

Russia Customs Information

Import General Regulations

On 7 th July 2010 new customs law was introduced to Russian customs system that was signed by three countries:

- **Republic Belarus, Republic Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation and was named Customs Union.**

The present Agreement defines an order of moving of the goods for a private use including vehicles by physical persons through customs border of the customs union (further – customs border) and fulfillment of the customs operations connected with their release.

IMPORTANT: Based on new Russian Regulations all imports to Russia are subject to duties and taxes (air, road and sea shipments), we have a fixed rate of 4 Euro per kilo gross (appendix 5 to the agreement)

Ways of payments:

- According to new rules at the present time duties and taxes can be paid to customs by bank transfer from the client's private account in rubles min 4 (four days) before shipment arrival to customs terminal in Moscow.
- Bank details and sample payment order are available if needed.
- Please note that you need to follow our instructions strictly as in case of any mistake the customs won't receive the money and won't release the shipment till they see money on their account.
- According to the Russian law all cultural items must be registered at Ministry of Culture and Russian Customs upon arrival.
- Please check and let us know if the client has any cultural items as in this case we will need the pictures to obtain permit from Ministry of Culture, extra charges for this will be known only after expertise as probably not all items will need special permits.

Import of Household Goods

In case of Foreigners:
The following documents are needed for foreigners to import goods into Russia:

- ✓ 3 copies of passport stamped by the company
- ✓ 3 copies of visa stamped by the company
- ✓ 3 copies of registration in Moscow stamped by the company

In case of lack of Moscow registration we should be informed beforehand and other options should be discussed in advance. Moscow registration can be arranged by our company for extra charge.

- ✓ 3 copies of Letter from the company stamped and signed by the responsible person
- ✓ Power of attorney (issued by a notary office in Russia) and two notarized copies of the power of attorney authorizing your mover to act on shipper's behalf at customs. It has to be made in Moscow and notarized by Russian notary (If it is a container going via St. Petersburg port then one more Power of Attorney must be prepared by the client for us to be able to pick up the container, one original plus two notarized copies).

In case the client will not be able to provide Power of Attorney for any reasons we will be able to arrange it at extra charge of 180 Euro.

In case of other destinations (not Moscow), the options must be discussed in advance.

- ✓ Pro-forma invoice that should be issued by origin agent as well as CMR according to our instructions (except for air and sea shipments)
- ✓ Packing list (serial number & model for the electrical appliances, avoid PBO or attach detailed list for that, photos for cultural items)

In case of returning Russian citizens

- Returning Russian citizens can only import goods with duties and taxes payment.
- There can be some privileges to lower duties only if the client meets the following requirements:
 - if the client has a stamped and correct filled out T6 form (sample is available if needed)
 - the client should provide us with the original stamped foreign passport that he/she was abroad more than 11 months and has not entered Russia within those 11 months, the period of stay must be on condition of documentary acknowledgement by a corresponding state structure (federal public authority) and the purpose of stay in the foreign state, the client must be on consulate account in a foreign country and this fact must be proved documentary.
- In case if one of the above mentioned points is missing (if there is no T6 form or it is filled out incorrectly or a client has not been abroad more than 11 months without visiting Russia) then the shipment can be imported only with duties and taxes payment.
- In case we need to provide cash and pay duties and taxes together with the client we will need to charge 15% on top (from the total value of duties and taxes) for handling and transferring.

Documents needed for returning Russian citizens are:

- ✓ Copy of detailed packing list (serial number & model for the electrical appliances, avoid PBO or attach detailed list for that, photos for cultural items)
- ✓ Copy of national passport (in case of import with duties and taxes) an original foreign passport (in case if the client has a privilege duties and taxes free)

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Import of Household Goods
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- ✓ Copy of registration in Moscow (from the national passport)

In case of lack of Moscow registration we should be informed in advance and other options should be discussed in advance. Moscow registration can be arranged by our company for extra charge.

- ✓ T6 Customs Declaration Form – The client has to go through the red channel at the Moscow airport and declare household goods and personal effects. (Sample is available if needed)
- ✓ Proforma invoice, packing list and CMR must be shown to the customs officer when declaring unaccompanied luggage
- ✓ Power of attorney (issued by a notary office in Russia) and two notarized copies of the power of attorney authorizing your mover to act on shipper's behalf. It has to be made in Moscow.

In case the client will not be able to provide Power of Attorney for any reasons we will be able to arrange it at extra charge of 180 Euro.

