

Latvia Country Guide - IAM

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Used Household Goods and Personal Effects

Documents Required

- Copy of passport
- Diplomatic franchise (diplomats)
- Detailed inventory in English
- Pro-forma invoice with values
- Formal letter to Customs with detailed information about reasons of moving into Latvia (the first time or return, temporary move or permanent, etc.)
- Letter of employment (foreigners)
- Copy of employment contract (foreigners)
- Rental agreement (foreigners) / proof of real estate ownership (returning citizens or EU citizens from outside the EU)
- Proof of living abroad from origin shipping country of European Union (EU) for a period of at least 12 months) (returning citizens, EU citizens from outside the EU)

Specific Information

- The shipment must arrive within 12 months of the owner of the goods' arrival.
- Diplomats may import household shipments duty free.
- Returning citizens may import household shipments duty free if having lived abroad for at least 12 months.
- Returning citizens must present a letter issued by the Repatriation Centre of Latvian Citizenship and

Migration Affairs of their status and may import household shipments duty free.

- If the owner of the goods is not a resident of Latvia, they must have a residence and work permit before arriving to Latvia.
 - If these documents are not present at the time of Customs clearance, the shipment will be delayed.
- For shipments entering by roadway, Customs must be notified and receive documents at least 1 hour prior to shipment arrival.

Motor Vehicles

Documents Required

- Technical passport
- Proof of ownership for a period of at least 6 months

Specific Information

- Motor vehicles must be registered in the owner of the goods' name.
- Motor vehicles may enter duty free only if owned and operated for a minimum of 6 months and the vehicle meets European requirements.
- The vehicle must have a valid license plate and third party liability (TPL) insurance policy valid within the entire territory of the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland.

Pets

Documents Required

- Rabies vaccination certificate valid for 12 months (dogs)
- Original international vaccination book
- Certificate of origin
- Veterinary health certificate in English or Latvian

Specific Information

- The veterinary health certificate must be issued by a licensed veterinarian within 10 days of import.

Antiques, Artifacts, Carpets, Paintings

- Antiques and artwork:
 - All antiques and artwork must be declared.

- Two photographs for each item need to accompany documentation.
- Contact the destination agent for specific information.

Restricted/Dutiable Items

- **Weapons:**

- For the import of personal arms, hunting weapons, gas pistols (revolvers) and munitions, the owner of the goods must apply for a license at the Home Affairs Ministry Police Department.
- The license must be obtained prior to import as a valid firearms license from abroad must be presented upon entry.

- **Medications:**

- The owner of the goods can import all medicines as long as the owner of the goods can provide proof that they are for personal use only.
- It is recommended to attach a doctor's prescription to prove the necessity.
- Drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as equipment for the use of them, cannot be imported.

- **Alcohol:**

- The import of alcohol is restricted.
- Some exceptions may be allowed depending on the mode of transport used to enter the country.
- Contact the destination agent for specific information.

- **Excise goods:**

- Excise goods such as tobacco, coffee, lemonade, etc. may be restricted.
- Contact the destination agent for specific information.

- **Fur and hunting trophies:**

- A license is required for import.

Prohibited Items

- Pornographic materials
- Narcotics and illegal drugs
- Subversive materials

Consignment Instructions

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

Helpful Website(s):

<https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/latvia.html>

<http://riga.usembassy.gov/>

Cultural and Other Information

[CIA World Factbook Entry for Latvia](#)

[Wikipedia Entry for Latvia](#)