

# Chile Country Guide - IAM

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## Used Household Goods and Personal Effects

### Documents Required

- Copy of passport
- Non-citizen work visa valid for at least one year
- Bill of lading (OBL) / air waybill (AWB)
- Packing list
- Valued inventory
- Exemption form from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (diplomats)
- Travel certificate showing inbound and outbound travel dates obtained in Chile (returning citizens)

### Specific Information

- All shipments are subject to physical inspection by Customs and the Agricultural Office (SAG), which may delay clearance.
- If no exemptions can be applied for new items, household goods are generally assessed 6% duty over cost, insurance and freight (CIF) value, plus a surcharge of 50% on used goods. There is also a VAT of 19% over cost, insurance and freight (CIF)
- The Customs valuation of household goods considers depreciation for use and must be comparable to the value of similar articles in the country of origin.
- Returning citizens are free of duties and taxes up to 5,000 USD depending on the length of their stay abroad:

- Between 6 and 12 months: 500 USD FOB
  - Between 1 and 5 years: 3,000 USD FOB
  - More than 5 years: 5,000 USD FOB
  - Only 1% of duty over cost, insurance and freight value is applied
- Non-citizens with a temporary residence visa or visa are subject to employment for at least 1 year and may import up to USD 5,000 FOB of used household goods and personal effects without paying duties, only a nominal tax of 1% over cost, insurance and freight (CIF) value.
  - If the visa is still in process, it is possible to clear under-bonded storage at the personal residence.
    - Definitive importation of the goods must be completed within 90 days.
  - Diplomats and international officials are exempt from importation duties and taxes on household goods, in which case an exemption form is needed from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
  - If there is no previous treatment of wood items, the Agriculture Office may order a complete fumigation (wood furniture is not required to have previous fumigation).

## **Motor Vehicles**

### **Documents Required**

- Sales contract / commercial invoice
- Certificate of title
- Original bill of lading
- Sworn declaration of the description of the vehicle

### **Specific Information**

- The weight, freight amount of the household goods, including the vehicle must be listed on the original bill of lading.
  - The number of pieces and a description of the car must also be included.
- Import of new cars is allowed as a normal import paying all applicable duties and taxes.
- Import of used motorcycles is strictly prohibited.
- Import of used cars is strictly prohibited, except the following exceptions:
  - Returning citizens that have stayed abroad for over 1 year.
    - All duties and taxes apply (27%)
  - Foreign diplomats and international officials can import automobiles duty and tax free.
  - Chilean diplomats:
    - Have the option of a monetary compensation if they do not import a vehicle.

- May import a new car as long as all duties and taxes are paid.

## **Pets**

### **Documents Required**

- International vaccination certificate (dogs and cats)
- Veterinary health record
- Pro-forma invoice

### **Specific Information**

- There is no quarantine period.
- Pets may be retrieved from Customs immediately upon arrival.
- Agent must know in advance the date and flight of arrival to assist in clearing.

***IAM Note:*** Check with destination agent prior to shipping other types of pets as some may require additional permits from the Agricultural Office (SAG).

### **Restricted/Dutiable Items**

- Foodstuffs (only non-perishable food, canned or sealed, and in an amount limited for personal use may be imported)
- Alcohol (adults over 18 years old may import 2.5 liters of alcohol duty free, including wine; if the amount exceeds 2.5 liters, the owner of the goods must pay duties and taxes of 27% or more)
- Only sports firearms for hunting may be imported (a special permit must be obtained prior to shipping)

### **Prohibited Items**

- Drugs
- Meat
- Used motorcycles (new motorcycles are permitted)
- Used cars (unless imported by a returning citizen given he/she meets the same conditions)
- Used car tires

### **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/chile.html>

<http://chileabroad.gov.cl/washington/>

<http://chileabroad.gov.cl/estados-unidos/>