- ✓ Proforma Invoice (except for air and sea shipments) that should be provided by the origin agent to the client prepared on the company letterhead stamped and signed with customs value (according to our instructions) and CMR with number and stamp of the origin agent (in case of road shipments)

IMPORTANT : T6 form must be filled by customer at the airport upon arrival in Moscow. Customer must ensure the T6 form is stamped and signed by customs officer at the Moscow airport. **DO NOT LET CUSTOMS OFFICER KEEP T6 FORM.** In the event that the customer cannot produce a signed, stamped T6 form declaring household goods and personal effects shipments, duty-free clearance is impossible and the customer will have to pay applicable duties.

In case of Diplomats

Documents needed:

- ✓ 3 copies of Letter from the Embassy stamped by the Embassy and signed by the responsible person
- ✓ 3 copies of the Diplomatic card stamped by the Embassy (please inform us in advance if diplomatic card won't be ready on the day of custom clearance as lack of it this might cause problems at customs)
- ✓ 3 copies of the Power of Attorney on the blank of the Embassy by the responsible person
- ✓ Packing list (serial number & model for the electrical appliances, avoid PBO or attach detailed list for that, photos for cultural items) provided by origin agent
- ✓ 3 copies of the passport stamped by the Embassy
- ✓ 3 copies of the visa stamped by the Embassy
- ✓ 3 copies of registration at Ministry of Foreign Affairs that is in the passport stamped by the Embassy

Also a copy of dip card, visa, passport and registration of the person who is authorized to sign documents should be provided.

Import of Vehicles

Documents for Foreigners:

- ✓ Technical passport of the vehicle (original)
- ✓ Purchase invoice (showing the value of the car)
- ✓ Copy of owner's passport stamped by the company
- ✓ Copy of owner's visa stamped by the company
- ✓ Copy of registration in Moscow stamped by the company
- ✓ Letter from the Company stamped by the company and signed by the responsible person
- ✓ Insurance (OSAGA) (should be prepared in Russia)
- ✓ Power of attorney (issued by a notary office in Russia) and two notarized copies of the power of attorney authorizing your mover to act on shipper's behalf. It has to be made in Moscow. (If it is a container going via St. Petersburg port then one more Power of Attorney must be prepared by the client for us to be able to pick up the container, one original plus two notarized copies)

Please note that the car can be imported on temporary basis only based on the validity of Moscow registration and visa (only possible in case of foreigners) but not more than for one year.

IMPORTANT : Duties and taxes apply in case of Russian Citizen. These are calculated by Russian Customs Authorities, based on make, engine type, volume, horsepower, year of production, etc.

- If the household goods and the car are sent together the clearance takes minimum 3 days. The clearance will be done at two terminals (vehicles can be imported to a special terminal only). The truck or container needs to arrive under 1 TIR Carnet but 2 proforma invoices (one for the household goods and one for the car) and 2 CMRs (for the two terminals).

List of documents for Diplomats (car):

- ✓ Letter from the Embassy (3 originals stamped by the Embassy)
- ✓ Power of Attorney (3 originals)
- ✓ Copy of diplomatic card (both sides, 3 copies stamped by the Embassy)
- ✓ Copy of Passport (3 copies stamped by the Embassy)

