

CHILE

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 2025

Removal Goods - Returning Citizens Shipments

Documents Required

- From the origin agents:
 - Original Bill of Lading (BL) for ocean shipments with the values of the goods.
 - Original Airway Bill (AWB) for air shipments.
 - Inland Bill of Lading for land shipments.
 - Inventory list correctly registered and typed. Accepted only in English or Spanish by the Chilean Customs Service.
- From the client:
 - Travel Certificate (issued in Chile by Interpol). This document has a validity of 30 days.
 - Photocopy of Passport. Only the identification page, with a clear photograph and legible info.
 - Last entrance to Chile stamped in the Passport.
 - Set of customs forms (supplied by Chilean agent).

Customs Prescriptions

- Tax exemptions apply only to used HHG and are applied depending on the length of their stay abroad:
 - Between 6 and 12 months: US\$675.00 FOB. No interruptions are allowed.
 - Between 1 and 5 years: US\$4,050 FOB. 30 days of interruptions per year are allowed.
 - More than 5 years: US\$6,750 FOB. 60 days of interruptions per year are allowed.
- If the value of the goods was more than USD 6,750 FOB, all the goods may be imported, however the foreign citizen shall pay the duties and taxes for the declared overage.
- This benefit is eligible under this Customs Tariff Schedule every 3 years.
- Free re-importation of goods is possible. Copies of the supporting export documents will be needed.
- Deadline to Import goods: the shipment(s) should arrive in conjunction with, or within 120 days before or after the beneficiary's arrival in the country. Otherwise, duties and taxes of the whole amount to be imported shall be paid.
- If no tax exemptions are possible:
 - Used HHG pay duties of approximately 30% over CIF value.
 - All new items pay around 28% over CIF value.

Remarks

- Time of Dispatch:
 - Air and Land 3 working days.
 - FCL 7 to 10 working days.
 - LCL 7 to 10 working days.
- Almost all HHG shipments are subject to Customs Verification and Agricultural & Livestock Inspection (SAG).
- In case of having a proceeding reimportation free, the customs verification is obligatory to

check the old and the new items in the declaration.

- To obtain the Travel Certificate, the customer has to be in Chile since the latest entry stamp must appear in his or her passport.

Removal goods - Non-Citizen Shipments

Documents Required

- From the origin agents:
 - Original Bill of Lading (BL) for ocean shipments with the values of the goods.
 - Original Airway Bill (AWB) for air shipments.
 - Inland Bill of Lading for land shipments.
 - Inventory list correctly registered and typed. Accepted only in English or Spanish by the Chilean Customs Service.
- From the client:
 - Photocopy of Passport. Only the identification page, with a clear photograph and legible info.
 - Last entrance to Chile stamped in the passport.
 - Photocopy of the Work or Temporary Resident Visa, both with a minimum of 365 days stamped in the passport.
 - Set of customs forms supplied by Chilean agent upon the arrival of the client to our country.

Customs Prescriptions

- The payment of duties and taxes for entering used HHG may be exempted for non-Citizens if they have a work or a temporary visa for a period of, at least, one year.
- They may import up to US\$6,750.00 FOB tax free.
- Shipments over US\$6,750.00 FOB are subject to Custom duties (over the excess of this amount).
- If the visa is still in process, it is possible to clear under bonded storage in the importer's residence and presenting official proof of the visa application in process.
- Official visa stamped in the passport must be shown to the customs service before 90 days.
- If the required visa is not presented the whole shipment is subject to Custom duties.
- A maximum of two shipments subject to exemption benefits may be imported from the same origin: one with personal effects and a second one with the household goods.
- The sum of both shipments shall not exceed USD 6,750 FOB. If exceeds, shall pay the respective taxes.
- Deadline to import Goods:
 - The shipment(s) should arrive in conjunction with, or within 120 days before or after the beneficiary's arrival in the country. Otherwise, duties and taxes of the whole amount to be imported shall be paid.
- This benefit is eligible under this Customs Tariff Schedule every 3 years.

