



SYRIA



CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND INFORMATION FOR IMPORTS

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

Documents Required

- Passport / Syrian Identity Card
- Original Bill of Lading (OBL) / Air Waybill (AWB)
- Detailed inventory typewritten in English or French
- List of electrical appliances and electronics (detailing make, year and serial number) and valuable articles (silver, carpets, furs, etc.)
- Manuals for computers, TVs and radios
- Diplomatic Exemption from the Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Diplomats)
- Work Permit (foreigners)
- Residence Card (foreigners)
- Permit from the General Directorate of Customs for clearance under temporary admission regime (foreign)
- Letter of Guarantee from employer (foreigners)
- License of Importation (foreigners)
- Letter of Employment including start and end date (returning citizens)
- Certificate of Residence from Syrian Embassy (returning citizens)
- List of Household goods in Arabic certified by Syrian Embassy (returning citizens)
- Emigrant book from the Syrian Embassy (returning citizens)
- Lease Agreement and proof thereof (utility bills, etc.)

Specific Information

- The shipper must be present for Customs clearance.
- All shipments are subject to a detailed inspection.
- Items cannot be moved to a bonded warehouse for storage before Customs clearance is completed.
- Items must arrive in Syria within 4 months of owner's arrival with the exception of Diplomats.
- Used household goods and personal effects are duty-free provided items are for personal use, not sold in Syria, and must be re-exported from Syria by the expiration of the Work Permit or active service (foreigners, Diplomats).
- Only one shipment allowed during the first four months of arrival (returning citizens).
- Used household goods and personal effects are duty-free provided the owner is transferring his primary residence to Syria to take up permanent residence (returning citizens).
- The goods must have been used for at least 2 years and will be retained for personal use by the owner for at least 3 years in Syria (returning citizens).

MOTOR VEHICLES

Documents Required

- Title / Ownership Card
- Green Card
- OBL
- Work Permit in Syria
- Permit from the Syrian General Directorate of Customs for clearance under temporary admission regime
- Letter of Guarantee from Syrian employer
- Residence Card in Syria
- License of Importation

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- Diplomatic exemption from the Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is required for Diplomats

Note: The documents required for the import of motor vehicles apply to foreigners only, as Diplomats are exempt.

Specific Information

- Only foreigners and Diplomats may import motor vehicles.
- The shipper must be present for Customs clearance.
- Automobiles must be less than 2 years old.
- Diesel engine vehicles cannot be imported.
- Automobiles are duty-free under a temporary admission regime for foreigners, but road taxes must be paid and the vehicle must be retained for personal use only.
- Automobiles must clear Customs within 4 months of owner's arrival in Syria.
- Automobiles must be re-exported from Syria by the expiration of the Work Permit or active service.

PETS

Documents Required

- Vaccination Record
- Veterinary Health Certificate

Specific Information

- Cats and dogs must be accompanied by a government Veterinary Health Certificate issued in the country of origin.
- The only birds permitted for import into Syria are falcons.
- Permission to import falcons must be obtained from the appropriate Syrian authorities prior to import.

RESTRICTED / DUTIABLE ITEMS

- The following items are dutiable:
 - Gifts and souvenirs
 - Inheritances
 - Wedding trousseau
- The following items are permitted for import by Diplomats only:
 - Pets
 - Plants
 - New furniture and household goods
 - Alcohol and tobacco products
- Printed matter, books, pictures, records, films, tapes, slides, movies, videos, compact discs, computer software, etc. (subject to censorship and confiscation; pack these items separately for easy access by Customs officials)

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Narcotic drugs
- Tobacco, wines and spirits
- Dangerous goods including firearms and ammunition
- Pornographic materials
- Motorcycles
- Works of art and antiques
- Walkie-talkie radios and radio-controlled cars, boats and planes

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CONSIGNMENT INSTRUCTIONS

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

IAM Note: *Customs regulations can change at any time with or without notice. This document is provided as a guide and for information only. While IAM has exercised reasonable care in publishing this document, IAM makes no representation, either expressed or implied, as to its accuracy or applicability.*

Helpful Website(s):

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1035.html

<http://www.syrianembassy.us>