

Malawi Country Guide - IAM

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Updated: November 23, 2015

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Used Household Goods and Personal Effects

Documents Required

- Copy of passport
- Packing list
- Original bill of lading (OBL) / no express release / air waybill (AWB)
- Original valued inventory in English, dated, and signed by the owner of the goods
- Invoices for all electrical items less than 6 months old
- Employment contract
- Diplomatic exemption (diplomats)

Specific Information

- The agent must receive documents at least 15 days prior to arrival of the shipment to allow agent time to apply for a duty exemption on the used household goods.
- The owner of the goods must be present during the clearing process.
- New personal effects are subject to 30% to 80% tax on declared value.
- The diplomatic organization will apply for documents on behalf of the owner of the goods with the local Ministry of Foreign Affairs and must have copies of the OBL / AWB and packing list to initiate Customs clearance (diplomats).

Motor Vehicles

Documents Required

- Copy of passport
- Original registration card
- Owner of the goods' employment contract
- Original purchase invoice
- OBL (no express release) / AWB

Specific Information

- Taxes on vehicles will depend on age, power, etc. of approximately 95% to 150% cost, insurance, and freight (CIF).
- The OBL must show chassis number, engine number, cubic capacity, year of manufacture, brand, and model.

Pets

Documents Required

- Veterinary health certificate
- Valid vaccination record

Specific Information

- Current vaccinations and permission from nearest embassy are required for the importation of live animals.

Restricted/Dutiable Items

- Alcohol (subject to taxes)
- New electrical, electronic items and computers are subject to 50% to 150% tax on the declared value
- One used computer is granted duty free
- Firearms and ammunitions (authorization from the territorial administration required)

Prohibited Items

- Illegal drugs
- Pornography

- Explosive materials
- Counterfeit items

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):

<http://www.state.gov/p/af/ci/mi>

<http://www.malawiembassy-dc.org>

Cultural and Other Information

[CIA World Factbook Entry for Malawi](#)

[Wikipedia Entry for Malawi](#)