

# Importing Personal Property Into Fiji

### HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

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

#### **Customs Regulations:**

The customer must be in Fiji to clear the shipment. Storage charges will be incurred to the customer's account for any delays caused by non-compliance of this condition. All shipments are inspected by Customs Authority and Quarantine officials.

Used household goods and personal effects are duty free provided goods have been owned and used by the customer for a minimum of twelve months and customer has lived abroad for at least one year. The goods must be imported within one year of issuance of the Residence & Work Permits.

Returning Fijians must have proof of stay abroad for twelve months to qualify for duty-free importation.

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Passport copy
- ✓ Residence Permit required before Customs clearance can begin
- ✓ Work Permit required before Customs clearance can begin
- ✓ Customs Baggage Declaration (CE 11) must be signed in the presence of a Customs Officer
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill original
- ✓ Comprehensive Valued Inventory terms "misc", "PBO"(packed by owner), "Kitchen" etc are not acceptable descriptions

## Returning Citizens: additional documents 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 Declaration signed by the head of the Diplomatic Mission
- ✓ Passport copy
- ✓ Comprehensive Valued Inventory terms "misc", "PBO"(packed by owner), "Kitchen" etc are not acceptable descriptions
- ✓ Customs Baggage Declaration (CE 11) must be signed in the presence of a Customs Officer

#### RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

- ✓ Firearms require a license issued by Commissioner of Police
- ✓ Plants, seeds, & foodstuffs require a permit from Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Forests
- ✓ Alcohol wine; 4 litres, spirits; 2 litres, subject to duty and tax
- ✓ Tobacco 200 cigarettes or 250 grams of loose tobacco, in excess of these amounts incurs duty
- ✓ Gifts & perfume
- ✓ Any items that may have had contact with soil bikes, golf clubs, lawn mowers, garden tools, etc must be clearly marked and easily accessible
- ✓ Goods intended for trade business

#### PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Pornography and subversive material
- ✓ Explosives, ammunitions and weapons
- ✓ Communications equipment including transceivers
- ✓ Agricultural material

#### **IMPORTATION OF PETS**

Quarantine regulations are strict in Fiji; consult with your Destination Agent for complete requirements.

#### **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
- ✓ Import Permit obtained from Director of Agriculture

#### **IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES**

All vehicles including motorcycles and scooters are subject to VAT and duties. Valuation is based on current market value in Fiji assessed by Customs Authorities. Steam cleaning is required of entire vehicle prior to importation. Vehicle must be in the owner's possession for a minimum of 12 months prior to importation. If importing a left handed drive vehicle, prior permission must be obtained from the Fiji Land Transport Authority. Consult with your Destination Agent for complete requirements.

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration
- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice
- ✓ Drivers License & International Insurance Policy (green card)

#### **NOTES:**

**Safety & Security:** The military established the current, unelected interim government. The interim government has ruled by decree since it abrogated the constitution in reaction to an April 10, 2009, high court ruling that declared the interim government illegal. Under Public Emergency Regulations promulgated at the time of the abrogation of Fiji's constitution, some basic rights have been limited, including freedom of speech and freedom of assembly. These regulations were scheduled to be lifted in January 2010 but are being extended on a month-to-month basis, with no clear indication as to when they will be lifted. The independence of Fiji's law enforcement and judicial systems is compromised, putting into question protections ordinarily afforded by the rule of law. The Department of State continues to warn U.S. citizens to consider carefully the risks of travel to Fiji at this time

**Health:** Vaccination against typhoid and polio is advised, Hepatitis A occurs. Hepatitis B is endemic. Fiji may impose HIV/AIDS travel restrictions on some visa applicants for work permits. Applicants must obtain a medical clearance, and the work permit committee will make the decision to grant the permit on a case-by-case basis. Inquire directly with the Embassy of the Republic of Fiji, or the Fiji Mission to the United Nations in New York. Fiji has developed standby procedures to screen for possible cases of H1N1 influenza. The Ministry of Health is monitoring the incidence of H1N1 cases in the country.

**Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials:** Fiji is in the final phase of implementing ISPM15 requirements for wood packaging material (WPM).

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

Embassy of the Republic of Fiji: www.fijiembassydc.com

Department of State: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\_pa\_tw/cis/cis\_1114.html

ISPM15.com: http://www.ispm15.com/fiji1.doc

FIDI – Global Alliance IATA Travel Centre

The information presented herein his 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.