



## Import Customs Guide **THAILAND**

Information from FIDI Asia

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GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
<p><b>Removal goods for Foreign National and returning Thai National</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Shipper must provide:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original Passport</li> <li>▪ Thai ID card for Thai nationals</li> <li>▪ Non-Immigrant or Residence Visa valid for one year for foreign national</li> <li>▪ Work Permit valid for one year</li> <li>▪ Smart visa reference number for Smart visa holders</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Origin agent must provide:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legible copy of packing inventory in English.</li> <li>▪ Original OBL if not surrendered or airway bill</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Shipments must be marked on the OBL “Used Personal Effects &amp; Household Goods” and airway bills as “Used Personal Effects” only.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Duty-free entry for used personal effects and household goods but only 1 (one) small air shipment AND 1 (one) shipment by sea only.</li> <li>▪ Household effects under 6 months in age are subject to duties.</li> <li>▪ Although the shipper may import more than one shipment, he remains subject to full import duties on the second shipment. We recommend the consolidation of shipments prior to their arrival in Thailand.</li> <li>▪ Personal and household effects must be imported not earlier than one month prior to arrival and no later than six months after the arrival of the importer.</li> <li>▪ Original passport and original work permit must be presented to Customs during the inspection. The bond facility is not available pending the issuance of a work permit. Without the one-year work permit, shipment will be dutiable, only an original passport is required during customs clearance.</li> <li>▪ All shipments (except diplomatic) must be consigned to the Shipper’s full name</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Duty free entry available to:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Returning Thai resident who has lived abroad for more than 12 months.</li> <li>▪ Must have had their Thai passport stamped from Thailand, and arrival at destination and vice versa.</li> <li>▪ Thai customs must see an immigration entry/exit stamp in the shipper’s passport.</li> <li>▪ Do not go through the electronic lane (mostly for tourists) when the shipper arrives at Suvarnabhumi International Airport.</li> <li>▪ Thai customs will need to see the arrival stamp in the passport. In case the shipper has gone through that lane on the previous visit to Thailand, it will create difficulties for them to file a proof of arrival in order to receive the duty-free status. The shipper will need to obtain the full immigration in/out travel record from the Central Immigration Department in Bangkok.</li> <li>▪ Too frequent travelling back and forth can cause problems should Customs deem the owner to have not been permanently based in the origin country. Each stay in Thailand must not be more than 3 months each time. The shipper has</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		<p>(exactly as shown in the passport) with the title Mr./Mrs./Ms or Miss in front of the Shipper's first name. The shipment has to be consigned to the full name of the shipper c/o Removal Company's address.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Shipper does not have to be present at customs BUT his/her original passport has to be presented to customs.</li> <li>▪ The following restrictions must always be met for a 1-year work permit or a returning Thai – otherwise, the shipment will be classified as non-exempt: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shipment must originate from the same country as the owner's last place of residence or place of work.</li> <li>2. Shipment must arrive in Thailand not earlier than 1 month prior to the owner's arrival/return to Thailand.</li> <li>3. Shipment must arrive in Thailand no later than 6 months after the owner's arrival/return to Thailand.</li> <li>4. Thai customs allow only one sea and one small air shipment.</li> <li>5. Must contain used items (not new).</li> <li>6. Only one of each type of electrical appliance is allowed, duplicate appliances will be charged full duties.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<p>never imported goods into Thailand. Original passport (old passport might be needed), and original Thai ID card must be presented during the customs inspection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Foreigners holding a one-year non-immigrant B (business) visa with a valid one-year work permit at the time shipment arrives at port.</li> <li>▪ Foreigners holding Visa type "O", "O-A", (Retirement or Guardian visa) will not be considered for duty-free entry and are subject to duties and taxes.</li> <li>▪ Foreigners holding "Elite visa", "ED" Education visa or other categories will not be considered for duty-free entry and are subject to duties and taxes.</li> <li>▪ Foreigners holding "Smart visa". <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Only a full 1-year Smart visa will be considered for duty exemption.</li> <li>▪ Duty shall be exempt for the import of used personal household goods for the shipment with a maximum weight limit of 3,500 kgs.</li> <li>▪ Original Passport and Original Confirmation letter from Smart Visa Office are required.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ All other categories are subject to high taxes.</li> <li>▪ A VAT of 7% applies to all invoices issued in</li> </ul>

