

## Turkmenistan Customs Laws

Technically, Turkmenistan does not levy tariffs except on imports by individuals. However, in practice, the excise tax system applies higher rates to imported goods than domestic, effectively putting an unspoken tariff in place. Additionally, certain domestic products are exempted from the value-added tax (VAT) and, by special presidential decree, government regulatory agencies have the power to go into certain markets and determine the prices of domestically produced goods and the prices for which importers pay for foreign products. Certain imports from countries outside the rural area are prohibited or require a license.

Turkmenistan is not a member of any free trade agreements and is not a member of the Commonwealth of Independent States customs union. It has signed trilateral agreements with Iran and Ukraine, Iran and Armenia, Iran and Bangladesh, and Iran and the Philippines and is pursuing more such agreements. Turkmenistan has most-favored nation status with the United States and Austria. Duties run from 10% to 100%, the average being 30%.

### Duties and Tax Exemption

For contact information regarding government custom authorities, please follow the link below:

#### [4.2.1 Turkmenistan Government Contact List](#)

#### Emergency Response:

[Note: This section contains information which is related and applicable to ‘crisis’ times. These instruments can be applied when an emergency is officially declared by the Government. When this occurs, there is usually a streamlined process to import goods duty and tax free.]

In the following table, state which of the following agreements and conventions apply to the country and if there are any other existing ones

<b>Agreements / Conventions Description</b>	<b>Ratified by Country?</b>
	<b>(Yes / No)</b>
<b>WCO (World Customs Organization) member</b>	Yes, 17May1993
<b>Annex J-5 Revised Kyoto Convention</b>	No
<b>OCHA Model Agreement</b>	No
<b>Tampere Convention (on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations)</b>	No
<b>Regional Agreements (on emergency/disaster response, but also customs unions, regional integration)</b>	n/a



AWB/BL/Other Transport Documents	3 Originals	3 Originals	3 Originals	3 Originals	3 Originals	3 Originals
Donation/Non-Commercial Certificates	1 Original for review / 1 Copy	1 Original for review / 1 Copy	1 Original for review / 1 Copy	1 Original for review / 1 Copy	1 Original for review / 1 Copy	1 Original for review / 1 Copy
Packing Lists	3 originals / 3 Copies	3 originals / 3 Copies	3 originals / 3 Copies	3 originals / 3 Copies	3 originals / 3 Copies	3 originals / 3 Copies
special permission from the Ministry of Nature and Environment. Copy of the passport. Copy of the valid visa / diplomatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Power of attorney (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Valued inventory in English or Russian.	special permission from the Ministry of Nature and Environment. Copy of the passport. Copy of the valid visa / diplomatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Power of attorney (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Valued inventory in English or Russian.	Copy of the passport. Copy of the valid visa diplomatic card confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Power of attorney (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Valued inventory in English or Russian.	Copy of the passport. Copy of the valid visa diplomatic card confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Power of attorney (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Valued inventory	Car title. Technical passport of the car. Copy of the passport. Copy of the valid visa / diplomatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Power of attorney (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Right hand cars are not allowed. Permission of Ooperation department of Ashgabad Customs	All kind of electronic and electrical appliances should be clearly marked on the packing list along with their serial numbers. Copy of the passport. Copy of the valid visa / diplomatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Power of attorney (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination)	All kind of electronic and electrical appliances should be clearly marked on the packing list along with their serial numbers. Copy of the passport. Copy of the valid visa / diplomatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Power of attorney (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination)

			in English or Russian.	Office Permission from Transinspection Certificate standard of state Temporary import declaration	organization in the country of destination) Valued inventory in English or Russian.	organization in the country of destination) Valued inventory in English or Russian.
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## Customs Clearance

### General Information

#### Customs Information

<b>Document Requirements</b>	Company Papers / Passport & Valid Visa ,Original Invoice & Packing List in English or Russian , Original BL, Cert. Of Origin
<b>Embargoes</b>	Weapons of all kinds. Pornography. Narcotics. Toxic material Radioactive material. Export of antiques, such as carpets, paintings, books, icons or any other items, which is considered to be of Turkmen cultural and historical value. Right hand cars.
<b>Prohibited Items</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narcotics • Pornography (please consider the term as used under the Islamic law) • Counterfeit items • Cultural artefacts and other objects of cultural importance • Henna • Palm tree and any products thereof</li> <li>• Explosive material</li> </ul>
<b>General Restrictions</b>	<p>Live animals – health certificate required along with complete and valid inoculations. • Endangered species and any products or parts thereof as outlined by CITES maybe be brought in only with CITES permission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medication • Local currency - Tunisian Dinar (TND) – cash import available only with permission. • Foreign Currency declarable when exceeding the below amounts: * Foreigners - the equivalent of TND 5,000</li> <li>* Residents - the equivalent of TND 25,000</li> </ul>

### Customs Clearance Document Requirements

For detailed information on import regulations, please see the following document:

