

HONDURAS

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

Documents Required

- 2 Original Bill of Lading or Original Air Waybill.
- Original inventory in Spanish.
- Valued inventory in Spanish.
- RTN – Registro Tributario Nacional.
- Dispensa / franchise (official tax exoneration)

Customs Prescriptions

- RTN is the National Tributary Register number given to any person who requests the importation of goods into the country. This process takes no more than 24 hours and is a must for customs clearance.
- The importation of used household goods is duty free only for Honduras returned citizen after one year abroad.
- CIF: Cost, Insurance and freight

Remarks

- Send documents prior to shipment arrival.
- Inventory translation to Spanish has a US\$100.00 charge.
- Upon arrival of owner, a dispensa/franchise should be requested through a lawyer before the corresponding authorities.
- Special dispensa/franchise are given to:
 - returning Honduran citizens after one year abroad (only HHGS).
 - Retirees and pensioners are entitled to exemption for household goods and vehicles.
- The dispensa/franchise must be obtained before arrival of the shipment.
- The origin agent must wait for the local agent's green light to ship.

Diplomats' removals

Documents Required

- 2 Original Bill of Lading or Original Air Waybill.
- Original inventory in Spanish.
- Valued inventory in Spanish.
- RTN – Registro Tributario Nacional.
- Dispensa / franchise (official tax exoneration).

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free.

Remarks

- Official franchises are given to Diplomats and International Mission employees and the RTN

must be requested upon arrival of client to Honduras.

- Demurrage and storage charges at port are not exempted.
- The process to obtain official franchise is similar to the one for returning citizens.

Wedding trousseaux

Documents Required

- AWB or original B/L.
- Original invoices and copies.
- RTN.

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to taxes payment.
- Taxes will be assessed according to CIF value of imported articles.

New furniture and household goods

Documents Required

- Same as above

Customs Prescriptions

- Only diplomats and international missions may import these goods tax-free.
- It needs to mention the material (if it's made of wood or aluminium/metal).

New articles

Documents Required

- Same as above

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to taxes payment
- Taxes will be assessed according to CIF value of imported articles.

Household appliances

Documents Required

- Same as above

Customs Prescriptions

- Same as above

Electrical appliances

Documents Required

- Same as above

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to taxes payment.
- Taxes will be assessed according to CIF value of imported articles.
- A specific electronic item list is necessary, model, series or reference, code, type, color, feet.

Remarks

- Stove: State if it is electric or gas, size on inches, material.
- Refrigerator: Length in cubic feet, numbers of doors, frost. Subject to UTOH permit.
- Washing machine: Capacity of pounds or kgs, function wash and dry, ecological
- Clothes dryer: Capacity of pounds or kgs, ecological, digital
- Television: Size inches, LCD, plasma, LED, HD
- Blender: Domestic or industrial, velocity numbers, material (glass, plastic or stainless steel) capacity of litres.

Presents, Souvenirs

Documents Required

- Same as above

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to taxes payment.
- Taxes will be assessed according to CIF value of imported articles.

Works of Art, Antiques

Documents Required

- Same as above

Customs Prescriptions

- Same as above

Other vehicles (bicycles, water vehicles)

Documents Required

- AWB or Original Bill of Lading.
- Original purchase invoices w/ copies.
- Original Title of Property.
- RTN.

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to taxes payment.
- Taxes will be assessed according to CIF value of imported articles.

Machine appliances, spare parts

Documents Required

- Same as above

Customs Prescriptions

- Same as above

Alcohol, wine

Documents Required

- AWB or Original Bill of Lading.
- Valid passport.
- RTN.

- Detailed inventory.

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to taxes payment
- Customs' system requires specifying some information per item: brand, reference or code, type (whisky, rum, wine, etc), presentation (unity and contents) in millilitre, litres / ounce, etc., degree of alcohol, degree of age, value.

Remarks

- Diplomats may include some bottles but local embassy in Honduras must authorize this as this represents extra paperwork for the embassy. Special permits are required by Customs.
- It is highly recommended not to include alcohol/wines in the shipment as that delays the customs clearance process and special permits are required.

Tins and Food

Documents Required

- AWB or Original Bill of Lading.
- Original purchase invoices w/ copies.
- Original Title of Property.
- RTN.

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to SEPA and ARSA permits.
- Subject to taxes payment.

Remarks

- Diplomats may include some food but local embassy in Honduras must authorize this as this represents extra paperwork for the embassy. Special permits are required by Customs.
- It is highly recommended not to include food in the shipment as that delays the customs clearance process and special permits are required.

Medicines, narcotics, drugs, carpets

Documents Required

- AWB or Original Bill of Lading.
- Original purchase invoices w/ copies.
- Original Title of Property.
- RTN.

Customs Prescriptions

- Same as above.

Remarks

- Medicines are duty free.
- Narcotics and drugs: must consult before importation.

Sporting firearms and ammunition

Documents Required

- AWB or Original Bill of Lading.
- Original purchase invoices.
- RTN.

- Secretary of Defence Permit.

Customs Prescriptions

- Secretary of Defence permit must be requested prior to importation of firearms and ammunition.

Fumigation of imported and exported wooden crates

Customs Prescriptions

- Honduras 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.

General remark

Remarks

- It is recommended to mail all necessary instructions and documentation well in advance and prior to shipment of goods to secure rapid customs clearance, avoiding high demurrage and storage charges.
- Dispensa process may take approximately 15-20 working days
- Demurrage and storage charges at port are not exempted.
- Customs systems requires specifying some information per item, so customer must specify the information on the packing list. It does not allow items such as "kitchen items" "office items" article must be named on the packing list.
- Used clothes to dress: general characteristics weight in pounds, quality, (to differentiate between
- Clothes to dress and bedsheet, table linen, curtain, etc.: must mention amount per pieces per box (example: 5 men shirts, 5 women shoes, 3 men pants, etc)
- Used shoes: juvenile, for lady, man, child girl or boy, material (leather, synthetic, textile, etc). Must mention amount per pieces per box (example: 5 men shoes, 5 women shoes, etc).
- All Demurrage, Port Storage Charges and/or fines must be paid in advance before delivery of the goods.
- UTOH : Unidad Técnica de Ozono de Honduras
- When importing any gas-powered appliances, please make sure to send a photo of the technical specifications label well in advance of packing to your mover. Recently, Honduran Customs has imposed
- several restrictions on the importation of such item.
- While it is not recommended to import any gas-containing appliances, if the client insists on doing so, the mover will require the technical specifications in order to verify:
- That the type of gas is not prohibited, and
- If not prohibited, what specific permits will be required and under which government entities.
- If the gas is indeed prohibited, the appliance cannot be imported under any circumstance.
- It is not recommended to use any original boxes or packaging from purchase. According to the Honduran Customs Authority, any item packed in its original box may be considered new.
- In such cases, Customs may carry out a new valuation of the item, charge the corresponding difference in duties, and apply an additional fine.

Prohibited articles

Customs Prescriptions

- Weapons
- Gun powder
- Jewellery
- Drugs
- Toxic waste
- Pornography
- Refrigerators or similar with gas type R-11, R-12, R-502, R-22.

Remarks

- Importation prohibited.