



# Importing Personal Property Into

# VENEZUELA

## IMPORTING HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

### DUTY-FREE ENTRY IS PERMITTED IF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ARE MET:

- The goods have been owned and used continuously by the shipper for at least 6 months.
- The shipment arrives within 6 months of the shipper's arrival in Venezuela.

### **Notes:**

- The shipper must be in Venezuela at the time of Customs clearance.
- If the shipper is a temporary import permit holder, goods must be exported after 6 months or duties must be paid. It is possible to apply for a 6-month extension on the permit. Also, the shipper must post a bond or make a deposit to the Customs office for the value of the duties.

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Original passport
- ✓ Resident visa or transit visa signed and sealed by the Venezuelan Consulate at origin.
- ✓ Work Permit
- ✓ Temporary household goods import permit
- ✓ Original **Certificate of Use** or "**Certificado de Uso**" in Spanish stamped by the Venezuelan Consulate at origin. Certificate of Use will only be issued for returning Venezuelan Citizens and Residents who have resided abroad for at least 6 months. Without the Certificate, the shipper will have to pay duties, taxes and V.A.T. (Value Added Tax) on their shipment.
- ✓ Detailed inventory in Spanish or English without values. Inventory should be consularized at origin. Dutiable items should be identified and the precise contents of all cartons should be stated.
- ✓ Signed local Customs forms
- ✓ Purchase invoices for all new items

### DIPLOMATIC SHIPMENTS

- Diplomats are exempt from paying duties and taxes, as long as they have the proper documentation.

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Diplomatic exoneration documents (Diplomatic Franchise) from the Venezuelan Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Caracas obtained prior to the shipment's arrival.
- ✓ Packing list
- ✓ Passport
- ✓ 2 original bills of lading or air waybills
- ✓ Signed local Customs form

### RESTRICTED/DUTIBALE ITEMS

- New items will incur duty and require invoices.
- Electrical appliances are limited to one of each kind.
- Alcoholic beverages require an import license.
- Paper products such as paper towels, laundry, bathroom and kitchen supplies are dutiable.

### PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Firearms and weapons, even if ornamental, are prohibited unless a special license is obtained.
- Ammunition
- Narcotics and drugs
- Inflammable chemical products, fungicides, fertilizers, etc.
- Pornographic materials
- Foodstuff
- New furniture
- Tobacco products
- Alcohol

## **IMPORTING MOTOR VEHICLES, PETS AND ART**

### **IMPORTATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES**

- Permanent importation requires that the following conditions be met:
  - The shipper is Venezuelan or a returning resident.
  - The shipper is at least 18 years old.
  - TR3 and TR5 Visa holders are not allowed to import autos.
  - Shipper has resided abroad for at least one year prior to importation.
  - The vehicle was owned and used by the shipper for at least 11 months in country of origin.
  - The vehicle is personal property and has been registered in the shipper's name in the country of origin.
  - One vehicle per shipper is permitted if the value of the vehicle when new does not exceed US \$20,000 otherwise 35% duties will apply.
  - The vehicle is not sold or leased until 3 years after the date of importation.
  - The vehicle is a passenger automobile or a normal motorcycle, but not a pick-up truck. No pick-ups or heavy-duty vehicles are allowed importation under these conditions.
- Temporary importation:
  - Should be applied for before the auto is shipped
  - Copies of the title, invoice and registration must accompany the application
  - The import permit is good for 6 months, but may be renewed for another 6

#### **Note:**

- New vehicles can only be imported by returning citizens or visa holders who plan to reside in Venezuela. New vehicles are subject to duties and taxes, depending on the value of the vehicle. The vehicle must be imported the same year as the vehicle was manufactured and the odometer must read less than 100 miles.

### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

- ✓ Passport
- ✓ Residence visa for shipper
- ✓ Certificate of ownership
  
- ✓ Original commercial invoice stamped by the Venezuelan Consulate at origin.
- ✓ Original purchase invoice
- ✓ Title and registration, legalized by the Venezuelan Consulate. Registration must be in the shipper's name and issued at least 11 months prior to importation.
- ✓ Certificate of Use, legalized by the Venezuelan Consulate, stating the car has been in the shipper's possession for at least 11 months.

### **IMPORTATION OF PETS**

- Pets may be imported into Venezuela, but are subject to quarantine.
- Non-domestic pets require a government license and permit from the Department of Agriculture.

### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

- ✓ Health certificate stamped by Venezuelan Consulate at origin.
- ✓ Vaccination certificate stamped by Venezuelan Consulate at origin.
- ✓ Sanitary permit issued by the Venezuelan Agriculture Department.
- ✓ Shipper's passport
- ✓ Customs form

### **IMPORTATION OF WORKS OF ART OR ANTIQUES**

- Works of art and/or antiques may be included in a household goods shipment.
- These items are subject to duties unless accompanied by an antique certificate, verified by the Venezuelan Consulate. Items must be over 100 years old to be considered antique.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

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- Pan-American International Movers Association, 2005.
- Venezuelan Intl. Packers, 2002
- The General Consulate of The Republic of Venezuela in Miami, <http://www.embavenez-us.org/>, June 2000.

**The information presented herein is based on customs data available at the time of printing and is frequently subject to change without notice. It is the responsibility of the owner or importer of the household goods to comply with the current customs restrictions, regulations, and duties of the country to which the goods are imported. We strongly advise customers to contact the consulate or embassy of the destination country for the most current information on customs regulations, restrictions and duties for importing household goods, personal effects and vehicles.**