



Importing Personal Property Into Mauritius

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Customs Regulations:

Used household goods and personal effects are duty free provided goods have been owned and used by the customer for a minimum of one year and customer has lived abroad for at least one year. Client must be in Mauritius when shipment arrives. The goods must be imported within six months of arrival.

If the goods are in transit upon the client's arrival in Mauritius, he/she must declare import of the impending shipment to the Director General (via letter) giving detail of the items being imported. Those granted tax and duty free exemption must submit name, address, phone number and proof of residence in Mauritius. This must be done every 12 months for 2 years and must be submitted no less than 30 days after each 12 month period. Those who do not comply with the above requirements will be liable for full Customs duties, VAT and a penalty of 10%.

Items can not be sold, lent or otherwise disposed of during stay. All new items will be levied a tax.

Returning Nationals must have lived abroad for at least 5 years and must demonstrate they are returning to take up permanent residence. Preceding the date of return the client must not have worked in Mauritius no more than 3 years of the prior 10 years.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Passport - original
- ✓ Residence Permit & Work Permit – Residence Permit must be renewed every 12 months for 2 consecutive years submitted to the Director General
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill – original, Express Release not allowed
- ✓ Comprehensive Valued Inventory – dated & signed by owner
- ✓ Pack list

Diplomat Status:

Foreign diplomats, members of government or international organizations are granted tax and duty free entry of their personal effects and household goods. All documents must arrive to the Destination Agent 15 days prior to arrival to obtain free entry from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise
- ✓ Passport - original
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory –dated & signed by owner
- ✓ Power of Attorney – giving authority for Destination Agent to arrange customs clearance

RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

- ✓ Appliances/Electronics – must have invoices/receipts
- ✓ Prescription medications – require a health certificate
- ✓ New items – (less than 1 year) must have invoices/receipts
- ✓ Plants, seeds, flowers, bulbs etc require an Import Permit obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Environment

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Alcohol & tobacco products of any kind
- ✓ Pornography and subversive material
- ✓ Firearms, ammunitions, explosives and weapons unless otherwise approved
- ✓ Spear guns used for fishing
- ✓ Perfumes
- ✓ Furniture, carpets/rugs

IMPORTATION OF PETS

Pets may be subject to a quarantine period of up to 6 months depending on country of origin. Contact or Destination Agent or the Mauritian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals at (230) 464-5084 for specific information related to pet importation.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – including rabies, less than 6 months prior to arrival
- ✓ Health Certificate - by a Veterinarian at origin
- ✓ Import Permit –obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Environment

IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Vehicles including motorcycles are subject to excise duty at 15% and VAT of 15% regardless of age and engine capacity. The vehicle must be right hand drive.

The OBL must show chassis & engine numbers, cubic capacity, year of manufacture, brand and model.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original
- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice – must be original
- ✓ Import Permit – obtained through the Ministry of Trade and Shipping
- ✓ Drivers License & International Insurance Policy (green card)
- ✓ OBL

NOTES:

Entry & Exit Requirements: Proof of yellow fever vaccination may be required.

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. There have been reports of sexual assault and harassment of foreign travelers. U.S. citizens should avoid crowds and street demonstrations, and maintain a low profile

Crime: Residential break-ins are reported frequently on the island. Foreigners should exercise caution on beaches and poorly lit or deserted areas at night.

Health: Incidences of the mosquito-borne Chikungunya virus have occurred; however, few cases have been reported since 2006. Prescription and over-the-counter medicine is generally available, though they may not be specific U.S. brand names. While public hospitals and clinics provide free care, visitors may choose to be treated by private doctors and hospitals. MegaCare is a private organization that provides assistance to subscribers only. Service Aide Medicale Urgence (SAMU) is a government organization that provides ambulance and emergency assistance in response to emergency calls to 114 (911 equivalent)

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Embassy of Mauritius: http://www.maurinet.com/tourist_information/mauritius_embassies

Department of State: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_967.html

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

USDA: www.aphis.usda.gov

International Association of Movers

IATA Travel Centre

FIDI Global Alliance

The information presented herein is based on customs data available at the time of publishing 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.