



Importing Personal Property Into Nepal

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Customs Regulations:

All shipments are subject to inspection. The customer must be present during the Customs clearance process. Used household goods and personal effects which are for daily use such as cloths, books, kitchenware, glassware/china and some furniture are allowed duty free for non-diplomats if they have an Import Permit. All items deemed duty free must enter Nepal within six months of the customer's arrival into Nepal.

Note: Entry is available via India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Thailand. The border with China is closed. The most common ports of entry are Haldia and Kolkatta (formally Calcutta), in West Bengal, India; thus shipments are subject to control and inspection by Indian Customs. All documents must arrive 20-30 days prior to arrival of the shipment into an Indian port to avoid heavy demurrage and additional charges. Shipment must be consigned to owner's full name and address in Nepal.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Passport including photo page
- ✓ Customs Transit Declaration (CTD)– required for shipments cleared at Indian ports of entry
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill
- ✓ Comprehensive valued inventory – in English, “Misc.,” “PBO” are not acceptable
- ✓ Letter of Authorization – allowing Destination Agent to clear shipment
- ✓ Insurance Certificate – must be original
- ✓ Import Permit – obtained from the Department of Commerce, can take up to 2 weeks to process
- ✓ Residence Visa
- ✓ Work Visa
- ✓ Customers contact phone number and address in Nepal

Foreign Nationals & Returning Nepalese must also provide the following:

- ✓ Passports of every family member
- ✓ Certificate from Employer stating income source
- ✓ Import License – issued by the Department of Commerce

Diplomat Status:

Foreign diplomats, members of government or international organizations are granted tax and duty free entry of their used personal effects and household items with approved Diplomat Status. As a courtesy, diplomatic shipments will not be inspected. CIF Value must be stated on the Exemption Certificate.

Privileged Status: Applies to members of government, international organizations or embassy workers with non-diplomatic status. They are granted duty free entry of their personal effects and used household items. These shipments are subject to inspection. CIF Value must be stated on the Exemption Certificate.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Diplomatic Exemption Certificate – issued by Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Diplomat status)
- ✓ Duty-Free Exemption Certificate – issued by Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Privileged status)
- ✓ Passport copy
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory list in English

RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

The complete list of dutiable items can be obtained from the Consulate of Nepal.

- ✓ Electronics and electrical items must list make, model and serial numbers
- ✓ Firearms require an original invoice & registration at origin.
- ✓ New items require original receipts & Certificate of origin
- ✓ Medications - require original containers, a copy of the prescription & list of generic names
- ✓ Plants & plant products including seeds and fruits require an Import Permit obtained through the Plant Quarantine Department, & a Phytosanitary certificate issued from the place of origin
- ✓ Antiques, pure silver & gold must be declared upon arrival & must be re-exported upon departure
- ✓ Alcohol – not to exceed 1.15 litres or 12 cans of beer
- ✓ Tobacco – not to exceed 250 grams or 250 cigarettes

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Pornography in any format and subversive material
- ✓ Explosives, ammunitions and weapons
- ✓ Beef and any products containing beef

IMPORTATION OF PETS

Pets are allowed as either accompanied or unaccompanied baggage. Customer's presence is required when clearing a pet.

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

IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Only those with privileged status are allowed to import a vehicle duty-free. Two-stroke motorcycles and three wheel vehicles are prohibited. Vehicles over 5 years of age are not permitted entry.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original
- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice – must be original, state make, model, year of manufacture, engine and chassis numbers

NOTES:

Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials: As of this posting Nepal does not require ISPM-15 for wood packaging material (WPM).

Art & Artifacts: It is illegal to export goods over 100 years old. Articles over 100 years old must have a certificate from the Department of Archaeology this includes; metal statues, sacred paintings, or similar objects. Customers who want to export antiquities or curios are advised to consult the Curator of the Nepal Museum in Kathmandu to determine whether or not exportation it is allowed. Exportation of such articles requires a clearance certificate from the Customs Department once the other agencies approve.

Electronics: including cameras, videos and tv's, radios and other electronic goods may only be imported duty free if they are exported on departure. **They may not be left in Nepal.**

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Health: Yellow Fever vaccine is recommended. Typhoid is common, Japanese encephalitis occurs in southern lowland, rural areas. Hepatitis A, B and E occur. Meningitis has been reported in some areas. Malaria also occurs through out the year. There has been a sharp rise in visceral leishmaniasis, and trachoma is fairly common. Altitude sickness is a hazard, especially if one is not in good health. Giardiasis, dysenteries and diarrheas are all common, so water and food preparation and consumption should be approached with the common precautions of only consuming water and milk that has been boiled, avoid other dairy products or uncooked meats. Vegetables should be cooked and fruit peeled.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Consulate of Nepal: www.un.int/nepal/

www.aphis.usda.gov

IATA Travel Centre

Visa HQ

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.