

BULGARIA

This guide is compiled from the FIDI Customs Guide for reference only. Customs regulations change frequently; please consult your Seapoe relocation consultant for the latest requirements before shipping.

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Used Household Goods & Personal Effects - Shipment coming from European Union member country

Documents Required

- SEA SHIPMENT
- Original T2L legalized by Customs at country of origin
- Copy of passport
- OBL or Seaway Waybill
- Packing list
- Original Title for motor vehicle
- AIR SHIPMENT
- AWB with STATUT C in SCI cell.
- Copy of passport
- Packing list
- ROAD SHIPMENT
- CMR
- Copy of passport
- Packing list

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free entry.

Remarks

- NOT allowed for import: alcohol, tobacco products, food / incl. pet food, weapons & munition, drugs.

Used Household Goods & Personal Effects - Shipment coming from NON European Union member country

Documents Required

- Power of attorney & declaration legalized by a BG notary – required in original.
- Copy of all pages of international passport.
- Copy of card for temporary residence with address registration.
- Proof for living / working abroad for the last 1-year min.
- Invoice for transport cost only from origin agent – for customs purpose to form CIF value at destination (value could be taken from rated BL or AWB).
- Title deed or lease contract for property indwell at final destination.
- Letter/contract from employer in Bulgaria in case this is the reason of the removal.
- OBL/Sea waybill or AWB
- Packing list.

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free import is granted when responding to requirements of Council Regulation 1186 and only at Regional Customs Office taking in consideration the address (shown on Customers BG ID card).
- In case such ID card has not been obtained yet while the procedure for obtaining ID card has started, it is possible to establish refundable deposit to Customs of approximate 30% of CIF destination value.
- Declared value could be accepted to be EUR 1 per 1 kg + invoice for transport – with final purpose to form CIF value at destination for the shipment.

Remarks

- NOT allowed for import: alcohol, tobacco products, food / incl. pet food, weapons & munition, drugs.
- It is recommended to check the documents requirements with the destination agent as Customs may require additional documents.
- Power of attorney and declaration: ask your destination agent for sample documents.
- Duty free import does not qualify for:
- New goods or furniture, commercial quantities of any used articles, excise
- goods, commercial vehicles, articles for use in the exercise of a trade or profession
- If above items are found mixed with used personal effects and declared as such, it represents a major problem.
- These items need to be declared separately as commercial goods. If not, it will be considered as a fraud to customs with consequences that cannot be predicted and may result in administrative penalty and heavy charges for the customer – see <http://eurlex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2009/1186/oj>
- Motor vehicles compliance to EU regulations has to be checked in advance. See separate article for motor vehicles.

Used Household Goods & Personal Effects – Diplomatic shipment coming from NON European Union member country

Documents Required

- "Request for Import" form stamped by Foreign Ministry Protocol.
- Packing list and copy of diplomatic passport/and or diplomatic card.
- Letter of authorization from diplomatic mission.

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free import:
- Household Goods: approx. 5 days.
- Motor vehicles:
- Can only be requested after the diplomatic card has been obtained.
- Approx. 40 days.

Remarks

- "Request for import" are separate for household goods, motor vehicle and liquor (if applicable).
- Diplomatic card to be obtained by respective Embassy. It takes approximately 1 month to obtain the card from Foreign Ministry.
- Import of liquor should be requested by the Embassy to Foreign Ministry.
- Diplomat quota is:
- Below 22 % volume of alcohol – 200 bottles x 0,75 l
- Above 22% volume of alcohol – 120 bottles x 0,75 l
- There should be a list with all bottles, type, volume of alcohol and quantity.

- They should be packed in separate boxes and indicated on packing list as liquor.

Used Motor Vehicles

Documents Required

- Full documentation of vehicle such as registration certificate / vehicle title / purchase invoice, valid insurance policy.
- Customs Authorities may require a certificate from the official dealer in Bulgaria with technical data – make, model, colour, number of seats, engine capacity cm3, engine power KW, engine serial No, chassis
- Power of attorney & declaration legalized by a Bulgarian notary – required in original.
- Copy of all pages of international passport.
- Copy of card for temporary residence with address registration.
- Proof for living / working abroad for the last 1-year min.
- This proof consists of supply of number and varied documents that are to be discussed with your destination agent.
- Customs may always request more documents in addition.
- Invoice for transport cost only from origin agent – for customs purpose to form CIF value at destination (value could be taken from rated BL or AWB).
- Title deed or lease contract for property indwell at final destination.
- Letter/contract from employer in Bulgaria in case this is the reason of the removal.
- OBL/Sea waybill or AWB.
- Packing list.

Customs Prescriptions

- Used motor vehicle would be eligible for duty free import when it has been in the possession of and used by the person concerned at his former normal place of residence for a minimum of six months before the date on which he ceases to have his normal place of residence in the third country of departure.
- Declared value realistic. Customs very often rejects declared value by Customer and requires official body to assess the value, which leads to additional expense on customer account.

Remarks

- Motor vehicles compliance to EU regulations to be checked in advance.
- Submit an individual compliance procedure including technical changes could result to be very expensive or either not even possible. Vehicle could be cleared customs and not be able to be registered for use. More information at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European emission standards](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_emission_standards) _

Wood packaging

Customs Prescriptions

- Bulgaria adopted ISPM 15 to standardize the treatment of wood used for transport of goods.

General comment

Remarks

- There is always the possibility that Import duty, VAT and excise be applied for import of HHG and cars and this is subject at cost.
- Customs orders if import duty, VAT and excise must apply based on the available documents, packing list, value declaration and period and reason of stay abroad.
- Final decision is upon Customs Chief. In most cases, a tax of 5-20% + VAT 20% applies.

- Containers arriving at Bulgarian ports get very often physical inspection at port. Cost varies depending on shipping line and intensity of inspection.
- Duty free import is granted when responding to requirements of Council Regulation 1186.
- Interesting link: <http://www.customs.bg/>