



Importing Personal Property Into Ukraine

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Customs Regulations:

Used household goods and personal effects are duty free provided ALL documentation is accounted for and goods have been owned and used by the customer for a minimum of six months and customer has lived abroad for at least one year. Client should be present during Customs clearance or at least in the country at the time. Client must be present when importing a vehicle. The comprehensive inventory must declare every item in the shipment. DO NOT indicate the insurance value on the Pro-Forma invoice. Household goods can be cleared as either final or temporary import.

Final Import: Client is either returning to Ukraine or a foreigner who intends to stay in Ukraine for more than one year. This status is subject to a Customs fee of 0.2% of pro forma value charged and may incur duties and taxes of up to 40% of actual value of goods.

Temporary Import: Client intends to stay in Ukraine for 1 year or less with the intention of exporting their belongings within that year. If the imported shipment or part of it is not exported within the year duties and taxes are to be paid. The client's company in Ukraine must write a guarantee (on company letterhead) submitted to the Regional Customs Office to clear the effects of the foreign client and attest to the fact the goods will be exported unless officially extended, client's exact duration of employment contract, client's position in the company and client's Ukrainian address with phone number must be stated.

Clients must submit the Customs Declaration upon arrival into Ukraine of items being temporarily imported or be subject to payment of taxes and duties.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Passport - copy w/photo page
- ✓ Ukrainian Visa
- ✓ Immigration stamp – copy, for temporary importation of goods
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill – original
- ✓ Ukrainian tax code & registration
- ✓ Comprehensive Inventory – in English
- ✓ Pro-Forma Invoice - stated Customs value of shipment
- ✓ Power of Attorney – notarized, giving authority for Destination Agent to clear shipment
- ✓ Employer's Accredited Registration – copy, obtained from Ukrainian employer
- ✓ Employment Agreement – stamped, signed by employer and client
- ✓ Work Permit
- ✓ Custom Declaration (T6 Form) – obtained & submitted upon arrival for unaccompanied baggage

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.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Diplomatic ID
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory – in English

RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

- ✓ Works of art, antiques, jewelry, silver & musical instruments – Refer to NOTES section for additional requirements
- ✓ Items made prior to 1945; including books, furniture & ornaments
- ✓ Figurines, sculptures, religious icons and Samovars
- ✓ Precious metals, stones and semi-precious stones and anything including them
- ✓ Books – must state author, title and publisher
- ✓ Cd's, DVD's, hard drives audio/video tapes and any other digital or record materials are subject to censorship and possible confiscation, only 20 of each are allowed
- ✓ Electronics/electrical appliances must be clearly marked on the inventory with serial numbers
- ✓ Coin and stamp collections and hand made rugs
- ✓ Foodstuffs

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind
- ✓ Alcohol
- ✓ Pornography and subversive material
- ✓ Explosives, firearms, ammunitions and weapons of any kind
- ✓ Toxic materials, flammables, chemicals and any pressurized items
- ✓ Plants, fresh meat & vegetables; skins, furs, tusks & feathers
- ✓ Pets are prohibited as unaccompanied cargo/baggage

IMPORTATION OF PETS

Quarantine is not required as of this posting. Please consult with your Destination Agent regarding pet importation as allowing the importation of pets was prohibited until January 2010.

Requirements: Pets can be allowed as carry-on depending on the airline. Total weight (pet + kennel) shall not exceed 5 kg: otherwise pet will be loaded as cargo of the same plane.

Note: Persons or companies without agricultural certificates and permission from the Ministry of Agriculture are not able to receive pets.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination (Pet Passport) – less than 1 year for all shots including rabies
- ✓ International Health Certificate - issued by a Veterinarian at origin
- ✓ Form 1 (blue form) – obtained from Veterinarian at origin
- ✓ Pet Export Permit
- ✓ Purchase invoice – stating price paid for pet
- ✓ Agricultural Certificate
- ✓ Notarized Power of Attorney – from client

IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Only one vehicle may be imported. The vehicle must not be more than 5 years old. Clients without a Work Permit must pay duties and taxes. It is advisable to keep vehicle registration current at place of origin as well. Diplomats can import one vehicle free of duty on a temporary basis only.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Passport or Diplomatic ID
- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original

- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice – must be original
- ✓ Drivers License & International Insurance Policy (green card) - if driving vehicle into Ukraine
- ✓ Employment Visa - if driving vehicle into Ukraine
- ✓ Detailed description of vehicle – serial numbers for frame/chassis & engine, make model weight & engine cc size

NOTES:

Specific Regulations regarding artwork, antiques and jewelry: Permission from the Ministry of Culture is required for antiques, artifacts, archival documents, old books sculptures and musical instruments. The Ministry of Culture may request an expert evaluation of items through the Museum of History. A separate inventory list is required stating year of production, country of origin, name of artist. Serial numbers are required for instruments. 2 sets of photographs for each item must be included with the inventory list; the inventory list & photos must arrive 1 week before shipment.

