



BAHRAIN



CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND INFORMATION FOR IMPORTS

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

Documents Required

- Passport
- Original Bill of Lading (OBL) / Express Release / Air Waybill (AWB) / Surrender Message
- Packing list properly marked and corresponding to the OBL
- Authorization Letter from shipper to port authorities

Specific Information

- Do not include flammable items inside the moving boxes.
- Items contained in the shipment must be for personal use and cannot be used for commercial purposes.

MOTOR VEHICLES

Documents Required

- Proof of insurance
- OBL
- No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Diplomats)
- Residence Permit for at least 18 months (non-citizens)
- Shipper's contact details (telephone number, fax number, address and email) (non-citizens)

Specific Information

- Valid insurance is required.
- The shipper must arrange to obtain the Central Population Registration (CPR) card through the employer's Human Resources department; once the CPR is obtained, the shipper may obtain a temporary license plate.
- Customs duties are approximately 5%.
- Vehicles should not be shipped with a full gasoline tank.
- The shipper should obtain vehicle insurance directly from an insurance company.
- An ocean freight shipment can be cleared without a Residence Permit with a deposit payable at clearance; the deposit amount will be refunded upon the Residence Permit is stamped, which takes approximately 2 weeks (non-citizens).

PETS

Documents Required

- Vaccination Record
- Veterinary Health Certificate
- Import Permit

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Specific Information

- Pets may only be transported as cargo; however, assistive animals may be able to travel in the aircraft cabin; contact agent for specific information.
- The Import Permit must be obtained prior to travel from the Veterinary Quarantine Department in Bahrain.
- The Veterinary Health Certificate must state that the animal is free from disease and is fully vaccinated.

RESTRICTED / DUTIABLE ITEMS

- Firearms (an Import Permit and permission from the Ministry of the Interior and Civil Aviation Affairs of Bahrain is required).
- Videotapes, CDs, VCDs, books (subject to inspection and hold by Ministry officials and released approximately 2-3 weeks after inspection) (non-citizens)
- Satellite, receivers, cordless telephones (subject to inspection and hold by the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications prior to shipment arrival) (non-citizens)

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Narcotics and Drugs
- Ivory
- Pornographic materials
- Swords
- Knives (ornamental, etc.)
- Alcohol

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://www.mofa.gov.bh/washington/Home.aspx>

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1001.html

<http://www.customs.gov.bh>