



Importing Personal Property Into

The Dominican Republic

IMPORTING HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

DUTY-FREE ENTRY IS PERMITTED IF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ARE MET:

- The items have been in the possession of the shipper for at least two years.
- There are no duplicate large electrical appliances.
- The shipper has been living outside of the Dominican Republic for at least 2 years and has not visited for more than 180 days in those 2 years.
- The items are prescription medications

Note: The importation of used household goods is exempt from duties, by virtue of Dominican Republic Law 170.

Any person or family who applies for duty exemptions must be present at the time of customs clearance to provide the intention to reside in the Dominican Republic.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- ✓ Provisional Residency Card
- ✓ Passport with a visa from the Dominican Consulate at origin.
- ✓ Original ocean bill of lading or air waybill.
- ✓ Detailed original inventory in Spanish or English.
- ✓ Original and legalized Dominican Republic consular invoice.

DOCUMENTS FOR RETURNING DOMINICAN REPUBLICAN CITIZENS:

- ✓ Valid Passports (2 years minimum) of family members, and expired passports, if applicable.
- ✓ Marriage Certificate, if applicable.
- ✓ Birth Certificates of family members.
- ✓ Alien residence cards of family members, if applicable.

Note: Citizens must have been out of the country for at least one year.

DOCUMENTS FOR FOREIGN CITIZENS:

In addition to the requirements for returning Dominican Republic citizens, the following is required:

- ✓ Dominican Republic Residence Visa of family members
- ✓ Legalized lease for a house or apartment.
- ✓ Electric and water service contracts.
- ✓ Work contract.
- ✓ Proof of a local banking account.

RESTRICTED/PROHIBITED ITEMS:

- Illicit drugs or associated paraphernalia.
- Counterfeit, altered or imitated articles of coins, paper money, banknotes or securities.
- Books, drawings, carvings, and any other articles that will injure public security of morals (firearms, ammunitions, explosives, pornographic materials, etc.)
- Articles that infringe upon rights in patents, utility-models, designs, trade marks, or copyrights or neighboring rights.
- All animal products, agricultural and horticultural products. (permits required prior to release of items to shipper)
- Wine, alcohol and food is limited to quantities for personal consumption only.
- Firearms, ammunition and pornography
- Machines, appliances and spare parts.

Note: Customs will confiscate and destroy all plants upon arrival if packed with household goods. Machines, appliances and spare parts require original invoices.

IMPORTING MOTOR VEHICLES, PETS AND FIREARMS

IMPORTATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES:

- One automobile per shipper (registered in the shipper's name for more than one year) is partially exempt from duty payment, by virtue of Dominican Republic Law 168.
- Any person or family who applies for duty exemptions must be present at the time of customs clearance to provide the intention to reside in the Dominican Republic.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- ✓ A valid passport (2 years minimum) of the shipper, and an expired passport (if applicable).
- ✓ An original ocean bill of lading or airway bill, displaying the shipper's name as it appears on the passport.
- ✓ An original and legalized Dominican Republic consular invoice.
- ✓ Alien residence card of the shipper, if he or she is a returning Dominican Republic citizen.
- ✓ Dominican Republic residence card of the shipper, if he or she is a foreign citizen.
- ✓ Original legalized commercial invoice or bill of sale.
- ✓ Certificate from the Department of Motor Vehicles at origin legalized by the Dominican Consulate.
- ✓ An original and one copy of the certificate of title (except if the vehicle is shipped from Miami, Florida. Then the title must be from the United States Customs Service).
- ✓ Copies of the registration for every year the automobile has been in the shipper's possession. The original registration cards for the current year and previous 2 years.

Exceptions:

- If the auto originates from New York City, the records of registration must be signed & stamped by the DMV in Albany, New York.
- If the auto originates from New Jersey, the records of registration must be on microfilm from the DMV in Trenton, New Jersey.

IMPORTATION OF CATS, DOGS AND BIRDS:

- Cats and dogs are allowed importation, if accompanied by a notarized Certificate of Health issued by a Veterinarian, and Vaccination records.
- Birds are placed in quarantine for at least ten days.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- ✓ Veterinary Certificate (less than 90 days old)
- ✓ Vaccination records, including Rabies history
- ✓ Original Bill of Lading/Airway Bill

IMPORTATION OF OTHER ANIMALS:

- Requires a veterinary certificate at origin verifying the animal is free of disease.
- Birds require quarantine of at least 10 days

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- ✓ Health Certificate
- ✓ Import Permit issued by the Department of Agriculture and Nation Zoo.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

- Consulado General de la Republica Dominicana en San Francisco, California, 1999.
- Excess Baggage Company, 1999.

The information presented herein is based on customs data available at the time of printing and is frequently subject to change without notice. It is the responsibility of the owner or importer of the household goods to comply with the current customs restrictions, regulations, and duties of the country to which the goods are imported. We strongly advise customers to contact the consulate or embassy of the destination country for the most current information on customs regulations, restrictions and duties for importing household goods, personal effects and vehicles.

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