Precious jewelry and currency can only be imported as accompanied baggage and must be declared to Customs Authority at point of arrival into the Ukraine. Declarations regarding these items must be kept in safekeeping as they are required to be presented at time of departure. A set of photos of these items is also advantageous.

Entry Requirements: all passports must be valid six months beyond the intended length of stay. Review the visas carefully so that you know for how long it is valid. You are responsible for knowing the rules for the type of visa you have. Sometimes U.S. citizens try to come to Ukraine before their visa allows. In Ukraine the date is written day-month-year. A visa issued on 01/05/10 is good from May 1, 2010, NOT from January 5, 2010. If you come to Ukraine before your visa allows, you can be stopped at the border, not allowed to enter Ukraine, and required to return to your point of origin at your own expense. The U.S. Embassy in Kyiv cannot stop this from happening.

Extension of Stay: Extensions are obtained through the Ukraine State Department of Citizenship, Immigration and Registration (officially VGIFRO, but still referred to almost universally by its old acronym, “OVIR”) at least three days before your initial registration expires. Visits to Russia from Ukraine, require a Russian visa. The Consular Section of the [Russian Embassy in Ukraine](#) is located at Prospekt Kutuzova.

Under Ukrainian law, police are permitted to stop you for any reason and check your identification documents. You are required to carry your passport at all times, which police may check to verify your legal presence in Ukraine. Police are permitted to detain you for up to 72 hours without formal charges

Health: There are not restrictions on people with HIV/AIDS visiting Ukraine on a temporary basis. However, anyone with HIV/AIDS or tuberculosis cannot get permanent residency in Ukraine. There are no waivers or exceptions to this rule. Ukraine is not a disabled-friendly environment, with little or no accommodations to ease access.

The Ukrainian government has an effective program of monitoring fresh foods and meats sold in local markets. You should not buy produce on the street. Wild berries, mushrooms, and wild fowl and game have exhibited higher than average levels of radiation. Background levels of radiation are monitored regularly by the Embassy and, to date, have not exceeded the level found on the Eastern seaboard of the United States. If external radiation levels are high enough to require evacuation, the U.S. Embassy will notify the U.S. community through the Embassy warden e-mail and text messaging system

Crime: Street crime is a severe problem with US citizens being more frequently targeted. The police are poorly paid, and are considered to be one of the most corrupt organizations in Ukraine. Their response times are far below Western standards along with ambulance service. Ethnic and religious “hate crimes” are also on the rise predominately by Neo-Nazi affiliations. The general disinterest shown by Ukrainian law enforcement in responding to or investigating crimes against U.S. citizens in a number of cases is a cause of concern. In particular, Ukrainian law differs with regard to sexual assault and rape, and

Ukrainian law enforcement officers generally treat such cases with less seriousness and professionalism than their U.S. counterparts. US citizens, especially non-Caucasians are urged to practice vigilance particularly in Kyiv.

Business Interests: Harassment and intimidation directed against foreign business persons and interests is a regular occurrence. Reported incidents to the US Embassy include:

Physical threats (possibly motivated by rival commercial interests tied to organized crime)

Local government entities engaging in such practices as arbitrary termination or amendment of business licenses, or dilution of corporate stock to diminish U.S. investor interest

Delays of payment or delivery of goods

Arbitrary “inspections” by tax, safety or other officials that appear designed to harm the business. U.S. business entities are encouraged to read the most recent [Overseas Security Advisory Council \(OSAC\) Annual Crime and Safety Report for Ukraine](#).

Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials: Ukraine imposes ISPM15 requirements and regulations for wood packaging material (WPM).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Embassy of Ukraine: <http://www.mfa.gov.ua/usa/en/1609.htm>

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ukraine: <http://www.mfa.gov.ua/usa/en>

OVIR: <http://mvs.gov.ua/mvs/control/main/uk/publish/article/74588>

Department of State

USDA: www.aphis.usda.gov

International Association of Movers

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.