



## Import Customs Guide **ZIMBABWE**

Information from FIDI Africa

# Import Customs guide ZIMBABWE



FIDI ACCREDITED  
INTERNATIONAL  
MOVER



**The global quality standard for international moving.**

The FAIM label is your global assurance for a smooth, safe and comprehensive relocation process.

GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
<p><b>Household goods and personal Effects.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Immigrants or returning residents after an absence of not less than 2 years:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The immigrant's declaration.</li> <li>▪ Undertaking Form 170 for personal and household effects issued in Zimbabwe.</li> <li>▪ The person's valid passport.</li> <li>▪ Residence or Work Permit.</li> <li>▪ The Bill of Lading or AWB.</li> <li>▪ Inventory with serial numbers of electrical appliances.</li> <li>▪ Valued inventory.</li> <li>▪ Bill of lading / airway bill.</li> <li>▪ For returning residence who have been working/studying out of Zimbabwe: proof of termination of employment / completion of studies is required.</li> <li>▪ Bank statement for the last 6 months.</li> <li>▪ Payslips for the past 2 years.</li> <li>▪ Proof of residence in Zimbabwe, either utility bill or lease agreement (first and last page).</li> <li>▪ Exit stamp when left Zimbabwe.</li> <li>▪ Accepted returning resident stamp i.e. Accepted RR.</li> <li>▪ Refrigerators, air conditioners, freezers, washing machines, dishing machine required import licence from Ministry of Environment (ODS Licence).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Household goods exclude firearms, motor vehicles, motor caravans.</li> <li>▪ No customs duties if the client has a work or residence permit.</li> <li>▪ No customs duties applicable if the client is a returning resident and has lived outside Zimbabwe for more than 2 years.</li> <li>▪ Duties will be applicable if the client has lived for less than 2 years outside Zimbabwe</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All immigrants are required to be physically present at Customs for customs clearance.</li> <li>▪ No imported goods may be sold, leased or otherwise disposed of for 24 months from their date of entry, unless customs duties are paid.</li> <li>▪ All personal effects and household goods must be imported within three months after the returning resident's time of arrival or after the time the work or resident permit has been granted to an immigrant.</li> <li>▪ It takes about two days to clear through customs for returning residence and those coming on residence/work permit.</li> <li>▪ Goods must arrive within three months from the time the client arrival into Zimbabwe from date on passport.</li> <li>▪ Client to apply for the import licence Ministry of Environment before the shipment is dispatched from the country of origin.</li> </ul>

GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Returning residents after an absence of less than two years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Immigrant's declaration.</li> <li>▪ Undertaking Form.</li> <li>▪ Valid passport.</li> <li>▪ Proof of original export if it is a re-importation.</li> <li>▪ Invoice/receipts of goods being imported since the goods will be paying duty and taxes and this will be is USD.</li> <li>▪ Valued Inventory.</li> <li>▪ Bill of lading / airway bill / road manifest.</li> <li>▪ Proof of residence in Zimbabwe, either utility bill or lease agreement (first and last page).</li> <li>▪ Freight Invoice.</li> <li>▪ Refrigerators, air conditioners, freezers, washing machines, dishing machine required import licence from Ministry of Environment (ODS LICENCE).</li> <li>▪ Furniture requires import permit from Ministry of Environment (ODS Licence).</li> </ul> </li>   <li>▪ Deceased estates - Goods forwarded to Beneficiaries in Zimbabwe: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Certified copy of Will.</li> <li>▪ Copy death certificate.</li> <li>▪ Inventory of items in Beneficiary name.</li> <li>▪ Letter from High Court stating that you are the beneficiary and the beneficiary has inherited the goods Bill of lading / airway bill / road manifest.</li> <li>▪ Statement of value of goods by the executor of the estate.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Letters of executorship</li> <li>▪ Valued inventory.</li> <li>▪ Freight Invoice.</li> <li>▪ Written undertaking not to sell or dispose of the goods within one year of importation.</li> <li>▪ Refrigerators, air conditioners, freezers, washing machines, dishing machine required import licence from Ministry of Environment (ODS LICENCE).</li> <li>▪ Furniture requires import permit from Ministry of Environment (ODS Licence).</li>   <li>▪ Work permit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Immigrant's declaration.</li> <li>▪ Undertaking Form.</li> <li>▪ Valid passport.</li> <li>▪ Work permit.</li> <li>▪ Inventory of goods.</li> <li>▪ Valued Inventory.</li> <li>▪ Bills of lading / airway bill / road manifest.</li> <li>▪ Proof of residence in Zimbabwe, either utility bill or lease agreement (first and last page).</li> <li>▪ Letter of contract from new employ in Zimbabwe.</li> <li>▪ 3-6 months bank statement.</li> <li>▪ Refrigerators, air conditioners, freezers, washing machines, dishing machine required import licence from Ministry of Environment (ODS LICENCE).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

