

# Sao Tome and Principe Country Guide

---

[iamovers.org/ResourcesPublications/CountryGuides.aspx](https://iamovers.org/ResourcesPublications/CountryGuides.aspx)

## Country Guide: Sao Tome and Principe

---

***Due to the current coronavirus/COVID-19 situation and restrictions in various countries, the below information may not be accurate. This pandemic is a fluid situation. Check with authorities for local laws and restrictions concerning movements.***

---

Updated: November 22, 2016

***[Find movers in Sao Tome and Principe now!](#)***

---



***[Find a foreign embassy in Sao Tome and Principe](#)***

---

***[Find Sao Tome and Principe's embassies in other countries](#)***

---

## Used Household Goods and Personal Effects

---

### Documents required:

- Original AWB / OBL
- Sao Tomean tax card (cartao de contribuinte) from the owner of the goods or their company / organization
- Copy of valid passport
- Copy of residence permit
- Original valued inventory list in Portuguese, dated, and signed (in Euros or USD)
- Packing list in Portuguese or French / English

- Letter of employment in Portuguese and stamped from the company or organization in Sao Tome
- Original certificate of change of residence
- Letter of exemption (returning citizens)
- Diplomatic exemption stamped by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (diplomats)

**Specific Information:**

Extra charges cannot be avoided (rent, demurrage) payable at destination.

**Motor Vehicles**

---

**Documents Required:**

- Car registration document
- Attestation of not resale
- Declaration of value
- Copy of vehicle purchase invoice
- Descriptive inventory of car
- Diplomatic exemption or concession allowed by Customs authorities, if applicable

**Specific Information:**

- Full or partial suspension of taxes and duties for the period of stay.
  - Concession granted for 12 months, renewable, maximum 4 years.
  - At the end, definitive import with payment of remaining taxes and duties or re-export free of taxes and duties.
- In all cases, payment of general Customs fees.
- In all cases, payment of “taxa do porto” – 3% on CIF value.
- Guarantee or bank guarantee.
  - The amount of security is the amount of Customs duties and charges incurred
- Request for the concession.
- Foreign company domiciled in Sao Tome are excluded from duty-free or duty-suspension arrangement.

**Pets**

---

**Note:** Contact local agent for more specific information.

## Restricted/Dutiable Items

---

**Note:** Contact local agent for more specific information.

## Prohibited Items

---

- Drugs, narcotics, weapons, ammunitions, and explosives are prohibited
- Distilled beverage as ether, wormwood, isopropyl alcohol, benzyl alcohol
- Tobacco: 250 g / 200 cigarettes / 50 cigars
- Alcohol: 1 L of spirits / 2 L of wine
- Pharmaceutical products permitted in reasonable quantities
- Perfume 50 ml – toilet water / eau de toilette 250 ml
- Pornographic film, drawing, picture
- Foodstuffs containing some saccharin

## Consignment Instructions

---

**Recommended:** Contact the destination agent to ensure all requirements have been met prior to import, especially for differences regarding air / sea shipments.

## Cultural and Other Information

---

[CIA World Factbook Entry for Sao Tome and Principe](#)

[Wikipedia Entry for Sao Tome and Principe](#)