

**Russia** *Customs Information for Diplomats*

**Customs Regulations**

- Customs requirements for Russia are complex and must be followed closely. Household goods and personal effects should not be shipped from origin by air, sea or road without first submitting required documents and receiving confirmation that everything is in order from the Destination Agent.
  - Household goods can be imported to Russia duty-free.
  - The customer has to arrive in Russia in order to obtain his/her Russian diplomatic card before import customs clearance can take place. It can take from several days to several weeks to obtain this card.
  - In regards to household goods and personal effects, Diplomats that are not in possession of their diplomatic card by the time their shipment arrives at the customs terminal in Russia will have to provide a copy of their passport and diplomatic Russian visa as well as a letter from their embassy stating that the customer's diplomatic card is in the process of being issued.

**Documents Required**

- ✓ Copy of both sides of the customer's Russian diplomatic card ("dipkartochka")
- ✓ Letter to customs from the diplomat's embassy on embassy letterhead, signed and stamped by the embassy - 2 originals
- ✓ Power of Attorney from the diplomat's embassy on embassy letterhead, signed and stamped by the embassy - 2 originals
- ✓ Copy of the inventory (translated into Russian) and stamped by the embassy
- ✓ Two photocopies of Russian Visa - please stamp the margins of the photocopy with the Embassy stamp.
- ✓ Two photocopies of the photo page of the Passport - please stamp the margins of the photocopy with the Embassy stamp.
- ✓ Two photocopies of the MFA registration in the Passport - please stamp the margins of the photocopy with the Embassy stamp.

**Motor Vehicles**

- Customer must be in possession of their DIP card.
  - A car can be imported to Russia duty-free.
  - A diplomat can import any number of cars contingent upon approval of their Embassy in Moscow.
- Documents Required:*
- ✓ Letter to customs from the diplomat's embassy on embassy letterhead, signed and stamped by the embassy - 2 originals
  - ✓ Power of Attorney from the diplomat's embassy on embassy letterhead, signed and stamped by the embassy - 2 originals
  - ✓ Power of Attorney from the diplomat's embassy which enabling destination agent to drive a car - on embassy letterhead, signed and stamped by the embassy - 2 originals
  - ✓ Two photocopies of *both sides* of the diplomatic card, which must be sealed with the embassy seal.
  - ✓ Two photocopies of visa, which must be sealed with the embassy seal.
  - ✓ Two photocopies of passport, which must be sealed with the embassy seal.
  - ✓ Two photocopies of CAR passport, which must be sealed with the embassy seal.
  - ✓ The original of Russian insurance of the car (from all risks)
  - ✓ Compulsory road insurance - Green Card (including Russia) or OSAGO (Russian Road Insurance. The original copy of the Green Card or OSAGO is needed for customs clearance.

**Pets**

- Contact destination agent for full requirements.

**Dutiable / Restricted Items**

- The following items are restricted for import and may attract duties. Do not include them in your shipment without first obtaining written approval from our agent at destination.
- Alcohol - may be included if advance notice is given so required letter from the Embassy can be obtained.
  - Artwork or Antiques/Items of Cultural Value - see note below
  - Artwork and antiques
  - Currency and coins (no longer in circulation)
  - Jewelry
  - Medications
  - Plants
  - Tobacco
- Russian authorities are concerned to protect national items of cultural value. This includes items over 50 years old such as antique furniture, drawings, paintings, books (older than 100 years), icons, musical instruments, precious metals, precious or semi-precious stones, samovars, sculptures and statues, stamp collections or collections of flora and fauna. Such items require special clearance and should not be included in your shipment without written approval.

**Prohibited Items**

- Animal trophies (excluding fur coats and fur hats)
- Explosives and fireworks
- Guns, weapons, and ammunitions (including knives/swords/daggers)
- Poisonous and radioactive materials
- Pornography
- Seeds and soil

