

Malaysia Customs Information

Prohibited and Restricted Goods

➤ It is prohibited to import narcotics (death penalty for drug trafficking), non-branded drugs, pornographic publications, weapons, firearms & ammunition and gold bullion, short wave radios, telephones.

**Visa Update
 19th August 2010**

Overview

The Malaysian immigration authorities have announced new requirements for Employment Pass applications effective immediately.

Summary of Changes:

1. Employment Pass - Minimum Age Requirement

- Previously, the minimum acceptable age for Employment Pass applicants was 27 years of age, the only exception being 23 years for IT positions, with 2 years working experience in IT.
- The Immigration authorities have now announced that the minimum age requirement has been lifted, and that the Immigration Committee reviewing Employment Pass applications will decide on a case by case basis whether the applicant's age matches the qualifications and experience required for the respective position.

2. Employment Pass - Letter of Undertaking

- On 6 July, the Immigration authorities had advised that they would require the sponsoring entity to submit a signed Letter of Undertaking along with the standard DP10 application documents for expatriates with salaries above RM 8,000 per month.
- On 18 August, the authorities have advised that this requirement is now extended to *all applications*, regardless of the monthly salary. The Letter of Undertaking states that, should the Immigration authorities find that the salary figure submitted is false, they will have the right to terminate the Employment Pass with immediate effect and penalize the sponsoring entity. The Letter of Undertaking must be signed by the Company Director and submitted to the Immigration authorities in 2 original copies.
- Furthermore, the original employment contract between the expat and sponsoring entity must be stamped before being submitted to the Immigration department for the DP10 stage.

**Visa Update
 9th August 2010**

Overview

The Malaysian immigration authorities have announced that visas on arrival will be revoked for several nationalities effective August 2010.

Summary of Changes

Malaysian authorities will stop issuing visas on arrival to visitors from various countries starting 15 August 2010. Currently, many tourists can obtain visas at Malaysia's entry points, if they show they have tickets to leave the country within up to 14 days. The visa on arrival were introduced four years ago to attract tourists.

Visitors affected by the new rule include those from the following countries:

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|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ➤ Bangladesh | ➤ China | ➤ India |
| ➤ Cameroon | ➤ Colombia | ➤ Liberia |
| ➤ Ghana | ➤ Comoros | ➤ Mali |
| ➤ Mozambique | ➤ Congo Democratic Republic | ➤ Myanmar |
| ➤ Nigeria | ➤ Congo Republic | ➤ Nepal |
| ➤ Pakistan | ➤ Cote D'Ivoire | ➤ Niger |
| ➤ Sri Lanka | ➤ Djibouti | ➤ Rwanda |
| ➤ Afghanistan | ➤ Ethiopia | ➤ Serbia & Montenegro |
| ➤ Angola | ➤ Equatorial Guinea | ➤ Taiwan |
| ➤ Bhutan/Bhukina Faso | ➤ Eritea | ➤ United Nation (Laissez Passer) |
| ➤ Burundi | ➤ Guinea-Bissau | ➤ Western Sahara |
| ➤ Central African Republic | ➤ Hong Kong (C/I or D/I) | |

These nationalities will have to apply for a visa at the respective Malaysian Embassy / Consulate overseas prior to traveling to Malaysia.

**Visa Update
 20th June 2010**

Overview

On 12 May, the Immigration authorities posted an announcement on their official website with regard to Employment Pass approvals for expatriates earning more than MYR 8,000 per month.

