

BOLIVIA

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.

Updated 2026

Returning Citizens

Documents Required

- Original passport with the last entry to Bolivia stamped into the passport.
- Inventory List in Spanish/ English very detailed and typed in computer.
- Handwritten documents not allowed by Bolivian Customs.
- Affidavit ("Declaración Jurada") validated by Bolivian Consulate at the origin country.
- Consular Certificate of Residence issued by Consulate of Bolivia at origin.
- Migratory certificate ("Flujo Migratorio") issued by Migratory Office in Bolivia.

Customs Prescriptions

- Bolivian citizens returning to Bolivia are exempt from customs duties if:
- They have lived abroad far more than two years or much longer;
- During the last two years, they must not have been in Bolivia for more than ninety days, whether continuous or discontinuous (vacations or work visits).
- Franchise for Bolivian returning must not exceed the value of \$35000 (thirty-five thousand American dollars) (FOB VALUE) duty free for used personal effects. Over this value, the client must pay taxes for the excess.
- The consignee must be present in Bolivia during the import process as his presence is required for customs inspection.
- The arrival of shipment is only permitted in the period between one (1) month before and up to six (6) months after the consignee definitive arrival.
- Goods that do not comply with the requirements and conditions of Bolivian customs clearance cannot be imported with tax exemption into Bolivia.

Remarks

- For all shipments to Bolivia via port of Arica (Chile), the Bill of Lading must read in Spanish: "Carga en tránsito Arica con destino final Bolivia"
- Cargo on OBL/AWB must be declared as: "Menaje Doméstico Usado" (Used household goods). It must be written in Spanish, this is mandatory.
- OBL must be rated.
- The Destination Agent must have all the original documents before the arrival of the shipment at the port of entry.
- Estimated time for HHGDS import process:
- About 6 to 8 weeks approximately since cargo arrives at Bolivian Customs Warehouse until cargo released.
- The returning citizens are only granted with one importation per family (AIR or SEA or Overland).
- The vehicles are not considered as personal effects.
- To register the Affidavit form "Declaración Jurada" online the consignee must visit the Bolivian Customs website www.aduana.gob.bo and follow the steps.
- The consignee needs the packing list detailed as follows number of pieces, all electric

- appliances must be specified, model and serial number (no exceptions), weight and values box by box.
- The total value amounts up to \$35000.
- Once filled the form, consignee must print 2 copies, sign them and request validation at Consulate of Bolivia at origin.

Foreign Citizens

Documents Required

- Original passport.
- VOD - Visa de Objeto Determinado stamped into the passport or Visa Mercosur for a foreigner coming from a country member of MERCOSUR: Peru, Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela (suspended), Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Surinam.
- Inventory List in Spanish / English very detailed and typed in computer.
- Handwritten documents not allowed by Bolivian Customs.
- Affidavit ("Declaración Jurada") validated by Bolivian Embassy/Consulate at the origin country.
- Work contract validated by the Labour Ministry of Bolivia for at least 1 year.
- Migratory certificate (Flujo Migratorio) issued by Migratory Office in Bolivia.

Customs Prescriptions

- Consignee must have lived abroad for more than two (2) years consecutive, their visits to Bolivia within this period must not exceed ninety (90) days in sum.
- Franchise must not exceed the value of \$35000 (thirty-five thousand American dollars) duty free for used personal effects. Over this value, pay taxes on the excess.
- The consignee must be present in Bolivia during the import process as their presence is required for customs inspections.
- The arrival of shipment is only permitted in the period between one (1) month before and up to six (6) months after the consignee definitive arrival.
- Goods that do not comply with the requirements and conditions of Bolivian customs clearance cannot be imported with tax exemption into Bolivia.

Remarks

- Same as above.

Diplomatic Shipments

Documents Required

- Original passport with the diplomatic visa stamped.
- Application letter from the Embassy requesting the Diplomatic Accreditation to Bolivian Foreign Ministry.
- Diplomatic Accreditation Letter with the name and the position of the customer.
- Diplomatic ID issued by Bolivian Foreign Ministry.
- Packing list signed and stamped by the Embassy.
- Transport documents: AWB/BL/MIC/ or CRT (original).
- Tax Exemption Form.
- Value Declaration or administrative certificate (issued sealed and signed by the Embassy).

Customs Prescriptions

- B/L must show the customer's name and number as it shows in the passport.
- The 8/L must show the sea freight or air Freight Certificate issued by the shipping Line.
- The Tax Exemption Form must be filled in by the customs broker, sealed and signed by the Embassy.

- The Value Declaration or administrative certificate must be issued sealed and signed by the Embassy.
- Franchise for diplomatic shipments is determined according to the position and activities the customer will perform in his diplomatic mission.