Remarks

- Same as above (except the travel certificate).

Removal Goods - Chilean Diplomats, Chilean International Officials, Ministry of Defence Personnel, Chilean Police Department and the Investigation Police shipments

Documents Required

- Original bill of lading.
- Inventory list.
- Photocopy of Passport.

- The corresponding Embassy or International Organism must provide the Exoneration Form issued by the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Set of customs forms (supplied by Chilean agent).

Customs Prescriptions

- Exempt from paying duties and taxes.

Remarks

- Time of dispatch: same as above.
- Diplomatic status does not avoid Customs Verification and Agricultural & Livestock Inspection (SAG).

Removal Goods - Foreign Diplomats and International Officials shipments

Documents Required

- Original bill of lading.
- Inventory list.
- Photocopy of Passport.
- The corresponding Embassy or International Organism must provide the Exoneration Form issued by the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Set of customs forms (supplied by Chilean agent).

Customs Prescriptions

- Exempt from paying duties and taxes.

Remarks

- Time of dispatch: same as above.
- Diplomatic status does not avoid Customs Verification and Agricultural & Livestock Inspection (SAG).

Removal Goods – Air Shipments

Customs Prescriptions

- Air shipments weighting 300 kilos or more:
- Thorough inspection for shipments over 300 kilos (660 lbs) gross: 1. All shipments will require an additional thorough inspection performed by the moving company at airport facilities. This is additional to the Customs inspection that is always performed. The fully inspection will delay clearance in 1 or 2 days and will increase destination and storage charges. 2. Detailed Packing list:
- Like some other countries, Chilean Customs Authorities are requesting a fully detailed packing list, especially with clothing, electronics and wooden items. This request is mandatory for all air
- shipments regardless the weight.
- Wooden items must be indicated in the Packing list (furniture, ornaments, picture or painting frames, among others).
- A detailed item by item list is required. For example, the clothes must indicate the number of pants, shirts, shoes, etc.
- Electronic devices must indicate type, brand name, model and serial number.
- If the goods are placed in 2 or more crates, the packing list must indicate which items are in which crate.

Remarks

- The moving companies will not be liable for additional charges and/or the consequences for not meeting these mandatory requirements.
- Some of the consequences can be fines, additional charges, retention of the goods, destruction of the forbidden goods and smuggling prosecution.

Motorcycles

Customs Prescriptions

- The entrance of used motorcycles into the country is completely forbidden.

Bicycles

Customs Prescriptions

- As of December 2014 are admitted free of taxes only those considered as a sport article or city bikes, which in number may not exceed the members of the family group. Tax free.
- This regulation is applicable for both Chileans, foreigners and diplomats in general.

Inheritance

Documents Required

- See Removal Goods.

New Furniture and Household Goods

Documents Required

- See Removal Goods.
- Original commercial invoice.

Customs Prescriptions

- I.V.A. (Value Added Tax) and Customs duty (approximately 28%) apply.

Works of Art and Antiques

Documents Required

- See Removal Goods.
- An invoice may be required, or a certificate issued by the corresponding museum or Gallery.

Customs Prescriptions

- Customs duty (approximately 30%).

Precious metal objects

Documents Required

- See Removal Goods.
- A commercial invoice may be required.

Customs Prescriptions

- May be entered as personal effects if in a reasonable quantity.

Household and electrical appliances

Documents Required

- See Removal Goods.

Carpets

Documents Required

- See Removal Goods.

Movies and Video Cassettes

Documents Required

- See Removal Goods.

Wine and alcoholic beverages

Documents Required

- Descriptive inventory.

