



# *Importing Personal Property Into Algeria*

## **HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS**

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

#### **Customs Regulations:**

All shipments are subject to physical inspection. The client must be present during the Customs clearance process of his/her shipment. One shipment each air and ocean of household goods and personal effects is allowed duty free exemption. Used household goods and personal effects are allowed duty-free entry so long as valued inventory does not exceed 20,000EURO. Items have been owned and used by the owner for a minimum of six months. There is a time limit on duty free importation; an extension must be applied for to avoid penalties. All household goods imported must be re-exported.

It is recommended to contact the Destination Agent to confirm all requirements have been met, especially if sending both air and ocean shipments.

**Returning Algerian nationals** must have lived abroad for 3 years minimum. Must have their Change of Residence Certificate stamped by Algerian Consulate at origin.

**All required documents must be in French.** All documents must arrive at least 15 days in advance of the shipment to the Destination Agent for processing.

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Passport - copy, including photo/biographical page & last entry stamp
- ✓ Visa – typed in all capital letters
- ✓ Residence Visa – copy of application is acceptable
- ✓ Change of Residence certificate – 3 copies, notarized by Algerian Consulate at origin; returning nationals must show 3 years abroad on the certificate
- ✓ Work Permit & Employment Contract or Letter of Employment
- ✓ OBL/AWB - originals
- ✓ Packing List
- ✓ Valued Inventory - 3 copies, in French, notarized by Algerian Consulate at origin
  - All electronics and electrical appliances must state serial numbers on the packing list
  - Must state quantity of CD's, DVD's, tapes, video's & records
- ✓ Bank Guarantee or Letter of Guarantee
- ✓ Customs Form – to declare foreign currency
- ✓ Radiation Certificate – obtained from consular office at origin

#### **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 – obtained from Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Algeria
- ✓ Passport copy
- ✓ Inventory List - in French, include all furniture items

## RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

- ✓ Appliances/electronics - must have invoices /receipts, only one of each item is duty free, must state make, model & serial numbers on inventory
- ✓ Records, cassettes, CD's/DVD's, videos etc must list quantity on the inventory
- ✓ New furniture (less than six months old) & office furniture are subject to duty
- ✓ Foodstuffs in large quantities
- ✓ Luxury items such as perfumes, boats & automobiles

## PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Alcohol and Wine
- ✓ Pornography and subversive material
- ✓ Firearms, explosives, ammunitions, knives or other deadly weapons of any kind
- ✓ Radio equipment, receivers, CB's, walkie-talkie type devices, binoculars
- ✓ Politically sensitive literature
- ✓ Gold, other precious metals & jewelry
- ✓ Pork products of any kind, live plants and plant products
- ✓ Pets and other animals without prior authorization required

## IMPORTATION OF PETS

Psittacine birds (parrot types) must have health certificate, certificate of origin and statement of veterinary surgeon that bird is free from psittacosis. Pets are allowed without quarantine at this time.

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – including rabies, dated less than 30 days prior to arrival
- ✓ Health Certificate - dated less than 30 days prior to arrival

## IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Vehicles either new or used are subject to very high import taxes and duties and it is advisable to not import a vehicle unless necessary. Maximum allowable engine power in 10HP. Consult with your service agent prior to consigning a vehicle for the latest requirements and duty rate.

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original
- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice – must be original
- ✓ Import License - for foreigners
- ✓ Non Sale Certificate – in French, 3 copies

## NOTES:

**Entry & Exit Requirements:** The Algerian Visa Application must be typed in all capital letters. Handwritten applications are no longer accepted. Algerian-American dual nationals can enter Algeria with either an Algerian visa in their U.S. passport or using an Algerian passport. The Department of State recommends that such dual nationals travel to Algeria using an Algerian visa in their U.S. passport.

**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.

Terrorist activities, including bombings, false roadblocks, kidnappings, ambushes, and assassinations occur regularly, particularly in the Kabylie region east of Algiers. The Department of State recommends that U.S. citizens avoid overland travel in Algeria. U.S. citizens who reside or travel in Algeria should take prudent security measures while in the country, including making provisions for reliable support in the event of an emergency. U.S. government employees traveling between cities must be accompanied by a security escort.

**Proselytizing:** Islam is the state religion of Algeria. The Algerian government allows non-Muslim religious worship only in structures exclusively intended and approved for that purpose. Activities such as proselytizing, engaging in activities the Algerian authorities could view as encouraging conversion to another faith, and convening religious ceremonies in private residences are prohibited.

**Currency:** Foreign currency being brought into Algeria should be disclosed upon arrival. Ask a customs official for a form to declare foreign currency. Each person leaving Algeria will be stopped and asked if he/she has any foreign money and will possibly be searched. If foreign currency was declared when entering the country, any disparity between the amount arrived with, and the amount held at departure, must be accounted for. If a traveler failed to declare any currency when entering Algeria, and is found to possess foreign currency while exiting the country, the penalties may be severe.

**Health:** It is advised to get an immunization course or booster against typhoid and poliomyelitis. Malaria risk is limited. Hepatitis A, B, diphtheria and tuberculosis are all present.

Note: In 2003, there were three reported outbreaks of bubonic plague in western Algeria: El Kehailia, south of Oran, and in the areas of Mascara and Sidi Bel Abbas; the last reported case was on July 10, 2003.

At this time there are not any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors to or foreign residents of Algeria.

Prescription medications are not always readily available and names and dosages may also be different.

Individuals with physical disabilities will find limited accommodations severely lacking.

**Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials:** As of this posting Algeria has ISPM15 standards in place but has not yet been formally acknowledged by the IPPC.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Department of State, Consular Affairs: <http://travel.state.gov>

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

Embassy of Algeria: <http://www.algeria-us.org/>

Embassy of US in Algeria: <http://algiers.usembassy.gov/>

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

AGS: Algiers, Algeria

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.