Summary of Changes:

- Effective 12 July 2010, the Immigration authorities require the sponsoring entity to submit a signed Letter of Undertaking along with the standard DP10 application documents for expatriates with salaries above RM 8,000 per month. The Letter of Undertaking states that, should the Immigration authorities find that the salary figure submitted is false, they will have the right to terminate the Employment Pass with immediate effect and penalize the sponsoring entity. The Letter of Undertaking

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Visa Update 20th June 2010 (continuation)	<p>must be signed by the Company Director and submitted to the immigration authorities in 2 original copies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Furthermore, the original employment contract between the expat and sponsoring entity must be stamped before being submitted to the Immigration department for the DP10 stage.
Visa Update 13th May 2010	<p>Overview On 12 May, the Immigration authorities posted an announcement on their official website with regard to work permit approvals for expatriates earning more than MYR 8,000 per month, and Long Term Social Visit Passes for spouses of Malaysian citizens.</p> <p>Import Declaration Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Automatic approval will be granted for expatriates with salaries of more than MYR 8,000 per month. ➤ Spouses of Malaysian citizens will be automatically granted a 5 year Long Term Social Visit Pass (currently initial approval granted for 6 months and subsequently annual extensions subject to the prevailing conditions of the Immigration Department) <p>What is the impact? Until further notice, there is none. Please continue to expect the initial 6 months approval for Long Term Social Visit Pass for spouses of Malaysian citizens and approval of Employment Pass applications are subjected to the same conditions.</p>
Customs Regulations	<p>USEFUL INFORMATION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Port and Airport storage charges will be charged to the origin agent at cost if OBL and relevant clearance documents are not received by OMNI Agent prior to arrival of goods. ➤ Liquor & wine attract very high Malaysian Custom Duties. We advise against importation to avoid complication in clearance. ➤ All personal effects consignments are subject to 100% customs examination. ➤ International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No 15, will become effective as of 1st January 2010. Under this regulation all wood packaging materials (WPM) must be fumigated with Methyl Bromide or heat treated prior to import, with the exception of wood-based products such as plywood, particle board oriented strand or veneer that have been created using, glue, heat and pressure or a combination of the three. Treatment of WPM should be done only by accredited treatment companies or service providers registered under Malaysian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme (MAFAS). All WPM should be marked to certify that it has been subjected to an approved treatment. The markings in any colour except red and orange should be permanent and no stickers are allowed.
Personal Effects	<p>Definition: Personal Effects is defined as own household and personal items proven and identifiable as being purchased at least 3 months or having being used six months prior to date of import. Any items in the shipment which look new must be accompanied with purchase receipts as proof for customs upon arrival. Any personal effects identified as new (less than 6 months old) will attract import duties. The shipper must be in country prior to arrival of shipment to sign necessary documents such as approved permits for cars, National Electricity Board Permit for electrical appliances & other clearance documents required.</p> <p>Used Personal & Household Effects brought into Malaysia, exempted from duties exempted by (a) foreigners who have valid Malaysian work permit / employment letter by Malaysian employer (b) Returning Malaysians who have been out of country for a continuous period in excess of 3 months.</p>
Import Declaration Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The shipper must be in the country to sign the letter of Authorisation and to provide Approved Permits for cars, a copy of passport with entry stamp into Malaysia before arrival of goods. ➤ Goods packed must tally with the packing list. ➤ Any personal effects identified as new (less than 3 months old) will attract import duties. ➤ Documents required are: Ocean Bill of Lading, Malaysian Customs Form 1 (signed by shipper), Letter of Authorisation, Packing List, list of items requiring permits / licenses and copy of Insurance Policy (if any) ➤ Consignee must arrive in Malaysia before shipment arrives at port of entry as a copy of passport and entry stamp into Malaysia are required before clearance can take place. ➤ Returning Malaysians, having stayed abroad for more than 12 months continuously, may ship one of each used (for at least six months) household and personal item duty free. Items which look new require purchase receipts as proof to Customs upon clearance. ➤ Foreign personnel may import shipments duty free as long as their items are owned and used for at least six months prior to arrival. Any items which looks new require receipts as proof to customs upon arrival. Copy of work permit or letter of employment from the local company, passport and latest entry stamp are required before clearance can take place. ➤ A list of electrical items must be made together with brand, model, serial number, year purchased, and origin, to be submitted to us before shipment arrives at port of entry as an electrical permit is required before clearance. ➤ Video tapes and CD's require censorship approval at a charge of US\$3.00/tape. If material is deemed not suitable for viewing in Malaysia, Customs are entitled to destroy such items. ➤ Liquor and cigarettes are subject to heavy import duty. ➤ For automobiles and motorcycles, shipper must obtain "approval permit" from the Ministry of Trade before shipping from origin.

