

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

General comment

Customs Prescriptions

- Customs authorities apply very strict control to all incoming shipments in relation to their precise weights. ▪ It is essential that the declared weight on the bill of lading (OBL) coincides precisely with the actual weight that is shown on the weight ticket issued by Customs scale. ▪ If this requirement is not fulfilled, important demurrage and extra costs will arise. ▪ Shippers will be allowed to import either surface or airfreight shipments of HHGDS and PE within reasonable quantities according to the numbers of family members. ▪ Shipments must arrive in Uruguay within 180 days from shipper's arrival in the country.
- Duty free entry whether goods are used or new.

Household goods and removal effects – Returning Uruguayan citizen and/or foreign citizen with legal residence visa

Documents Required

- Packing list in Spanish authenticated by Uruguayan Consulate at origin. ▪ B/L, AWB or CRT. Express release accepted. ▪ Certificate of residence issued by Uruguayan Consulate at origin, stating that shipper has lived at least 1 year abroad. ▪ Once the customer arrives in Uruguay, he
- should contact his agent who will ask for the following documents: ▪ Certificate of entrance in Uruguay issued by the Dirección Nacional de Migraciones (address: Misiones 1513, Montevideo) (
-). ▪ Photocopy of Identity Card or Passport (readable).
- Sign a letter for Customs requesting authorization to import household goods.

Customs Prescriptions

- Uruguayan citizens returning home must submit before customs authorities' proof of permanent residence abroad for a minimum period of two years.

Remarks

- ▪ (
-) Customs procedure must be started within 60 days of the date stated in this certificate. ▪ Normal customs clearance, upon receipt of all documents, takes approx. 7 working days. ▪ Important note: ▪ Any Uruguayan with more than two years
- of residence in a foreign country, who decides to return to Uruguay, will be able to introduce free of duties, taxes or connected charges: working tools, machines, or all kind of different instruments related to the art or profession. ▪ Relevant documental proof to be submitted before Uruguayan Consulate at origin.
- See requirements in section "Clearance of Uruguayan Citizen cars".

Household goods and removals effects – Foreign citizen without

legal residence

Documents Required

- Packing list in Spanish.
- B/L, AWB or CRT. Express release accepted.
- Once the customer arrives in Uruguay, he should contact his agent who will ask for the following documents: ▪ Customers must initiate the proceedings of residence. Or present at least the appointment for the initiation process of the residence. ▪ Certificate of entrance in Uruguay issued by Dirección Nacional de Migración (address Misiones 1513, Montevideo) (). ▪ Photocopy of Identity Card or Passport (readable). ▪ Sign a letter for Customs (asking authorization to import household goods).
- Foreigners under temporary residence must submit a guarantee before customs. ().

Customs Prescriptions

- All Foreign Citizens without legal residence who wish to enter personal effects MUST apply for residence in Uruguay in the near future.
- Proof that the foreign citizen has lived outside of Uruguay at least the last year.
- MERCOSUR CITIZENS must request a Residence Certificate at the nearest Uruguayan Consulate to issue it.

Remarks

- () Customs procedure must be started within 60 days of the date stated in this certificate.
- () That is, deposit a guarantee until definitive residence is obtained.
- Guarantee amount will be reimbursed to shipper once obtained legal residence.
- Normal customs clearance upon receipt all documents take approx. 7 working days.
- Guarantee proceedings: 5 more working days.

Household goods and removals effects – Foreign Diplomats

Documents Required

- Packing list in Spanish.
- B/L, AWB or CRT.
- The Embassy, Consulate or Delegation will request to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs relevant authorization to import household goods

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free entry.

Remarks

- Normal customs clearance upon receipt all documents take approx. 5 working days.
- Diplomats must be accredited before the Uruguayan Government (Ministry for Foreign Affairs) through their Embassies/mission in Uruguay.
- After accreditation process, Organisation must request for franchise submitting copy of the packing list and B/L or AWB.

Household goods and removals effects – Returning Uruguayan Diplomats

Documents Required

- Packing list in Spanish authenticated by Uruguayan Consulate at origin.
- B/L, AWB or CRT.
- Upon arrival in Uruguay, returning Diplomats will request the Ministry of Foreign Affairs authorization to import household goods.
- This request will be forwarded to Ministry of Finances for approval and only once approved the import clearance process may be started.

Remarks

- Normal customs clearance upon receipt all documents take approx. 5 /7 working days.

Other vehicles (bicycles, water vehicle)

Customs Prescriptions

- Bicycles can be imported duty free if part of household goods removal. Quantity cannot exceed the number of family members.
- All other vehicles are NOT allowed to be imported.

Remarks

- Only returning citizens or foreign diplomats can import vehicles to Uruguay under certain conditions.

Wedding trousseaux

Documents Required

- Packing list.
- Visaed marriage certificate.

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free entry provided they are part of the household removal.

Inheritance

Documents Required

- Detailed valued list of items to be imported.

Customs Prescriptions

- All items in the shipments will be subject to import duties. Please check with your local agent in each case.

New furniture and household goods

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free entry if imported as part of a household goods removal.

Remarks

- Customs authorities will hold these items until payment of duties.

