

New Caledonia

This guide is compiled from the IAM Country Guide for reference only. Customs regulations change frequently; please consult your Seapoe relocation consultant for the latest requirements before shipping.

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Documents

Required Documents

For new items less than 3 months old (or less than 18 months old if originating from outside the EU)

A separate inventory, dated and signed, stating the exact value of each new item as listed on the accompanying invoice, plus all original invoices reflecting the shipper's name and destination address, plus a completed tax refund application form.

Specific Information

Resale restriction. In the five years following the final importation date, local customs must be informed if personal effects are lent, lent against surety, rented out, or transferred to another person.

All-new shipments. If a shipment consists exclusively of new effects, customs clearance in New Caledonia will be conducted by a freight forwarder whose costs are for the importer's account.

Language. All inventories must be in French and valued in euros.

ISPM 15. All wood packaging materials must comply with ISPM 15 and bear the appropriate treatment mark.

Duties & Taxes

New items. Personal effects less than 3 months old, or less than 18 months old if originating from outside the EU, are subject to local taxes. To avoid this, new effects must have remained in the shipper's possession for at least 3 months before the transfer of residence (18 months for customers from outside the EEC). New items must be listed on a separate inventory with all invoices submitted to the local agent.

Recommended: Contact the destination agent to ensure all requirements have been met prior to import, especially for differences regarding air and sea shipments.

New Caledonia is served by sea through the port of Nouméa and by air via La Tontouta International Airport (NOU), approximately 50km north of Nouméa. The majority of household goods shipments arrive by sea. Air freight is used primarily for urgent or small consignments.

All inventories must be in French and valued in euros. The Noumea information note and non-cession declaration must be completed before shipment; the destination agent should provide these forms in advance.

New items must be listed on a separate inventory from used effects, with all original invoices included. Failure to segregate new and used items will cause delays at customs.

The cleaning and disinfection certificate for vehicles must be obtained from a professional car washing company before shipment. Client-issued certificates are rejected without exception.

Confirm the format required with the destination agent before arranging cleaning.

New Caledonia's biosecurity controls (SIVAP) are strict. Any animal or plant material that has not been declared or does not comply with import rules may be seized and destroyed at the importer's expense.

Customs processing times at Nouméa can be unpredictable. Ensure all documentation is complete before the shipment departs origin to avoid storage charges.