

Country Guide: Turkey

Updated: November 20, 2015

Household Goods and Personal Effects

Documents Required

- Original Passport with last entry stamp into Turkey; spouse's also required (departure stamps must also be present for last 2 years for returning citizens)
- ID Certificate from Registry Office / Nüfus müdürlüğünden vukuatlı nüfus kayıt örneği (single male returning citizens)
- Letter to Customs
- Original Bill of Lading (OBL) / Air Waybill (AWB)
- Detailed Inventory
- Tax Identification Number (TIN)
- Work Permit
- Original Residence Permit / Rental Contract (minimum of 24 months) / Property Title or Deed
- Turkish Citizenship Number (returning citizens)
- Permanent Return Certificate verifying 2 years residence in origin country / Export Declaration Form, if applicable (returning citizens)
- Letter of Assignment from government office (Diplomats, government officials)
- Diplomatic Franchise (Diplomats)



Specific Information

- The detailed Inventory must include a description of each item in the shipment, including the brand name and serial numbers of electrical items.
- The shipment may contain no items packed by the owner (PBO).
- The shipment must arrive no earlier than 2 months prior to owner's arrival or no later than 6 months after the owner's last entry into Turkey.
- For foreigners shipping by air, a Residence Permit or Rental Contract (valid for a minimum of 24 months) must be certified by a notary or the original of the Property Title or Deed is required for permanent import.
- For foreigners coming to Turkey to marry, the shipment must arrive within 12 months after or 2 months prior to the marriage date; the Turkish spouse must have resided in Turkey for the year preceding the marriage date.
- There are three document options for foreigners shipping household goods into Turkey:
 - Option 1: The shipper must present a copy of a Rental Contract (minimum of 24 months), certified by a notary, or an original Property Title / Deed must be presented for permanent import.
 - Option 2: If the shipper does not have a Rental Contract or Property Title / Deed with a work Permit for temporary import and original Residence Permit, a deposit must be paid of approximately 30% above the total value of the shipment or a Bank Guarantee Letter must be provided.
 - Option 3: If the shipper does not have a Rental Contract, Property Title / Deed, Work Permit or Residence Permit, the shipper must pay tax if the value of the shipment exceeds 1500€ for permanent import of approximately 20%. The shipment must arrive within 30 days of the arrival of the shipper.

- There are four document options for returning citizens shipping household goods into Turkey:
 - Option 1: The shipper must present the original Permanent Return Certificate from the nearest Turkish Consulate in the origin country indicating that the shipper has resided in the country of origin for at least 2 years.
 - Option 2: A copy of the Export Declaration Form used to export the same shipment from Turkey previously.
 - Option 3: If the shipper does not have a Permanent Return Certificate or Export Declaration Form, taxes must be paid if the shipment exceeds 1500€ of approximately 20%.
 - Option 4: A copy of the Rental Contract (minimum of 24 months), certified by a notary or an original Property Title / Deed for permanent import is required.
- For small air shipments entering by way of paid taxes, the shipper must arrive more than 1 month prior to or 1 month after the arrival of the goods.
- Only used goods may be imported.
- The names on the Passport and OBL / AWB must match identically.
- Customs clearance takes approximately 4-5 business days.

Motor Vehicles

Documents Required

- Passport
- Driver's License
- Car Registration
- Proof of Insurance (Card) valid in Turkey
- OBL
- Carnet de Passage Transit Book (traveling to Middle Eastern countries)

Specific Information

- Vehicles can be imported for up to 6 months, however, extensions can be obtained.
- Shippers should apply for any extensions prior to the expiration of the approved period.
- U.S. Driver's Licenses are accepted in Turkey for up to 90 days; longer stays require a notarized Turkish translation.
- If staying in Turkey for more than 1 year, a Turkish Driver's License must be obtained from the Turkish Security Directorate, Traffic Department.

Pets

Documents Required

- Vaccination Record
- Veterinary Health Record

Specific Information

- Pets may enter as passenger's accompanied baggage, in the cabin or as cargo.

Restricted/Dutiable Items

- Plants (limit of 3)
- Spirits (2 bottles of 2 x 75 ml maximum)

Prohibited Items

- Drugs
- Weapons
- Meat-based products
- Gambling machines

Consignment Instructions

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

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Helpful Website(s):

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1046.html

<http://vasington.be.mfa.gov.tr>

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