

Sri Lanka

Goods	Documents Required	Customs Prescriptions	Remarks
Removal Goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ORIGINAL B/L – AWB. ➤ Passports (Old/New) of all the family. ➤ Packing inventory in English (detailed). ➤ List of articles with nominal value. ➤ Sri Lanka Customs form (baggage declaration). ➤ Resident Visa (1 year for foreign nationals). ➤ Blue card (issued by the immigration for duty free). ➤ Insurance certificate. ➤ Photographs (for antique furniture, statues, ebony would be of assistance at time of re- export). ➤ Bank guarantee (surface shipment over 175cuft). 	<p><i>Duty free importation provided:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The baggage is "bonafide", i.e., it should consist of goods for personal use and for the use of the family members only. It should NOT include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Goods in commercial quantities. ➤ Goods for others. ➤ Goods (unaccompanied baggage), which arrive after 90 days of your arrival. ➤ Make a written declaration. Fill all sections of the form, with passport N°, last date of departure from Sri Lanka, and date of arrival etc. All currencies, gold jewellery, etc., must be declared with details. ➤ Ensure your passport is endorsed by Customs at the time of arrival. <p><i>Duty free allowances:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Period less than 90 days unaccompanied baggage up to US\$ 125. ➤ Period over than 90 days and less than 365 days unaccompanied baggage up to US\$500. ➤ Period over 365 days unaccompanied baggage up to US\$ 1000. ➤ Minors (under 18 years) - Period less than 90 days unaccompanied baggage up to US\$87.50. ➤ One year resident visa holders unaccompanied baggage up to US\$1,000/- <p><i>Duty percentage is as follows:</i> Duty 25%, 10%, or 2.5% Surcharge 20% Of The Duty amount Value Added Tax (VAT) 10% or 20% If Applicable Excise Duty 15%, 35%, 65% of the declared Value. Port and Airport Levy 1% of the value.</p> <p>All relevant customs declaration forms for clearance must be signed by consignee at destination (No photocopies will be accepted).</p>	<p>The owner must be present in Sri Lanka before Customs clearance can be undertaken.</p> <p>Surface shipments should arrive in Sri Lanka within 3 months of owner's arrival, and air shipments within 1 month. In the absence of the owner, a Power of Attorney must be submitted with a copy of Passport.</p> <p>FCL and Air Shipment must be cleared within 3 days of landing. LCL must be cleared after 3 days of de-stuffing from the containers or demurrage will be incurred for the full day of landing.</p> <p>All shipments are subject to Customs checking.</p> <p>Customs examinations are normally held at the Baggage office of the Sri Lanka Customs between 8.30 a.m. and 3 p.m. on weekdays.</p> <p>Outside Examinations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Applications for customs examination outside the baggage office are entertained only on packages which measure over 175 cuft and will depend on the availability of officers. These examinations are held after 4.30 p.m. on weekdays and within Colombo and suburbs only. ➤ A refundable deposit (the quantum, of which will be decided by the Assistant Director of customs (baggage) on perusal of the valued inventory list attached to the application for an outside examination) must be advanced by the consignee in the form of cash or bank guarantee valid for six months. <p><i>The above deposit would be refunded if:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Duty is not payable or ➤ On payment of the appraised duty payable. <p>Owner's contact details, delivery address and packing inventories should be clearly written on the B/L. Total numbers of packages on the inventory, B/L and other related documents should tally.</p> <p>Goods should be declared as used personal and household effects.</p> <p>All documents should be in possession of the destination agent at least 5 days prior to arrival of shipment.</p>
Diplomatic Shipments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Original BL/AWB. ➤ Packing inventory in English. ➤ Duty free certificate issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. ➤ Copy of Passport – endorsed by the Ministry of foreign affairs in Sri Lanka. ➤ Duty Free Clearance Certificate – issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Sri Lanka. 	Duty free – only if clearance certificate is produced.	<p>Obtaining duty exception from the Ministry takes approximately 7-10 days minimum.</p> <p>All documents should be in possession of the destination agent at least 5 days prior to arrival of shipment.</p>

