

Japan Customs Information	
List of Prohibited Articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Firearms and swords (longer than 15 cm blade) ➤ Narcotics ➤ Pornographic materials ➤ Endangered species and plants ➤ Certain foods including beef jerky ➤ sausage, and ham ➤ Quantity restrictions on medicines and cosmetics (details available upon request)
UPDATE: March 2007 - Packing lists for Air Shipments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Please use the packing list below when importing shipments to Japan. ▪ Japanese customs no longer intend to inspect all shipments provided an accurate packing list is supplied by the origin agent. Though this does not guarantee that the shipments will not be inspected, in many cases it may speed up the time taken to clear customs. <p style="text-align: center;">CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE AIR SHIPMENT PACKING LIST</p>
Updates	<p>NOVEMBER 2006 UPDATE : AMENDMENT TO IMPORT PLANT QUARANTINE REGULATION (MAF Notification No. 206, 1950)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Please click here to view details on this update. <p>New rules on Consolidated Shipments to Japan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Effective May 01, 2007, Japanese Customs has indicated a change in handling Consolidated shipments for multiple shippers. ➤ Prior handling requirements allowed the inbound container to be taken from arrival direct to Customs for clearance processing. ➤ The new requirements call for the freight to be de-vanned at a separate location, normal declarations filed, and the clearance procedure will then be processed. This will add handling of the individual shipments, and possibly increase costs associated with consolidations. It may also increase the normal time to accomplish clearance and release of consolidations. <p>Contact your OMNI partner in Japan for specific details and charges for consolidated shipments.</p>
Alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 3 Bottles duty free (750 ml x 3), with proper Customs Form C5360 ▪ Please prepare a liquor list to ensure smooth customs clearance. <p>Duty / tax:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Whisky 375 yen / bottle (750cc) ➤ Gin / Liquor 300 yen / bottle (750cc) ➤ Wine 150 yen / bottle (750cc) ➤ Brandy 350 yen / bottle (700cc) ➤ Maximum number of bottles that can be cleared as HHG – 80 bottles (although no guarantee)
Basic Documents 1	<p>Customs documents (for non- Japanese citizens)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A clear copy of the picture and information page of shipper's passport. ✓ A clear copy of the visa page of shipper's passport (working visa in Japan)* ✓ A clear copy of shipper's most recent entry stamp into Japan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The date should be the same as a stamp on an "Unaccompanied Articles Customs Form C.No.5360" ▪ The date should be within 6 months from the shipment's arrival date. ✓ A clear copy of VISA of the country where the shipment comes if shipper's nationality is different from the origin country. ✓ Unaccompanied Articles Customs Form C. No.5360 (Original) <p>Note: If shipper visa is not available, a letter to Customs prepared by the company in Japan can be used in lieu of actual visa (Original copy required). This letter should be prepared for each shipment.</p>
Basic Documents 2	<p>Customs documents (for Japanese citizens)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A clear copy of the picture page of shipper's passport ✓ A clear copy of VISA of the country where the shipment comes from

