



VIETNAM



CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND INFORMATION FOR IMPORTS

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

Documents Required

- Copy of Passport (identification pages only) with entry stamp
- Packing list in English
- Express Release Bill of Lading / Air Waybill (AWB)
- Vietnam Entry Visa (valid at least 3 or more months) or temporary residence card
- Original Vietnam Arrival-Departure Card and 3 Copies per Shipment
- Copy of Labor Contract (Hanoi only)
- Copy of Business License
- Vietnam employer's company license copy
- Copy of Work Permit (for all sea/air shipments over 300 kgs gross)
- Application letter

Specific Information

- All air shipments are physically inspected by Customs at the air terminal. The average time is approximately 1-2 days but may take longer.
- Sea shipments will normally undergo physical Customs inspection. The average time for Customs Clearance is 2-3 days for full container load (FCL) shipments and 3-5 days for less container load (LCL) shipments. These times are estimations and may take longer.
- Sea or air shipments of diplomatic status are exempt from Customs inspections (Diplomats).
- All shipments undergo cultural inspections. This process takes approximately 3-4 days but may take longer. An inspection may include, but is not limited to, books, artwork, DVDs, CDs, antiques.
- All documents should be signed and stamped by shippers registered local employer in Vietnam
- Antiques shipped into Vietnam should be clearly photographed and well documented. Antiques should be inspected and registered upon entry (takes an additional 2 – 3 days). Details should be clearly noted on packing list and carton.
- 3 copies of each document are required for each shipment. If there are multiple shipments, a separate set of documents are required.
- For imports to Hanoi, Vietnamese Customs requires labor contract copy in additional to above documents.
- **All documents must be signed and stamped (company seal) by the shipper's registered local employer in Vietnam. Certified true copies are only required for passport and entry visa / temporary residence card.**
- Certified true copies can be obtained by bringing the original document to the People's Committee Office of Ho Chi Minh City.

MOTOR VEHICLES

Documents Required

- Original Passport
- Residency Card
- Proof of ownership
- Original Purchase Invoice.

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Specific Information

- Only left-hand drive vehicles can be imported and are subject to substantial government tax and duties.
- Individuals **cannot** bring / import any type of vehicle into Vietnam unless they are working for a UN Organization or an Embassy / Consulate, where they have Diplomatic status
- The import of motor vehicles is a complicated and tedious process. It is recommended that motor vehicles be purchased in Vietnam.

PETS

Documents Required

- Airway Bill
- Owner's Passport
- Vaccination Record
- Owner's Entry Visa (valid at least 3+ months)
- International Health Certificate
- Import Permit
- Flight arrival details
- Original Vietnam Arrival – Departure card (3 copies required per shipment)
- Vietnam employer's company license copy for Pet Owner
- Application Letter

Specific Information

- The Import Permit is required by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.
- Quarantine for pets is not required.

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RESTRICTED / DUTIABLE ITEMS

- Duty shall be payable on the following types of liquor at the rate expressed as a percentage of the value of the liquor:
 - Liquor with an alcoholic strength of less than 30% measured at a 20°C: 125-150%
 - Liquor with an alcoholic strength of more than 30% measured at a 20°C: 125-150%
 - Wine (10-20 bottles duty free): 125-150%
- Duty shall be payable on tobacco at the following rates:

>100 cigars:	150%	Prepared tobacco (> 50 grams):	45%
>400 cigarettes:	150%	All other manufactured tobacco products:	45%
- Personal computers are charged import duty at 15%. Personal printers are charged duty at 10%.
- Non-perishable food items and items in cans and other durable packaging can be imported in small amounts.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Weapons
- Ammunitions
- Explosives
- Military equipment
- Radio transmitters
- Satellite dishes
- Poisonous chemicals
- Cultural products
- Articles of anti-government nature

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- Fireworks
- Toys and games which affect public moral education and security
- Pornographic or subversive materials
- Motorbikes

CONSIGNMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Recommended: Contact the destination agent to ensure all requirements have been met prior to import, especially for differences regarding air / sea shipments.

IAM Note: *Customs regulations can change at any time with or without notice. This document is provided as a guide and for information only. While IAM has exercised reasonable care in publishing this document, IAM makes no representation, either expressed or implied, as to its accuracy or applicability.*

Helpful Website(s):

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1060.html

<http://www.customs.gov.vn/english/lists/vietnamcustoms/Details.aspx?D=2>