



Importing Personal Property Into Bulgaria

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Customs Regulations:

IMPORTANT: Customer must be present at Customs Clearing House the day shipment is to clear Customs. On declared newly purchased items (less than 6 months old) abroad, duty and VAT is payable.

Household goods can be imported up to three months after customers arrival. USED housed and personal effects (six months old minimum) may be imported duty and VAT provided all required documents are in order and presented to customs. If you do not have a residence permit and your shipment has arrived at the Central Customs location in Sophia, Bulgaria, it is mandatory to pay a Customs Guaranty I order for your shipment to clear customs. The Customs Guaranty is a fiscal guarantee which Customs officials require in order to be sure a temporary residence will be established. The guaranty is payable in cash or by bank transfer and it is 25% on the DECLARED value of the shipment (5% tax + 20% VAT) for a total declared value of \$1500.00 USD or less. This guarantee is reimbursable immediately after residence is established **Returning Bulgarian citizens** of non-diplomat status are eligible for duty and tax-free import of personal effects and one used vehicle provided that they have proof of residing abroad for at least one year.

NOTE: As of 19 August 2010 an EORI (Economic Operators Registration and Identification) number is required for all imports and exports to clear Customs in the European Union.

The requirement was introduced by the European Commission in July 2009 to enhance security. The EORI number must be used in all electronic communications with Customs Offices and other government agencies and departments. This number is valid in all EU member states and replaces ALL Customs identification numbers including the TIN (Traders Identification Number). All business operators and private individuals not established in the EU must obtain the EORI number from the authorities in the respective EU member state wherein the client intends to operate or reside. Please consult with your Destination Agent for further details and assistance.

Required Documents:

- ④ Passport (copy) ④ Work Permit (original)
- ④ Certificate issued by the Ministry of the Interior with the identification number (Residence Permit)
- ④ Copy of rental contract for at least one year
- ④ Copy of the address registration with the local Police Department
- ④ Letter from employer confirming transfer, preferable in Bulgarian (it must state how long shipper has been working abroad)
- ④ Power of Attorney in Bulgarian for service provider to deal with customs clearance verified by a notary. Client needs to already be in Bulgaria to sign the document
- ④ Inventory (in English and signed and dated by the Customer)
 - Must list all electrical and electronic devices, brand names and serial numbers ○
 - Paintings should be listed and described separately

Diplomat Status:

- ④ Copy of Diplomatic Passport and local Diplomatic ID
- ④ Formal Letter from the Embassy (in Bulgarian) declaring Diplomatic status with the Embassy and duration of stay in Bulgaria
- ④ Declaration requesting Duty and Tax-free Import of personal effects. This declaration should be prepared and submitted at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bulgaria for verification. Verification takes 5-6 working days, so that it will be verified before arrival of the shipment.

Returning Bulgarian Citizens:

Required Documents:

- ④ Passport (copy)
- ④ Power of Attorney in Bulgarian for service provider to deal with customs clearance verified by a notary. Client needs to already be in Bulgaria to sign the document
- ④ Invoices or receipts for all major electric or electronic appliances (TV, VCR, freezer, washer/dryer refrigerator, etc.)
- ④ Letter from employer abroad stating length of time abroad and termination/transfer resulting in a return to Bulgaria.
- ④ Letter noting change of residence issued by the city council (verified by a Bulgarian Notary) ④ If self-employed abroad: Provide all available legal documents for closing of business, selling of property, etc. Copy of Residence permit issued by city council where registered for residence.

RESTRICTED ITEMS

- ④ Machinery and equipment
- ④ Antiques
- ④ Products of animal origin
- ④ Plants: Certificate of Health from the Ministry of Agriculture is required
- ④ Liquor
 - Two bottles of wine or one bottle of hard liquor (containing 20% or more alcohol by VOL.)
 - If customs authorities discovers more than allowed quantity, all alcohol will be confiscated

NOTE: Certain wildlife, animals or plants and parts thereof are protected by the Convention of Washington (CITES). The importation of these specimens is strongly restricted following the Country rules implementing the CITES-Convention.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ④ Pornographic Materials
- ④ Drugs / Narcotics
- ④ Weapons, Firearms and explosives
- ④ Meat, meat products
- ④ Milk, milk products
- ④ Bulgarian Currency
- ④ Tobacco Products

IMPORTATION OF PETS

Importation of cats and dogs is allowed. Please follow CITES rulings mentioned above regarding “exotic” pets.

Required Documents:

- ④ Vaccination Record
- ④ Health Certificate

IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Customs Regulations:

Customs requires vehicles, including motorcycles to be declared on a temporary import basis and a “guaranty” be payable for the vehicle. The amount of the guaranty depends on the year of manufacture, model of the vehicle, year of first registration, bhp or kW of the engine. Your service provider will be able to ascertain how much the customer will need to provide to customs. The temporary import for a vehicle needs to be renewed annually if your stay is longer than one year.

Required Documents:

- ④ Proof of Registration
- ④ Proof of Ownership (invoice, purchase contract, etc)
- ④ Visa
- ④ National Drivers license
- ④ International Insurance Policy

Diplomat Status:

Diplomats are can import one vehicle Duty and Tax-free.

Required Documents:

- ④ Proof of Registration
- ④ Proof of Ownership (invoice, purchase contract, etc)

Duties for vehicle importation are as follows:

| Used Cars | |
|---|--|
| System DIN (European) | System SAE (American System) |
| Engine over 120 and less 150 KW | Engine over 126 and less than 157,5 KW |
| 35 BGN per KW: between 4, 200 – 5,250 BGN | 33,33 BGN per KW: between 4 200 – 5 250 BGN |
| Over 150 KW | Over 157,5 KW |
| 60 BGN per KW : 9 000 BGN | 57,14 BGN per KW : between 4 200 – 5 250 BGN |
| New Cars | |
| System DIN | System SAE |
| Engine over 120 KW | Engine over 126 KW |
| 700 BGN + 90 BGN | 700 BGN + 85,71 BGN |

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

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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.