Customs Prescriptions

- It is permitted 2.5 litres per adult duty free within a family group. Duties shall be paid for any amount that exceeds these limits.
- The taxes correspond to:
- Wines: 20.5% (calculated from the CIF value + Duties).
- Liquors: 31.5% (calculated from the CIF value + Duties).
- Allowed by S.A.G.: 30 litres of wine, 10 litres of spirits and 30 litres of beer.
- To import more than 24 bottles of the same brand of liquor or wine, S.A.G. will take a sample of 4 bottles for a composition analysis without returning them and previous payment of costs per each analysis.
- To import an amount greater than 30 litres, shipper must prepare a detailed inventory of each type and apply for an import permit from the Alcohol Division of S.A.G. (Av. Presidente Bulnes 140, Santiago) before the shipment arrives to Chile (personal procedure). Once the shipper gets this permit no sampling or analysis payment will be required.
- The importation of alcohol is permitted for Diplomats but is limited to the annual quota agreed by the local Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the respective embassies in the country.

Remarks

- Importation will increase the time, cost and exams of the customs clearance process.

Tins and Food

Documents Required

- Same as above.

Customs Prescriptions

- Non-perishable items are allowed in small quantities and must enter the country sealed or canned in their original packaging.

Remarks

- The introduction of such goods is stringently controlled by S.A.G., through physical inspections, therefore it is recommended not to send such items.

Medicines

Documents Required

- To be submitted for approval the interested party must supply:
- Medical prescription given by the doctor treating the case.
- Health Certificate extended by competent organization in the country of origin.

Customs Prescriptions

- In the case that the importation of such elements is a vital necessity, it is suggested that this background information be sent beforehand to the National Health Service for approval before they are sent from their place of origin.

Remarks

- It is suggested that medicines not be shipped, as they are submitted to the approval of the National Health Service which may take several weeks.
- Medicines will be removed from the shipment until cleared to enter.

Firearms

Documents Required

- Clearance Request (form supplied by the DGMN).
- Photocopy of the Customs Retention document.
- Criminal Record for special purposes, for Chileans.
- Character Certificate extended by the respective Embassy (only Foreigners).
- Photocopy of receipt of invoice of the firearm, if such exists.
- Payment of the current duty tariffs.

Customs Prescriptions

- Only sporting firearms allowed, strictly hunting or shooting types, with previous authorization by the General Directors of National Mobilization (DGMN). All corresponding customs duties and taxes are to be paid plus an additional 15%.

Remarks

- These must be released to Customs upon arrival until a permit is granted.

Safe Boxes

Customs Prescriptions

- Safe boxes are subject to payment of taxes unless they are small, can be easily transported and handled manually.
- Safe key's and/or passcode to must be available during physical Customs inspection so its interior content may be verified by authorities. Otherwise, safe box will be confiscated until cargo owner presents key's and/or passcode to open it.

Wheelchairs

Customs Prescriptions

- Wheelchairs are not considered part of the "travel baggage" concept, unless the consignee or one of the members of the family group is disabled.
- They are subject to payment of taxes (duties plus VAT).

Prohibited Articles

Customs Prescriptions

- Arms, Ammunitions, dangerous objects.
- Used motorcycles, used tires. Plants and soil, medicines, narcotics, drugs, Pornographic movies or videocassettes, books.

Remarks

- Only sporting weapons allowed for importation.
- These must be released to Customs upon arrival until a permit is granted.

Fumigation of wood packaging

Customs Prescriptions

- The Chilean Government adopted ISPM-15 (International standards for Phytosanitary Measures Publication 15) Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade (aka NIFM-15) to standardise 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°C for a minimum of 30 minutes] or fumigation with Methyl Bromide (MT).
- The minimum temperature should not be less than 10°C and the minimum exposure time should not fall below 16 hours.
- The treatments established in the present regulation have the intent to reduce the introduction and/or the dissemination of quarantine plagues associated to the wood packing.
- The wood packing material must be marked in a visible location on each article, on at least two opposite sides of the article with a legible and permanent mark in black ink. Labels and adhesives are not allowed.
- The approved format of the mark should be

Remarks

- This regulation DOES NOT apply to wood packing materials manufactured of:
- Raw wood of 6 mm thickness or less
- Processed wood produced by glue, heat and pressure, or a combination thereof.
- Plywood sheets & agglomerated sawdust sheets.
- Oriented wooden fibre sheets.
- Sawdust & Wooden fibre