#### [Turkmenistan Customs Information Additional Information](#)

Customs Clearance Document Requirements (by commodity)						
	Food	NFI	Medic	Vehic	Staff	Teleco

			ines	les		ms Equipm ent
		(Shel ter, WAS H, Educ ation )		&	& Offic e Sup plies	
				Spare Parts		
D&T Exemption Certificate	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Invoice	Pro forma invoic e in Englis h or Russia n / 3 Copie s	Pro forma invoic e in Englis h or Russi an / 3 Copie s	Pro forma invoic e in Englis h or Russia n / 3 Copie s	Pro forma invoic e in Englis h or Russi an / 3 Copie s	Pro forma invoic e in Englis h or Russi an / 3 Copie s	Pro forma invoic e in Englis h or Russi an / 3 Copie s
AWB/BL/Other Transport Documents	3 Origin als	3 Origin als	3 Origin als	3 Origin als	3 Origin als	3 Origin als
Donation/Non-Commercial Certificates	1 Origin al for revie w / 1 Copy	1 Origin al for revie w / 1 Copy	1 Origin al for revie w / 1 Copy	1 Origin al for revie w / 1 Copy	1 Origin al for revie w / 1 Cop y	1 Origin al for review / 1 Copy

Packing Lists	3 originals / 3 Copies	3 originals / 3 Copies	3 originals / 3 Copies	3 originals / 3 Copies	3 originals / 3 Copies	3 originals / 3 Copies
Phytosanitary Certificate	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other Documents	special permission from the Ministry of Nature and Environment. Copy of the passport. Copy of the valid visa / diplomatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination)	Copy of the passport. Copy of the valid visa / diplomatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination)	Copy of the passport. Copy of the valid visa / diplomatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination)	Car title. Technical passport of the car. Copy of the passport. Copy of the valid visa / diplomatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination)	All kind of electronic and electrical appliances should be clearly marked on the packing list along with their serial numbers. Copy of the passport. Copy of the valid visa / diplomatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination)	All kind of electronic and electrical appliances should be clearly marked on the packing list along with their serial numbers. Copy of the passport. Copy of the valid visa / diplomatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination)

	Power of attorney (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Valued inventory in English or Russian.	issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Valued inventory in English or Russian.	country of destination) Valued inventory in English or Russian.	ney (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Right hand cars are not allowed. Permission of Ooperation department of Ashgabad Customs Office Permission from Transinspection Certificate standard of state Temporary	omatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Power of attorney (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Valued inventory in English or Russian.	country of destination) Power of attorney (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination) Valued inventory in English or Russian.
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### Turkmenistan Customs Information Additional Information

The Main State Inspectorate “Turkmenstandartlary” is the regulating agency in the area of standards and metrology and publishes national standards updates.

#### Free import

- 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 100 cigarillos or 500g of tobacco. There are no information on age restrictions
- 1L of spirits (over 25% volume of alcohol) or 2L of lighter alcohol beverages (up to 25% volume of alcohol)
- Non-commercial amount of gifts and other items for personal use.

#### Prohibited

- Narcotics
- Pornography (please consider the term as used under the Islamic law)
- Counterfeit items
- Cultural artefacts and other objects of cultural importance
- Henna
- Palm tree and any products thereof
- Explosive material

#### Restricted

- Live animals – health certificate required along with complete and valid inoculations.
- Endangered species and any products or parts thereof as outlined by CITES maybe be brought in only with CITES permission.
- Medication
- Local currency - Tunisian Dinar (TND) – cash import available only with permission.
- Foreign Currency declarable when exceeding the below amounts:
  - Foreigners - the equivalent of TND 5,000
  - Residents - the equivalent of TND 25,000
- Hunting weapons permissible only with authorisation obtainable from Ministry of Interior.



## **Additional Information on regulations:**

The customs declaration, which will be filled out on entry of Turkmenistan, must be kept carefully. When leaving Turkmenistan this declaration has to be handed over. No special permit is required for the import of a video camera for personal use, provided declared on arrival and re-exported. The import of plants is only allowed with a special agricultural permit. The import of certain medicines requires official approval. Please contact your nearest embassy/consulate for further details.

## **Export regulations:**

### **Free export of:**

- 2 litres of any alcoholic beverage for persons over 21 years of age;
- 200 cigarettes or 200 g of tobacco for persons over 16 years of age;
- all goods imported by the visitor;
- other goods, which can be bought in either foreign currency or normal stores, against legally exchanged currencies.

### **Prohibited: antiquities.**

Crew members customs regulations::

Same regulations as for passengers apply.

### **Pets:**

Dogs and cats need a veterinarian certificate of good health issued at point of origin no longer than 10 days prior to arrival in Turkmenistan. In case these regulations are not complied with, the animal will be kept in quarantine. Pets may enter as passenger's checked baggage, in the cabin or as cargo.

### **Baggage Clearance regulations:**

Baggage is cleared at the first airport of entry in Turkmenistan.

