

France

Customs Regulations

Household Goods

- * For an inheritance shipment, an attestation issued by a notary mentioning the date of death, degree of relationship, inventory of goods, and proof of residence in France is required. Goods must be shipped within one year of death.
- * Secondary residence: Import duties and VAT tax must be paid whatever the citizenship. However, client may apply for duties exemption by sending a request to the local customs office with the following documents: valued inventory, proof of main residence abroad, and proof of secondary residence in France. Even if the request is accepted, the client will have to pay VAT (20.6%).
- * Wedding presents: A marriage certificate and French residence permit are required. Goods must be shipped within one month of the wedding.
- * New furniture requires the following documents: complete sales invoice clearly identifying items and duties if coming from countries outside the EEC.
- * French customs may require original invoices for items such as stereo systems, electronics, television, computers, etc. This is always a requirement for an air shipment. If there are air and surface shipments, it is preferable to send all electronics via surface shipment.
- * The following are required documents:
- * A change of residence obtainable from the French Consulate at origin. (For French citizens only)
- * If the relocating individual is a French National, a letter from the employer is needed indicating how long the individual has been living outside of France – if the individual is a non-French citizen, a letter of attestation from the employer must state whether the individual has ever lived in France and if they have, how long they have been out of the country. A minimum of one year abroad is required for free entrance of household goods and personal effects.
- * If the individual relocating will be working in France, a letter from the employer on the employer's letterhead must be submitted with the reason why the individual is moving to France.
- * A non-release certificate, which may be completed in France, must be submitted. This is to certify that the client has owned his/her goods for more than six months and the he/she will not sell them in France.
- * A photocopy of passport.
- * A photocopy of rental contract or property title in France.
- * Detailed value inventory.

Motorized Vehicles

- * In order to import an auto, duties must be paid, except in the following case: when the person is moving their primary residence from another country to France, and provided they have owned the auto for at least six months prior to their departure. However, the following documents are required; the same documents that are required for household goods and personal effects, and in addition, the title and vehicle registration of the automobile, insurance certificate from French insurer, and proof of eligible taxes paid in the origin country.
- * The vehicle should be mentioned on the household goods inventory, even if it doesn't accompany the household goods and personal effects. The car must be correctly registered and cannot be a commercial vehicle.
- * The importation of the auto must take place within one year of the individual's entry into France. If the above documents cannot be provided or if the

importation occurs after the one-year period from the individual's date of arrival, import duties and VAT are to be paid. Import duties vary according to the country of origin, while the VAT is currently fixed at 20.6% of the value of the auto. The result of the auto's custom clearance is a form called the 846-A. This form allows the individual to drive for two months with foreign license plates on the auto.

- * After the initial two-month period, the auto will require French license plates. Prior to seeking French plates, the individual will have to have the auto put through French standards and then get it through technical control, which can sometimes be difficult, especially if the type of auto does not already circulate in France. After the auto's custom clearance, the individual should visit a garage in order to have the auto set to French standards. Afterward, the auto should be taken to technical control. If the auto passes through technical control, the individual will then have to go to the police office to the jurisdiction of his/her residence with the 846-A form and the form obtained from the office of technical control to obtain the French license plates and the French title.
- * Please note that if duties and/or taxes are paid, they will not be reimbursed, even if the auto has to be re-exported.
- * Compliance with safety regulations can be a complicated procedure. First, the individual needs a copy of the registration certificate of the vehicle, on which is noted the vehicles make and model, and other pertinent information. Then, the individual needs to contact the French headquarters of the vehicle's manufacturer to learn whether the make and model in question are authorized to be driven in France. If the answer is no, it is advised that the vehicle not be brought into the country. If the answer is yes, the individual should contact the Bureau des Mines to learn what changes need to be made to the vehicle for French safety-regulations.

Pets

- * For dogs, quarantine will not be necessary provided that the following paperwork accompanies the animal:
- * Health (sanitary) certificate from the point of origin.
- * Injection logbooks showing that all vaccinations have been administered.
- * Copy of owner's passport.
- * Change of residence certificate from the French consulate or certificate of transfer from the individual's company office in France.
- * The dog will not be allowed to leave the airport without proof of all injections.
- * The dog must be older than three months, because a dog is required to be at least three months old in order to receive injections.

Prohibited/Restricted Articles

Prohibited items include the following:

- * Live Plants
- * Firearms, rifle-bore, ammunitions
- * Drugs
- * Ivory
- * Pornography

Please Note: Customs regulation requirements, applicable duties, tax, and other government fees levied against the owner's effects are subject to change without notice. Every effort is made to maintain current country-by-country customs information; however, due to constantly changing conditions, we recommend you contact the country's nearest consulate office for the most current information.