

China <i>Customs Information: for Diplomats</i>	
Documents Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Original Passport ➤ Original valid Diplomatic Card ➤ Detailed inventory in English (describing general carton contents - PBO "packed by owner" and "miscellaneous" are not acceptable) ➤ Ocean Bill of Lading / Air Way Bill ➤ Original Import Permit Application Form which is provided by the destination agent and stamped with the Embassy stamp ➤ Customs Declaration Form For Sea Shipment
Customs Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Customer must arrive in china before shipment, in order to complete import formalities. ✓ The Import Permit is required for customs clearance but it must be applied for by the Embassy in China. Without a valid Import Permit, the shipments cannot be cleared by customs. ✓ Only one air and one sea shipment may be imported within 6 months of customer. ✓ All wooden packing material must follow the "International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures No. 15 (ISPM No. 15)". The new rule requires all wood packaging material (WPM) associated with consignments to China should be treated and labeled with an IPPC mark by the manufacturers. Any non-compliance WPM will be treated, destroyed, or returned with the consignments under supervision of China Inspection and Quarantine.
Motor Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Foreign diplomats are eligible to import automobiles to China. A separate Import Permit (separate from household goods) must be applied for at the Embassy in China on behalf of the foreign diplomat. The Import Permit on automobiles will usually take a longer time to get approved by the local Customs Bureau therefore, do not load the automobile together with the household goods in the same container, or it will delay the customs clearance of the household goods. ➤ Vehicles owned / and more than 10 years old are prohibited ➤ Brand New privately owned vehicles are considered a luxury item and are dutiable ➤ Restrictions and taxes depend on the type and size of vehicle ➤ Documents must be provided to support the age and value of the auto <p>Documents required are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Written application to Customs Office, Import Cargo Declaration and Invoice.
Pets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Only one pet per Residence Permit, regulations for licensing of dogs are complicated and strict ✓ Health Certificate and original Certificate of Rabies Vaccination is required ✓ Subject to strict quarantine regulations ✓ Veterinary inspection must be arranged by owner upon arrival
Dutiable/Restricted Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All shipments of diplomats are duty-free.
Prohibited Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Firearms, ammunition, weapons & explosives (including strapped-down gun or daggers) ➤ Bow ➤ TV Satellite Dish ➤ Telecommunication equipment, including cordless phones ➤ Oversized office items, such as large photocopier machines and printers which are not considered for personal or family use ➤ Unprocessed food, fresh meat, fresh vegetables and dairy products. ➤ Live plants, soil and pesticide ➤ Poisons or illegal drugs, Neuropathy Medicine ➤ Printed/recorded material deemed detrimental to the political, economic, cultural, or moral atmosphere in China (including all pornographic materials) ➤ Maps (where the Chinese border is not in accordance with Chinese law) ➤ All kinds of equipment / tools associated with gambling (such as poker cards, chips, jackpot machines etc.) ➤ Endangered and rare animals and their products such as ivory ➤ Counterfeit currencies ➤ Unhealthy animals ➤ Motorcycles, mowing machine, model with large engine ➤ Diving equipment ➤ Pet Food ➤ Customs are not allowed to import medicine, liquid items, cosmetics, soap, candles and more than one identical electrical appliance in an airfreight consignment ➤ Any other items that are determined by the local Customs Bureau to be of non-personal or non-family use. These items may be seized if found in the shipment <p>The rules differ from city to city, like a GRAND PIANO is not allowed in Shanghai and South China unless the shipper is a certified piano specialist but the restriction does not apply to Beijing.</p>

China *Customs Information: for Foreign Citizens*

Documents Required

- Original Passport
- Original Visa / Work Permit (Valid for at least one year)
- Original Residence Card / Permit (Valid for at least one year)
- Detailed inventory in English (describing general carton contents - PBO "packed by owner" and "misc." are not acceptable)
- Ocean Bill of Lading / Air Way Bill
- Baggage Declaration Form ([blank](#)) ([sample](#)). Original must be completed by Customer on arrival at port of entry and get endorsed by customs, together with packing list
- Original Import Permit Application Form will be provided by destination agent, and should be signed and stamped with the company stamp
- [Customs Declaration Form for Sea Shipment](#)

