

# A GUIDE TO IMPORTING PERSONAL & HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS INTO NEW ZEALAND

## TO QUALIFY FOR DUTY FREE ENTRY

- Wearing apparel, toiletries, wedding gifts (with a value of less than NZ\$110) and other personal effects are admitted duty and GST free so long as they are intended for your own personal use or wear and are not intended for any other person or for gift, sale or exchange.
- Household goods imported by returning New Zealanders are admitted free of duty and GST provided they have resided outside New Zealand for more than 21 months and that the goods have been owned and used overseas by them.
- Household goods imported by migrants are admitted free of duty and GST where the migrant holds a permanent residency visa, a "work to residence" visa or a work permit (valid for at least 12 months) in their passport upon arrival of the goods in New Zealand. The goods must have been owned and used overseas prior to importation.
- Goods sent to a person in New Zealand as a gift will be admitted entirely free of duty and GST provided the value does not exceed NZ\$110.
- Antiques must be over 100 years old and accompanied by a B.A.D.A certificate.
- At the discretion of NZ Customs wine collections may be imported duty and GST free; evidence is required demonstrating that the wine has been collected over a period of time, is of varying types and genuinely forms part of the importer's household effects.
- Inherited goods should be accompanied by a death certificate and a copy of the will or a letter from the executor confirming the inheritance.
- The owner of the goods must be in New Zealand upon importation to qualify for duty and GST free entry, or within 6 months of arrival of the goods against payment of a bond calculated at 10% of the declared value of the goods, subject to a minimum bond of NZ\$500. If the owner does not arrive within 6 months any bond paid is forfeited and GST is payable.
- Unless the above criteria are satisfied duty and GST (Goods And Services Tax) are payable.

## CUSTOMS/QUARANTINE CLEARANCE

Our destination representative will supply a combined Customs/MAF Declaration form, which must be completed in New Zealand by the owner of the goods and presented with a full, descriptive inventory and passport containing your visa if required (or certified copy). If your goods are likely to precede your arrival in New Zealand you may nominate a friend or relative to act on your behalf. You will need to provide:

- Letter of Authority nominating your friend or relative to clear your good on your behalf
- Legible copy of photo/details page of passport (New Zealand/Australia) and your Visa (all other countries)
- Assessed value of consignment
- Date first left New Zealand to live overseas (returning New Zealanders)
- Evidence of your date of arrival into New Zealand (e.g. a copy of your airline reservation or ticket)

## QUARANTINE EXAMINATION

Consignments containing alcohol, tobacco, medicines or prescription drugs may be delayed, incur additional costs and possibly be subject to a physical examination. For prescribed drugs a copy of the prescription will be required by NZ Customs. If MAF wishes to inspect a consignment the following approximate fees will apply:

Baggage consignment	NZ\$ 145
Groupage Removal up to 142 cu ft	NZ\$ 200
Groupage Removal over 142 cu ft	NZ\$ 250
Full container Load	NZ\$ 400

The above fees incorporate both MAF charges and our representative's fee for handling, arranging and accounting for the inspection. With effect from 1 July 2010 a Customs Lodgement fee of approximately NZ\$50 also applies. These fees are payable to our representative.

## FUMIGATION/STEAM CLEANING

If fumigation/steam cleaning of items (such as saddlery, cane ware, sports and garden equipment, tents, hiking or camping gear etc) is ordered as a result of a MAF inspection you will be responsible for costs incurred (one item approx NZ\$75, Full container approx NZ\$400).

## RESTRICTED ARTICLES

The following articles may be imported, but are subject to the importer obtaining a licence or import permit prior to importation:

- Food stuffs and dairy produce
- Herbs and spices
- Stuffed animals and reptiles
- Bamboo, cane, rattan, basket ware & mats
- Wool (unprocessed) and animal hair
- Dried flowers, bulbs etc
- Seeds, pine cones and pot pourri
- Saddles and riding equipment
- Artefacts (wooden carvings, shields, masks etc)
- Camping equipment
- Farm clothing, footwear & equipment
- Furs, skins and hunting trophies
- Clam shells and coral (except with CITES certificate)
- Ivory (except with CITES certificate)
- Turtle and tortoise shells (except with CITES certificate)
- Some firearms

## PROHIBITED ARTICLES

The following articles are prohibited by Customs or Quarantine:

- Many firearms
- Eggs and egg products
- Honey
- Meat and meat products
- Plants including pot plants and plant cuttings
- Straw (handicrafts or packaging)
- Sheesha or Hooka pipes
- Bayonet's
- Double edged swords
- Narcotic drugs
- Pornographic books and magazines

## WOOD PACKAGING

Wood packaging used in personal effects consignments (crates, pallets etc) must be constructed of approved treated timber and stamped with the internationally recognised ISPM symbol verifying this. Any non-compliant timber may be destroyed, treated or re-exported to the country of origin at the owner's expense. Export cases supply by Anglo Pacific are compliant, embossed GB FC0122 DB HT Forestry Commission.