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Automobiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Original B/L./Owner's passport. ➤ Manufacturers invoice/insurance. ➤ Original Registration Certificate (English translation). ➤ Keys/Exchange Control approval. ➤ Import licence is required for cars over 3 years old and for vans and dual-purpose vehicles over 5 years old. ➤ Transport Ministry Approval (for left-hand drive). ➤ Tin Certificate and G.S.T. Certificate. ➤ Insurance certificate. ➤ RMV cancellation Certificate from country of origin. ➤ Marine condition Certificate issued at origin. 	<p>Duties/Taxes – Subject to local agent valuation.</p> <p>Petrol vehicles: Minimum duty of 80% Maximum duty of 90% Diesel vehicle : Minimum duty 175% Maximum duty of 200%</p>	<p>Shipments must be cleared within 3 days of landing or demurrage will be incurred from the first day of landing.</p> <p>The car will be in the Port for customs valuation etc., for a minimum of 7 working days. There will be demurrage incurring for the car, which has to be pre-paid by customer prior to clearance.</p> <p>Customs examinations are normally held at the Motor vehicle yard of the Sri Lanka Customs between 8.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.</p> <p>If motor vehicle is being shipped with personal effects in a container, the vehicle must be loaded in front (near the door) of the container.</p> <p>Import License could be obtained from The Import Controller, Control department, 75, 1/3, 1st floor, Hemas Building, Colombo 1 Tel: 00 94 11 232 6774 / 2324386.</p> <p>All documents should be in possession of the destination agent at least 5 days prior to arrival of shipment.</p>
Boats with Engine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Original B/L/ Manufacturers invoice. ➤ Import licence – for engine exceeding 25hp. ➤ Letter of Credit or Direct Payment. ➤ Exchange control approval/List of items. ➤ Defence Ministry/Fisheries Ministry ➤ Approval. 	Duty Payable	The boat will be in the port for approvals for a minimum of 10-12 working days. There will be demurrage incurring, which has to be pre-paid by customer prior to clearance.
Motorcycles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Original B/L/Owner's passport. ➤ Manufacturer invoice/Insurance. ➤ Original Registration Certificate (English translation). ➤ Keys. ➤ Exchange control approval. ➤ Chamber of Commerce Certificate. ➤ Import licence – for engine exceeding 250cc ➤ Certificate of registration cancellation – from the country of origin. 	<p>Duty Payable</p> <p>Engine capacity not exceeding 125 c.c. Customs Duty 10%, Surcharge 20% Vat 10% Port Levies 1% of the declared value.</p> <p>Engine capacity not exceeding 125cc-200cc Customs Duty 10%, Surcharge 20% Vat 10% Port Levies 1% + excise duty 5% of the declared value.</p> <p>Engine capacity exceeding -200 c.c. Customs Duty 10%, Surcharge 20% Vat 10% Port Levies 1% + excise duty 15% of the declared value.</p>	<p>The motorcycle will be in the port for approvals for a minimum of 7 working days. There will be demurrage incurring, which has to be pre-paid by customer prior to clearance.</p> <p>If motorcycle is being shipped with personal effects in a container, the motorcycle must be loaded in front (near the door) of the container.</p>
Donation Goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Original BL/AWB. ➤ Packing inventory in English. ➤ Invoice/ Import licence. ➤ Exchange control approval. ➤ Letter of credit or direct payment – value exceeding USD 1.000.00. ➤ Tin / vat registration number. 	<p>Duty Payable – if duty waiver is not obtained from the Finance Ministry and Social Service Ministry, the following taxes should be paid:</p> <p>Duty Percentage is as follows - Customs duty 25% Vat 20% or 10% Surcharge 20% of the declared value.</p>	Do not undervalue. There will be penalties and high duties.
Furniture New/Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Original BL/AWB. ➤ Packing inventory in English. ➤ Invoice/ Import licence. ➤ Exchange control approval. ➤ Letter of credit or direct payment. 	<p>Duty Payable</p> <p>Customs Duty 25%, Surcharge 20% Vat 20% Port / Airport Levies 1% of the declared value.</p>	Do not undervalue. There will be penalties and high duties.

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Machines Parts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Original BL/AWB. ➤ Packing inventory in English. ➤ Invoice. ➤ Exchange control approval. ➤ Letter of credit or direct payment. ➤ Tin number & GST registration number. 	Duty Payable.	Do not undervalue. There will be penalties and high duties.
Fax Machines, Phones, Antenna, Satellite Dish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Original BL/AWB. ➤ Packing inventory in English. ➤ Invoice/Import licence/Telecom approval. ➤ Exchange control approval. ➤ Letter of credit or direct payment. 	Duty Payable.	Goods will be detained by customs until telecom approval has been obtained. Do not undervalue. There will be penalties and high duties.
Pets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Original AWB. ➤ Health and quarantine certificates. ➤ Original import licence obtained by the Department of Animal production and Health, Getambe, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. 	Duty Payable.	Advisable to send pets along with passenger on same flight. Applications for Import licence can be obtained from the Embassy of Sri Lanka at origin and should be obtained by customer. No duplicates or copies accepted. These documents should be produced to Customs for clearance.
Alcohol, Wines, Cigarettes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Original BL/AWB. ➤ Packing inventory in English. ➤ List of articles with nominal value. 	Duty Payable. US\$. 10/- per litter + Surcharge 20%, VAT 20%, Port/Airport levies 1% Approximately 250 % - 300 % of the declared value.	Do not undervalue. There will be penalties and high duties.
Office Files and Folders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Original BL/AWB. ➤ Packing inventory in English. ➤ Invoice. ➤ Exchange control approval. ➤ Letter of credit or direct payment. 	Duty Payable.	Do not undervalue. There will be penalties and high duties.
Exhibition Goods	➤ Same as above	Duty Payable.	Do not undervalue. There will be penalties and high duties.
Electrical Appliances	➤ Same as above	Duty Payable.	Do not undervalue. There will be penalties and high duties.
Prohibited Items		Prohibited and restricted goods: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sri Lanka currency over Rs.250/- ➤ Indian & Pakistan currencies. ➤ Gold, Silver and Gems. ➤ Dangerous drugs. ➤ Pornographic material, seditious literature, etc. ➤ Plants, fruits and vegetables, live fish and animals. ➤ Firearms, dangerous weapons and explosives. ➤ Telecommunication equipment. ➤ Feathers, furs, skins, tusks, etc. 	Warning – A false or non-declaration is an offence and may involve heavy penalties including forfeiture. When in doubt, consult a customs officer.
Religious Art Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Original Bill of Lading / Air Way Bill ➤ Packing inventory in English ➤ Invoice ➤ Exchange control approval ➤ Letter of Credit or Direct Payment 	Duty Payable.	Customs do not allow importing obscene, monstrous religious and Buddhist articles.