

Customs Information Germany



Conditions for tax/duty free importation:

- ✓ Shipper has resided abroad for at least 12 months before shipping
- ✓ The imported goods were owned by the shipper for at least 6 months before shipping
- ✓ The imported goods will not be sold for a minimum of 1 year
- ✓ The goods are imported within 1 year of shipper taking up residence in Germany

Required documentation for Customs clearance:

Legible copies (best scans via email) are sufficient.

- Passport (the page showing photo and personal information is sufficient)
- Visa and/or Work Permit (for foreign citizens only)
- Registration form ("Anmeldebestaetigung")
 - This form must be obtained at the local registration office ("Einwohnermeldeamt") in the city hall of the city you are moving to after your arrival in Germany. If the registration is older than 6 months, you need to obtain an "aktuelle Meldebescheinigung".
 - If the permanent address is not yet know, the registration form can be issued on a temporary address or e.g. hotel address.
 - German nationals who did not de-register before they left Germany need to obtain an "aktuelle Meldebescheinigung" (not older than 6 months). Please note, that in this case tax and duty free importation cannot be guaranteed !
- EU citizens need a proof of residence overseas for the last 12 months before shipping.
 - This can be a letter from the shipper's employer abroad and should state that the shipper was an employee for the company and how long he/she has worked and lived abroad.
 - German Nationals can obtain a confirmation letter (Umzugsbescheinigung) from the German Consulate/Embassy abroad.
 - **Customs does not accept foreign green cards, visas, driver's licences etc. as proof.**
- Non-EU citizens need a letter from their employer in Germany confirming employment.
- Inventory in German or English (usually provided to us by the origin agent)
- Declaration form (see page 3 and 4)

Dutiable / Restricted Items (not recommended to ship - inspections/delays/extra charges likely – such items should be loaded last for easy access for Customs):

- Items less than 6 months old (copy of invoice or value and date of purchase required)
- Alcohol (a detailed inventory is required with number and size of bottles, alc.%, and value of each bottle (a blank form is available from COMPAS)).
- Other highly-taxes items (tobacco, tea, coffee, toilet waters, perfumes, etc.)
- Foodstuffs in large quantities

Prohibited Items

Guns, paintball guns, rifles, etc.; Explosives; Ammunition ; Drugs and narcotics; Live plants; Any protected animal or species, dried plant or items of historical significance (ivory, snakeskin, leopard fur, pre-Colombian items, etc.); Pornographic material; Absinthe, methyl alcohol and pure alcohol; Radioactive material; large quantities of wine, grape juice and other various foodstuffs and consumer goods

Customs Information Germany



Motor Vehicles

- The importation is tax and duty free, if:
 - shipper has lived abroad for over 12 months
 - shipper has owned, titled, registered and used the vehicle for at least 6 months prior to vehicle's departure from overseas and can show proof (see below)
 - the vehicle is brought in for personal use with household goods
 - the vehicle will not be sold for 1 year .
- Additional documents required:
 - copy of title
 - copy of vehicle registration/s for a period of minimum 6 months
 - if available also: Insurance policies for a period of minimum 6 months
- In case shipper cannot provide the required proof, duties and taxes apply:
 - Duty: 10 % on the vehicle's current value, shipping cost, insurance cost **plus**
 - VAT: 19 %
- After importation, vehicles have to be brought to European conformity. Cars require modifications and must be inspected before licensing, comply with German technical and environmental regulations. Please make also sure that the tires are street legal in Germany in line with current speed rating requirements. *On request we can recommend a conversion company to handle the complete conversion including all necessary paperwork, TÜV-inspection, issue German title, etc.*
- **Important before shipping: The fuel tank must be nearly empty, otherwise the vehicle cannot be accepted for transportation or the tank has to be drained at considerable cost.**
- **Please do not have your vehicle shipped before clarifying all of the above !**

Additional information for vehicles exported from the U.S.

Please note, that you have to surrender your original title for the vehicle to U.S. Customs for export formalities, which will be returned to you after export clearance. However, you should obtain notarised copies of the title in your own interest. If the original title is not made available, exportation of your vehicle and household good shipment (if both are loaded together in same container) from the U.S. will be impossible. All charges arising in failure to provide original title along with the vehicle, and/or all charges due to orders by U.S. authorities (U.S. Customs inspection and related charges such as physical inspection, extra labor/efforts, port storage charges etc.) are payable prior to release of vehicle.

In order to be able to immediately drive your vehicle upon arrival in Germany, we recommend to bring the U.S. license plates with you, and obtain temporary insurance coverage in Germany until vehicle has been brought to standards, and can be registered.

Customs Information Sheet

Origin Address abroad:

Street, City, ZIP, Country

I have lived abroad from _____ to _____ with family
 Month/Year Month/Year without family

Temporary accommodation/s:

_____ from – to _____ c/o (Hotel, Family, etc.) _____ Street _____ City, ZIP, Country _____ Phone/s _____ Email	_____ from – to _____ c/o (Hotel, Family, etc.) _____ Street _____ City, ZIP, Country _____ Phone/s _____ Email
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Delivery Address

_____ arriving on _____ Street _____ City, ZIP, Country _____ Phone/s	_____ requested delivery date Floor: _____ Elevator: <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no Access: _____ _____ Email
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Date, Place

Signature

Print Name

Customs Declaration Sheet

I am importing goods which consist of the following:

We recommend not sending any of the following items before checking with us and the German Embassy or Consulate at Origin.

- 1 Alcohol, tobacco, perfume, coffee, tea, medicine incl. vitamins or any other highly- taxed items
 no
 yes *Please specify:* _____
Please provide a separate itemized listing with quantity, value, type, size, alc. %.

- 2 Firearms/ammunition, hunting trophies subject to the Agreement of Washington for protection of species
 no
 yes *Please specify:* _____
Please provide details, documentation, location in shipment.

- 3 Items which I have not used for a minimum of 6 months:
 no
 yes *Please specify:* _____
Please list items and prices and provide bills/documentation.

- 4 Foodstuffs:
 no
 yes *Please specify:* _____
Please specify for each package.

- 5 Other unusual items:
 no
 yes *Please specify:* _____
Please specify.

- 6 Motorized vehicles:
 no
 yes *Please specify:* _____
Please provide copies of title and registration (issue dates minimum 6 months before exportation from Origin Country).

I have taken note of the Customs information.

The imported goods are my personal belongings. They have been in my possession and use for more than 6 months. I will not sell these items for 1 year (Contempt will cause Customs fines).

The address in Germany that I provided resp. the address on the registration form ("Anmeldebestaetigung") will be forwarded to German Customs. In case I plan to move to another address within 12 months of clearance of my shipment, I am aware that I must inform the responsible Customs office beforehand and must advise them my new address.

 Date, Place

 Signature

 Print Name