Customs Regulations

- ✓ **Customer must arrive in china before shipment arrival, in order to complete import formalities.**
- ✓ **Every shipper** must apply for the Import Permit through the local Customs Bureau in the city where the residence visa and employment permit are issued. In Shanghai and Guangzhou, the Import Permit can only be applied for after the shipment has actually arrived
- ✓ **Only one air and one sea shipment** may be imported within 6 months of customer's arrival date
- ✓ The **Import Permit** application can take between 3-5 working days to be approved by the local Customs Bureau. During the application of the Import Permit, the shipper's passport, residence and employment permits will be kept by the Customs so please do not make any travel planes during the application process. After the Import Permit is approved. Customs Clearance can take 5-7 working days which include customs physical inspection as well as the quarantine inspection.
- ✓ **All wooden packing material** must follow the "International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures No. 15 (ISPM No. 15). The new rule requires all wood packaging material (WPM) associated with consignments to China should be treated and labeled with IPPC mark by the manufacturers. Any non-compliance WPM will be treated, destroyed, or returned with the consignments together under supervision of China Inspection and Quarantine

Motor Vehicles

- Importing automobiles to China is possible for foreign citizens but not recommended as a result of high import duty / tax. Currently only diplomats can import motor vehicles to China relatively hassle free and duty free. Any individual customer who wishes to import a motor vehicle must first obtain an Import Permit (separate from household goods) personally through the local Customs Bureau. This is an extremely difficult and lengthy process for an individual customer to obtain the necessary required Import Permit
- If the Import Permit is approved, it does not necessarily guarantee the automobile can be used on Chinese roads. The customer must personally go to the relevant local transport and environmental authority for a series of automobile inspections to obtain the relevant licenses.
- We strongly advise customers to check with the Chinese local transport and environmental authorities to ensure the automobile conforms to the exhaust emission standards set out by the Chinese authorities prior to shipping the automobile to China
- Automobiles will be levied with a very heavy import duty / tax. In some cities the import duty / tax could be as high as 200% of the assessed value of the automobile.

Pets

- ✓ Only one pet per Residence Permit, regulations for licensing of dogs are complicated and strict
- ✓ Health Certificate and original Certificate of Rabies Vaccination is required
- ✓ Subject to strict quarantine regulations
- ✓ Veterinary inspection must be arranged by owner upon arrival
- ✓ Original Baggage Declaration Form to be completed by customer on arrival at port of entry

Import / Duty Tax

- Every shipment is subject to Customs import duty (except for diplomat shipments) regardless of nationality and whether the items are new or used
- The Import Duty amount is calculated based on Customs Assessed Value, solely at the discretion of the local Customs Bureau and differs from city to city
- [Estimated Duty List](#)
- As a general guideline, all clothes, shoes and kitchenware can be imported duty free for first time importers. Alcohol and tobacco products, electrical appliances, furniture, lighting fixtures, food stuff and luxury items like golf clubs and cosmetic products are subject to import duty
- Second or subsequent applications of the Import Permit will attract import duty on all items. Alcohol and tobacco products

Restricted Items

Books: Air – Maximum 50 books Sea – Maximum 700 books
CDs & DVDs & VCDs & Videotapes & Computer Disks: Air – maximum 20 pieces Sea - Maximum 500 pieces
Alcohol & Wine: Not allowed to be imported to North China like Beijing and Dalian, but can be imported to Shanghai and South China. Air – Strictly Prohibited Sea – Maximum 60 bottles
Dried Food: Air – Strictly Prohibited Sea – Maximum 50kgs

China *Customs Information: for Foreign Citizens*

Prohibited Items

- Firearms, ammunition, weapons & explosives (including strapped-down guns and daggers)
- Bow
- TV Satellite Dish
- Telecommunication equipment, including cordless phones
- Oversized office items, such as large photocopier machine, printer, which are not consider for personal or family use
- Unprocessed food, fresh meat, fresh vegetables, dairy products and powdered milk
- Live plants, soil and pesticide
- Poisons or illegal drugs, Neuropathy Medicine
- Printed/recorded material deemed detrimental to the political, economic, cultural, or moral atmosphere in China (including all pornographic materials)
- Maps (where the Chinese border is not in accordance with Chinese law)
- All kinds of equipment / tools associated with gambling (such as poker cards, chips, jackpot machines etc.)
- Endangered and rare animals and their products such as ivory
- Counterfeit currencies
- Unhealthy animals
- Motorcycles, mowing machine with large engine
- Diving Equipment
- Pet Food
- Customers are not allowed to import medicine, liquid items, cosmetics, soap, candles and more than one identical electrical appliance in an airfreight consignment.
- Any other items that are determined by the local Customs Bureau to be of non-personal or non-family usage. These items may be seized if found in the shipment.
- The rules differ from city to city, like a GRAND PIANO is not allowed for Shanghai and South China unless the shipper is a certified piano specialist but the restriction does not apply to Beijing

