
CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR IMPORTS

HOUSEHOLD GOODS REMOVAL

A. Documents Required

- Airway bill / bill of lading
- Passport
- Passenger arrival card
- Packing list
- Quarantine Declaration to Accompany Sea Containers to New Zealand (sea shipments only)

B. Specific Regulations

- Client must complete passenger arrival card before entering immigration control.
- Arrival card must be filled out truthfully and accurately; otherwise, any prohibited or declarable items found in client's baggage that are not declared on arrival card, may result in fines up to NZ\$100,000 or imprisonment.
- Check with agent to confirm whether an Unaccompanied Personal Baggage Declaration must be completed before personal or shipment arrival.
- All items brought into New Zealand are subject to inspection and / or search by customs officers.
- Where applicable, customs duty is levied on the transaction value of the goods (the price actually paid for them). Goods and Services Tax (GST) of 12.5 percent is then calculated on the duty-inclusive value plus international freight and/or insurance charges.
- Payments are only accepted in New Zealand currency. However, passengers may pay customs charges by using any of the following credit cards:
 - VISA
 - Bankcard
 - MasterCard
 - Diner's Club
 - American Express.
- No revenue collection will be made if the total amount owing on the goods imported is less than NZ\$50.
- In addition to the payment of duty and GST, an import entry transaction fee may apply and is payable at the same time that duty and GST is collected. This fee includes a biosecurity risk screening levy which is collected by customs on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.
- Baggage arriving in New Zealand that does not accompany client through customs arrival processing may not qualify for concessions and may be subject to duty.
- If items are sent to New Zealand prior to arrival of client, ensure that the items consist only of clothing apparel and other personal effects to maximize the benefit of the duty and concessions available described in this section.
- Contact agent and customs office for specific information regarding import regulations, import restrictions, valuation of goods, calculation of charges and rates.
- Concealing dutiable goods from customs and making false declarations may result in the seizure of items, substantial penalties, and/or prosecution.

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- If bringing any of the following items into New Zealand, “yes” must be selected on client’s Passenger Arrival Card:
 - Goods that may be prohibited or restricted
 - Goods in excess of the \$700 allowance
 - Goods in excess of the tobacco and alcoholic beverages allowance
 - Goods for commercial, business, or trade purposes
 - Goods carried on behalf of another person
 - NZ\$10,000 or more, or the equivalent in foreign currency
- Clothing, footwear, jewelry and toiletries are regarded as personal effects if intended solely for client’s personal use and do not need to be declared.
- Customs clearance is required for the importation of all commercial goods regardless of manner of importation.
- Commercial goods may be subject to duty and GST; these items must be declared regardless of value.
- All commercial imports may have clearance completed before or after arrival.

Allowances (Concessions)

- Clothing, toilet articles, personal jewelry (including watches) will be admitted free of duty and Goods and Services Tax (GST) regardless of whether they accompany you or are sent separately, provided:
 - They are intended for your own use or wear.
 - They are not intended for any other person or persons.
 - They are not intended for gift, sale, or exchange.
- Commercial quantities of individual items of apparel (including footwear) are not admissible under the provisions of this concession since the term “personal effects” used in the context of the concession only covers articles, new or used, which a traveler may reasonably require for his or her personal use during a journey or has acquired in the course of an overseas trip (in the case of a returning New Zealand resident).

Accompanied Goods Concessions

- Your personal concession allows you to bring into New Zealand free of duty goods obtained overseas and / or purchased duty free in New Zealand with a total combined value of NZ\$700. Goods in excess of this value attract duty (where applicable) and GST.
- The concessions apply only in respect of goods that:
 - Accompany a passenger through the customs arrival processes
 - Are for the personal use of the passenger or intended as gifts
 - Are not for use in the passenger’s business or profession
 - Are not imported for other persons at their request
- Passengers travelling together cannot combine their individual \$700 concessions. Children may claim the concession provided the goods are their own property and of a type a child would reasonably expect to own and use.

Visitor

- On the condition that the following goods will be taken from New Zealand at the completion of their visit, a visitor may also import without payment of customs charges on the following items:

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- Still, video and motion picture cameras together with a reasonable supply of films, tapes and accessories for these items
 - Binoculars
 - Portable musical instruments
 - Portable sound and video reproduction devices including tape recorders, compact disc players, mini disc players, DVD players, and dictating machines with discs, and tapes
 - Portable radio receivers
 - Cellular or mobile telephones
 - Portable personal computers (laptops) and accessories
 - Baby carriages and strollers
 - Wheelchairs for invalids
 - Sporting equipment
- If a visitor is unable to satisfy this requirement, customs may require a cash deposit to cover the duty and GST normally payable. The deposit will be refunded when the goods have been exported.