<b>GOODS</b>	<b>DOCUMENTS REQUIRED</b>	<b>CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
<b>Diplomats' removals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inventory of goods.</li> <li>▪ Valued Inventory.</li> <li>▪ Bill of lading / airway bill / road manifest.</li> <li>▪ Passport.</li> <li>▪ Diplomatic card / Accreditation.</li> <li>▪ C152 from Embassy in Zimbabwe.</li> <li>▪ This C152 is applied for by Embassy to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and this will be used to clear the goods.</li> <li>▪ Bill of lading / Air Way Bill.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All documents, duly completed and signed by the diplomat must be submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Customs for clearance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Diplomatic shipments must be imported within three months after the time of the diplomat's arrival.</li> <li>▪ Diplomats first clear their Goods through Ministry of Foreign Affairs and then customs. Clearance with Ministry of Foreign Affairs takes Four to Fourteen days and less than a day at customs.</li> </ul>
<b>Wedding trousseaux</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original invoice and freight statement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Accompanied luggage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Customs will assess the value of presents/souvenirs and if value exceeds USD300.00 per individual duty is payable on the excess amount.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Unaccompanied luggage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Customs will need proof that the traveller owns consignment, or customs will charge import duty on full value.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Inheritance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Copy of Will.</li> <li>▪ Death Certificate.</li> <li>▪ Letter from Executor.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No duty payable.</li> </ul>	
<b>New furniture and household goods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Require invoices and freight statement</li> <li>▪ Bill of lading if applicable</li> <li>▪ Packing list</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subject to duty and VAT.</li> <li>▪ Subject to import licences and permits.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Not applicable for new immigrants.</li> <li>▪ Requires ODS Licence and Import permit.</li> </ul>
<b>Works of art, antiques</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Same as above.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Same as above.</li> </ul>	

GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
<b>Motor vehicles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ For immigrants or returning residents after an absence of not less than two years:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Form 171 (MV) for motor vehicles.</li> <li>▪ Immigrant's declaration.</li> <li>▪ Passport.</li> <li>▪ Residence permit/Work permit.</li> <li>▪ New vehicles other than above require invoice, registration document and freight costs.</li> <li>▪ CBCA Certificate (Consignment Based Conformity Assessment).</li> <li>▪ Motor vehicles above 10 years from the date of manufacture requires import permit from Ministry of Industry and Commerce.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Each member of the family over the age of 18 years can import a motor vehicle free of duty and tax, provided the importer before his entry into Zimbabwe purchased the vehicle.</li> <li>▪ Where the vehicle has been recently acquired all relevant documentation including invoices, bank cheques and statements, etc. will have to be produced to the Customs.</li> <li>▪ For a returning resident absent for less than 2 years, vehicle is subject to duty in foreign currency based on full value.</li> <li>▪ Taxes on car will depend on age and engine capacity. it maybe vary between 100% and 110% CIF.</li> <li>▪ The OBL must show Chassis Number, Engine number, Capacity, year of manufacture, brand and model.</li> <li>▪ CBCA Certificate must be processed in the country of export.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There are no restrictions on the importation of vehicles.</li> <li>▪ Used and new cars are subject to VAT.</li> <li>▪ Only one vehicle per person aged eighteen is allowed duty free and the carrying capacity of the vehicle should be less than fifteen people including the driver.</li> <li>▪ Failure to provide the CBCA Certificate, they will be penalties of 15% CIF value and local inspection fee.</li> </ul>
<b>Alcoholic beverages</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Persons visiting Zimbabwe and Zimbabwean residents returning to their country, aged at least 18 years, may import a maximum of 2 litres of alcoholic drink, of which not more than 2 litres may be spirits.</li> </ul>	
<b>Pets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Vaccination certificate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Are subject to import control.</li> <li>▪ Applications for licence should be made in the case of animals to the Director of Veterinary Services.</li> </ul>	

<b>GOODS</b>	<b>DOCUMENTS REQUIRED</b>	<b>CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
<b>Dangerous goods</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Are subject to import control.</li> <li>▪ Applications should be made in the case of firearms and ammunitions to the Secretary of Home Affairs.</li> </ul>	
<b>Citrus fruits, deciduous plants, seeds</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ May not be imported unless an import licence has been obtained in advance from the competent agricultural authorities and a Phytosanitary certificate is required.</li> <li>▪ Port Health Certificate is required.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Phyto-sanitary to be applied under Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement.</li> </ul>
<b>Drugs, pornographic books, forged documents, counterfeit money</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Importation is prohibited.</li> </ul>	
<b>Foodstuff</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Importation is restricted.</li> <li>▪ Subject to import controls.</li> </ul>	
<b>Agricultural equipment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commercial invoice</li> <li>▪ Packing list</li> <li>▪ Bill of Lading / Airway bill</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Duty free.</li> <li>▪ Subject to import controls.</li> </ul>	



The FIDI Global Alliance

---

Tel.: +32 2 426 51 60  
Email: [fidi@fidi.org](mailto:fidi@fidi.org)

[www.fidi.org](http://www.fidi.org)