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			<p>Thailand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Customs clearance takes five to seven working days.</li> </ul>
<b>Removal Goods</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All shipments must be marked on the OBL as 'Used Personal effects &amp; Household goods' or AWB as 'Used personal effects' only. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Do not declare as household goods or household_effects on the AWB.</li> <li>▪ Original OBL is needed if OBL is not surrendered (express released).</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ On "Marks and Numbers" cannot show "No Marks" or leave it blank on the OBL. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Need to use consignee name under marks on the OBL.</li> <li>▪ There will be approx. USD 1500 fine charged by Thai Customs if without marking on BL or marking incomplete.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ With all documentation in order, clearance typically takes 3-5 working days for FCL and 5-7 working days for LCL shipment.</li> </ul>
<b>Diplomats' removals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A set of packing lists.</li> <li>▪ Diplomatic document (DP1). Bill of Lading if not surrendered or Air Way Bill.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Diplomatic shipments are allowed duty-free into the Kingdom.</li> <li>▪ Diplomatic shipments must be consigned to their Embassy or their mission/organization with full name and full address Attn: Mr./Mrs./Ms. Or Miss in front of Shipper's full name (exactly as shown in passport).</li> <li>▪ Diplomats need to get permission from their local Embassy if they are able to receive the DP1 document to import wine and other alcohol.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Documentation processing for diplomatic shipments (DP1) takes approximately one to four weeks by their respective embassy after the shipment arrives at the port.</li> <li>▪ Port storage and demurrage will normally occur on every diplomatic shipment.</li> <li>▪ Cars and motorcycles: provide the engine number and include it on the BL (see section Motor Vehicles – Diplomatic)</li> </ul>

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<b>Non-exempt from duty</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ High duties are placed on all goods not conforming to the section above. Particularly high duties apply to electrical goods, carpets, and luxury goods.</li> <li>▪ Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Toys, baby items, PC games, office items including files, bicycles, exercise equipment, sports equipment, musical instrument, medical items, i.e. blood pressure monitor, golf set ARE DUTIABLE and will not be considered for a duty exemption, especially when sending via airfreight.</li> <li>▪ Prohibited articles include firearms, ammunition, pornographic literature, short-wave radios and medical equipment, statues of Buddha heads or parts, and gold and silver.</li> <li>▪ Wine and spirits, foodstuff, toys, wood products, foosball table, helmet, Buddha statue, animal skin, and trophies require special import licensing and should not be included in the shipment without prior consultation.</li> <li>▪ Buddha statue and Fine Art items will need to be pre-determined if these items will be allowed to import or if need to pre-register with the Fine Arts Department.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Customs at the airport are very strict. They are not expecting the shipper to send a large used HHG via air and intend to go through the goods more thoroughly during the inspection. We recommend sending above mentioned items via sea shipment if possible.</li> <li>▪ Air shipments are subjected to more security, inspection, and taxing of dutiable items, so we do not recommend overloading the air freight shipment with electronics, toys, sports gear or makeup cosmetics, etc. as these items attract high duties.</li> <li>▪ Do not include any alcohol, food products, Fine Art/Buddha item, liquid soap/shampoo, or prescription medicines which are prohibited.</li> <li>▪ For all inbound shipments (except diplomatic) agent must have the client's actual passport for clearance.</li> <li>▪ All toys, sports/exercise equipment, bicycle, office equipment &amp; documents, and luxury goods are subject to duty.</li> </ul>
<b>Wedding trousseaux</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Wedding gifts will be subject to duties per</li> </ul>	

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		the appropriate tariffs.	
<b>Inheritance</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will be subject to duties unless Thai citizens can satisfy Government residence requirements.</li> </ul>	
<b>New furniture and household goods</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subject to duties, i.e. tax on wooden furniture 28.40% of CIF value.</li> </ul>	
<b>Fine Arts / Religious articles ie. Buddha items</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to be pre-registered with the Fine Arts Department.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must have a picture of the items.</li> <li>Some Asian antiques, especially Buddha items, and religious artifacts require special permits from the Thai Fine Arts Dept. These items will also require permits in order to re-export.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is a sensitive subject with Thai Customs, it is recommended that photos of any potential fine arts are sent before packing the shipment.</li> <li>Do not send in the air shipment.</li> </ul>
<b>Antiques</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No document required if part of the household effects. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is advised to specify antiques on import documentation to prove their importation, in order to facilitate their exportation later.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must have a picture of the items.</li> <li>Must appear on the packing list.</li> <li>Some Asian antiques, especially religious artifacts require Fine Arts Dept. approval for export, whether imported by the shipper or not.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not send in the air shipment.</li> </ul>
<b>Carpets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No document required, if part of the household effects.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not send in the air shipment.</li> </ul>
<b>Sport articles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as above.</li> </ul>		
<b>Presents, souvenirs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as above.</li> </ul>		
<b>Motor vehicles (automobiles/motorcycles)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Automobile registration of the foreign country.</li> <li>Driver's license of the country from which</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Automobiles and motorcycles are dutiable items (whether new or old):</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Automobile cannot be imported unless the applicant applies for permission and receives permission from the Ministry of</li> </ul>