Immigrant / Returning Citizen (Arriving after 21 Months or More Overseas)

- Immigrants and persons arriving after 21 months or more overseas are entitled to the following additional concessions and they apply to goods that accompany you or are sent separately.
- Household or other related effects (excluding motor vehicles, boats and aircraft) will be admitted free of duty (including GST) for a reasonable time after you arrive, provided you can meet the following requirements:
 - Client arrived in New Zealand and, on the date the effects are imported, holds a document authorizing residence in New Zealand
 - For the whole 21 month period preceding arrival, client has resided outside New Zealand. (Brief holiday or exploratory visits do not exclude a person from qualifying for this concession.)
 - Client has owned and used the goods before the date of your arrival in New Zealand.
 - The goods are for your own personal use and not intended for any other person or persons or for gift, sale, or exchange
- Goods of a commercial nature such as factory plant and office equipment do not qualify as household effects.

Note: Goods shipped directly after purchase to avoid local taxes in the country of export **will not** qualify for entry under this concession unless the importer can establish that the goods have had personal use prior to their arrival in New Zealand.

MOTOR VEHICLES / AIRCRAFT / BOATS

A. Required Documents

- Full documentary evidence should be available to establish the following:
 - Client arrived in New Zealand to take up residency and, on the date the goods are imported, holds a document authorizing residence in New Zealand.
 - For the whole 21 month period preceding arrival, client has resided outside New Zealand. (Brief holiday or exploratory visits do not exclude a person from qualifying for this concession.)

- Client has personally owned and used the vehicle, boat, or aircraft for at least one year before the date of your departure for New Zealand or the date on which the vehicle, boat, or aircraft is surrendered for shipping, whichever is the earlier.
- The vehicle, boat, or aircraft is being imported for your own use and not for sale, gift, or disposal in any other way.
- Importers will be required to give a written undertaking that if a vehicle, boat, or aircraft granted duty free entry is sold or otherwise disposed of within two years of the date of importation, they will be required to pay the customs duty that would normally have been payable.

B. Specific Regulations

- In general, motor vehicles and motorcycles are free from tariff duty and only subject to goods and services tax.
- Customs requires that vehicles valued at more than NZ\$1,000 or more be entered on an import entry with an Import Entry Transaction Fee (IETF) payable.
- All used vehicles must be tested before entering New Zealand to ensure their emissions control equipment is working.
- All used vehicles are subject to a quarantine inspection on arrival by an inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry/Biosecurity New Zealand. If the vehicle is found to be contaminated with soil, plant material or animal material, it will require cleaning sufficient to remove the contaminant.
- The charges for inspection and cleaning (if required) are the responsibility of the importer.
- There are specific import requirements for vehicles imported from certain countries. Contact agent for details and see website. New Zealand law requires that motor vehicles meet certain legal requirements for importation for such issues as:
 - Certification
 - Frontal Impact Rules
 - Vehicle Odometer
 - Emission Standards
 - Left-Hand Drive Requirements

Visitor's Motor Vehicles

- Visitors may import a motor vehicle (including an attached trailer or caravan) into New Zealand without payment of customs charges provided it is the intention of the owner to export the vehicle from New Zealand at the conclusion of their visit, or 12 months, whichever is earlier. The period of temporary entry allowed is up to 12 months.
- In order to facilitate duty free entry, visitors are encouraged to have in their possession a Carnet de Passages en Douanes (CPD) issued by AIT/FIA affiliated member clubs.
- If you do not have the above touring document in your possession, you may be required to provide a cash deposit to cover the full customs charges payable. The deposit will be refunded provided the vehicle and attachments are exported within the stipulated period on the temporary import entry.
- Under normal circumstances customs will not extend the temporary import entry period or conditions. However, customs will consider all requests for an extension on a case-by-case basis provided such a request is made prior to the expiry date of the temporary import entry period.

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- Vehicles remaining in New Zealand after the expiry of the temporary entry period or allowed extended period will be subject to payment of customs duties.

Note: See <http://www.nzta.govt.nz/index.html> for a list of specific detailed information topics regarding the importation of motor vehicles.

BOATS

A. Documents Required

- For the purposes of these concessions, the term “document authorizing residence” means any of the following:
 - a New Zealand passport
 - an Australian passport
 - a current New Zealand residence visa or permit
 - a current New Zealand returning resident’s visa or permit
 - a current permanent residence visa (including a resident return visa) issued by the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia
 - a current New Zealand work visa or work permit that was issued for a minimum of 12 months
 - a current New Zealand work visa or work permit issued under the Work to Residency (Skilled Migrant Category) policy or the Long Term Business visa / permit category
 - a current New Zealand visitor’s visa or permit that was issued for a minimum of 3 years
- Full customs charges will be payable unless you are able to establish that all of the concessionary conditions have been met.
- For vehicles, if Customs charges are payable and you require an assessment of the amount payable, you are advised to obtain a copy of the Fact Sheet 29, *Advice on Private Motor Vehicle Import*. This document explains how to calculate the value for duty.
- In respect of a boat or aircraft, you should write directly to the New Zealand Customs Service at your intended port of arrival.

