



## *Importing Personal Property Into Mauritania*

### **CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

#### **Customs Regulations:**

**As of this posting Mauritania and surrounding countries have a High Threat level of terrorist activity. All but essential travel is advised at this time.**

All shipments are subject to inspection. The customer should be present at the destination during clearance. Used household goods and personal effects are duty free so long as they are at least six months old.

#### **Required Documents:**

- ☞ Passport including photo page
- ☞ Visa and Invitation Letter from a Mauritanian sponsor
- ☞ Letter of Transfer from Employer
- ☞ “Attestation Reservation de cale”
- ☞ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill
- ☞ Valued Inventory in French- detailed and signed by the customer

#### **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 Franchise
- ☞ Passport copy
- ☞ Valued inventory in French
- ☞ Letter of Recommendation from the mission, government office or international organization

### **RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS**

- ☞ New electrical items and furniture are subject to tax and duty and require receipts/invoices
- ☞ Computers are subject to duty and tax
- ☞ 200 cigarettes, 25 cigars or 1 pound of tobacco can be imported tax & duty free; excess of that will incur fees
- ☞ Sporting rifles are allowed temporary admission. A gun license & import license must be obtained



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from the Home Ministry of Mauritania prior to arrival

☞ Only one camera and one video camera are allowed

☞ Wine and Spirits are prohibited in the shipment, but can be sent separately

☞ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind – penalties are severe

☞ Pornography and subversive material against Islam

☞ Explosives, ammunitions and weapons

Quarantine is not required at this time. Documents need to be certified by the Department of Agriculture before sending them to the Consulate of Mauritania to be certified

#### **Required Documents:**

☞ Certificate of Vaccination – including rabies, dated less than 30 days prior to arrival

☞ Health Certificate - dated less than 10 days prior to arrival, by a certified Veterinarian

Used vehicles are allowed importation on a temporary basis duty-free. New vehicles are dutiable

#### **Required Documents:**

☞ Certificate of Title and Registration - must be original

☞ Commercial/Purchase Invoice – must be original

#### **NOTES:**

**Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials:** As of this posting Mauritania does impose ISPM15 requirements for wood packaging material (WPM).

**Laws:** Mauritania is an Islamic country, thus local laws, traditions and customs reflect that. Narcotics laws are severe. Those found in possession of any illegal drugs may receive a harsh prison sentence. Alcohol consumption and sale is illegal, however some restaurants do serve it. At this time homosexuality remains a punishable offense. It is highly advisable to carry ID and your passport at all times when traveling out side of the capital city of Nouakchott as there are many police road checks. Sometimes police object to photography with out prior permission.

**Safety & Security:** There is increasing activity by the terrorist group Al Qaeda in the Land of the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) in Mauritania. Given AQIM threats to attack western targets in Mauritania and the region, and due to indications of a desire to kidnap Westerners for ransom, U.S. citizens are urged to remain vigilant and be alert to surveillance or other risks to their safety. Faith-based organizations, regardless of their location, may also be particularly targeted. U.S. citizens should avoid all non-essential travel to the Hodh El Charghi region of southeastern Mauritania, the eastern half of the Tagant region of central Mauritania (east of Tidjika), and the Zemmour region of northern Mauritania, due to increased AQIM activities in these areas. Travel in the unpopulated areas of eastern Mauritania (areas east of Zouerate and Chinguetti and north of Nema) is strongly discouraged without a government escort.

**Health:** Yellow Fever Vaccine is required. At this time there is not HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors



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to or foreign residents of Mauritania

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

Embassy of Mauritania: <http://mauritaniaembassy.us/>

USDA: [www.aphis.usda.gov](http://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.**