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	<p>the car was exported.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original B/L.</li> <li>▪ Import permit (must be available before the car is shipped to Thailand).</li> <li>▪ Original passport and one-year work permit.</li> <li>▪ Original car registration.</li> <li>▪ Original marriage certificate (if the shipper has a Thai spouse and holds a Non-O visa).</li> <li>▪ All documents must be translated and certified if it's not in English.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Autos up to 2400 cc duty are 213.16% of CIF Value.</li> <li>▪ Autos over 2400 cc duty are 250.81% of CIF Value.</li> <li>▪ Autos over 3000 cc duty are 308.04% of CIF Value.</li> <li>▪ Motorcycles pay duty at 77.04% of CIF value.</li> <li>▪ Free duty exemptions are provided to diplomatic organizations with DP1 documents.</li> </ul>	<p>Commerce before shipping the automobile into the Kingdom.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One-year work permit is required for Foreign National to apply for an import permit.</li> <li>▪ Automobile registration must show that the applicant has had legal possession or ownership for at least one and a half years, from the ownership date till the date he left that country.</li> <li>▪ Driver's license of the country in which the automobile was used showing that the license was together with the automobile for more than one year.</li> <li>▪ Re-registering the vehicle in Thailand is the responsibility of the owner.</li> <li>▪ Motor vehicles privately owned: per MOC announcements in 2019 and 2021, automobiles and motorcycles are prohibited.</li> </ul>
<b>Other vehicles (bicycles, water vehicles)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Invoice for water vehicle – seek agent advice before sending.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bicycles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subject to duty at 49.80% of CIF value.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Water vehicles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subject to import tax and duties.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Do not send into the air shipment.</li> </ul>
<b>Motor Vehicles (autos/motorcycles) Diplomatic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Passport copy.</li> <li>▪ Original BL, SWB or Express BL.</li> <li>▪ Details of the vehicle, make/model, year, color, engine number, chassis number.</li> <li>▪ Export vehicle documents.</li> <li>▪ Export vehicle inspection.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Free Duty exemptions are provided to Diplomatic organizations with DP1 document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Re-registering the vehicle in Thailand is the responsibility of the owner.</li> </ul>
<b>Machines, appliances, spare parts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Invoice. – seek agent advice before sending.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subject to duty per the appropriate tariffs.</li> </ul>	
<b>Wine</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Import permit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subject to duty +330%.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Thai customs have very strict regulations</li> </ul>

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			<p>pertaining to importing wine and alcohol into Thailand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Alcohol is not permitted to import without a special import license that will not be granted to individuals but only to licensed importers.</li> <li>▪ It can be very difficult and time-consuming for the private shipper trying to obtain the import permit from the Excise Department.</li> <li>▪ Not recommended to import.</li> </ul>
<b>Alcohol</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Import permit needed (take a long time to obtain it).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subject to a duty +330%.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Same as above.</li> </ul>
<b>Tins</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Same as wine.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subject to a duty of 72%.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Same as above.</li> </ul>
<b>Food</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Import permit required.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subject to a duty of 37%.</li> </ul>	
<b>Plants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Health certificate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prohibited: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Several plants, fruits, parts, and products of plants from many countries.</li> <li>▪ Enquire in advance with Consulate or other authority.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Arms and ammunition</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prohibited.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Not to be included in household shipments.</li> </ul>
<b>Dangerous goods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Must be clearly declared.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Import generally permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Seek your agent's advice before shipping.</li> </ul>
<b>Medicine</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No document required if part of the household effects (sea Shipment only).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If large quantity of medicine, please seek agent advice before sending.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Do not send into the air shipment.</li> </ul>
<b>Narcotics, drugs</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prohibited.</li> </ul>	



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<p><b>Cats, dogs, and other animals</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Certificate of vaccination (rabies).               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pet must be vaccinated not less than 21 days but not longer than 1 year.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Government Health Certificate (Export permit).</li> <li>▪ Owner original passport.</li> <li>▪ Import permit.</li> <li>▪ AWB.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No quarantine.</li> <li>▪ Photocopies of the below documents to apply for the import permit (7-10 working days in advance):               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rabies vaccination certificate.</li> <li>▪ Government Health certificate – Owner copies of passport.</li> <li>▪ Estimated flight detail.</li> <li>▪ Colour photo of the pet.</li> <li>▪ All copies of documents must be in English.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Prohibited breeds include American Pit Bull Terrier and Staffordshire Bull Terrier.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subject to 30% import duty if sent as air cargo.</li> <li>▪ Copies of AWB and Official Health Certificate (export permit) should be sent to the agent prior to the pet's arrival at the airport.</li> <li>▪ The animal should arrive during daytime. If arrival is after 4 p.m., special Customs clearance can be arranged, provided flight details are known 48 hours in advance.</li> <li>▪ It is recommended to send as excess baggage, when there might be no Customs clearance and no duty.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pornographic literature, Short-wave radios</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prohibited.</li> </ul>	



## The FIDI Global Alliance

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