



## *Importing Personal Property Into Suriname*

### **HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS**

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

##### **Customs Regulations:**

Used household goods and personal effects are duty free provided goods have been owned and used by the customer 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.

##### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Passport - original
- ✓ Residence Visa or Work Visa
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill – original, Express Release not allowed
- ✓ Comprehensive Valued Inventory – dated & signed by owner
- ✓ Pack list
- ✓ Power of Attorney – giving authority for Destination Agent to arrange customs clearance
- ✓ Certificate of Removal – obtained from the Population Register
- ✓ Certificate of Insurance

##### **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
- ✓ 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 health certificate
- ✓ New items – (less than 6 months) must have invoices/receipts
- ✓ Tobacco – 200 cigarettes or 500 grams of loose tobacco, in excess of these amounts incurs duty
- ✓ Alcohol – 1 litre of spirits, 4 litres of wine & 8 litres of beer; in excess is subject to duty

#### **PROHIBITED ITEMS**

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Pornography, obscene and subversive material
- ✓ Firearms, explosives, ammunitions and weapons of any kind without an import permit
- ✓ Foodstuffs

## IMPORTATION OF PETS

Pets may be imported without quarantine. Chief veterinary office at Paramaribo must be notified for examination. If accompanying documents do not meet the requirements, the animals will be quarantined or admittance will be refused.

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – including rabies, not less than 30 days prior to arrival
- ✓ Health Certificate - by a Veterinarian at origin, no more than 2 weeks prior to departure

## IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Vehicles valued above 25,000USD are subject to taxes and duties of 40% of CIF. Vehicles valued up to 25,000USD are subject to taxes and duties of 25% of CIF. Annual taxes for the vehicle depend upon weight. Vehicle insurance depends upon value owner has placed on the vehicle. Delivery of vehicle from point of entry to residence is approximately 125.00USD.

The OBL must show chassis & engine numbers, weight, cubic capacity, year of manufacture, brand and model.

### Required Documents:

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

## NOTES:

### Entry & Exit Requirements:

**Crime:** Criminal activity has increased since 2010. US citizens may be viewed as targets of opportunity. Police presence outside Paramaribo is minimal, and banditry and lawlessness are occasionally of concern in the cities of Albina and Moengo, and the district of Brokopondo, as well as along the East-West Highway between Paramaribo and Albina, and the Afobakka Highway in the district of Para. There have been reports of attempted and actual carjackings committed by gangs along the East-West Highway.

**Health:** Yellow fever vaccination is encouraged or required of one had visited a country where yellow fever is present. Cholera is a serious risk and pre-cautions are essentials. Immunization against typhoid is often recommended. Malaria exists year round particularly in the Southern region. Hepatitis A occurs and hepatitis B is endemic. Dengue fever is increasing. There is a high prevalence of the HIV/AIDS virus. Medical care is limited: there is only one emergency room, which is in Paramaribo and there are few hospitals in outlying areas.

**Special Circumstances:** Credit cards are not widely accepted outside the major hotels and upscale restaurants. Currently, only one bank, the Royal Bank of Trinidad and Tobago (RBTT), has Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) that accept foreign ATM cards. US citizens residing in Suriname are encouraged to open a Surinamese bank account as soon possible. You can legally exchange currency at banks, hotels, and official exchange houses, which are called “cambios.” Exchanging money outside of these locations is illegal and can be dangerous. Telephone and internet service within Suriname can be problematic, especially during periods of heavy rains.

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

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Embassy of Suriname: <http://www.surinameembassy.org/>

Department of State: [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1030.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1030.html)

Transworld Moving

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