



## Import Customs Guide **BAHRAIN**

Information from FIDI Middle East & North Africa

# Customs guide BAHRAIN

The global quality standard for international moving.

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



FIDI ACCREDITED  
INTERNATIONAL  
MOVER



GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
<p><b>Removal goods</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Express Bill of Lading or Original Bill of lading.</li> <li>▪ Original Airway bill.</li> <li>▪ Clear copy of the Packing list in English.</li> <li>▪ Copy of the Passport with a valid Residence permit endorsed for all shipments.</li> <li>▪ Authorisation Letter.</li> <li>▪ House Lease Agreement Copy.</li> <li>▪ Original Vehicle Ownership Title.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All shipments are subject to 100% inspection at the port/airport.</li> <li>▪ New items will attract a duty of 5% &amp; 5 % VAT.</li> <li>▪ Whether old or new, customs duty would apply on personal computers, piano or musical instruments (5%), videos (approx. US\$ 0,55 per video as screening fee), foodstuff (5%).</li> <li>▪ Duty free on to CDs, DVDs, LDs, VCDs unless large quantities are imported.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Consignee's physical presence is not mandatory for Customs clearance (however consignee can always be present if wish to attend the clearance process except for overland shipments).</li> <li>▪ All used HHGs are allowed free of duty but subject to owner having a valid Residence Permit.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In the absence of a two year Residence Permit, shipment can be cleared upon issue of a guarantee letter from company sponsor stating that residence permit is in process, which is subject to Customs Approval.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Items contained in the shipment must be for personal use and cannot be used for commercial purposes.</li> <li>▪ DVD's/magazines are subject to inspection by the Ministry of Interior for pornographic literature, banned books, etc.</li> <li>▪ Customs and Port Authority will remain closed on Fridays and Saturdays.</li> <li>▪ For more information:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="http://www.bahraincustoms.gov.bh/">http://www.bahraincustoms.gov.bh/</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="http://www.mofa.gov.bh/washington/Home.aspx">http://www.mofa.gov.bh/washington/Home.aspx</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
<b>Diplomatic removals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Express or Original Bill of Lading.</li> <li>▪ Original Airway-bill.</li> <li>▪ Clear copy of the packing List</li> <li>▪ Duty Exemption Certificate from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.</li> <li>▪ Copy of diplomatic passport or ID.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Duty free clearance.</li> <li>▪ No physical Customs inspection. Only scanning.</li> <li>▪ Firearms prohibited.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Medicines are subject to prescription by a doctor and should be in Arabic or English.</li> <li>▪ Wines, spirits and alcohol subject to customs duty at customs discretion. Please check with your Embassy prior to shipping.</li> </ul>
<b>Commodity shipments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original Commercial invoice, which must indicate currency, C &amp; F value.</li> <li>▪ Amount of packages, weight/measurement manufacturer's name, and country of origin.</li> <li>▪ Packing List.</li> <li>▪ Insurance Certificate (if insured).</li> <li>▪ Certificate of Origin (legalised).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subject to 5% customs duty on CIF value.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All shipments are subject to the Customs inspection.</li> </ul>
<b>Motor vehicles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commercial invoice on new vehicles.</li> <li>▪ Original Bill of Lading or Express Bill of Lading.</li> <li>▪ Certificate of ownership OR Export certificate from country of origin.</li> <li>▪ Car condition report.</li> <li>▪ Proof of insurance.</li> <li>▪ No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (for diplomats).</li> <li>▪ Residence Permit for at least 18 months (non-citizens).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 5 yrs or older Motor Vehicles not allowed to be imported.</li> <li>▪ VAT is applicable at 5% of the value assessed by the customs (CIF).</li> <li>▪ Customs duty payable at 5% of the value assessed by the customs (CIF).</li> <li>▪ Port handling fee payable by the customer.</li> <li>▪ Consignee has to arrange for Local Insurance prior to custom clearance and removal of car from Customs and Port.</li> <li>▪ Valid insurance is required.</li> <li>▪ The shipper must arrange to obtain the Central Population Registration (CPR) card through the employer's HR department.</li> <li>▪ Once the CPR is obtained, the shipper may obtain a temporary license plate.</li> <li>▪ Consignee must be present for customs inspection.</li> <li>▪ Cars older than 5 years cannot be imported - For more information: <a href="http://www.bna.bh/portal/en/news/702363">http://www.bna.bh/portal/en/news/702363</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Importation allowed for left hand drive vehicles only.</li> <li>▪ Vehicles should not be shipped with a full gasoline tank.</li> <li>▪ Ocean freight shipment can be cleared without a residence permit with a deposit payable at clearance. The deposit amount will be refunded once the residence permit is stamped (+/- 2 weeks) (For non-citizens).</li> </ul>

GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
<b>Pets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Copy of the Airway-bill.</li> <li>▪ Vaccination certificate.</li> <li>▪ Import permit.</li> <li>▪ Veterinary Health Certificate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Import licence to be obtained prior to booking the pets.</li> <li>▪ The Veterinary Health Certificate must state that the animal is free from disease and is fully vaccinated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Upon completion of Customs formalities all pets will be sent to the government quarantine centre. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quarantine is normally for a month.</li> <li>▪ Consignee has to make his own feeding arrangements for the pet during quarantine.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Pets may only be transported as cargo; however, assistive animals may be able to travel in the aircraft cabin.</li> </ul>
<b>Prohibited Items</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Narcotics and Drugs.</li> <li>▪ Flammable Items.</li> <li>▪ Ivory.</li> <li>▪ Pornographic materials (DVDs and magazines are subject to inspection by the Ministry of Interior).</li> <li>▪ Pirated DVDs and VCDs.</li> <li>▪ Swords.</li> <li>▪ Naked statues and naked paintings.</li> <li>▪ Knives, daggers (ornamental, etc.).</li> <li>▪ Wireless equipment.</li> <li>▪ Satellite, receivers, cordless telephones, walkie-talkies.</li> <li>▪ Guns, arrows, darts.</li> <li>▪ Military clothes.</li> <li>▪ Gambling games.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fire gun, shot gun, sea gun, military clothes, sword, two-side knives (even those pre-packed as souvenirs), arrow or dart, dagger: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Customs will hold the entire shipment if necessary</li> <li>▪ If required, local police authorities will be called.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Wireless equipment like remote controlled choppers, airplanes, boats, satellite dish antennas, and weapons of any nature – even those pre-packed as souvenirs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Customs will hold the entire shipment if necessary</li> <li>▪ If required, local police authorities will be called in should any types of guns, ammunition, souvenir daggers and remote controlled devices be found.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Alcoholic beverages</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Importation allowed if part of a removal.</li> <li>▪ Customs duty applicable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Customs duty will be assessed by Customs.</li> </ul>



## The FIDI Global Alliance

---

Bld Louis Schmidt 29 B1  
1040 Brussels - Belgium

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

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