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Import of Vehicles (continuation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Copy of Visa (3 copies stamped by the Embassy) ✓ Registration at Ministry of Foreign Affairs (3 copies stamped by the Embassy) ✓ Original Title of the car (2 copies stamped by the Embassy) ✓ Insurance (OSAGA, should be prepared in Russia), 2 copies stamped by the Embassy
Import of Pets	<p>Documents required to bring dogs and cats into Russia are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ International Pet Passport (original) with proof of vaccination, issued no later than 5 days before departure, showing proof of vaccines against rabies and feline/canine diseases. The vaccination must have been within the past 9 months, but not within the 30 days prior to departure. ✓ International Health Certificate ✓ Copy of the owner's passport and contact details ✓ Copy of owner's visa ✓ Copy of registration in Moscow ✓ Power of attorney (issued by a notary office in Russia) and notarized copy of the power of attorney authorizing your mover to act on shipper's behalf <p>NOTES: Pet passport and the health certificate should be in 2 languages: in the language of the origin country and in Russian. The translation can be made in any interpreter office.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ When importing pets from the United States, be aware veterinarians in the United States sometimes use rabies vaccines that are valid for three years. In Russia vaccines are only valid for one year. As a result, your pet must be re-vaccinated unless it was vaccinated under this circumstance, in the last 12 months. If your pet was vaccinated in the last 12 months then you can bring them into Russia. Once the 12-month period, as of the vaccination date is finished you must re-vaccinate your pet regardless of how long their American vaccination is valid for ➤ Pets are cleared duty free. ➤ If the client brings the pet on the plane on the board the following documents are needed: pet passport with all vaccinations (against Rabies it has to be done within 1 year prior to the flight, but within more than 1 month) and international health certificate in Russian and in English. ➤ Only 1 kg pet food is allowed to bring as hand carry.
Import of Special Items	<p>IMPORT OF ART EFFECTS, CARPETS AND ANTIQUES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All items such as rugs, art, paintings, musical instruments, and other items of cultural value need to be registered upon arrival. Registering your goods upon arrival is needed to receive the export permits when re-exporting the goods. The process takes from one day to one week. ▪ This is particularly useful for cultural objects of more than 100 years old (you can not take them out otherwise) and of more than 50 years old (it's a long procedure to receive a permit for those). <p>For registering them on arrival we need the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The list of cultural objects (author, size, date of creation and manner of performance, for example – oil / aquarelle for pictures). ✓ 2 photos (color) of each cultural object (from the same angle). Photos should be numbered according to the list. If you use digital cameras, please use photo papers for printing, because the black and white photos on normal paper cannot be accepted. <p>Importing stuffed animals, antlers, trophies, animal skins we need CITES and vet certificate from the origin country.</p>
Import of Antique Swords	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is possible to import it to Russia duty and tax free but we have to get Permission of Russian Ministry of Culture for import of antique items (we have to get decision of the commission of the experts that sword is really antique) and MOC registration at customs. <p>Documents required to bring antique swords into Russia are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Original receipts from the antique shops or auction ✓ T6 Customs Declaration Form ✓ 2 copies of photos of each item (with the dimensions, year of production, author, origin, material, etc) ✓ Copy of passport ✓ Moscow registration ✓ Power of attorney (issued by a notary office in Russia) and notarized copy of the power of attorney authorizing your mover to act on shipper's behalf
Export of Household Goods	<p>Russian citizens:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 3 copies of Russian passport (ID page and page with registration stamp) stamped by the company ✓ 3 copies of foreign passport stamped by the company

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Export of Household Goods
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Russian citizens:

- ✓ One original and two copies of the Power of Attorney authorizing us as the customs broker. Original and two copies have to be officially notarized.
- ✓ Two letters from the company, asking customs for the permission to clear the personal belongings for the employee of the company. Letters have to be typed on the company's letterheads, signed by responsible person and stamped.
- ✓ Copy of air ticket (for air shipment only)

Foreign diplomats :

- ✓ 3 copies of the diplomatic card (both sides) stamped by the Embassy.
- ✓ 3 copies of Russian visa stamped by the Embassy.
- ✓ 3 passport copies stamped by the Embassy.
- ✓ 3 letters from the Embassy, asking the customs for the permission to clear the personal belongings. It has to be typed on the Embassy's letterhead, signed and stamped. **The letter has to be completed only after the packing in order to put the quantity of pcs and weight. Will be prepared by us and sent to you.**
- ✓ 3 Powers of Attorney to authorize us as the customs broker. Has to be typed on the Embassy's letterhead, signed by the client and responsible person from the Embassy and stamped.

Foreign citizens :

- ✓ 3 copies of passport stamped and signed by responsible person from the company
- ✓ 3 copies of Russian visa stamped and signed by responsible person from the company
- ✓ 3 copies of accreditation card (if applicable) stamped and signed by responsible person from the company
- ✓ One original and two copies of the Power of Attorney authorizing us as the customs broker. Original and two copies have to be **officially notarized.**
- ✓ Two letters from the company, asking customs for the permission to clear the personal belongings for the employee of the company. Letters have to be typed on the company's letterheads, signed by CEO and stamped.
- ✓ If at time of arrival in Russia the goods were imported under re-export conditions we need the original customs form of temporary import, together with a letter of employer /company (on a company letterhead) to arrange closing of this temporary import.
- ✓ Copy of air ticket (for air shipment only)

Export of Vehicles

Vehicles for export have to be deregistered to get transit number. We are able to apply for export customs clearance after this only.

