

Customs Guide SINGAPORE

Information from FIDI Asia

## **Customs guide SINGAPORE**

## The global quality standard for international moving.

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GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
Used household goods & personal effects (non-Singaporean)	<ul> <li>Packing inventory in English.</li> <li>Copy of Bill of Lading (Express release or originals) / Air waybill.</li> <li>Photocopy of owner's passport (picture/detail pages).</li> <li>Employments pass:         <ul> <li>For GST Relief entry. Not more than 6 months from date of issue.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Employment pass application, acknowledgement letter from Ministry of Manpower with a letter from employer OR Approved-in-Principle letter from Ministry of Manpower, will suffice if actual employment pass is not in-hand.</li> <li>GST Relief must be claimed within six months of owners' official arrival in Singapore.</li> <li>GST (Goods &amp; Service Tax), if applicable, is 7% of shipper's declared value of goods (used value – NOT insured value).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Owner of goods doesn't need to be in Singapore to clear goods if all paperwork completed in advance with copy of passport.</li> <li>Shipments can be cleared without employment pass if owner is willing to pay GST. Shipper must declare, "used value" for GST assessment.</li> <li>Normal clearance time for FCL:         <ul> <li>sea shipments is 3 working days,</li> <li>air shipments – 2 working days,</li> <li>LCL shipments up to 5 working days.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Used household goods & personal effects (Singapore Nationals or Permanent Resident)	Same as above.	<ul> <li>GST relief, if goods are all for personal use and owner has lived abroad for more than six months (date of leave for overseas assignment).</li> <li>Proof of employment outside Singapore.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Proof of employment outside Singapore may be through work or resident visa or immigration endorsements from origin country for Customs verification.</li> </ul>
Diplomatic removal goods	<ul> <li>Packing inventory in English.</li> <li>Copy of Bill of lading (Express release or originals) / Air waybill.</li> <li>Verification in writing from Embassy.</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Embassy's verification, with authorised signatory.</li><li>Duty exemption entry.</li></ul>	
Automobiles (Import strongly discouraged unless for diplomatic use)	<ul> <li>Registration Certificate from origin country</li> <li>Insurance papers.</li> <li>Owner's passport.</li> <li>Inward declaration permit.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Import is subject to securing a Certificate of Entitlement in open bidding at market rates.</li> <li>Customs duty is 20% of market value.</li> <li>Additional Registration fee (ARF) is 110% of</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Import of cars is strictly discouraged, unless for diplomatic use.</li> <li>DO NOT SHIP without first sending the relevant paperwork.</li> </ul>

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	<ul> <li>Customs duty payment receipt.</li> <li>Certificate of Compliance with Exhaust Emission Control Standard.</li> <li>Temporary certificate of entitlement (COE).</li> </ul>	the market value.  • Car over 3 years old are not allowed to be imported.	
Motorcycles (Import strongly discouraged unless for diplomatic use)	<ul> <li>Same as for automobiles.</li> <li>Must comply with exhaust emission standard specified in the USA code of federal regulations (40 cfr 86.410-80) and prior to registration must produce certificate of compliance issued by manufacturers.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Customs duty is 12% of market value.</li> <li>ARF (Additional Registration Fee) is 15% of the market value.</li> <li>COE required as with automobiles.</li> </ul>	Same as above.
Firearms (including air-rifles and guns), drugs and narcotics, radio transmitters, pornography, martial art weapons of any kind		Prohibited.	<ul> <li>Importation of illicit drugs is subject to imprisonment and death penalty.</li> <li>Prescription drugs are permitted with doctor's certificates.</li> </ul>
Swords, knives (ornamental only)	Permit, issued by Arms & Explosive Authority.		<ul> <li>Items will be examined by authority. Owner physical address must be given.</li> </ul>
Swords and large knives (ornamental – weapons appearance)		<ul> <li>Arms &amp; Explosive Authority must issue permit prior to release by Customs.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Misdeclaring contents to avoid licensing is forbidden.</li> </ul>
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	Must be listed in import application with number of bottles, type of alcohol, per cent alcohol and volume (manufacturer name, if available).		<ul> <li>Alcohol beverages may be imported in reasonable quantity for own consumption.</li> <li>Shipper has to declare accurately and pay customs duties and current GST (tax) before shipment clears customs.</li> <li>Duty rates are based on current estimated exchange rates and import duties. Subject to change.</li> <li>Due to the high customs duties, it is best to discourage shipper from including any liquor in the used household goods shipment. If</li> </ul>

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			<ul> <li>included, it must be packed together and declared on Alcohol list.</li> <li>Customs use powerful X-Ray scanner able to detect liquors. If falsely declared or without declaring, shipper may be subjected to customs duties and severe heavy penalty for evading taxes. It is a serious offence in Singapore.</li> </ul>
Video tapes, laser discs, video discs (visual)	Detailed listing of all titles.	<ul> <li>Import is allowed but subject to screening by authorities prior to release.</li> <li>Charges for screening are approximately US\$ 4.00 per hour per tape.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Generally, cartoons and other children's tapes are passed over from screening.</li> <li>Nudity, strong language, culturally insensitive subject matter is more likely to be edited. Editing charges are additional.</li> </ul>
Prohibited items		<ul> <li>Chewing gum (except approved oral dental and medicated gum by HSA)</li> <li>Chewing tobacco and imitation tobacco products (e.g. electronic cigarettes,)</li> <li>Shisha</li> <li>Cigarette lighters of pistol or revolver shape</li> <li>Controlled drugs and psychotropic substances</li> <li>Endangered species of wildlife and their byproducts</li> <li>Firecrackers</li> <li>Obscene articles, publications, video tapes/discs and software</li> <li>Reproduction of copyright publications, video tapes, video compact discs, laser discs, records or cassettes</li> <li>Seditious and treasonable materials</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>You are not allowed to bring in goods that are prohibited under Singapore laws.</li> <li>The list of prohibited goods includes (but not limited to) the items listed in this document.</li> <li>It is an offence if you attempt to bring any of the items listed above into Singapore.</li> </ul>

## The FIDI Global Alliance

Bld Louis Schmidt 29 B1 1040 Brussels - Belgium

Tel.: +32 2 426 51 60 Email: fidi@fidi.org

www.fidi.org