



Importing Personal Property Into Cameroon

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Customs Regulations:

Client must be present during Customs clearance process. 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. A 2.5% tax on CIF value will be levied by Customs Authority for all non-diplomatic shipments. Items can not be sold, lent or otherwise disposed of while in Cameroon. All documents must arrive to your Destination Agent at least 2 weeks prior to arrival of the shipment to apply and be granted duty-free status. A Certificate of Free Entry must be obtained from the customs head office in Cameroon.

Note: Due to operations of terrorism security enforcement has increased at the port of Douala and the roads between Douala and Yaounde. Expect delays and extra costs to be incurred.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Passport - copy
- ✓ Residence/Work Visa or Letter from Employer attesting to client's employment contract
- ✓ Certificate of Change of Residence
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill –original, express release not allowed
- ✓ Comprehensive Valued Inventory – in French, all electronics, computers etc must state make, model & serial numbers on the inventory, dated & signed by client
- ✓ ECTN - electronic cargo tracking note, managed by the CNCS for ocean shipments
- ✓ Non sale certificate – declaration on the honor that client will not sale his personal effects
- ✓ Power of Attorney – giving authority for Destination Agent to arrange customs clearance
- ✓ Certificate of Free Entry – obtained upon arrival

Diplomat Status:

Foreign diplomats, members of government or international organizations are duty free entry of their personal effects and household goods. 1.5% tax on CIF value will be levied by customs for all diplomatic shipments

Required Documents:

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise
- ✓ Passport copy
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory – all high-tech equipment, computers, electronics, stereos etc must state make model & serial number
- ✓ Power of Attorney – giving authority for Destination Agent to arrange customs clearance

RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

- ✓ Computers – less than 6 months old are subject to tax of 70% of CIF, used are tax and duty free
- ✓ New items – less than 6 months old are subject to duty up to 57% of CIF
- ✓ Electronics – less than 6 months old require invoices/receipts; flat screen televisions only

- ✓ Tobacco

PROHIBITED ITEMS

Taxes, fines, extra port storage and demurrage will be incurred if below items are found in the shipment regardless of the client's status.

- ✓ Alcohol – strictly forbidden
- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind including prescription medication or OTC medicine
- ✓ Pornography and subversive material
- ✓ Sport rifles - require a prior permission and license from territorial authority in Cameroon
- ✓ Explosives, ammunitions and weapons including guns (accept sporting rifles with permission)
- ✓ Oil – strictly forbidden
- ✓ Foodstuffs – strictly forbidden
- ✓ Televisions – those with cathode rays are strictly forbidden

IMPORTATION OF PETS

Quarantine is not required as of this posting. Only cats and dogs may be imported as pets; all other animals are prohibited. Passengers arriving with pets may be submitted to a tax of XAF 5,000. 00 per pet.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – including rabies, dated between 14 days to 6 months prior to arrival
- ✓ Health Certificate - issued less than 48 hours prior to departure; attesting to good health of pet and current vaccinations by a Veterinarian

IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

The vehicle must be stated on the packing list. Taxes will vary depending on age, power etc. (58% CIF if engine less than 2000 cc. 77% if more than 2000 cc). The OBL must show Chassis Number, Engine number, Cubic Capacity, year of manufacture, brand and model.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original
- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice – must be original
- ✓ Rated OBL
- ✓ Drivers License
- ✓ Non Sale Certificate – attesting that vehicle is for personal use and will not be sold, dated and signed by client

NOTES:

Entry & Exit Requirements: Immunization against yellow fever is required for entry. Current immunizations records for all family members must readily available for presentation to Cameroonian Authority upon arrival. You may be denied entry if documents including medical records are not current.

Safety & Security: U.S. citizens living in or visiting Cameroon are encouraged to stay abreast of local political and social developments that could signal instability in the country. Presidential elections are scheduled for 2011. You should remain alert as these elections approach. Embassy employees have been instructed to refrain from travel outside of city limits after dusk, and to be cautious in their movements in centrally located areas within cities and towns. Private U.S. citizens are urged to follow the same

guidelines, and should not travel by night on Cameroon's dangerous highways. The U.S. Department of State continues to warn U.S. citizens against travel to neighboring Eastern Chad, the Chad/Sudan border area, and the Chad/Central African Republic border area. Humanitarian and religious workers in eastern Cameroon are strongly encouraged to coordinate their efforts with the Embassy and the Office of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) in Yaoundé.

Cameroon permits travel to the Bakassi Peninsula only with an official escort. U.S. official travelers must receive prior approval through the U.S. Defense Attaché Office at the U.S. Embassy in Yaoundé. U.S. employees are not permitted to make personal travel to the region.

Crime: Internet-based crime based in Cameroon is escalating rapidly, and U.S. citizens, including insurance companies and other institutions, should be extremely skeptical of any financial transactions that involve sending money for goods or services. Crimes against property, such as carjacking and burglaries, have often been accompanied by violent acts and have resulted in fatalities. Armed bandits have erected road barricades on major routes that link rural towns to provincial headquarters, and have taken as many as 100 cars in a single attack. To curb banditry, security personnel may request persons to show their passport, residence card, driver's license, and/or vehicle registration at random checkpoints. Certified copies of these important documents should be kept in a secure location separate from the originals. Security personnel have been known to ask for bribes but normally allow expatriate travelers to continue after delaying them for a period of time. Residential crime is high. Incidents often involve gangs and relate to home invasion and kidnapping.

Health: Immunization against diphtheria, hepatitis A and typhoid is recommended. Poliomyelitis is endemic and Hepatitis B is hyper-endemic in the region inoculation is advised. Immunization against meningococcal meningitis, rabies and tuberculosis should also be considered. Hepatitis A and E, dysentery, dengue fever and typhoid fever are widespread. Malaria risk exists all year throughout the country. Consult with a physician knowledgeable in vaccination requirements for this country in addition to reviewing requirements via the Cameroon Embassy's website.

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

AGS Frasers: Douala, Cameroon

Department of State: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1081.html

Embassy of Cameroon: <http://www.ambacam-usa.org/>

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.