



Importing Personal Property Into Netherlands

IMPORTING HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

DUTY-FREE ENTRY IS PERMITTED IF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ARE MET:

If you are moving from a European Union (EU) country, you will not have to pay tax on your goods. If you are moving from a Non-EU country, you must apply in advance for a **permit to import** your goods tax-free and you must declare your goods to the customs authorities.

To qualify for an **import permit**, the following conditions of residency must be met:

- You have been a resident in your origin country for at least 12 months.
- You have spent at least 185 days a year in your origin country for family or social reasons or for cultural or professional activities.

Note: (Exceptions to Residency requirements)

- If you have been sent on a temporary work assignment to a country outside the EU
- If you are studying in a country outside the EU, then your country of residence is where you have family and social ties and/or where you are engaged in cultural activities.
- If you work in one country but your family and social ties and/or cultural activities are in the other, then the latter is deemed to be your country of residence.

Your Household good must meet the following requirements to obtain an **Import Permit**:

- Goods have been in your possession for at least 6 months prior to your relocation
- All goods are listed on official inventory that submitted to Customs

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- ✓ Permit to Import.
- ✓ "Single Administrative Document" Form.
- ✓ Ocean Bill of Lading or Air Waybill.
- ✓ Certificate of exemption granted by inspector of tax office.
- ✓ Import documents (obtained from the destination agent).
- ✓ Rental/purchase contract for residence.
- ✓ Statement from employer attesting to shipper's post.
- ✓ Inventory in duplicate with declaration of value.
- ✓ Electrical appliances should include origin country and model/serial number on inventory.

RESTRICTED/PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Illegal Drugs
- Precious metal objects, jewelry and coins must have authorization from the Kantoor Warborg and should be packed separately.
- Plants must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate.
- Weapons & Ammunition
- Unpreserved meat products and foodstuffs
- Perfumes and Scented Body Creams (small quantities for personal use only)

Note: Alcoholic beverages, food and tobacco may accompany shipments. Amount of duty and taxes will depend on amount, alcoholic content and value Customs places on them.

IMPORTATION OF ANTIQUES AND WORKS OF ART:

No duty will be levied if forming part of a household goods shipment, but taxes will be assessed if value is deemed exorbitant.

IMPORTING MOTOR VEHICLES, PETS AND FIREARMS

IMPORTATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES:

Before importing a vehicle, you should do the following:

- Apply for a **permit to import** the vehicle tax-free. This permit is in addition to the one required for your household goods and effects.
- You must pay road tax before the vehicle is permitted on the road. You will receive a road tax form with your import permit.
- You need to contact your insurance company and obtain third-party insurance.

Note: If you are denied the permit to import you will have to pay taxes on the vehicle.

After importing a vehicle, you will need to do the following:

- Obtain a Dutch registration number and Dutch registration certificate that requires a technical inspection by the National Vehicle Administration Agency (RWD). If your car passes the inspection then you will have to make a declaration for the BPM. After receiving a vehicle registration document you then must obtain registration plates for your car/ motor cycle.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- ✓ Permit to import the car or motor cycle, which requires that the following conditions are met:
 - ✓ The car/motor cycle has been in your possession for at least 6 months and has been used in your country of origin.
 - ✓ The car/motor cycle must not be lent out, pledged, leased or sold for 12 months following importation. If you do, you must inform the customs authorities who will determine if you must pay tax.
- ✓ Registration Certificate
- ✓ Third party insurance
- ✓ "Single Administrative Document" form

IMPORTATION OF DOGS AND CATS:

Animals for import from countries outside of the EU can be allowed if an official Health Certificate is provided. The certificate must be signed by a State-acknowledged Veterinarian from the pet's country of origin. Also, the shipper must be present for Customs clearance.

The Health Certificate should contain:

- A declaration in the Dutch, French, German or English language that confirms that the dog/cat has been vaccinated against rabies and that the used vaccine is verified and approved by the country where it is manufactured.
- The date of vaccination, the type and expiration date of the used vaccine, the name of the manufacturer and the registration number.
- The vaccination has been administered at least 30 days prior to the actual crossing of the border. The vaccination was given at most 3 months prior to the crossing if the dog/cat has been vaccinated before it reached the age of 3 months and at 1 year.
- A description of the pet, stating its sex, age, breed, color, type of fur and markings.
- The name of the owner of the pet.
- The certificate must be legalized by the Inspector of Veterinary Service from the country where the vaccination took place. This legalization is not required if the vaccination occurred in Austria, the USA or Switzerland. The Inspector must state the expiration date of the certificate.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- ✓ Vaccination and Health Certificate

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

- Atlas Netherlands, 2002
- Royal Netherlands Embassy, "Moving to the Netherlands," 2001,
http://www.netherlands-embassy.org/c_moving.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.