Country Guide (IAM)

Sweden

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

Documents required for importing used household goods, personal effects, and related shipments.

Required Documents

Swedish Customs forms (hard copy with original signature — obtain current versions from the local destination agent):

- TV 740.44 or TV 740.46 (May 2022 issue, Swedish version) — for general removal
- TV 740.45 (October 2020 issue) for immigrants, or TV 740.47 (August 2018 issue) for returnees — English versions
- Proof of move to Sweden (e.g., proof of residence, residence permit, or work permit where applicable)
- Application or decision from the Swedish Tax Agency (Skatteverket) concerning registration in the Swedish Population Register, or copy of "personbevis" if already registered
- Copy of passport (photo and identification pages)
- Certificate from employer confirming work abroad and in Sweden
- Ocean Bill of Lading or Sea Waybill (sea shipments) or Airway Bill (air shipments) — provided by the moving company
- Household goods inventory in Swedish or English — provided by the moving company

For Diplomats

- Exemption permit from the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Form TV 740.22 — Application for Duty Free Import), stamped by the Swedish MOFA
- Stamped packing lists and alcohol list (if any)

Specific Information

ISPM 15: All wood used for crates, lift vans, and bulkheads must be heat-treated or fumigated per ISPM 15 and carry the certified stamp. This does not apply to manufactured furniture.

Diplomatic shipments: The embassy or consulate must complete, stamp, and sign an Application for Duty Free Import (TV 740.22) and submit it to the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs for approval, along with packing lists and an alcohol list if applicable. Once approved, the stamped original must be provided to the destination agent. Alcohol may be included in approved diplomatic shipments without customs duty, alcohol tax, or VAT.

A customs exemption on goods (excluding spirits, liqueurs, wines, export beers, and tobacco) is granted to a person who either immigrates to Sweden for the first time without having previously been domiciled there, or returns to Sweden after having lived abroad for at least one year. All of the following conditions must also be met: the goods are owned by the person presenting them for clearance; they are not in excess of household needs; they constitute household necessities or have been used abroad by the owner or a household member; they will be used in Sweden by the owner or a household member; the goods arrive within one year of the owner formally moving to Sweden; and the owner intends to stay in Sweden for more than one year.

For returning persons: the client must already be in Sweden and have registered domicile in Sweden in order to obtain duty exemption. For immigrants: goods must arrive within 12 months of the owner's arrival.

The detailed inventory must be descriptive and state the contents of each item and carton. Vague descriptions such as "miscellaneous," "garage items," or "PBO" (packed by owner) are not accepted.

The owner must be registered in Sweden with Skatteverket (Swedish Tax Agency) before or at the time of customs clearance, but does not need to be physically present during clearance.

Goods imported duty-free must not be brought in for commercial use or for the use of other persons.

Physical inspection of the shipment is generally not required, but Customs may request one.

New furniture is permitted if accompanied by a commercial invoice with price, date, and place of purchase, plus a packing list; it is subject to customs duty and VAT.

Works of art and antiques imported as part of household goods receive duty-free entry. Antiques and works of art imported for resale are subject to duties. Precious metal objects receive duty-free entry on the same basis as furniture and other household items.

Prohibited & Restricted Items

Prohibited Items

- Narcotics and illegal drugs
- Counterfeit goods
- Goods subject to EU trade sanctions (including goods related to Russia and Belarus — verify current EU sanctions list)
- Wildlife and wildlife products covered by CITES CITES
- Certain invasive species
- Goods that contravene EU regulations on restricted substances

Restricted / Dutiable Items

Alcohol and tobacco: Excluded from the household goods duty exemption. Must be declared and are subject to duty and alcohol tax. Clearance for alcohol takes approximately 3 weeks. Customs may destroy undeclared alcohol at the owner's expense. Importation can be expensive; contact the destination agent for current rates.

Intra-EU imports: For goods moving from another EU member state, no customs duties apply, though Swedish excise taxes still apply to alcohol and tobacco above personal use quantities.

Medicine: Allowed with a doctor's prescription for personal use only; a 5-day supply is the general allowance. Larger quantities require documentation.

Plants, fruit, and vegetables: Require a plant passport or phytosanitary certificate issued by the national Plant Protection Service. Contact the destination agent.

Products and goods made from animals: Special permission required.

Firearms: Subject to permit requirements and Swedish firearms legislation.

New items: Subject to customs duty and VAT if not part of a qualifying household goods exemption.

Consignment Instructions

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

Swedish Customs forms must be presented in original hard copy with original signature. The destination agent provides the forms; confirm the current version numbers before departure. The Customs declaration must match the inventory exactly — vague descriptions are not accepted.

The owner must be registered in Sweden with Skatteverket at the time of customs clearance. Returning residents must already be in Sweden and registered before the duty exemption can be applied. For immigrants, goods must arrive within 12 months of the owner's arrival.

All wood packaging must comply with ISPM 15 (not applicable to manufactured furniture).

Alcohol and tobacco are excluded from the duty exemption and require separate handling. Clearance for alcohol typically takes around 3 weeks.