



## *Importing Personal Property Into Morocco*

### **HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS**

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

##### **Customs Regulations:**

Client's presence is not required for Customs clearance. Containers are physically inspected by Customs officers. House hold goods and personal effects in "reasonable amounts" are usually duty-free if more than six months old. If two shipments are being sent, the second shipment must arrive no later than six months after the first shipment. It is recommended that electrical/appliance items be loaded near the container door. DVD's, CD's, video cassettes etc are also checked, thus must be easily identifiable. All dutiable/restricted items should be placed near the back of the container for easy access.

Moroccan Customs only accepts documents in French. Any translations will be at the client's expense. All documents must arrive to your Destination Agent 15 days prior to arrival of the shipment to apply for the exemption.

##### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Passport - copy, including photo page and entry stamp into Morocco
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill (express B/L is acceptable)
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory list notarized in French
- ✓ OBL/AWB
- ✓ Change of Residence Certificate – original, in French issued by local authorities at point of origin, signed, stamped on letterhead
- ✓ Residence Visa – obtained from nearest central police station in Morocco
- ✓ Work Permit – original, from employer in
- ✓ Authorization Letter - signed by client authorizing the Destination Agent to clear the shipment
- ✓ Comprehensive Valued Inventory – in French, notarized, dated & signed by client ✓ Packing List - in French,

##### **Diplomat Status:**

Foreign diplomats are granted duty free entry. Diplomats may import alcohol and tobacco products.

##### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise – obtained through the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- ✓ Passport - copy
- ✓ Comprehensive Inventory – signed by Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- ✓ AWB/OBL

## Returning Nationals:

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Change of Residence Certificate – original, signed by Consulate at origin, upon departure, with the entry: “Retour definitive” & Work Permit from origin country

### ✓RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS

All items on the Restricted/Dutiable List must be clearly identified and loaded near the container doors for easy inspection by Customs Authority.

- ✓ Firearms and ammunitions - requires an Import Permit: only smooth-barreled hunting rifles are allowed; retained at Customs until the permit is obtained; must be stored near the container door
- ✓ New items - less than six months old, requires commercial invoices, subject to duty
- ✓ Food and beverages, antiques
- ✓ Medication - requires a permit from the Ministry of Health
- ✓ Portable and mobile phone types must have permit from the Ministry of P.T.T .
- ✓ Alcohol – wine only, 12 bottles max allowed; must state “Fond de cave ou ustensiles de cuisine” on the packing list
- ✓ Books, records, cassettes and disks:
  - Must have a separate list stating the title, author for each item
  - These items will be viewed by the Ministry of Information before a Censorship Visa is issued

### PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Narcotics/illegal drugs of any kind, alcohol and tobacco products
- ✓ Explosives, weapons and ammunitions & firearms with out the proper permits above
- ✓ Moroccan currency
- ✓ Pornography and politically sensitive materials
- ✓ Telephone, fax machines and other telecommunication devices

### IMPORTATION OF PETS

Quarantine is not a requirement as if this time. Health documents below need to be certified at the Department of Agriculture, and then sent to:

Consulate General of The Kingdom of Morocco: 10 East 40th Street, New York, NY 10016  
For more information refer to: <http://www.moroccanconsulate.com/pets.cfm>

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination
- ✓ Health Certificate – dated no more than 14 days before departure

### IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Permission to circulate the vehicle is allowed for a period of 3 months. Beyond this time the customer must pay Customs duty or export the vehicle at the time period. Duty and taxes are very high; please

check with your service agent prior to consigning the vehicle for the latest information and regulations. Vehicles more than 5 years old are prohibited.

Diplomats- No restrictions apply and the vehicle is free of duty.

### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Certificate of Title and Registration - original
- ✓ Passport - copy
- ✓ Import Permit
- ✓ OBL- must state chassis and engine serial numbers, weight, make and model
- ✓ Commercial invoice and all paperwork, service invoices etc concerning the vehicle

### **NOTES:**

**Entry & Exit Requirements:** US citizens should carry a copy of their passport with them at all times so that, if questioned by local officials, proof of identity and U.S. citizenship is readily available. Children born to a Moroccan father may experience difficulty leaving Morocco without the father's permission. Under Moroccan law, these children are considered Moroccan citizens. Even if the children bear U.S. passports, immigration officials may require proof that the father has approved their departure before the children will be allowed to leave Morocco. Although women, regardless of their nationality, are normally granted custody of their children in divorces, the father must approve the children's departure from Morocco. U.S. citizen women married to Moroccans do not need their spouse's permission to leave Morocco.

**Safety & Security:** The potential for terrorist violence against U.S. citizens and interests remains high in Morocco. Moroccan authorities continue to disrupt groups seeking to attack U.S. or Western-affiliated and Moroccan government targets, arresting numerous individuals associated with international terrorist groups. With indications that such groups still seek to carry out attacks in Morocco, it is important for U.S. citizens to be keenly aware of their surroundings and adhere to prudent security practices such as avoiding predictable travel patterns and maintaining a low profile. Travel to the Western Sahara remains restricted; persons planning to travel to the region should obtain information on clearance requirements from the Moroccan Embassy.

**Crime:** Crime in Morocco is a serious concern, particularly in the major cities and tourist areas. Aggressive panhandling, pick-pocketing, purse-snatching, theft from occupied vehicles stopped in traffic and harassment of women are the most frequently reported crimes. Criminals have used weapons, primarily knives, during some street robberies and burglaries. These have occurred at any time of day and night, not only in isolated places or areas less frequented by visitors, but in crowded areas as well. Women walking alone in certain areas of cities and rural areas are particularly vulnerable to harassment from men. Women are advised to travel with a companion or in a group when possible and to ignore any harassment. Special Circumstances: Moroccan Customs authorities enforce strict regulations concerning temporary importation into or export from Morocco of items such as firearms, religious materials, antiques, business equipment, and large quantities of currency.

**Currency:** Moroccan Customs procedures do not provide for accurate or reliable registration of large quantities of U.S. dollars brought into the country. As a result, U.S. citizens encounter difficulties when they attempt to depart with large amounts of cash. In particular, U.S. citizens with dual Moroccan nationality have been asked to provide proof of the source of the funds and have incurred heavy fines. The export of Moroccan currency (dirhams) is prohibited; however, Moroccan currency can be converted back into U.S. dollars prior to departure only if the traveler has a bank or money transfer receipt indicating he or she exchanged dollars for dirhams while in Morocco.



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**Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials:** At this time Morocco does not require the ISPM 15 requirements for wood packing material (WPM).

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

AGS Frasers of Africa: Casablanca, Morocco

International Association of Movers

Embassy of Morocco: <http://www.moroccanconsulate.com/>

Department of State: [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_975.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_975.html)

**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.**