



Import Customs Guide **PANAMA**

Information from FIDI Latin America

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GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
<p>General</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For Air Shipments only – WORK VISA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Immigration Register Stamp on passport is mandatory. ▪ Original passport is mandatory. ▪ Notarized work contract is mandatory. ▪ Original letter of employment addressed to Autoridad Nacional de Aduanas. ▪ Final VISA ID. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If VISA ID is not ready, original letter from the attorney stating that the visa is in process. ▪ Copy of Immigration Resolution Form if available. ▪ For LCL Shipments only – WORK VISA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Original passport is mandatory. ▪ Notarized copy of passport (all pages). ▪ Original letter of employment addressed to Autoridad Nacional de Aduanas. ▪ Notarized Final VISA ID copy is mandatory. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If VISA ID is not ready, original letter from the attorney stating the visa is in process. ▪ Copy of Immigration Resolution Form if available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Customs authorities in Panama are requesting that all Ocean Bills of Lading (OBL) and Air Way Bills (AWB) be rated (show cost). ▪ If the OBL / AWB have already been issued without the cost shown, you must request origin SS line / air carrier to authorize their representative in Panama a freight rate certification. ▪ Customs authorities in Panama are requesting Spanish Inventory List. ▪ For all visa types, shippers must validate to Customs that immigration process has started by presenting the stamped admission receipt from immigration office. ▪ Duties and taxes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As per Panamanian Laws, shipments must arrive into Panama maximum 6 months ahead of the last entry date stamped on the passport. ▪ All shipments must be inspected at port of entry, but this is usually done at a Customs bonded warehouse or shipper's residence at time of delivery (Panama City Limits).

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Diplomats removals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Copy of passport. ▪ Rated Original OBL / Express Release. ▪ Spanish Inventory. ▪ Original letter from the Embassy in Panama requesting Previous Permit addressed to Autoridad Nacional de Aduanas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preferably pack into Liftvans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All shipments must be inspected at port of entry. ▪ Quarantine Personnel is entitled to cut the Steamship line seals.
Household Goods & Personal Effects	<p>There are multiple visas in Panama, each one has its own required documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RETURNING CITIZENS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Original or notarized passport in Panama - all pages. ▪ Copy of Panamanian Cedula. ▪ Copy of carnets and IDs from abroad. ▪ Copy of utility bills from abroad dated over 2 years ago from their arrival date into Panama. ▪ Rated Original OBL / Express Release. ▪ Spanish Inventory. ▪ FRIENDLY NATIONS VISA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Original or notarized passport in Panama including ID page and last entry stamp. ▪ Copy of Visa Carnet or Original Letter from attorney in Panama addressed to Autoridad Nacional de Aduanas stating visa is in process ** ▪ Rated Original OBL / Express Release and Spanish Inventory. ▪ WORKING VISA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Original or Notarized passport in Panama including ID page and last entry stamp. ▪ Original Letter of employment in Panama addressed to Autoridad Nacional de Aduanas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Panamanian citizens returning to the country after a time of no less than 2 years being out of Panama, can import tax-free all used items. ▪ Effects should arrive no later than 6 months after shipper's arrival into Panama. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All shipments must be inspected at port of entry, but this is usually done at a Customs bonded warehouse or shipper's residence at time of delivery (Panama City Limits). ▪ Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ** If Visa is not ready, then an original letter from attorney must be submitted to customs. ▪ ** If visa ID carnet is ready the letter from attorney is no longer required. ▪ ** Original Letter from the bank in Panama stating the information of shipper's account. The minimum is FIVE figures.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Copy of Visa Carnet or work permit (if available) or ** ▪ Original Letter from attorney stating visa is in process addressed to Autoridad Nacional de Aduanas. ** ▪ Rated Original OBL / Express Release and Spanish Inventory. ▪ SELF SOLVENCY VISA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Original or notarized passport in Panama including ID page and last entry stamp. ▪ Rated Original OBL / Express Release and Spanish Inventory. ▪ Copy of Visa Carnet or Original Letter from the attorney addressed to Autoridad Nacional de Aduanas**. ▪ Original Letter from the bank in Panama addressed to Autoridad Nacional de Aduanas***. ▪ PENSIONADO VISA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Original or notarized passport in Panama including ID page and last entry stamp. ▪ Rated Original OBL / Express Release and Spanish Inventory. ▪ Pensionado Carnet or Original Letter from the attorney addressed to Autoridad Nacional de Aduanas. 		
<p>New furniture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Original Commercial or purchase invoice. ▪ Copy of passport. ▪ Rated Original OBL / Express Release and Spanish Inventory. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subject to import duties and taxes. It is the Appraisal Department at Customs who determines the amount to be paid. ▪ All shipments must be inspected at port of entry, but this is usually done at a Customs bonded warehouse or shipper's residence at time of delivery. 	

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Pets and animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Original Health Certificate legalized at the Panamanian Consulate (should include vaccinations). ▪ Original Vaccine Certificate or Carnet updated (verify with the Consulate if is required to be legalized as well). ▪ Passport copy of the owner. ▪ Quarantine application form (provided by the agent). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pets must arrive to Airport in Panama before 5.00 pm from Monday to Friday. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Should apply for a domiciliary quarantine 3 days before the arrival of the pet.
Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Original owner's certificate. ▪ Commercial or purchase invoice. ▪ Copy of passport. ▪ Rated Original OBL / Express Release. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subject to import duties and taxes, based upon appraisal by Panama Customs. ▪ Vehicle Gas Inspection will take place at bonded warehouse during the custom clearance process. ▪ Right hand steering wheel vehicles are NOT allowed to be imported into Panama. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If engine number is unknown, shipper must take the vehicle to a workshop to obtain this number and customs document will be amended. Engine number is required for license plate process.
Alcohol, perfume, gifts		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Import of: (maximum) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alcohol: 1 - 5 bottles. ▪ Perfume: for personal use. ▪ Gifts: valued PAB 50. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regarding the importation of alcohol, the Panamanian Authority for Food Safety (AUPSA), along with the National Customs Authority, provides the authorization of alcoholic beverages based on a standard of personal consumption of 1 - 5 bottles per shipment. ▪ It is subject to an administrative payment for the issuance of liquor import license, according to the degree of alcohol and commercial value. ▪ The conditions that must exist are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The product must have sanitary registration. ▪ You must notify the Panamanian Authority of Food Safety (AUPSA) about the introduction of the wines to the

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			<p>national territory (minimum 48 hours) before arrival, through the Food Entry Notification Form, for this, the client must have an account Otherwise you must register as a client in AUPSA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must have a letter from the shipper stating the information of the product, for what purpose it will be imported, including AWB number / BL number, quantity, value, etc.
<p>Prohibited items</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Firearms, ammunitions, and weapons. ▪ FIREARMS, AMMUNITIONS, AND WEAPONS. ▪ Pharmaceuticals and medicine. ▪ PHARMACEUTICALS AND MEDICINE. ▪ Any kind of food. ▪ ANY KIND OF FOOD. ▪ Psychotropic drugs. ▪ PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS. ▪ Toxic waste. ▪ TOXIC WASTE. ▪ Fertilizer. ▪ FERTILIZER. 	



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