

# Eswatini (formerly Swaziland)

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

- Copy of passport showing entry permit
- Packing list
- Original bill of lading (OBL) / air waybill (AWB) — no express release accepted
- Original inventory (in English, dated, valued, and signed by the shipper)
- Residence permit / work permit
- CE 101 form
- DA65 or NEP form (returning citizens)

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## Specific Information

Returning citizens (DA65/NEP forms): To re-enter Eswatini with items that do not have serial numbers, returning citizens must have DA65 or NEP forms completed upon their departure from Eswatini. Without these forms, goods may be detained and proof of local purchase required upon re-entry.

No express release: The original bill of lading is required; express release is not accepted.

SACU membership: Eswatini is a member of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) along with Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, and South Africa. The five countries share a common external tariff. South Africa generally sets the tariff schedule in consultation with SACU members. Goods consigned to Eswatini from outside SACU must be cleared through customs at the first port of importation into SACU (typically a South African port).

Customs declaration: For personal declarations worth less than E15,000, use "Form E." For all other declarations, use the SAD500 form. Declarations are made through the ASYCUDA system.

Currency: Eswatini lilangeni (SZL), plural emalangeni. Pegged at par to the South African rand (ZAR). South African rand is widely accepted.

Cash declaration: All persons entering or leaving Eswatini with cash or negotiable bearer instruments valued at more than E15,000 (or equivalent) must declare to police or customs. Failure to declare carries fines up to E30,000 or imprisonment up to 5 years.

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## Duties & Taxes

No tax on used household goods. Used household goods enter free of duty and tax. New goods within the shipment are subject to 15% VAT (confirmed by PwC Tax Summaries 2026).

## Prohibited & Restricted Items

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### Prohibited Items

- Unlawful drugs and narcotics — strictly prohibited
- Pornography — prohibited
- Local currency (emalangeni) — import prohibited
- Potassium bromides — prohibited
- Counterfeit items — prohibited
- Alcohol — treatment varies by source; some permit 1 bottle with duty; confirm current status with destination agent

### Restricted / Dutiable Items

#### Traveler Allowances (from outside SACU, over 20 years)

- 400 cigarettes, or 50 cigars, or 250g tobacco
- Perfume: 10 fl. oz.
- New goods and groceries for personal consumption up to E1,000 per individual or E2,000 per family (one such importation per day; additional new goods above these allowances subject to 15% VAT)

### Restricted Items

- Firearms and ammunition — authorization from the Firearms Licensing Board required  
PERMIT REQUIRED
- Alcohol — 1 bottle permitted; duties of 15% apply
- Cosmetic creams — must be registered with the Ministry of Health
- Live animals — health certificate required along with complete and valid inoculations

## Consignment Instructions

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

Transit through South Africa is standard. Eswatini is a landlocked country surrounded almost entirely by South Africa (with a short border with Mozambique in the east). Most sea freight arrives at the port of Durban, South Africa and is transported overland. Customs clearance at the SACU entry point occurs before the goods reach Eswatini.

Original bill of lading required. Express release is not accepted. Ensure the original OBL is available for clearance.

DA65/NEP forms for returning citizens. Citizens who departed Eswatini should have completed DA65 or NEP forms on departure. Without these, goods without serial numbers may be detained on re-entry. This is a pre-departure requirement that movers should advise returning citizens about before they leave.

7-day clearance deadline. Goods must be cleared within 7 days of deemed importation.

Interpol clearance for vehicles. This must be obtained before shipping and verifies the vehicle is not stolen. Processing times vary by country of origin.

Currency pegged to rand. The lilangeni is at par with the South African rand. Both currencies circulate freely in Eswatini.