Remarks

- Customs clearance takes approx. 10 days if the Embassy has all documents ready.
- Vehicles are allowed to be imported as a diplomatic shipment. The franchise is determined according to the position and activities the customer will perform in his diplomatic mission.
- Prohibited household goods: cosmetics (perfumes, creams, shampoo, disposable diapers, medicines, detergents, soaps, liquids, spices, alcohol, consumables (including sealed or canned), tea, oil, weapons, skin stuffed animals, artworks, pornographic material.

Inheritance

Remarks

- Contact your destination agent for more information.

New Furniture & Household Goods

Documents Required

- Commercial invoice.
- B/L or AWB.
- Insurance Policy.
- B/L or AWB - CRT - MIC/DTA.
- Technical sheet of every wooden item from origin.
- Import Authorization (prior permission to import furniture and new textiles).

Customs Prescriptions

- An accredited verification company must intervene if value exceeds USD 1.000.-.
- Subject to payment of duties of 42% over CIF Value in case of private or personal shipments.
- No duties for Diplomatic Shipments.
- Used textiles are totally prohibited.

Remarks

- Contact your destination agent for more information.

Works of Art & Antiques

Documents Required

- Commercial invoice from seller.
- List detailing the Works of Art.
- Export permit from country of origin.
- B/L or AWB.
- Insurance Policy.

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to payment of duties of approx. 32% over CIF Value for private and personal shipments.
- If included in a Household Goods shipment, a complementary (detailed) packing list will be required, entitled as "Works of art/Antiques," specifying the value as per the commercial invoice, item by item.

- Duty free for diplomatic shipments.

Remarks

- Contact your destination agent for more information.

Electrical Appliances

Documents Required

- Same as New Furniture and Household Goods above.
- Detailed inventory of features such as model, serial number, brand and provenance.

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free for diplomatic shipments.
- Electrical appliances pay 42% of duties over CIF value.
- Personal computers and printers pay 32% duties over CIF value.
- The above is only applicable to private and personal shipments.

Remarks

- Electrical appliances entail TV sets, sewing machines, video sets, personal computers and printers.

Presents & Souvenirs

Documents Required

- If value is less than \$300, no documents are required.
- Otherwise, the documentation required is the same as New Furniture and Household Goods above.

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to the payment of approx. 32% over CIF value for private and personal shipments.
- Duty free for diplomatic shipments.

Remarks

- Contact your destination agent for more information.

Machinery, Appliances & Spare parts

Documents Required

- Same as Motor vehicles and other vehicles above.

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free for diplomatic missions.
- Subject to the payment of duties of approx. 32% over CIF value for private and personal shipments.
- If they are part of a Household Goods shipment, no documentation is required.

Remarks

- Should be listed only on respective packing list
- Industrial machinery and equipment have a special treatment.

Alcoholic Beverages

Customs Prescriptions

- Limited Allowance:
- Diplomats: 6 liters
- Non-diplomats: 3 liters

Prohibited items

Customs Prescriptions

- Food in general (including sealed or canned)
- Medicines.
- Live Plants.
- Seeds.
- Narcotics.
- Drugs.
- Explosives.
- Gas cylinders (full or empty).
- Pornographic material.
- Firearms, weapons & ammunitions.
- Precursors and refrigerators with gas R-12.
- Perfumes.
- Creams.
- Shampoo.
- Fertilizers.
- Disposable diapers.
- Detergents & soaps.
- Liquids.
- Spices.
- Tea.
- Food, all kind.
- Oil.
- Skin stuffed animals.
- Furs.
- Dissected animals.
- Artworks.
- Industrial tools, machines.

Remarks

- Limited allowance Alcoholic Beverages - see under Alcoholic Beverages above.

Wood Articles

Customs Prescriptions

- By new regulations of SENASAG (Bolivian organization plagues control), any shipping containing wood, like finished furniture, ornaments, packing material, etc., must be fumigated at destination in order to have a Phytosanitary Certificate issued by this organization.

Manufactured objects that contaminate the atmosphere

Customs Prescriptions

- For regulations of IBMETRO (Institute of Quality Norms of Bolivia - Pollution control), shipments containing items that could contaminate the atmosphere (like refrigerators - R22

gas, motors, oxygen tanks, vehicles, etc.) must be inspected at destination in order to obtain the CGO (Comisión Gubernamental del Ozono) Certification of gases.

Fumigation of imported and exported wooden crates

Customs Prescriptions

- The Bolivian Government adopted the "Norma Internacional para Medidas Fitosanitarias - NIMF N° 15 - Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade to standardize the treatment of wood packing materials used for the transport of goods.
- Shipments into or out of the country in wooden packaging need to have a seal, certifying that the shipment has received the required treatment
- (HT = Heated Treatment [a minimum wood core temperature of 56°(for a minimum of 30 minutes] or fumigation with Methyl Bromide (MT).
- The minimum temperature should not be less than 10° and the minimum exposure time should not fall below