

NETHERLANDS

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

Removal goods

Documents Required

- Clear copy of the shipper's passport.
- List of items which the client will take to the Netherlands (inventory list)
- Power of Attorney (POA)
- Copy of the registration at town/city hall where the shipper will live (this document has to mention the country the shipper is moving from).
- When client does not have his town/city hall registration yet, client may also submit a proof of deregistration from the country of origin. Please also supply one of the following documents:
- Copy of a work contract or declaration from the employer confirming the period of working for them abroad and the fact that the client will now be working for them in the Netherlands as from (date), OR
- Copy of a rental agreement or purchase contract of the residence in the Netherlands. This may not be older than 6 months.

Customs Prescriptions

- If no exemption applies, a declaration of realistic value is required (signed by the customer).
- Duty free entry, provided:
- You lived outside the European Union for at least 12 months prior to leaving the country of departure and you will be living in the Netherlands.
- You are transporting household goods belonging to your residence.
- You have owned and used your personal belongings for at least 6 months prior to your removal to the Netherlands.
- You are importing your personal belongings within 12 months after your date of arrival in the Netherlands.
- You will be using your personal belongings again and will not lend or rent them out, pawn or sell them for a period of 12 months after customs cleared your personal belongings to enter the Netherlands.

Remarks

- All containers arriving in the Port of Rotterdam with an excessive concentration of gas will be taken out from the logistic transport chain (Methyl bromide is mostly used toxic gas). According to the Ministry one may expect delays running up to several months before a fumigated container will be released to the consignee. Obviously high costs will be involved if a container has an excessive concentration of gas.
- Certain imports into the Netherlands are prohibited or require an import license. These products fall under the categories of strategic goods or environmentally unfriendly items. Examples of such goods include weapons and ammunition, protected species of fauna and flora, and drugs. As the owner of the goods, you must be well informed about any import restrictions or prohibitions before moving to the Netherlands as you will remain at all times responsible for the contents of your shipment. Useful link: [here](#)

Diplomats' removals

Documents Required

- Diplomatic passport.

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free entry, provided that:
- Not having the Dutch nationality.
- Not permanently resident in the Netherlands.
- Since the start of the employment in the Netherlands have passed more than ten years (only for administrative technical and service staff).
- Import of alcohol and cigarettes are allowed but limited, according to measurements made out by the Ministry of Foreign affairs.

Wedding trousseaux

Documents Required

- Inventory in 2 copies.
- Marriage certificate.
- Certificate of residence.
- Exemption of duties form.

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free entry.

Inheritance

Documents Required

- Application for exemption for inheritance.
- Copy of passport of applicant.
- Registration of residence at town hall.
- 2 signed inventory lists.
- Notary Statement stating:
 - that the goods are originating from an inheritance,
 - the date when the testator was deceased,
 - the date when the goods where acquired by the applicant.
- If there is a motor vehicle or other vehicle involved, additional required documents:
 - License registration.
 - Purchase or ownership document.

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free entry.

New furniture and household articles

Documents Required

- Invoice.

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to payment of duties.

Works of art, Antiques

Customs Prescriptions

- No documents required if part of the household effects.

Electrical & household appliances

Documents Required

- Same as above.

Remarks

- Brand and fabrication number to be mentioned on the inventory.

Other vehicles (bicycles, water vehicles)

Documents Required

- Invoice.
- Registration card.
- Certificate of residence.

Machines, appliances, spare parts

Documents Required

- Invoice.

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to payment of duties.

Presents, souvenirs

Customs Prescriptions

- No documents required if part of the household effects.

Wine & alcohol

Documents Required

- Detailed valued list.

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to payment of duties and taxes.
- For diplomats, see under section 'Diplomats'.

Food

Customs Prescriptions

- Not allowed.

Arms, ammunition, dangerous objects

Documents Required

- Permits issued by Customs and authorisations of the Police authorities.

Remarks

- Useful link: [here](#)

Sport articles

Customs Prescriptions

- No document required if part of the household effects.

Medicine, narcotics & drugs

Customs Prescriptions

- No document required if part of the household effects and prescribed by a doctor. Otherwise forbidden.

Remarks

- Useful link: [here](#)

Precious metal objects (jewellery, coins)

Customs Prescriptions

- No document required if part of the household effects.