Japan <i>Customs Information</i>	
Basic Documents 2 <i>(continuation)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A clear copy of shipper's most recent entry stamp into Japan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The date should be the same as a stamp on an "Unaccompanied Articles Customs Form C.No.5360" ▪ The date should be within 6 months from the shipment's arrival date. ✓ A clear copy of shipper's departure stamp from Japan to the country where the shipment comes from ✓ A clear copy of shipper's entry stamp into the country where the shipment comes from ✓ A clear copy of shipper's departure stamp from the country where the shipment comes to Japan ✓ Unaccompanied Articles Customs Form C. No.5360 (Original)
Unaccompanied Articles	<p>Customs Form C. No.5360</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ The original of the Customs Form CNo. 5360 can be obtained on the shipper's flight over to Japan. The shipper should request two copies to the flight attendant (as they must be completed in duplicates). ➢ The shipper must hand the completed cards to the customs officer at the airport upon arrival, where the cards will be stamped and one copy will be returned to the shipper immediately. ➢ In case the shipper didn't declare a Japanese customs form upon arrival: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Apology letter to Customs (Original) is necessary. All brand new items (incl. food items) will be taxable. ▪ The customs tends to inspect the shipment physically.
Automobile / Motorbike	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If shipper used the car over 1 year at origin side and prepare the following documents, shipper can import the car without duty and tax. Vehicle must be registered under shipper's name ▪ If the vehicle does not meet the above condition, shipper must pay 5% Consumption Tax based on the CIF value. CIF value will be decided by Japanese customs. <p>Documents required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Original vehicle registration certificate at origin country ✓ Bill of sale or receipt at time shipper purchased the automobile ✓ Unaccompanied declaration mentioned automobile with stamp of customs at shipper's entry into Japan (very important) ✓ Original passport with working visa in Japan ✓ Alien registration card in Japan ✓ Letter not to resale within 2 years ✓ Declaration of customs duty exemption <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We can collect Documents #3 to #7 in Japan from shipper. ▪ We cannot clear customs until shipper gets working visa and alien registration card. ▪ Please make sure to shipper does not fail to declare unaccompanied baggage declaration mentioned car at time of shipper's entry into Japan. ▪ We are unable to arrange the vehicle registration service, because automobile must first meet Japanese motor standards in order to process vehicle registration.
Import - Other	<p>Pets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ When referring to the Japanese animal quarantine website http://www.maff.go.jp/aqs/english/index.html ➢ when importing animals – esp. dogs or cats, it is important to note the most recent changes (last update on the website posted 2005). <p>The time period for blood tests to be carried out to screen for rabies by a registered Veterinarians (see web-site) has increased from 40 days to 180 days.</p> <p>If this time-frame is not met , upon the pet's arrival in Japan, it will be required to be placed in animal quarantine until the 180 period is completed. While the facilities for the cat or dog are adequate (air-conditioned, single room, basic pet food supplied) payment is required: approximately Y 3 - 5,000 daily. If specific dog or cat food is required that will need to be provided. The same applies to any shampoo service requested. Daily exercise is provided upon request, but is free.</p> <p>Food Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Basically the customs is strict for food items. ➢ Please avoid to send food items / alcohol via air shipment. ➢ When you will send food items / alcohol, please check with us first. ➢ In case food items are in the shipment, inspection will be done at the clearance.(7,000 yen)

Japan Customs Information

**Import – Other
 (continuation)**

- For any inquiry to our office, please provide details regarding the food item (e.g. rice, canned 'tuna', etc...) so that we can provide accurate information
- Beef jerky, sausage, and ham are prohibited.

Others:

- Packing List with dirty handwriting has higher risk of inspection.
- Brand new furniture - Basically we don't assemble brand new furniture.
- During the clearance - Basically shipper has to be in Japan during the clearance.

Visas

Please be aware that the Japanese government are currently reviewing the Immigration Control Act and are introducing new rules across their range of visas.
 Please contact your OMNI member to get the most up to date information.

**Frequently Asked
 Questions**

Import 1:

Q: How long does it take from the vessel arrival date to delivery date?

A: Sea Shipment: 7 working days. Air Shipment: 3 working days

Note: Above varies by shipping line, smooth customs procedure, and whether all necessary documents are available or not.

Q: We would like to send Air and Sea shipments to Tokyo. Where is the best POE / APOE?

A: For air shipments please arrange APOE NARITA. Please check for delivery to locations other than Tokyo.

For sea shipments please arrange POE YOKOHAMA, since shipments are cleared at Port of Yokohama. If shipment arrives at Port of Tokyo, transportation charge from Tokyo to Yokohama will be incurred.

Import 2:

Q: How many bottles of alcohol can be included in HHGS shipment to Japan?

A: Approximately 80 bottles for FCL shipment. Note that there is NO GUARANTEE, as the decision depends on the each customs officer. Only three bottles (750 ml x 3) will be duty free if shipper declared a customs form.

Q: Is it possible to send food items / alcohol via air shipment?

A: This is not suggested since customs for air shipments are more strict than sea shipment.

It is better not to send any food items via air, but if the shipper insists, please contact your OMNI agent in order for us to provide further information and suggestions.

Certain foods are prohibited to import: Meat product including beef jerky, sausage and ham.

Import 3:

Q: VISA has not yet been issued. Can shipper receive his/her shipment?

A: Shipper can receive his/her shipment under the following conditions:

- Shipper is in Japan.
- Shipper's company in Japan issues a letter to confirm that VISA is currently being processed.
- Other necessary documents for normal customs clearance are completed.

Q: Does shipper have to be in Japan when his/her shipment arrives?

A: YES. Please ask your OMNI agent if there is an issue with this matter.

Q: Is the Customs Form C No.5360 important for clearance in Japan?

A: YES. Without the Customs Form, shipper is required to prepare a separate apology letter written to the Customs Office. It is also important for shippers to declare 200,000 yen value worth of new items in the shipment duty free, plus 3 bottles of alcohol also duty free.

Updated 23rd March 2007

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