to ask Americans for identification, and only a passport showing legal entry and/or legal residency status is adequate evidence. U.S. citizens must submit a certificate not older than 90 days showing the result of a fingerprint records check by the FBI prior to relocation. Under current policy, authorities in Slovakia cannot take fingerprints for this purpose. The U.S. Department of State is unaware of any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors. However a medical examination that includes an HIV/AIDS test is required for obtaining a residency permit in Slovakia. Slovakia currently requires all documents (birth certificates, etc) intended for official

use in Slovakia to be authenticated (i.e., to have an apostils). Refer to the DOS websites' section on Judicial Assistance for more information.

Crime: There are reports of racially motivated incidents against foreigners and minorities, particularly targeting persons of Roma, African, or Asian descent, in Slovakia. In addition to incidents of assault, persons of Roma, African, or Asian heritage may be subject to various types of harassment, such as verbal abuse. Both indigenous and foreign organized crime groups are well established in Slovakia. They do not target U.S. or other foreign individuals and tend to co-exist peacefully in the tourist district so as not to scare away tourist dollars.

Health: Medical prescriptions issued in the U.S. are not valid in Slovakia. If needed, a local doctor must issue a prescription. Medicines are generally available locally, if they are not available under the American name, you can consult a doctor for a local substitute. The Ministry of Health administers the use of medicines, and medicine brought into Slovakia for personal use may be subject to comparison against the list of those authorized for use in Slovakia.

Accessibility: Accessibility and accommodation for individuals with disabilities are quite different from the United States. Slovak law requires that public areas be accessible for persons with disabilities, although these regulations have only been in force in the last decade and many older buildings and areas have not yet been retrofitted. Public transportation and the railroads provide fairly good methods of traveling throughout the cities and throughout the country, but most stations lack elevators and fail to provide easy accessibility for people with disabilities. Although there are plans to upgrade municipal bus fleets, currently buses and trams are not equipped with lowering platforms for travelers with disabilities.

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.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

AGS: Bratislava Int'l Movers: Bratislava, Slovakia

Department of State: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1019.html

USDA: 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.