B. Specific Regulations

- For concessionary purposes, persons other than those arriving to live in New Zealand for the first time are restricted to vessels that meet the following size and weight criteria:

Sailing vessels that:

- Do not exceed 2.5 meters in width in any section
- Do not exceed 1,000 kilograms unladen weight
- Do not incorporate any device for propelling the vessel by power, e.g., an auxiliary motor
- Are not of the deep keel type

Powered vessels that:

- Do not exceed 7 meters in length overall
- Do not exceed 2.5 meters in width in any section

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- Do not exceed 1250 kilograms all up unladen weight (i.e., with driving units and transmissions) or 800 kilograms unladen weight when imported without driving units and transmissions.
- Persons arriving to live in New Zealand for the first time are able to import vessels irrespective of size and weight restrictions provided that they are able to establish that they have personally owned and had use of the vessel for at least one year before the date of their departure for New Zealand or the date of shipment, whichever is earlier.
- The restriction on sale or disposal within two years also applies.
- In addition, an importer will be required to provide an assurance that such a vessel will not be used in a commercial capacity for hire or for the transport of passengers for reward within the same two-year period.
- The terms of the above concession(s) are legal requirements as set out in the Tariff of New Zealand.

PETS

A. Documents Required

- Imported animal clearance documents

B. Specific Regulations

- Contact the New Zealand Customs Service for information regarding the required documentation and the clearance process.
- Domestic animals may be exempt from customs charges provided the terms and conditions for the duty free entry of "Household or other Related Effects" are satisfied.
- Client will be required to complete imported animal clearance documents on arrival of the animal, as there are certain dog breeds that are prohibited for import.
- Contact the Customs Service for details of prohibited breeds.

RESTRICTED / DUTIABLE ITEMS

- Any meat, fish and shellfish
- Egg products
- Any milk, milk powder, butter, cheese and milk-based baby foods
- Dried fruit and vegetables
- Noodles and rice
- Nuts, seeds, unpopped popcorn, herbs and spices
- All seeds for planting including those commercially packaged
- Dried mushrooms and fungi
- Methadone is prohibited unless authorized by license or permit issued by the Director-General of Health

Note: These goods require inspection by a Biosecurity inspector and, in some cases, certification from the country of origin. Most goods will be returned to client. However, some may require treatment and will require payment for client for such services. Any goods that cannot be imported will be destroyed immediately. Client may have them reshipped back to the country of origin at their own personal expense. See Customs Fact Sheet Number 5 for a more extensive list of prohibited and restricted items for import into New Zealand. For

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for further information, contact New Zealand Customs Service office at 0800 428786 or visit:
www.customs.govt.nz.

Agricultural Items

- Food of any kind
- Plants, all plant material, and items made from plants (dead or alive)
- Animals (alive or dead) or their products
- Equipment used with animals
- Camping gear, golf clubs, and used bicycles
- Biological specimens

Note: More information on agricultural requirements can be obtained by visiting www.maf.govt.nz or by email at enquiry@maf.govt.nz.

Alcoholic Beverages / Cigarettes / Cigars / Tobacco

- Full customs charges are payable on quantities imported in excess of the allowance listed below or that are in containers greater than the maximum stipulated bottle size.
- No revenue collection will be made if the total amount owing on goods imported in excess of the concessions is less than NZ\$50.
- This revenue waiver does not apply to alcohol or tobacco products.
- Passengers are entitled to import the following quantities of tobacco product and alcoholic beverages free of customs charges, provided that it accompanies the passenger through the customs arrival process:

Alcoholic Beverages

- The import limit for personal consumption is 4.5 liters of wine or 4.5 liters of beer.
- Client may import three bottles (or other containers) each containing not more than 1125ml of spirits, liqueur, or other spirituous beverages.
- The Sale of Liquor Act 1989 and the Smoke-free Environments Act 1990 prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages and tobacco products to persons under the age of 18.
- This restriction also applies to New Zealand duty free outlets.

Cigarettes / Cigars / Tobacco

- The import limit for personal consumption is 200 cigarettes or 250 grams of tobacco or 50 cigars or a mixture of all three weighing not more than 250 grams.

Note: The minimum age of eligibility for the above allowances is 17 years. This is the age limit prescribed in international tourism treaties to which New Zealand is a contracting party.

Firearms

- The importation of firearms is strictly controlled and a New Zealand Police permit to import is required.
- The importation of certain types of weapons such as flick knives, butterfly knives, swordsticks, knuckle-dusters and any weapon designed to give the appearance of another article is prohibited.