<b>Russia</b> <i>Customs Information for Foreign Citizens</i>	
<b>Customs Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Customs requirements for Russia are complex and must be followed closely. Household goods and personal effects should not be shipped from origin by air, sea or road without first submitting required documents and receiving confirmation that everything is in order from the Destination Agent.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Russian customs have the right to inspect the customer's household goods shipment while it is in bonded storage. Apart from customs examination fees, this may result in additional handling and storage charges</li> <li>➢ Almost all import shipments will be charged Russian duties and taxes. There are some minor exceptions for certain items that will be re-exported or if the customer is planning to become a permanent resident. Please contact the destination agent in Russia for more information.</li> </ul> </li>   <li>▪ Please be aware that from July 1, 2010, Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan have joined in a new 'customs union'. The immediate effect of this is to significantly increase the costs of imports of HHG shipments whether over land, air or sea into those countries.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Taxes and duties are based on 30% of Customs value; with a minimum charge of €4 EURO per gross weight kilogram (previously this was \$1.50 USD per gross kg). This applies to all shipment by land, sea and air</li> <li>➢ Temporary importation arrangements (Temporary regime) have been almost fully abolished, although there may be some exceptions.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Documents Required</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Copy of the customer's passport (photo page &amp; information pages)</li> <li>✓ Copy of the customer's Russian multi-entry visa (minimum validity of the visa must be 90 days); the customer must be in the possession of a permanent or temporary Moscow registration for import customs clearance</li> <li>✓ Power of Attorney; must be obtained by the customer and must be notarized by a Russian notary</li> <li>✓ Letter to Russian customs from the customer's Russian employer on the employer's letterhead, signed and stamped by the employer</li> <li>✓ Letter to Russian customs from the customer on the Russian employer's letterhead, signed by the customer and stamped by his/her employer</li> <li>✓ Re-export obligation (signed by the customer and stamped by the customer's employer in Russia)</li> </ul>
<b>Motor Vehicles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ The import of non-diplomatic motor vehicles to Russia is very difficult and expensive. Cars that are over ten (10) years old cannot be imported to the Russian Federation. Contact the destination agent for full requirements</li> </ul>
<b>Pets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Contact destination agent for full requirements.</li> </ul>
<b>Dutiable / Restricted Items</b>	<p>The following items are restricted for import and may attract duties. Do not include them in your shipment without first obtaining written approval from our agent at destination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Artwork or Antiques/Items of Cultural Value – see note below</li> <li>➢ Artwork and antiques</li> <li>➢ Currency and coins (no longer in circulation)</li> <li>➢ Foodstuffs</li> <li>➢ Jewelry</li> <li>➢ Pet Food</li> <li>➢ Plants</li> </ul> <p>Russian authorities are concerned to protect national items of cultural value. This includes items over 50 years old such as antique furniture, drawings, paintings, books (older than 100 years), icons, musical instruments, precious metals, precious or semi-precious stones, samovars, sculptures and statues, stamp collections or collections of flora and fauna. Such items require special clearance and should not be included in your shipment without written approval.</p>
<b>Prohibited Items</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Alcohol – prohibited for unaccompanied luggage, but each adult may take up to 3 liters of alcoholic beverages for free. In excess of 3 liters but under 10 liters is subject to import duties of EURO 10.00 per liter.</li> <li>➢ Medications– prohibited for unaccompanied luggage, but a customer may take certain amount of medication in accompanied luggage.</li> <li>➢ Tobacco– prohibited for unaccompanied luggage, but each adult may take 200 cigarettes, or 50 cigars, or 250 grammas of tobacco or a combination of these not to exceed 250 grammas for free.</li> <li>➢ Animal trophies (excluding fur coats and fur hats)</li> <li>➢ Explosives and fireworks</li> <li>➢ Guns, weapons, and ammunitions (including knives/swords/daggers)</li> <li>➢ Poisonous and radioactive materials</li> <li>➢ Pornography</li> <li>➢ Seeds and soil</li> </ul>

<b>Russia</b> <i>Customs Information for Returning Citizens</i>	
<b>Customs Regulations</b>	<p>Customs requirements for Russia are complex and must be followed closely. Household goods and personal effects should not be shipped from origin by air, sea or road without first submitting required documents and receiving confirmation that everything is in order from the Destination Agent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The customer has to arrive in Russia before his/her shipment arrives.</li> <li>➤ Russian customs have the right to inspect the customer's household goods shipment while it is in bonded storage. Apart from customs examination fees, this may result in additional handling and storage charges</li> <li>➤ Almost all import shipments will be charged Russian duties and taxes. There are some minor exceptions if the customer is planning on becoming a permanent resident, if they have diplomatic status in the country from where they are returning or if the customer has been out of the Russian Federation for more than one year. Please contact the destination agent in Russia for more information.</li> </ul> <p>Please be aware that from July 1, 2010, Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan have joined in a new 'customs union'. The immediate effect of this is to significantly increase the costs of imports of HHG shipments whether over land, air or sea into those countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Taxes and duties are based on 30% of Customs value; with a minimum charge of €4 EURO per gross weight kilogram (previously this was \$1.50 USD per gross kg). This applies to all shipment by land, sea and air</li> <li>➤ Temporary importation arrangements (Temporary regime) have been almost fully abolished, although there may be some exceptions.</li> </ul>
<b>Documents Required</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Copy of the customer's Russian travel passport ("zagran passport") - pages containing the customer's photo and entry/exit customs stamps, visa of the country from where he is returning</li> <li>✓ Copy of the customer's internal Russian passport ("vnutrenny passport") - first page and page with the customer's permanent or temporary registration in Russia);</li> <li>✓ Power of Attorney; must be obtained by the customer and must be notarized by a Russian notary</li> <li>✓ Letter to Customs – this document can be prepared by the customer OR the letter for Customs can be prepared by the employer. If the letter comes from the customers employer it must be printed on company letterhead, signed by an authorized representative of the company and stamped with the company's stamp.</li> </ul>
<b>Motor Vehicles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The import of non-diplomatic motor vehicles to Russia is very difficult and expensive. Cars that are over ten (10) years old cannot be imported to the Russian Federation. Contact the destination agent for full requirements</li> </ul>
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<b>Prohibited Items</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Alcohol – prohibited for unaccompanied luggage, but each adult may take up to 3 liters of alcoholic beverages for free. In excess of 3 liters but under 10 liters is subject to import duties of EURO 10.00 per liter.</li> <li>➤ Medications– prohibited for unaccompanied luggage, but a customer may take certain amount of medication in accompanied luggage.</li> <li>➤ Tobacco– prohibited for unaccompanied luggage, but each adult may take 200 cigarettes, or 50 cigars, or 250 grammas of tobacco or a combination of these not to exceed 250 grammas for free.</li> <li>➤ Animal trophies (excluding fur coats and fur hats)</li> <li>➤ Explosives and fireworks</li> <li>➤ Guns, weapons, and ammunitions (including knives/swords/daggers)</li> <li>➤ Poisonous and radioactive materials</li> <li>➤ Pornography</li> <li>➤ Seeds and soil</li> </ul>