



**QATAR**



## **CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND INFORMATION FOR IMPORTS**

### **HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS**

#### **Documents Required**

- Copy of Passport / Visa / Residence Permit Visa with page of Entry Stamp
- Packing list (In English)
- Bill of Lading (OBL) / Express Release or Telex release / Air Waybill (AWB) – a copy is acceptable
- Letter of Employment (NOC)
- Letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (for clearance of Diplomatic shipments)

#### **Specific Information**

- Used household goods are subject to Customs inspection.
- Customs will inspect all packages.
- Customs clearance takes approximately 3-4 business days from the date of receipt of the original documents required for clearance. Storage or demurrage charges will be billed back to the shipper or agent per the receipt.
- The shipper must be in Qatar during Customs clearance.
- The Residence Visa must be obtained prior to arrival of the shipment.
- All prohibited articles detained by customs may be destroyed without consignee's consent
- All printed matter, records, films, books, pictures, tapes, slides, movies, videos, compact discs, computer software, etc. are subject to censorship and confiscation (must be packed separately for easy access) if caught with any of these items, customer will be subject to severe penalties and a possible jail term.
- Travel bags and packages must remain unlocked.
- Used personal goods are dutiable in Qatar if the value is more than QAR 3000.00 or USD 800.00.
- The Customs duty is 5% of the estimated value of goods determined by the Customs Valuation Committee plus the legalization charges of approximately USD 175.00.
- Documents must be received by agent at least 5 days prior to arrival of the shipment.

### **MOTOR VEHICLES**

#### **Documents Required**

- Proof of ownership at origin
- Original Import Manifest
- Registration Certificate
- Insurance Policy
- Purchase or Sales Invoice
- OBL / AWB

#### **Specific Information**

- Vehicles must be Gulf Standard and left-hand drive.
- Automobiles should not be more than 5 years old.
- The owner of the vehicle must be a resident in Qatar prior to registration of the vehicle.
- A 5% customs duty is charged on the value of the vehicle identified on the price on the Purchase or Sales Invoice value or its depreciated value and is determined at the discretion of the Customs Officer in charge.
- Vehicles older than 4 years old cannot be imported.

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## PETS

### Documents Required

- Vaccination Record
- Veterinary Health Certificate

### Specific Information

- The Veterinary Health Certificate must be issued by a government approved veterinarian clinic in the origin country and must confirm that the animal is in good health with current vaccinations.
- The certificate must be dated within 2 weeks prior to the animal's arrival in Qatar.

## RESTRICTED / DUTIABLE ITEMS

- Cigarettes (free import up to 400)
- Personal items and gifts (free import up to QAR 3,000.-)
- Firearms (special permission from the Ministry of Defense in Qatar is required)

## PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Alcohol
- Explosives and explosive items, including fireworks and other flammable items
- Idols
- Pornographic materials
- Politically subversive materials
- Ivory
- Narcotic drugs
- Pork Products

## CONSIGNMENT INSTRUCTIONS

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

**IAM Note:** *Customs regulations can change at any time with or without notice. This document is provided as a guide and for information only. While IAM has exercised reasonable care in publishing this document, IAM makes no representation, either expressed or implied, as to its accuracy or applicability.*

### Helpful Website(s):

<http://www.qatarembassy.net>

[http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1003.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1003.html)