For customs clearance we need the following:

- ✓ Copy of client's passport
- ✓ Copy of client's visa
- ✓ Registration card (original, it will be cut in 2 halves in GAI at the deregistration procedure)
- ✓ Copy of technical passport of the vehicle (please make copy in advance, original is taken by GAI at deregistration)
- ✓ Purchase invoice (showing the value of the car, in case the car was bought in Russia)
- ✓ Temporary import obligation and documents (if the vehicle was imported earlier under temporary import)
- ✓ Copy of Moscow registration
- ✓ Power of attorney (issued by a notary office in Russia) and notarized copy of the power of attorney authorizing Mover to act on shipper's behalf
- ✓ Letter to customs from the client's company (company in Russia)

Export duties are not charged on personal motor vehicles. The procedure for exporting cars from Russia is always changing and depends on the status of the car and the exporter.

Export of Pets

Export of pets is permitted from Russia. Export of any type of bird or exotic animal is very difficult and expensive.

To export dogs and cats you need:

- ✓ Health certificate issued by a Russian veterinarian, issued no more than 3 days before your pet leaves Russia
- ✓ International Pet Passport with proof of vaccination, issued no later than 5 days before departure, showing proof of vaccines against rabies and feline/canine diseases. The vaccination must have been within the past 9 months, but not within the 30 days prior to departure
- ✓ Copy of owner's passport
- ✓ Copy of Moscow registration
- ✓ Power of attorney (issued by a notary office in Russia) and notarized copy of the power of attorney authorizing Mover to act on shipper's behalf
- ✓ When exporting a dog, an official permit must be obtained from the Russian Kinological Association no more than 3 days before leaving Russia. To get this you must show your pet passport, a photo of the dogs and state your departure date.

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Export of Special Items

EXPORT OF ART EFFECTS, CARPETS AND ANTIQUES

- Exporting antiques from Russia is prohibited unless the shipper has MOC (Ministry of Culture) registration at customs which was obtained during the import process. Exporting artwork is a very long process and it can take up to several months to obtain export permits. It can be very difficult and sometimes even impossible to export some icons (older than 100 years) - they must be physically presented to the MOC expert .
- Permits are required for all artwork and antiques regardless of where they were purchased or imported from. The MOC in Russia grants the export permits.
- Export permits are required for icons, paintings, carpets, rugs, samovars, instruments and firearms. In addition, any item over 50 years old requires an export permit. Items over 100 years old cannot be exported unless they were registered upon arrival.

Documents required to get an export permit from the Ministry of Culture are:

- ✓ 2 photos (from the same angle) of every item requiring a certificate
- ✓ Copy of passport
- ✓ Copy of Russian visa
- ✓ Copy of Moscow registration

- Books need to be taken to the Main Public Library in Moscow where it will be determined whether an export permit is needed.
- Any book published over 100 years ago cannot be taken out of Russia. Books with a publishing date greater than 50 years ago, all dictionaries and art books purchased in Russia should also be cleared for customs and we need permission from the Ministry of Culture.

A small number of items can be exported without any kind of export permit, including:

- Souvenirs (matryoshka dolls, wooden souvenirs, lacquer boxes, Gzhel and other porcelain items, etc.)
- Contemporary books (no older than 50 years)
- Contemporary posters, reproductions, lithographs (no older than 50 years)
- Electrical devices (their serial numbers must be recorded on the packing list)

List of Cultural Items that cannot be brought IN/OUT of Russia without Ministry of Culture permit and should be Registered upon arrival in Moscow

Items and collections which have historical, scientific, art or cultural value. Items which are connected to the events of life of peoples, society and state development, history of science and technique, culture and daily life:

- 1.1 Memorial items which belong to the life of political, state leaders, national heroes, scientists, people of art and literature
- 1.2 Items and collections of industrial or war/army uniform
- 1.3 Items which belong to techniques, devices, and instruments of scientific, industrial, army/war sphere (including its parts)
- 1.4 Ethnographic items and collections (instruments, weapon, items of daily life and clothes of ancient peoples)

Art items of non-serial origin made of any material (and their copies), including:

