



Importing Personal Property Into

PORTUGAL

IMPORTING HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

DUTY-FREE ENTRY IS PERMITTED IF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ARE MET:

- Goods are used and the shipper has owned them for a minimum of one year.
- Goods are for the continued personal use of the shipper.

Notes:

- Household goods and personal effects are subject to customs clearance broker's fees based upon the shipment's value.
- All new items are subject to duties.
- The shipper must be in Portugal at least one week prior to the arrival of the shipment for customs inspection.
- Shipment must arrive in Portugal within 90 days of the shipper's arrival and usually 120 days of the issuance of the "Certificado de Bagagem."
- If the shipper plans on importing more than one shipment, then a special permit will need to be obtained.
- Detailed Inventories for all shipments will need to accompany the first shipment, if applicable.
- If the shipment originates in more than one locale, then a separate inventory must be submitted for each location.
- All shipments must be cleared through one Customs house.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Original bill of lading or airway bill
- ✓ Original, valid passport stamped with entrance date which must be within one year of shipment's arrival.
- ✓ Visa
- ✓ Certificate of change of residence
- ✓ Registration with local police
- ✓ Signed and notarized Declaration of Ownership of goods, stating goods are the shipper's own possessions.

- ✓ Shipper must obtain "Certificado de Bagagem" issued at point of origin by the Portuguese Consulate, along with an inventory listing in Portuguese (but showing no values).
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory in Portuguese, stating that all items are used and have been in the possession of the owner for more than 6 months. The inventory needs to be in duplicate, consularized, signed and dated by the shipper. Motor vehicles should be listed on the inventory, if included in the shipment.
- ✓ Valued inventory for Customs listing serial numbers of major electrical appliances.
- ✓ "Atestado do Residencia" (Domicile Certificate) obtained from the Junto de Fregusia having jurisdiction over the shipper's new residence in Portugal, verifying that the shipper has been living there for less than one year.
- ✓ Work Permit obtained from the Ministry of Labor, or proof of application for Residence Permit, or a deed to property owned by the shipper.
- ✓ If the shipper is not a citizen of the origin country then proof that he/she resided in the origin country for at least 12 months is required. This can include a copy of his/her identity card as a foreigner, certificate issued by Portuguese Consulate or a copy of the work contract at origin.

DIPLOMATIC REMOVALS

- Diplomats, consular officials, diplomatic and international missions accredited in Portugal qualify for diplomatic removal.
- The shipper must be in Portugal one week prior to the shipment's arrival.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise obtained from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs 15 days before shipment's arrival.

RESTRICTED/PROHIBITED ITEMS; IMPORTING FIREARMS AND MOTOR VEHICLES

RESTRICTED/DUTIBALE ITEMS

- All new items less than 6 months old or items that appear new are subject to duty. Do not pack items in the original cartons to avoid confusing used items with new.
- Television sets must be registered at local Port Office for License control and details such as type, make, serial number, etc. must be indicated on inventory.
- Tobacco products
- Antiques and art objects are allowed but special requirements may apply.
- Wine and spirits must be in reasonable quantities equal to the contents of a normal domestic wine rack and cocktail cabinet.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Firearms, weapons, ammunition and war instruments. See below for conditions of importing firearms.
- Drugs and narcotics
- Pornographic materials
- Gold in the form of bars
- Perishable foodstuff and medicines prejudicial to national health.
- Systems for copying mail stamping.
- Essences for counterfeiting regional wine.

IMPORTATION OF FIREARMS

- Firearms must be registered upon arrival.
- Firearms are not to be imported with the intent of resale.
- They must also be accompanied by a detailed description on an inventory report which includes type, caliber, make and serial number.
- They must be packed and shipped separately from the household goods shipment.
- Up to a caliber of 7.62mm requires a special permit from the police.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Registration
- ✓ Detailed description on an Inventory report
- ✓ Special permit from police

IMPORTATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

- Vehicle must have been in the shipper's possession for at least 6 months.
- Motor vehicles may be temporarily imported duty-free for 6 months and then must be exported if definitive importation is not made effective.
- Duties and taxes are assessed according to the value of the car or boat in Portugal. The rates are very high.
- Returning adult Portuguese Citizens may import motor vehicles duty-free if they have lived abroad continuously for at least 24 months. Proof of residency abroad is required and can include a letter from an employer or income tax receipts.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Original registration certificate and title
- ✓ International driver's license
- ✓ Full description of vehicle including the make, model and VIN.
- ✓ Insurance certificate
- ✓ Import license (Boats only)

IMPORTATION OF PETS

- Pets can be imported if accompanied by the required documentation.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Notarized, valid rabies certificate of vaccination
- ✓ Notarized certificate of health obtained from a veterinarian less than 4 weeks prior to date of pet's arrival in Portugal

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

- AGS Worldwide Movers, <http://www.ags-worldwide-movers.com>
- Virtual Portugal, www.portugalvirtual.pt/50travtransp/rettenmayer/custreg.html, July 2000.
- Portugal in the United States, Embassy of Portugal, Washington DC, <http://www.portugalemb.org>, April 2000.

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.