Works of art & Antiques

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free entry if these articles are part of a bona fide household removal.
- In case quantities are considered unusual by customs officers to the status or family group

of applicants, these items may be subject to payment of duties.

Precious metal objects (jewellery, coins)

Customs Prescriptions

- Can be imported if part of household removal and if the quantities are reasonable.

Remarks

- It is highly recommended NOT to include in the shipment.

Household appliances

Customs Prescriptions

- Duty free entry if these articles are part of household removal.
- In case some items are not considered as part of the household removal, Customs may allow the importation paying import duties and taxes (approx. 80% over the new value of the item). For example: jacuzzi or sauna,

Electrical appliances

Customs Prescriptions

- Same as for household appliances.
- Only 1 article per kind can be brought in household removal. Except TV sets, videos and PCs, which can exceed such quantities according to the number of family members.

Carpets

Customs Prescriptions

- Can be imported if part of household removals.

Presents & Souvenirs

Customs Prescriptions

- Can be imported if part of household removal and if the quantities are reasonable.

Wine, Alcohol

Customs Prescriptions

- Subject to payment of duties.
- Returning Uruguayan diplomats are allowed to import up to 12 boxes of 12 bottles of 1 litre each as "rest of pantry".

Machines, appliances, spare parts

Customs Prescriptions

- Only Uruguayan professionals are allowed to bring in machines together with their removal goods provided they have been abroad for at least 2 years, and they can prove their professional condition through documentation issued by the Uruguayan Consulate at origin.
- Machines must be for the specific use of the owner's profession.

Remarks

- Spare parts of vehicles are not allowed to be imported.

Tins and food

Customs Prescriptions

- Can be imported if part of household removal and if the quantities are reasonable.

Remarks

- It is recommended to check with the destination agent before shipping (quantity/type of food).

Prohibited Items

Documents Required

- Only sport guns are allowed to be imported, requiring a certificate from the Ministry of Defence.

Customs Prescriptions

- Firearms (unless considered sport guns), ammunition.
- Medicines, narcotics and drugs.
- Live plants.
- Pornographic material, subversive material.
- Used vehicles of all types including motorcycles.
- Any other items that should not be considered part of a household goods removals (like new electrical appliances, industrial tools, machinery etc.).
- Construction supplies.
- Vehicle accessories.

Firearms (sport guns)

Documents Required

- All firearms must be declared in the packing list, including all specifications of each weapon. Authorities will require submitting documentation in proof of ownership.
- Foreign citizens should get legal residence and identity cards to get weapons permission.

Customs Prescriptions

- At the moment of loading the container, weapons must be placed at the door of the container to facilitate the access of the customs officer.
- Customs officers will pick up all weapons at shipment arrival and take them (with safekeeping) to the Service of Material & Armament, where they will be kept until the shipper regularizes all documents in Uruguay and obtained weapons permission. Once obtained the permission, the arms could be retired.
- The holder must personally manage such procedure.

Remarks

- In all cases, weapons will be held by Customs and submitted to the relevant Army authorities.
- Weapons will be only returned to the owner once all relevant documentation be obtained through relevant Ministry of Defence/Army authorities.
- Weapons incoming to Uruguay are kept under custody by the "Servicio de Material y Armamento del Ejercito" (Armed Forces), located at Instrucciones street (phone number 354 0326).

Cats and Dogs

Documents Required

- LEISHMANIASIS TEST: ▪ In case the country is declared free of leishmania, a certificate must indicate it
- clearly. Otherwise, the pet would be rejected and have to be returned back to the origin country.
- Certificate of health issued by competent authorities at origin.
- 2 photographs of the pet.
- Certificate of anti hydrofolic inoculation: ▪ At least 30 days old but less than one year old. ▪ The certificate itself must be less than 10 working days old when the animal arrives in the country.

Remarks

- Health and vaccination certificate legalised by Uruguayan Consulate.

Other animals

Documents Required

- ▪ Same as above.

Customs Prescriptions

- More information on the animals needs to be supplied since some species are prohibited.

Fumigation of imported and exported wooden crates

Customs Prescriptions

- The Uruguay Government adopted ISPM-15 (International standards for Phytosanitary Measures Publication 15).
- Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade (aka NIFM15) to standardise the treatment of wood packing materials used for the transport of goods.
- All wood containers (lift vans) that come into Uruguay must be FUMIGATED against plagues and with the control made properly identified.

Remarks

- The requirement is fulfilled by means of a seal in the wood. If the load comes from a non-signatory country of the convention, a sanitary certificate in paper must be done.
- The treatment to the packing procedures: a) by heat treatment at 56° in the centre of the wood during 30 minutes; or, b) with methyl Bromide (BR).
- Does not apply to: Particle Plywood, boards, pieces smaller than 6mm thickness.
- The woods carried by the trucks (propping, tops, etc.) must be treated (please inform your carriers).
- Seals must be in 2 sides of the pallet of such form that always are visible.
- Containers of Imports "House to House" are going to be verified in the deposit of the client.
- The MGAP, in cases of reiteration of situations of not fulfilling the norm, could reject the entire shipment, not only the packing.
- Signatory countries are Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.