- 2.1 Paintings, sculptures, set designed items
- 2.2 Graphics
- 2.3 Copyright design projects, installations, art compositions and arrangements
- 2.4 Items which belong to religious sphere including icons and other attributes which have authorship (non-serial, handmade)
- 2.5 Decorative-ornamental items
 - 2.5.1 Items made of ceramics
 - 2.5.2 Items made of bronze, copper, cast-iron, German silver (cuprous-nickel), iron, and other metals; also items decorated with enamel
 - 2.5.3 Unique items made of precious metals and their fusions, natural or cultivated pearl, precious or semi-precious stones (natural, synthetically or reconstructed)
 - 2.5.4 Items made of timber/wood (including furniture), stone, leather, horns, bone, shell, coral, mother-of-pearl, amber, other materials of animal, vegetable or mineral origin
 - 2.5.5 Items decorated with painting, inlay
 - 2.5.6 Tapestry, trellis (lattice-work), printed cloth, hand-woven rugs
 - 2.5.7 Items made of beads
- 3.1 Silent weapon and fire arms
- 3.2 Item which belong to traditional people's trade
- 3.3 Parts and fragments of architectural, historical or art monuments
- 4.0 Printed materials which belong to:
 - 4.1 Printed materials which have historical, scientific, literature, or art value: books, music sheets, cartographic materials
 - 4.2 Printed works of great political, state, science, or art figures which were printed during their life and have their signatures, autographs, book-plates or notes (excluding the works of contemporary figures)
 - 4.3 Unique samples of art, illustrated and polygraphic samples

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List of Cultural Items that cannot be brought IN/OUT of Russia without Ministry of Culture permit and should be Registered upon arrival in Moscow (continuation)

- 4.4 Editions which don't count more than 1000 copies, editions with official and other seals/stamps
- Original documents on any repository, manuscripts and typewritten works, film-, sound/tape/phonodocuments, etc.
- Musical instruments:
 - 6.1 Keyboard instruments (piano, grand piano, harpsichord, etc)
 - 6.2 Stringed bow instruments (violin, viola, viol, double-bass etc), bows
 - All notes of post payment (for the exception of notes of post payment to Russian Federation issued after 1991): post stamps, post blocks, marked post cards (illustrated, standard, including those with original post stamp); greeting cards, invitations cards and etc; envelopes
 - Coins, plates, decorations, medals, seals, stamps, orders, decoration orders, etc.
 - Collections and items of any collection, which are of any interest to zoology, botany, paleontology, mineralogy and anatomy:
 - 9.1 Animals bottled/tinned in dry or liquid surrounding, stuffed animals for collections
 - 9.2 Insects dried or bottled/tinned in liquid; spare/empty shells of nuts for the exception of those which are used in manufacturing
 - 9.3 Seeds and plants, dried or bottled/tinned in liquid, herbarium
 - 9.4 Samples of minerals
 - 9.5 Osteological samples (skeletons, skulls, bones, etc)
 - 9.6 Samples of fossils (of disappeared animals, which left their remains or imprints in/on geological layers)
 - 9.7 Geological samples for studying fossils of animal or vegetable origin

List of Prohibited Items

- We cannot ship the following:**
- Food products of any kind – including but not limited to: any type of fish or fish products, including dried fish or prawns, caviar; fungus or fungi; powdered or canned milk; canned fruit, vegetables or meat; vegetable oil; sauces.
 - Alcohol
 - Bills, deeds, letters of credit.
 - Jewelry, furs, precious stones, bullion and other precious metals, watches.
 - Currency, money.
 - Notes, securities or evidence of debt.
 - Weapons, guns, ammunition, flammable items, firearms – including any type of toy guns.
 - Building materials, including but not limited to, wood, stone, tile, cabinetry, etc.
 - Pornographic literature, DVD, video tapes
 - Pieces of art (pictures, books, statues) older than 50 years
 - Any types of flammable liquid (perfumes with 70% and more of alcohol, nail polish remover, sprays, deodorants, etc.)
 - Any types of liquid for AIRSHIPMENTS
 - Plants, flowers
 - Medical drugs or personal-care products (perfume, colognes, aerosol);
 - Dry ice;
 - Explosives, pyrotechnic substances or goods;
 - Mercurial barometers or thermometers;
 - Batteries, accumulators and so on;
 - Magnetized materials or products containing it (speakers, magnetrons)
 - Bottles with compressed or liquefied gas;
 - Inflammable, corrosion, household liquids, bleaching liquids and so on;
 - Infectious substances or intoxicants;
 - Radioactive materials or goods containing it;
 - Combustion engines;
 - Chemicals, reagents;
 - Other dangerous substances or goods.

Useful Notes

- Usefull notes:**
- <http://www.customs.ru/en/travelers/Correspondents1/>
 - www.tks.ru
 - www.customs.ru

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