



Importing Personal Property Into Jamaica

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Customs Regulations:

Customer must be in Jamaica at the time of Customs clearance. 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. The goods must be imported within 3 months of customer's arrival into Jamaica, if this is not accomplished the C27 Form must be renewed. After Customs examination dutiable items are assessed duty based on CIF value between 5%-40% plus a 15% government Consumption Tax is levied depending on the item.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Passport - copy
- ✓ Visa
- ✓ Residence Permit
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill – original
- ✓ Unaccompanied Baggage Form C27 – obtained at the airport upon arrival
- ✓ Import Entry Form C78
- ✓ Taxes Compliance Certificate
- ✓ Comprehensive Inventory

Returning Citizens: additional documents

- ✓ Customs Declaration Form C5
- ✓ Documentation of stay abroad for a minimum of 3 years
- ✓ Documentation attesting to intention to re-establish permanent residency

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. Diplomatic shipments are free of Customs examination.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Consular letter asking for “free entry”
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill – original
- ✓ Comprehensive Inventory

RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

- ✓ Works of Art, Paintings, Carpets, & Antiques – duty free if part of HHG shipment, large quantities must have a certificate from Antique Dealers Assoc. of origin country
- ✓ Canned Food - must be valued, requires an Import License (Kosher food an additional permit)
- ✓ Two way radios and similar telecommunication devices
- ✓ Medication – must state value on Inventory, requires an Import License & Drug/Poison Permit & physician's prescription. It is recommended to hand-carry these items

- ✓ Wedding Trousseau – Passenger Declaration for returning nationals
- ✓ Inheritance – requires a Death Certificate
- ✓ Plants – require Ministry of Agriculture Permit & either a Fumigation or Health Certificate
- ✓ Appliances/Electronics/Machinery- requires invoices, & Import License & C27 Form; must be compatible with the electrical system 220/110V 50 cycle.
Only returning Jamaican nationals can import one each duty-free
- ✓ New items – require invoices/receipts
- ✓ Alcohol – one bottle each of wine or spirits per person duty-free, in excess of that incurs duty
- ✓ Tobacco – 200 cigarettes or ½ pound of loose tobacco, in excess of these amounts incurs duty

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Firearms and ammunition, except if prior permission is obtained from the Commissioner of Police and the Trade Administrator.
- ✓ Pornography and subversive or obscene materials, publications, images, items, statues etc
- ✓ All publications of deLaurence Scott and Company & Red Star Publishing of Chicago, IL. USA
- ✓ Explosives, ammunitions, weapons and any dangerous objects
- ✓ Tablets containing diphenhydramine hydrochloride
- ✓ Certain brands of crayons from China and Thailand
- ✓ Oil of gin or cognac & Rum coloring solutions
- ✓ Fictitious stamps and instruments, counterfeit coins of any country
- ✓ Sugar, except under license
- ✓ Honey, coffee in any form
- ✓ Fur-bearing goatskin products (unless properly shaven, cured and cleaned)

IMPORTATION OF PETS

* Only pets bred and raised in the United Kingdom are permitted entry. Quarantine is required; please consult with your Destination Agent for length of quarantine stay and necessary arrangements.

* Birds are prohibited from any country

Required Documents:

- ✓ Ministry Of Agriculture Permit – obtained prior to importation
- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination & Health

IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

A returning resident is allowed to import 2 new or used autos (one commercial and one personal) during a 3 year period. Used vehicles can not be more than 4 years old. Autos must not exceed 2800cc's. The shipper will require a customs broker to clear an auto. Duty is applicable and will be assessed by Customs authorities, according to the auto's value on the local market. The Import License must be obtained before the vehicle (s) is shipped.

NOTE: Customers can drive in Jamaica for one year before a Jamaican license is required.

Required Documents:

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

NOTES:

Safety & Security: As of May 24th 2010 the Department of State warns U.S. citizens against travel to Kingston, Jamaica and its surrounding areas because of escalating violence, shootings and unrest. The Government of Jamaica has imposed a State of Emergency in Kingston and St. Andrew.

The possibility exists that unrest could spread beyond the general Kingston area. U.S. Embassy Kingston is taking extra security precautions, including cancelling official travel by USG personnel into Kingston. U.S. citizens living and residing in Jamaica or the Cayman Islands are advised to register their presence in the country through the U.S. Department of State's automated online registration system,

<https://travelregistration.state.gov>. U.S. citizens may also register by visiting the Consular Section at the U.S. Embassy or our consular agencies in Montego Bay and Georgetown, Cayman Islands

Health: Hepatitis A occurs. There is a high prevalence of HIV/AIDS and precautions should be undertaken to avoid exposure.

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

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

Embassy of Jamaica: <http://www.embassyofjamaica.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.