



Importing Personal Property Into Hungary

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Customs Regulations:

Used household goods and personal effects are duty-free for foreigners with a valid Hungarian Residence Permit. Admission of household goods is allowed for the duration of the Residence Permit and there are no limits to the amount of shipments entering Hungary during the residency period. In the event the Residency Permit is valid for less than one year, and additional bank guarantee (from a Hungarian bank in HUF) is required for the amount of the duty and any additional costs of the household goods shipment. Imported items must not be sold or leased. In the event one chooses to leave behind items duty will be incurred.

If one is staying beyond the expiry of the Residence Permit an additional clearance must take place otherwise the shipment must leave Hungary.

NOTE: Original Customs forms verifying the import clearance process had been performed must be kept for the duration of the stay and presented to Customs at time of re-exportation.

Customs clearance is a lengthy process and could take several days. Temporary clearance is granted at the time of arrival and final clearance may occur at the residence, sometimes a few months later.

***All Required Documents must be in Hungarian including transport documents and submitted to Customs one day prior to clearance.**

Required Documents: Foreign citizens working in Hungary employed by a Hungarian firm

- ✓ Passport - copy
- ✓ Visa - from Hungarian Embassy
- ✓ Bank Guarantee – original, from employing firms bank
- ✓ Letter of Guarantee – from customer’s employer, stating they will pay duties if employee sells imported items or does not re-export them at the end of the work contract
- ✓ Work Certificate – from customer’s employer
- ✓ Work Permit - original, to be issued in Hungary in advance
- ✓ Residence Permit – original, to be issued in Hungary in advance, valid longer than one (1) year
- ✓ Copy of rental or purchase agreement of residence
- ✓ Power of Attorney – original, in Hungarian with 2 witnesses signatures
- ✓ Authorization Letter – allowing Destination Agent to clear shipment
- ✓ Statement of Customer – attesting household goods have been used & in their possession for at least six (6) months
- ✓ Itemized Inventory - including values of items, dated & signed in Hungarian. All electronics & appliances must state brand & serial numbers

Required Documents: Returning Hungarian citizens

- ✓ Passport - copy
- ✓ Hungarian Identity card –“Személyi Kártya” renewed/reissued by local Hungarian Police
- ✓ Tax Card – “Adókérvény”
- ✓ Residence Card - “Lakcímkártya” issued by local Town Hall confirming customer’s address
- ✓ Authorization Letter – allowing Destination Agent to clear shipment
- ✓ Statement from Hungarian Consulate or Embassy abroad attesting to customer’s stay abroad for over one (1) year

- ✓ Statement of Customer – declaring no goods have been sent in the prior six (6) months and that goods have been used, & in their possession for at least six months
- ✓ Itemized Inventory - including values of items (in HUF), dated & signed in Hungarian. All electronics & appliances must state brand & serial numbers.

Diplomat Status:

Foreign diplomats, members of government or international organizations are granted tax and duty free entry of all their personal effects and household items either new or used. Tax exemption must be requested to the Ministry of Foreign Relations. The Embassy or Mission must endorse the exemption.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Duty Free Customs Form issued by the Embassy in Hungary, stamped by both the Embassy and Protocol Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- ✓ Passport – copy
- ✓ Power of Attorney – Authorizing Destination Agent to clear shipment, in Hungarian
- ✓ Comprehensive Inventory- in Hungarian, must state values

RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

- ✓ Works of Art & antiques – must supply photographs
- ✓ Prescriptions require a physicians written confirmation attesting to the necessity of the medication
- ✓ Plants require a Health Certificate
- ✓ Perfume & jewelry are dutiable
- ✓ Tea, coffee, cocoa and spices are dutiable (paprika is not allowed)
- ✓ Electronics- dutiable & only 1 allowed of each: laptop, home PC, TV, VCR, video camera & stereo. Allowed 2 cameras either digital or film w/10 rolls of film, 10 videos/DVD's, 10 lp's/CD's
- ✓ Sports gear is limited to: 2 pairs of skis, 2 tennis rackets, 1 bike, 1 tent w/accessories etc. Please consult your service agent for complete list w/restrictions of dutiable goods
- ✓ Alcohol - duty free import of 4 liters of still wine, 2 liters sparkling wine or aperitifs, 16 liters of beer & 1 liter of 80 proof spirits; amounts exceeding these limits incur duties
- ✓ Tobacco - duty free import in any combination, 200 cigarettes, 100 cigarillos (max 3g ea) 50 cigars or 250g of loose tobacco amounts exceeding these limits incur duties

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Pornography and subversive material
- ✓ Explosives, ammunitions and weapons
- ✓ Radio transmitters and similar equipment

IMPORTATION OF PETS

Quarantine is not required at this time for dogs, cats or birds.

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, by a licensed Veterinarian attesting pet is free of disease and in good health

IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Vehicles can be imported duty-free if equipped with a catalyzer and Residence Permit is valid. Vehicles over four (4) years old must pass an environmental examination at the customer's expense. US cars may need technical modification. Owners are issued a Hungarian registration number which allows the vehicle to be driven in any European Union country. The original US license plates should still remain with the vehicle.

NOTE: in cases where the Residency Permit is valid for less than 1 year, a bank guarantee is required for the amount of duty, VAT, and any additional fees. Duty is 23-51% depending on details of the vehicle. Cars with foreign plates can be utilized for 3 months while waiting to clear Customs, once cleared, the vehicle must be checked at the Technical Test Station. Only vehicles that meet European standards can pass the technical test.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original
- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice – must be original
- ✓ Copies of Passport, Residence & Work Permits & Driver's license
- ✓ Power of Attorney – original, in Hungarian with 2 witnesses signatures
- ✓ Liability Insurance – (not offered by insurance companies for US made cars)
- ✓ Additional Bank Guarantee
- ✓ Declaration of Auto – statement attesting to make, model, & condition of vehicle; contact your Service Agent to be certain all appropriate details are included

NOTES:

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

FIDI Global Alliance

Department of State Travel site: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1137.html

Trans World Moving

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.