

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 – Household Goods

Documents Required

- Original B/L or AWB or copy of telex/express release.
- Detailed inventory (sheet with the details of household goods to be mentioned as per new guidelines issued Sept 23rd 2017).
- Passport copy with Qatar work / residence permits.
- No-Objection letter to import HHG's into the country (typed in Arabic) on the original letterhead of employer / sponsor in Qatar signed by the authorised signatory of the company.
- First entry stamp to Qatar from the passport page or A Valid Qatar ID.
- Clearing Agency authorization to be done online before the vessel arrives Hamad. (Customer must have a local number registered under the QID to authorize on https://www.ecustoms.gov.qa/qccsw/jsf/com_mon/eServiceLogin.jsf)

Customs Prescriptions

- Customs is imposing duties on all import shipments (especially SEA import) with duties and taxes at 5% on customs declared value:
- The only exemption relates to personal baggage and gifts accompanied by the shipper at the following conditions:
- The value thereof may not exceed 3000 Qatari Riyal.
- Should be of personal nature and not of commercial quantities.
- The shipper cannot be a frequent passenger at the customs station.
- Customs reserves the right to take any decisions (as per Customs Article 21).
- All shipment imported to Qatar must be strictly palletized, otherwise several additional charges related to this will be charged to the customer from both the Customs Authority and the Qterminals

Remarks

- Shipments to be declared as used household goods and personal effects.
- All shipments are subject to 100% physical inspection. Additional charges for customs Inspection will be invoiced based on the tariff.
- All Sea import shipments inside container must be strictly palletized to avoid nonpalletization penalty from the Customs Authority and Qterminals (The Port Authority).
- Computer equipment requires a separate clearance procedure through Qatar customs. If a computer is included in the shipment, specifications should be sent prior to arrival to obtain Qatar Telecommunication approval.
- Any forms of idols used for the purpose or worship or as a part of decorations must be declared and a prior approval must be taken from the Ministry of Endowments and Islamic Affairs to import such cargo.
- LCL shipments arriving POE Doha are taking up to two weeks in port to be deconsolidated. Therefore, Customs clearance and delivery after vessel arrival can take up to three weeks.
- No one is allowed to have access to the goods until Customs officials have completed

- clearance, leading to problems
- during re-packing.
- There are additional charges related to Inspection, non palletization penalty, labour charges for inspection etc, that will be billed as per the tariff issued by the relevant authorities.

Diplomatic removal

Documents Required

- Original B/L or AWB or copy of telex/express release.
- Detailed inventory.
- Letter of protocol from the relevant Embassy must be processed with the Qatar Ministry of Foreign Affairs prior to the vessel arrival.
- Valid Qatar ID & Passport
- Manual Authorization for clearing agency to be completed.

Customs Prescriptions

- MOFA letter from Embassy is required for duty / inspection exemption.
- Import of alcohol is allowed for diplomats but limited to annual quota agreed by the local Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the respective embassies in the country and it should be declared in the packing list and MOFA letter.

Remarks

- All documents including the original MOFA approval document will be submitted to the Customs Authority for duty exemption prior to the vessel arrival.
- After the vessel arrives, irrespective of receiving the approval for duty exemption, it is at the discretion of the Customs officer if the goods require 100% inspection or not.

New furniture

Documents Required

- Legalised CIF invoice.
- Certificate of origin.
- Inventory.
- Original B/L or AWB.

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty: 5% on CIF value plus legalization charges.

Remarks

- Invoice and C/O must be endorsed by the Qatar Embassy at origin and received by destination agent prior to shipment's arrival.

Cats & dogs

Documents Required

- Health certificate dated no more than 2 weeks prior to date of arrival.
- Import licence issued in Qatar.

Customs Prescriptions

- Following dogs require at least 2 weeks' notice and may be rejected:
- Boxers, Bulldogs, Rottweilers, Pugs, Great Danes, Dobermans, Shar Pei's and Japanese Akitas.

Remarks

- Health certificate has to be issued by government approved veterinary clinics and faxed at least 3 days prior to arrival.

Audio/video tapes, books, and CDs

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to screening by the Ministry of Information & Education.

Remarks

- Returned within 14 working days.
- To import religious books a special approval must be taken from the Ministry of Education.

Prohibited items

Customs Prescriptions

- Alcoholic beverages.
- Pork.
- Wireless transmitters / receivers.
- Firearms, explosives.
- Narcotics.
- Medicines.
- Swords, daggers.
- Pornographic material.
- Items made from ivory.
- Buddha statues.
- Any products that have not been either:
 - Manufactured in Qatar in accordance with the law; or
 - Illegally imported into Qatar.
- Political and religious literature/articles deemed offensive to the Qatar government and the Islamic faith.

Remarks

- All prohibited articles detained by Customs may be destroyed without consignee's consent.
- The Customs Authority may also impose hefty fines on the customers if they import prohibited goods whatsoever.