



## *Importing Personal Property Into Jordan*

### **HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS**

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

##### **Customs Regulations:**

All shipments are subject to full physical inspection. The client or spouse must be in Jordan and should be present during the clearance process to answer any questions by Customs officials. Importation of household goods and personal effects should take place within six (6) months of arrival to Jordan. For items that are locked be able to present all appropriate keys.

Household goods and personal effects are subject to duty of 35% plus 16% sales tax based on CIF value. This value is assessed by Customs Authority.

**Returning nationals** must have lived abroad for a minimum of 12 months to be allowed to import used household goods and personal effects free of duty.

##### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Passport - original, must include National ID number for returning Jordanian citizens
- ✓ Residence Visa
- ✓ Lease of Residence, copy
- ✓ School Registration Forms— copy, if applicable
- ✓ Work permit – original
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory – descriptive list showing contents for each carton: Terms “Misc” or “PBO” are not acceptable
- ✓ Authorization Letter – notarized at a Jordanian bank, granting permission for the Destination Agent to clear shipment on customer’s behalf

##### **Returning Jordanians – must also provide the below documentation**

- ✓ Letter of Termination from Employer abroad
- ✓ Endorsed new work contract in Jordan
- ✓ Cancelled Residence Permit abroad

##### **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. Diplomat must be in Jordan prior to arrival of the household goods. Diplomats need to register with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs through their Embassy to be granted the exemption status of Customs duties and taxes.

##### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise – obtained by the Embassy from the Ministry of Finance/Customs through the Ministry of External Affairs
- ✓ Passport copy
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory -Terms “Misc” or “PBO” are not acceptable
- ✓ Import Customs Declaration form – stamped and signed by the Embassy

## RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

**All printed matter, books, pictures, records, films, tapes, slides, movies, videos, CD's, DVD's computer software etc are subject to censorship by the Press & Publications Department. Items found unsuitable will be confiscated. These items must be packed separately, clearly described on the Inventory and loaded by the door for easy access.**

- ✓ Electronics, radios, video cameras, musical instruments,
- ✓ New items & items that appear to be less than 30% used
- ✓ New and some used furniture
- ✓ Computers, fax machines and other home office equipment,
- ✓ Wireless phones – inspected by the Telecommunications Dept, phones must meet specified criteria otherwise they will be confiscated or re-exported at customer's expense
- ✓ Satellite & wireless equipment, CB radios and walkie talkie - approval by Radio & TV Corp
- ✓ Household appliances
- ✓ CD's DVD's, video's & tapes

## PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Pornography and subversive material
- ✓ Explosives, ammunitions and weapons
- ✓ Alcohol of any kind

## IMPORTATION OF PETS

Pets are granted duty-free entry Birds are prohibited without approval from the Jordanian Ministry of Agriculture.

Note: Isolate pets from guests when you are entertaining, because most Jordanians find animals (particularly dogs) in the home offensive.

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – including rabies, dated at least 30 days but not more than 11 months prior to arrival
- ✓ Health Certificate - dated less than 30 days prior to arrival

## IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Vehicles are subject to high import taxes, VAT and duties. Vehicles more than five years old are not permitted entry. Cars operating on diesel are not allowed.

Returning Jordanians are also subject to duties unless the vehicle was exported prior from Jordan with all Customs duties paid at time of export and is being re-imported.

Diplomats may import a vehicle duty-free.

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original
- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice – must be original
- ✓ Import Customs Declaration form – signed by the owner

## NOTES:

**Entry Requirements:** Jordan issues visas to U.S. citizens for a fee at most international ports of entry and at most international land border crossings upon arrival. However, visas are not issued upon arrival at the land border crossing between Israel and Jordan known as the King Hussein Bridge crossing. (On the Israeli side, this crossing is known as the Allenby Bridge.) U.S. citizens must already be in possession of a valid visa to Jordan or have a special entry permit from the Jordanian Ministry of Interior to enter Jordan at this crossing. Foreigners who wish to stay longer than the time given to them by Jordanian immigration upon entry into Jordan must register at a Jordanian police station before expiration of that time.

HIV/AIDS entry restrictions exist for visitors to and foreign residents of Jordan. Jordan does not permit entry or residency for foreign nationals with HIV/AIDS. Travelers known to have HIV are denied entry at ports of entry, including land border crossings. Travelers seeking residency are required to have an AIDS test performed at a government medical facility. Those who fail to submit to the test or who test positive for HIV are deported.

**Safety & Security:** Anti-American and anti-Western sentiments exist in Jordan and intensify following important events in the region, particularly those related to Israeli/Palestinian issues, conflicts in Lebanon, and, to a lesser extent, Iraq. This may lead to random acts of violence against Westerners. The threat of terrorism remains high in Jordan. Transnational terrorist groups, as well as less sophisticated local elements, have implemented attacks in Jordan. The Al-Qaida in Iraq network in particular continues to carry out terrorist activities against U.S. and Government of Jordan (GOJ) targets in Jordan.

**Criminal Penalties:** Persons violating Jordanian laws, even unknowingly, may be expelled, arrested, or imprisoned. Penalties for possession, use, or trafficking in illegal drugs in Jordan are severe, and convicted offenders can expect long jail sentences and heavy fines.

Islam is the state religion of Jordan. The Jordanian government does not interfere with public worship by the country's Christian minority. Although the majority of Christians are allowed to practice their faith freely, activities such as proselytizing or encouraging conversion to the Christian faith are prohibited.

**Special Circumstances:** The Government of Jordan considers U.S.-Jordanian dual nationals to be Jordanian citizens. Local authorities typically do not notify the Embassy of arrests, detentions, or accidents involving dual nationals. For this reason, dual nationals are particularly encouraged to carry a copy of their U.S. passport with them at all times so that evidence of their identity and U.S. citizenship is readily available for local authorities. U.S. citizens who possess Jordanian nationality may also be subject to laws that impose special obligations on Jordanians. For example, all Jordanian men under the age of 37 are required to register for service in the Jordanian military. Those subject to registration may be prevented from leaving Jordan until exit permission is obtained from appropriate Jordanian authorities. This permission is often granted to U.S. citizens, but may take some time to obtain and may be limited to a single exit.

**Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials:** Jordan has published regulations adopting ISPM15 requirements for wood packaging material (WPM).

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Monarchy of Jordan: <http://www.kinghussein.gov.jo/facts1.html>

US Department of State: [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1149.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1149.html)

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

Levant Express Services: Amman, Jordan

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.