## **1. IMPORT REGULATIONS OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS**

### **A. Required documents**

- Transport waybill.
- Packing list.
- Copy of the passport.
- Copy of the valid visa / diplomatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination)
- Power of attorney (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination)
- Valued inventory in English or Russian.

### **Notes on the valued inventory:**

Valued inventory lists are purely for customs purposes and therefore the value does not have to be the same as used for insurance purposes. However, it is strictly advised not to enclose the list used for insurance purposes along with the shipping documents. Separate valued inventory lists should contain very clear description of each individual item. Such descriptions are very important because it helps the local customs authorities to determine the import duty which differs from item to item. Therefore, in order to minimize the customs duty on consumable items we suggest to under declare the value for such items for customs purposes

only. Home electrical and electronic appliances should be very clearly mentioned along with their serial numbers.

## **B - Customs procedures for diplomats / non-diplomats / returning citizens**

### **Customs procedures :**

The consignee should be present at the destination and should have a valid visa.

The consignee should be employed by a registered company in Turkmenistan.

### **Temporary or final import clearance :**

Expatriates are permitted to import HHG and personal effects on temporary import basis which is valid till the time expatriates have finished their tenure and are ready to export their HHG out of Turkmenistan. Meanwhile expatriates should pay US\$ 5 per hour for customs service. Employees of diplomatic mission (holders of diplomatic passport) are free from any payment. Turkmen citizens are not permitted to import the HHG and personal effects on temporary import basis and therefore, are liable to pay full tax and duties.

## **C- Prohibited items**

- Weapons of all kinds.
- Pornography.
- Narcotics.
- Toxic material
- Radioactive material.
- Export of antiques, such as carpets, paintings, books, icons or any other items, which is considered to be of Turkmen cultural and historical value.
- Right hand cars.

## **2. IMPORT OF CARS**

### **A- Required documents :**

- Transport waybill.
- Car title.
- Technical passport of the car.
- Copy of the passport.
- Copy of the valid visa / diplomatic card / confirmation of employment (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination)
- Power of attorney (to be issued by the client's organization in the country of destination)
- Pro forma invoice in English or Russian.
- Right hand cars are not allowed.
- Permission of Ooperation department of Ashgabad Customs Office
- Permission from Transinspection
- Certificate standard of state
- Temporary import declaration

- Insurance
- Inspection by State Motor Inspection
- Receipt of plates in State Motor Inspection
- Manual for the vehicle

## **B- Customs procedures for diplomats / non-diplomats / returning citizens :**

### **Customs procedures**

- Customs clearance procedure for diplomatic cars takes 1-2 working days.
- Customs clearance for non-diplomatic cars is completed within 1-3 working days.
- Temporary or final import clearance
- Auto cars and motorcycles can be imported on temporary import basis with customs duty payment of US\$ 25 + US\$ 5 per hour for customs service. Sale of the temporary imported auto cars and
- motorcycles are not permitted and must be exported out of Turkmenistan at the end of expatriates tenure.
- Permanent import of auto cars and motorcycles are subject to the tax and duties as per customs tariff

## **3- IMPORT OF PARTICULAR ITEMS**

### **A- Pets**

The import of pets is allowed. Following documents are required:

- Vaccination certificate
- Veterinary certificate
- Passport of the pet

### **B- Plants**

For imported plants the consignee will have to obtain a special permission from the Ministry of Nature and Environment.

### **C- Cultural items**

- The duty free import of used HHG is allowed only on temporary import basis and it's strongly recommended that all the carpets, paintings, art effects and antiques in the shipment should be photographed. Expatriates should pay 5 USD per hour for customs service. Duplicate photograph of each item should be sent to our office in advance by courier enabling us to get the customs endorsement on the back of each photograph at the time of import customs inspection of the shipment. This will help the owner tremendously to avoid the problems with the customs authorities at the time of export of these items out of Turkmenistan. The import of such art effects, pictures are possible only with permission of the Cabinet of Ministries of Turkmenistan.

- Export of locally purchased carpets and paintings is allowed unless the items are not considered antique and of cultural value. The permission from the Art Fund under Turkmen Ministry of Culture is required. The export of carpets requires certification by the Ministry of Carpet (Turkmenhally).

#### **D- Alcoholic beverages**

- The allowance limit for the import of wine and spirits for personal consumption is one litre per head.
- All in excess is subject to duties and taxes as following:
- US \$ 1.00/- per liter excise duty
- up to 30 % of value customs duty (depending on the % of alcohol)
- 15 % of value VAT
- 0.2 % of value customs procedures duty.

#### **E- Food**

- Expatriates are permitted to import limited amount of food items and other consumable items duty and tax free. Food stuff and consumables can not be imported on temporary import base. The customs can specify limited volume for limited amount, after what the customs excess payments will be applied. For expatriates it is not recommended importing food items at all (specific certificates need to be presented and obtained in local organization).

#### **F- Electronics**

- All kind of electronic and electrical appliances should be clearly marked on the packing list along with their serial numbers.