

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND INFORMATION FOR IMPORTS

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

Documents Required

- Passport
- Detailed Inventory
- Original Bill of Lading (OBL) / Express Release / Air Waybill (AWB)

Specific Information

- For Diplomats, the OBL and detailed inventory are required prior to arrival of the shipment so that diplomatic agencies can apply for the Exemption Certificate required for Customs clearance. Approval from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs takes about 4 days and clearance can be done as soon as 1 day after the documents are returned from the Ministry.
- A returning national is one who is a Barbadian who has attained the age of at least 50 years, and a Barbadian citizen by birth, registration, naturalization or descent and has been living abroad for 10 years or more. A Barbadian by descent is required to show proof of having resided on the island for at least 183 days within a year at some time prior to emigration.
- It should be noted that Barbadian nationals deported for criminal activities do not qualify under the Returning Nationals Program. Contact the destination for more information.

MOTOR VEHICLES

Documents Required

- Import Permit
- Owner's log book
- Proof of insurance
- Commercial Invoice (new vehicles)
- Import License
- OBL

Specific Information

- For non-Diplomats and foreigners, an imported vehicle must be less than 4 years old, with an odometer reading of 50,000 kilometers or less.
- If the shipper is a returning national, there are no restrictions on age or mileage provided the candidate meets all other requirements outlined in the Returning National Guidelines. The vehicle is free of all customary applicable import duties and taxes.
- If the shipper is a Diplomat, no restrictions apply on the import of motor vehicles and import is free of all customary applicable import duties and taxes.
- Boats must not be shipped until the Import License has been approved.
- The shipper should apply for an import license prior to vehicle import.
- Customs clearance generally takes a minimum of 4 days.
- The rates of duty on motor vehicles are outlined below:
 - Import duty of approximately 45% on all cars
 - Environmental levy: \$ 4,000.00 per used vehicle or \$ 300.00 per new vehicle
 - Value added tax 17.5%
 - Port FAS charge

BARBADOS

- Excise tax as follows:
- For motor vehicles falling under H.S. Heading 87.03 whose engine capacity is 1800 cc or more and have a chargeable value exceeding \$45,000, the rate is approximately 120%.
- Motor vehicles for the transport of goods (H.S. No. 87.04) will be taxed as follows:
 - Where the gross vehicle weight does not exceed 5 tons and the chargeable value does not exceed \$45,000, the rate of excise tax is approximately 62.77%.
 - Where the gross vehicle weight does not exceed 5 tons and the chargeable value exceeds \$45,000, the rate of excise tax is approximately 80.16%.
 - Where the gross vehicle weight exceeds 5 tons, the rate of excise tax is 10%.
- The base for the new tax measures would be on gross vehicle weight (gvw) which is in consonance with the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding system (H.S.).

PETS

Documents Required

- Vaccination Record
- Veterinary Health Certificate

Specific Information

- All live animals must be quarantined in the United Kingdom for a period of 6 months. Same day delivery.

RESTRICTED / DUTIABLE ITEMS

- Meat (a Health Certificate must be inspected by the Port Health Authority)
- Plants (must be inspected by a Plant Quarantine Office before being allowed into Barbados)
- Commercial and new furniture (subject to an approximately 60% duty payment)

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Firearms and ammunition (Police and Government permits are required before importation)
- Narcotics

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_1022.html

<http://barbados.usembassy.gov>