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Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Customs clearance is always completed at the port of entry and subject to 100% customs examination. ➤ OBL, packing lists and owner contact in Malaysia at least five days before vessel arrival at port of entry in order to expedite normal customs clearance. Clearance will take about seven working days for full container loads or ten working days for NVOCC or LCL shipments. ➤ Consolidation is not recommended; please contact us for instructions before container loading at origin. ➤ Packing lists must have proper description of all contents and must be written in English.
Importation of Car	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Documents required for clearance are: Malaysian Approved Permit (AP) from the Ministry of Trade & Industry, Bill of Lading, letter of Authorisation, Malaysian Custom Form 1, Registration Card, Purchase Invoice. ➤ Import duties are based on CIF value and/or second hand value as determined by Customs examination and valuation. ➤ Partial exemption duties are subject to Treasury approval for Malaysian diplomats and government officers. Full exemption may be offered for certified foreign diplomats, subject to application for exemption by respective Embassy. ➤ General indication of import duties - where CIF value is less than RM 20,000 the Import Duty is 170% - 200% and sales vehicle is subject to tax 10%. For more specific value please fax OMNI Agent the make, model, year of manufacture and CIF value. Assessment on the vehicle is subject to the discretion of Customs & Excise Department Officer at the time of clearance. ➤ Under the new 2001 Budget, returning Malaysians will be exempted from duties and sales tax provided vehicle must be registered in the country of origin for at least 6 months in the name of either husband or wife. ➤ Car in excess of 5 years old please fax details of vehicle for verification and approval by Ministry of International Trade & Industry.
Pets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Vaccination / Health Certificate and Malaysian Import Permit is required. ▪ Details of the pet (flight details, name, age, sex, colour & breed) and copy of vaccination and Health Certificate must be provided to us to apply for Malaysian Import Permit before pet can be imported into Malaysia. ▪ No quarantine required for birds. 1 weeks advance notice is required before arrival to book kennel / quarantine accommodation. ▪ The application of permit will be taken care of by OMNI Agent and will fax the same to client. Once consignment is booked, shipper will be assisted in clearing the pet at airport and for quarantine. ▪ Quarantine period at 7 days (max) will be required before release to consignee. <p>The following breeds are prohibited to enter/import into the country:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dogo Argentino, Fila Brasileiro, Japanese Tosa, Pit Bull Terrier and American Pit Bull. <p>The following breeds can enter/import into Malaysia under special permit approve from government veterinary prior to arrival in KLIA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ German Shepherd, Doberman, Rottweiler, Belgian Shepherd, East European Shepherd, Bull Mastiff, Bull Terrier and Canary Dog. <p>Documents required for application for this special permit is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Must not be less than six month at the time of importing. ✓ Require micro chipped proof ✓ Owner local address (The residence here must be available for veterinary inspection) ✓ Letter from the owner confirming the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dog is family Pet ▪ Dog is not for breeding or for sale ▪ Dog will be kept in compound at all times ▪ Dog will be muzzled and leashed when not in the compound ▪ Two copies of the latest picture of pet <p>Please allow at least three to four working days for the government veterinary doctor to process the approval of the permit.</p>
Plants	<p>Clearance documents required are: Phytosanitary Certificate issued by origin country, Letter of Authorisation, Invoice, Malaysian Custom Form 1 & Import Permit. Mandatory quarantine period of 3 days.</p>
Films & Video Tapes	<p>Censorship required (time taken 1 month) & screening fee of RM 15 per tape.</p>
Antiques	<p>Clearance documents required are: Malaysian Customs Form 1, Letter of Authorisation, Origin Invoice, Certificate of Antiquity from Origin Country to indicate if antique is over 100 years and to be approved by Museum Authority prior to importation.</p>
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