



# *Importing Personal Property Into Greece*

## **HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS**

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

#### **Customs Regulations:**

Client must be present for Customs clearance and must present their Passport. Client must have resided outside of Greece for at least 2 years and have no financial ties in Greece during that time period. Personal effects and household goods are generally duty-free. For foreigners relocating to Greece for work purposes, VAT (value added tax) is payable on all goods if shipments are from non EU countries. ALL ITEMS brought into Greece must be re-exported.

**NOTE: An EORI (Economic Operators Registration and Identification) number is required for all imports and exports to clear Customs in the European Union.**

This number is valid in all EU member states and replaces ALL Customs identification numbers including the TIN (Traders Identification Number)

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Passport – originals (for non EU for each family member)
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill (express B/L is acceptable)
- ✓ Authorization Form – notarized Greek embassy at origin or any police or KEP center in Greece
- ✓ Declaration Form - notarized Greek embassy at origin or any police or KEP center in Greece
- ✓ Work / Residence Permit
- ✓ T2L Form – original, stamped by Customs at origin
- ✓ Certificate of Repatriation – persons entering from non EU countries requesting duty-free entry
- ✓ Greek VAT ID number & Tax Office where registered
- ✓ Comprehensive Inventory list - Notarized by a Greek Consulate at origin to be translated at destination. Must include appropriate descriptions of items on “Restricted Items” List
- ✓ Proof of Residency abroad – utility bills, lease agreement, tax filings
- ✓ Certificate of Secondary Residence – must NOT state they are coming to work in Greece

\* Foreigners coming to Greece on a work contract the requirements below are additional, excluding companies of L89/67 status.

- ✓ Housing Contract
- ✓ Bank Guarantee for the amount of duties

#### **Returning Citizens:**

Returning Greek citizens include; persons with Greek ancestry, persons married to or children of Greek citizens, Greek military and foreign EEC members. Returning citizen must have lived abroad for at least two years. Household goods are allowed duty free entry if the below requirements are met.

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Passport – copy, for diplomat and spouse if applicable
- ✓ Certificate of Repatriation from a Greek Consulate - Inventory list
- ✓ Letter from customer authorizing Destination Agent to clear shipment

- ✓ Law 1599 Form – aka “Ipefthini di losi” – stating one will keep the goods in their possession for at least one year.

### **Diplomat Status:**

Foreign diplomats are granted duty and tax free entry on household goods, personal effects and vehicles. Diplomats can only import one of each appliance/electrical item.

Consult your service agent before consigning the vehicle as regulations change frequently.

### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise
- ✓ Passport and spouse's if applicable
- ✓ Letter from Embassy – state diplomat's commencement of employment
- ✓ T1 Form
- ✓ Comprehensive Inventory List- appliances/electrical items must state make and serial number
- ✓ Consular Certificate - from origin if importing a vehicle.

### **RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS**

Appliances, electrical items, electronics and computers must list serial numbers, make and model on the Inventory & Pack Lists.

- ✓ Medicines
- ✓ Rugs – size, color, quality & quantity subject to duty of 30%
- ✓ Appliances - one of each is allowed – make, model and serial number must be on the inventory
- ✓ Electronics – subject to duty of 35%
- ✓ Electrical items – subject to duty of 23%
- ✓ Computers & fax machines & furniture – subject to duty of 18%
- ✓ Antiques – must be 100 yrs. old or more; subject to duty 8%
- ✓ Hunting Rifles – require a permit from the Ministry of the Interior

### **PROHIBITED ITEMS**

- ✓ Firearms, weapons and ammunitions of any kind
- ✓ Narcotics and illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Alcohol and tobacco products, matches & playing cards
- ✓ Taxidermy items
- ✓ Live Plants

### **IMPORTATION OF PETS**

Parrots are not allowed unless originating from a country free of psittacosis. A maximum of 2 birds are allowed. They must meet the same health requirements as cats and dogs. A rabies test must be performed by EU certified laboratory 60 days prior to entry into Greece. Documents below must be issued by a licensed veterinarian at the time of export. It is wise to accompany pets when relocating as there are very few boarding kennels in Greece.

### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – including rabies within 30 days of departure
- ✓ Health Certificate – within 10 days of departure
- ✓ Microchip – proof of microchip including microchip number

## IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Vehicles must be four (4) years or under with an odometer reading of 50,000km or less.

The vehicle must have been in the owner's possession for at least six months. May be required to purchase a Greek license plate and pay a luxury tax.

Diplomats- No restrictions apply and the vehicle is free of duty and taxes

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Driver's License & Proof of Insurance
- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration
- ✓ Vehicle Road License showing that the appropriate road tax has been paid in the country of origin
- ✓ Must be listed on Household Goods Inventory

### NOTE:

**Entry & Exit Requirements:** If you are traveling with a U.S. official or diplomatic passport, you **MUST** obtain a visa prior to arrival. Travelers arriving with official or diplomatic passports without visas will not be allowed to enter the country. U.S. citizens are strongly urged to carry a copy of their passport or some form of photo identification with them at all times when traveling in Greece.

**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. Greece continues to experience sporadic violence attributed to terrorist organizations. Strikes and demonstrations are a regular occurrence. There has been a rise in unprovoked harassment and violent attacks against persons who, because of their complexion, are perceived to be foreign migrants. U.S. citizens most at risk are those of African, Asian, Hispanic, or Middle Eastern descent.

**Crime:** Due to an increase of card skimming at ATMs throughout Greece it is recommended that you use one located inside a bank or hotel. Petty crime such as pick pocketing and purse snatching is highly organized particularly at tourist attractions and popular bars and nightclubs. Physical assaults and drink tampering also occur in these bars and clubs.

**Special Circumstances:** Dual nationals may also be subject to other laws that impose special obligations on Greek citizens. Greek males between the ages of 20 and 45 are required to perform military service; this applies to any individual whom the Greek authorities consider to be Greek citizen, regardless of whether the individual considers himself Greek, has a foreign citizenship and passport, or was born or lives outside of Greece. If remaining in Greece for more than the 90-day period men of Greek descent may be prevented from leaving Greece until they complete their military obligations.

**Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials:** As a member of the European Union, Greece has regulations in effect regarding ISPM 15 requirements.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Embassy of Greece: <http://www.mfa.gr/usa/en/the-embassy>

Department of State: [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1127.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1127.html)

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

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

FIDI Global Alliance

International Association of Movers

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.