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- Further information regarding the import of firearms and offensive weapons can be obtained from the New Zealand Police at the following website:
www.police.govt.nz/service/firearms

Medicines

- To carry prescription medicines or controlled drugs, you should:
 - Have a prescription from your physician advising that the medicine is being used under a doctor's direction and is necessary for your physical well-being
 - Carry the drugs in their original containers
 - Have sufficient quantity not exceeding three months supply for prescription medicines or one month supply for controlled drugs.
- Further information regarding the importation of medicines can be obtained from Medsafe at www.medsafe.govt.nz.
- Further information regarding the importation of controlled drugs can be obtained from the Ministry of Health at www.moh.govt.nz.

Money

- Clients carrying NZ\$10,000 or more (or foreign equivalent) in cash, a Border Cash Report must be completed (under the Financial Transactions Reporting Act 1996); this includes cash on client's person or in baggage.
- Cash does not include traveler's checks, postal notes, bearer bonds, or money orders.
- Failure to report of the presentation of a false or misleading report may result in fines.

Publications

- Publications imported into New Zealand are subject to the provisions of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act of 1993.
- The definition of publication includes but is not limited to films, videos, computer games, DVDs, CD-ROMs, books, posters, music recordings, magazines, photographs, paintings, T-shirts, and computer files.

Radio Transmitters and Telecommunications Equipment

- Travelers considering the purchase and importation of radio transmitters, cordless and cellular phones, baby monitors, and similar equipment should first check with the Radio Spectrum Management Group of the Ministry of Economic Development that the devices meet New Zealand technical standards and will not cause interference to other radio or television broadcast reception.
- See website: www.rsm.govt.nz

CONSIGNMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Recommended: Once the shipment is booked, please fax your pre-alert to the agent office along with a copy of the airway bill / bill of lading, packing list, passport copy, and full contact

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details of the consignee. As consignment instructions change from time to time, it is prudent to reconfirm the advised consignment instructions prior to shipping.

Helpful Tips

- Mark the waybills very clearly "Used household goods and personal effects."
- Packing list should be in English.
- Do not attach the inventory list used for the insurance purposes with the documents enclosed with the shipment.
- Pre-alert along with the copies of the waybill, packing list, and shipping schedule should be sent well in advance.
- Client must present a Quarantine Declaration to Accompany Sea Containers to New Zealand upon arrival of sea shipments.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Avian meat (chicken, turkey, and eggs)
- Fresh fruit, vegetables, and fungi
- Honey, pollen, propolis, honeycombs, and other bee products
- Live animals including pets, birds, bird's eggs, fish, and insects
- Live plants, plant cuttings, bulbs, corms, rhizomes, and tubers
- Lei and lei materials
- Fresh cut flowers and foliage
- Coral, ivory, snakeskin, crocodile products, or whale bone including ornaments, jewelry, souvenirs and handicrafts
- Clam, turtle, and tortoise shells (CITES)
- Illegal drugs and substances
- Objectionable publications (includes but is not limited to films, videos, computer games, DVDs, CD-ROMs, books, posters, music recordings, magazines, photographs, paintings, T-shirts, and computer files) that describe, depict, express, or otherwise deal with matters such as sex, horror, crime, cruelty, or violence in such a manner that the availability of the publication is likely to be injurious to the public good.

Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

- The Trade in Endangered Species Act 1989 allows New Zealand to fulfill its international obligations under the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).
- The CITES agreement is designed to prevent trade in endangered, threatened, or exploited species. It covers both the live plants and animals themselves and products made from them such as those listed below:

Goods that Cannot Imported into New Zealand under the CITES Convention

- Ivory in any form, including jewelry and carvings
- Tortoise or sea turtle shell jewelry and ornaments
- Meat or other food made from whales, dolphins, rare cranes, pheasants, or sea turtles
- Medicines made from endangered species of wild fauna and flora
- Carvings or other things made from whalebone or bone from many other marine mammals.

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- Cat skins or coats
- Trophies of:
 - Sea turtles
 - Snakes
 - Big cats
 - Rare reptiles
 - Cranes
 - Pheasants
 - Bears
 - Antelope
 - Deer
- Live species including:
 - Pet eagles
 - Hawks
 - Owls
 - Parrots
 - Many cacti
 - Orchids
 - Cycads
 - Cyclamens
 - Carnivorous plants

Hookah Pipes / Water Pipes / Smoking Utensils

- Smoking pipes such as those frequently referred to as hookahs, shisha, Turkish water pipes, bongos, and hash pipes are prohibited imports to New Zealand and liable to seizure upon arrival.
- These items and roach clips with a pincer or tweezer action are considered in New Zealand law to be cannabis and/or methamphetamine utensils and are therefore unlawful.

Note: Further information can be obtained by viewing the Department of Conservation website at www.doc.govt.nz.

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