



Importing Personal Property Into Uruguay

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 two years showing evidence of use and customer has a permanent residence.

Non-permanent residents may be required to make a bank guarantee deposit, refundable when shipment is re-exported. Shipments must arrive within 180 days of the customer's arrival into Uruguay.

Customs procedures must be started within 60 days of the date stated on "Certificate of Residence" from origin country.

Returning Uruguayans with more than 2 years of substantiated residence abroad who is returning to Uruguay permanently will be able to import all household goods, personal effects including vehicles, tools of the trade, machines or instruments related to their art or profession free of all Customs duties, taxes and related charges.

NOTE: Customs authorities have started to apply strict control of ALL incoming shipments in relation to their precise weights. It is imperative that the declared weight on the BL coincided precisely with the actual weight recorded on the weight ticket issued by Customs. Demurrage and extra charges will be applied to those shipments with inaccurate weights.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Passport - copy, including photo page, most recent entry stamp
- ✓ Residence Visa - issued by the Uruguayan Consulate at origin or Certificate of Permanent Residence granted by the Migration Office in Uruguay
- ✓ Certificate of Residence – issued by the Uruguayan Consulate at origin, stating customer has lived abroad for a minimum of 2 years
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill – original
- ✓ Bank Guarantee – as security for duty and VAT as calculated on the declared value of possessions
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory – in Spanish, authenticated by Uruguayan Consulate at origin
- ✓ Authorization Letter – declaring Destination Agent has authority to clear shipment
- ✓ Certificate of Entrance – issued by the Dirección Nacional de Migraciones upon arrival

Returning Uruguayans:

- ✓ Proof of permanent Residence Abroad for a minimum of 1 year – presented to Customs authorities

Diplomat Status:

Foreign and Uruguayan diplomats, members of government or international organizations are granted tax and duty free entry of their personal effects and household items. Diplomat must be accredited through their Embassy or mission in Uruguay in order to receive authorization from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to clear the shipment through Customs under "Diplomatic Status".

Required Documents:

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise – must submit a copy of the inventory when applying for the franchise
- ✓ Passport copy
- ✓ Letter from Embassy & Certificate from Ministry of Foreign Affairs at destination requesting clearance of shipment and confirming status of diplomat
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory – in Spanish, authenticated by Uruguayan Consulate at origin

RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

- ✓ Works of art, antiques, jewelry & coins – reasonable amounts are duty free, exaggerated amounts must be in line w/customers status; may be subject to duties at the discretion of Customs Authority
- ✓ Appliances/Electronics – one of each allowed except for TV's & PC's are per family member
- ✓ Sporting Guns - require a certificate from the Ministry of Defense in Uruguay, specifications for each sporting gun must be stated on the Inventory
- ✓ New items are subject to duties and VAT – items will be held until payment of duties
- ✓ Inheritance - requires a separate packing list, notarized of each: death certificate, proof of estate
- ✓ Wedding trousseaux – requires a separate packing list, notarized marriage certificate
- ✓ Bicycles - allowed only as part of household goods, not to exceed the amount of family members
- ✓ Alcohol – subject to duties

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind, medication of any kind, first aid kits,
- ✓ Pornography and subversive material
- ✓ Explosives, firearms, (unless approved as a sport gun) ammunitions and all other weapons
- ✓ Live plants
- ✓ All new appliances & electronics
- ✓ Used vehicles including motorbikes & parts
- ✓ Machinery, industrial tools, tools of the trade – Exception for Uruguayans returning permanently

IMPORTATION OF PETS

Cats and dogs are allowed entry with the below documentation. Any other pet may be subject to quarantine or prohibited. Please consult with your Destination Agent prior to importing your pet for the latest regulations and requirements. Both the Health and Vaccination Certificates must be notarized by the Uruguayan Consulate at origin at must be less than 10 working days old upon arrival.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – including rabies & anti-hydrofolic inoculation, dated at least 30 days but less than 1 year prior to arrival.
- ✓ Health Certificate - dated less than 10 days prior to arrival by a licensed veterinarian
- ✓ Photos – two pictures of each pet

IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Only those with diplomat status and returning Uruguayans are allowed to import a vehicle. Returning Uruguayans with documented 2 years abroad, who are returning to Uruguay permanently, are allowed to import one vehicle. The vehicle can not be sold for a period of four years after importation. Importation of vehicles is a complex process in Uruguay involving many aspects of government including permissions from the Treasury Ministry, Ministry of Economy and Finance and Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Please consult your Destination Agent for requirements.

Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original, authenticated by Consulate at origin
- ✓ Commercial/Purchase Invoice – must be original authenticated by Consulate at origin
- ✓ Personal Declaration – attesting to length of stay abroad & decision to return permanently
- ✓ Proof of stay abroad – Work contract, mission, etc, notarized by the Consulate at origin
- ✓ Freight & insurance proof - issued by I.M.B. S.A.

NOTES:

Safety & Security: 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.

Regular protests, some with an anti-American flavor, take place outside Congress, City Hall and the Universidad de la Republica (University of the Republic). U.S. citizens visiting or residing in Uruguay are advised to take common-sense precautions and avoid any large gatherings or any other event where crowds have congregated to demonstrate or protest. If travelers encounter a protest they should walk the other way or enter a commercial establishment until the protest passes. Taking pictures of protesters is not a good idea. Although there have been no past instances of violence directed at U.S. citizens from cross-border extremist groups, U.S. citizens traveling or residing in the more remote areas of Uruguay near the borders with Argentina and Brazil are urged to exercise caution.

Criminal Penalties: Persons violating Uruguay's laws, even unknowingly, may be expelled, arrested, or imprisoned. Penalties for possession, use, or trafficking in illegal drugs in Uruguay are severe, and convicted offenders can expect long jail sentences and heavy fines. The Uruguayan Ministry of Agriculture and Fishing strictly enforces all regulations regarding hunting permits, as well as seasonal and numerical limits on game. Visitors who contravene local law have been detained by the authorities and had valuable personal property (weapons) seized. Under Uruguayan law, seized weapons can only be returned after payment of a sum equivalent to the value of the property seized. Hunters are also subject to stiff fines for practicing the sport without all appropriate permits.

Sporting Guns: Sporting gun must be packed near the container door. Upon arrival guns will be taken to the Service of Material & Armament for safekeeping until all of Customer's documentation is cleared at Customs and permission is obtained to collect the guns.

Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials: Uruguay adopted ISPM15 standards for wood packaging material (WPM).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Uruvan: Montevideo, Uruguay

Department of State: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1054.html

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

Embassy of Uruguay: <http://www.mrree.gub.uy/gxpsites/hgxpp001?7,7,442,O,S,0,MNU>

FIDI Global Alliance

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.