China *Customs Information: for Returning Citizens*

Documents Required

- Attention:** The returning Chinese citizen refers to those who hold a Mainland Chinese passport. If you are a Chinese citizen who has permanent residency or green-card of a foreign country, you are considered a foreigner and therefore you are subjected to the eligibility of a foreign citizen.
- Original Passport
 - The stay/work visa of the foreign country where you have resided more than one year
 - Detailed inventory in English (describing general carton contents - PBO "packed by owner" and "misc." are not acceptable)
 - Ocean Bill of Lading / Air Way Bill
 - Baggage Declaration Form ([blank](#)) ([sample](#)) Original must be completed by customer on arrival at port of entry and get endorsed by Customs together with packing list
 - [Company Letter \(sample\)](#)
 - [Customs Declaration Form for Sea Shipment](#)

Customs Regulations

- ✓ **Customer must arrive in china before shipment, in order to complete import formalities**
- ✓ Only one air and one sea shipment may be imported within 6 months of customer's arrival date
- ✓ It is not necessary for returning Chinese citizens to apply for the Import Permit. Customs Clearance can take 2-3 weeks which include customs physical inspection as well as the quarantine inspection
- ✓ In general, the returning Chinese are not allowed to import furniture to Shanghai. However, exception could be granted depending on the length of time the Chinese citizen has resided overseas. Shanghai Customs Bureau may, at their own discretion allow a "reasonable" quantity of furniture to be imported to Shanghai. Please check before packing
- ✓ Air Freight to Shanghai should not exceed 1000 kgs air chargeable weight
- ✓ All wooden packing material must follow the "International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures No. 15 (ISPM No. 15). The new rule requires all wood packaging material (WPM) associated with consignments to China should be treated and labeled with IPPC mark by the manufacturers. Any non compliance WPM will be treated, destroyed or returned with the consignments together under supervision of China Inspection and Quarantine

Motor Vehicles

- The returning Chinese citizen is not allowed to import automobiles to China

China <i>Customs Information: for Returning Citizens</i>	
Pets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Only one pet per Residence Permit, regulations for licensing of dogs are complicated and strict ✓ Health Certificate and original Certificate of Rabies Vaccination is required ✓ Subject to strict quarantine regulations ✓ Veterinary inspection must be arranged by owner upon arrival
Import Duty / Tax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Every shipment is subject to Customs import duty (except for diplomat shipments) regardless of nationality and whether the items are new or used ➤ The Import Duty amount is calculated based on Customs Assessed Value, solely at the discretion of the local Customs Bureau and differs from city to city. ➤ Duty List ➤ As a general guideline, while all clothes, shoes and kitchenware can be imported duty free for first time importers. Alcohol and tobacco products, electrical appliances, furniture, lighting fixtures, food stuff and luxury items like golf clubs and cosmetic products are subject to import duty ➤ Second or subsequent applications of the Import Permit will attract import duty on all items. Alcohol and tobacco products
Restricted Items	<p>Books: Air – Maximum 50 books Sea – Maximum 50 books</p> <p>CDs & DVDs & VCDs & Videotapes & Computer Disks: Air – maximum 20 pieces Sea - Maximum 100 pieces</p> <p>Alcohol & Wine: Not allowed to be imported to North China like Beijing and Dalian, but can be imported to Shanghai and South China. Air – Strictly Prohibited Sea – Maximum 60 bottles</p> <p>Dried Food: Air – Strictly Prohibited Sea – Maximum 10kgs (in which powdered milk cannot exceed 6kgs)</p>
Prohibited Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Firearms, ammunition, weapons & explosives (including strapped-down gun or dagger) ➤ Bow ➤ TV Satellite Dish ➤ Telecommunication equipment, including cordless phones ➤ Oversized office items, such as large photocopier machines and printers which are not considered for personal use ➤ Unprocessed food, fresh meat, fresh vegetables, dairy products and milk powder ➤ Live plants, soil and pesticides ➤ Poisons or illegal drugs, neuropathy medicine ➤ Printed/recorded material deemed detrimental to the political, economic, cultural, or moral atmosphere in China (including all pornographic materials) ➤ Maps (where the Chinese border is not in accordance with Chinese law) ➤ Equipment / tools associated with gambling (such as poker cards, chips, jackpot machines etc.) ➤ Endangered and rare animals and their products such as ivory ➤ Counterfeit currencies ➤ Unhealthy animals ➤ Motorcycles, mowing machine with large engine ➤ Diving equipment ➤ Pet Food ➤ Customers are not allowed to import medicine, liquid items, cosmetics, soap, candles and more than one identical electrical appliance in an airfreight consignment. ➤ Any other items that are determined by the local Customs Bureau to be of non-personal or non-family use. These items may be seized if found in the shipment. <p>The rules differ from city to city, like a GRAND PIANO is not allowed in Shanghai and South China unless the shipper is a certified piano specialist but the restriction does not apply to Beijing</p>