



BPL COMPANY LTD

## *Importing Personal Property Into Bahamas*

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

#### **Customs Regulations:**

Customer's presence is required for Customs clearance. All items are subject to taxes and duties including used personal effects. The duty amount is 35% plus a 7% stamp tax. Duty and Stamp tax are based on C.I.F. value.

**Returning Residents** have a \$300.00 exemption twice a year on personal effects and household goods.

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Passport – copy, including photo page
- ✓ Comprehensive Inventory List - in English
- ✓ Letter authorizing Destination Agent to clear shipment

#### **Diplomat Status:**

**Foreign diplomats are granted duty free entry**

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise
- ✓ Passport copy
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory list in English

- ✓ Tobacco – 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 454grms of loose tobacco allowed duty free, in excess of these amounts incurs duty
- ✓ Alcohol – 1qrt of wine and 1qrt of spirits allowed duty free, in excess of these amounts incurs duty
- ✓ Antiques require a certificate of authenticity from an authorized dealer or expert
- ✓ Medications require a prescription

- ✓ Controlled chemicals, Psychotropic Substances
- ✓ Pornography, obscene publications, videos & software
- ✓ Reproductions of copyright materials and videos, counterfeit goods & currency
- ✓ Weapons, swords, firearms, fireworks and ammunitions
- ✓ Articles contrary to Bahamian religious beliefs or morality
- ✓ Plants & plant products
- ✓ Animals from rabies infected countries

Importation of pets will require an Import Permit from the Ministry of Agriculture prior to importation. The pet must be at least 6 months old. Cats and dogs coming from rabies infected countries will not be granted admittance. Quarantine of up to 30 days may be required. Import requirements may change, check with your service agent prior to shipping.

**Required Documents:**

- ✓Certificate of Vaccination – including a rabies certificate
- ✓Health Certificate - from a licensed veterinarian, issued 24hrs before embarkation
- ✓Import Permit – obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture

**Required Documents:**

- ✓Copy of Certificate of Title and Registration
- ✓Import Permit
- ✓Original invoice if recently purchased

7% stamp tax applies to imported vehicles. Duty is as follows:

Value of \$10,000 or less = 45% duty

Value of \$10,000- \$20,000 = 50% duty

Value over \$20,000 = 65% duty

Trailers and caravans need special permission before importation. Please check with your service agent before consigning any vehicles.

**NOTES:**

**Entry & Exit Requirements:**

**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.

**Crime:** Armed robbery is a major criminal threat for US citizens residing in the Bahamas. Exercise good

**Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials:** As of this posting Bahamas does not impose ISPM15 regulations for wood packaging material (WPM).



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## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

Martin's Moving, Storage & Custom Brokers Ltd: Nassau, Bahamas  
Department of State: [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_989.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_989.html)  
Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>  
USDA: [www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov)  
FIDI Global Alliance  
Government of the Bahamas, Department of Customs  
Grand Bahama Chamber of Commerce

**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.**