



## *Importing Personal Property Into Brazil*

### HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

#### CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

#### **Customs Regulations:**

Client must be in Brazil at time of Customs clearance. Clients arriving into Brazil must keep a copy of arrival airline ticket for presentation to Customs Authority. Household goods and personal effects must arrive within 180 days of client's arrival into Brazil. Both new and used household goods and personal effects can be imported duty free. New items must be declared as new and stated as such on the inventory to also be included as duty-free.

Consumable items are subject to 50% duties + 17% tax. This includes soap, lotions, makeup etc.

All imports without exceptions or status including diplomats pay demurrage and port/airport storage in Brazil over CIF Value declared within a period of 2 weeks. Shipment will be cleared under a bond.

**Inventory/Packing List** items with quantities declared must be identical to what is stated on the OBL. Discrepancies between the OBL and the Packing list will cause Customs Authority to seize the shipment of belongings to be put up for sale.

**The Fumigation Certificate** must be sent to the Destination Agent with original Bill of Lading prior to arrival of shipment. Goods can be imported only after the visa is authorized by Brazilian authorities and the residence permit is stamped into the passport by the Brazilian Federal Police. Items imported must be exported when client leaves Brazil.

**NOTES:** It is recommended that the origin agent contact the destination agent in advance of the shipment to confirm updated consignment instructions and customs regulations. All documents must be with the Destination Agent at least 7 days prior to arrival of the shipment. All documents requiring a signature must be notarized. The Brazilian Consulate must legalize all foreign documents submitted with the visa petition. If there is an air shipment and ocean shipment it is necessary to provide 2 sets of the below documents.

Only after approval by the Ministry of Labour in Brazil will the Ministry of Foreign Relations authorize processing the Visa.

#### **Current Importation Time Table (approximate, according to Visa type)**

Registration of Client	5 working days
Presenting shipment to the terminal	1 working day
Registration of Process	1 working day
Verification of all Documents	15 working days
Bond Guaranty Issuance – if applicable	5 working days
Distribution to Customs Official	3-15 working days – based on port/terminal congestion
Physical Inspection	2-5 working days
Clearance & release of documents to DA	2-3 working days

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Passport- copies of all pages, notarized (3 sets)
- ✓ Work/Temporary “V” Visa
- ✓ Brazilian Tax Card (CPF) – 3 notarized copies, copies of the application can be used
- ✓ Brazilian ID Card “Registro Nacional de Estrangeiros” (RNE) – notarized (3 sets)
- ✓ Police Record – issued within 3 months of departure showing no criminal record

- ✓ Birth Certificate – all family members, original or legalized copy; must be presented when registering with the Federal Police in Brazil
- ✓ Air Ticket - 2 notarized copies, including boarding pass of arrival into Brazil
- ✓ Comprehensive Valued Inventory – one for “Old” & one for “New” (less than 6 months) items. in Portuguese, with values in USD, signed by client, form obtained from Destination Agent, registered at Brazilian Register Office
- ✓ Power of Attorney “Procuracao Publica” – original & 2 copies, issued by a Brazilian Notary in the presence of the client; authorizing Destination Agent to clear shipment on client’s behalf; sample form provided by Destination Agent
- ✓ Work Contract - original, from employer in Brazil, certified by the Ministry of Labour and a notarized copy
- ✓ Statement of Responsibility – from employer, attesting they all assume payment of all duties & taxes of household goods & personal effects not re-exported after expiration of Work Contract
- ✓ Brazilian Government Newspaper “Diario Oficial da Uniao” – notarized copy, where the Resident/Work Visa authorization was published
- ✓ Proof of Residence - in Brazil such as utilities bill or rental contract
- ✓ OBL – rated original, correct gross weight in kilos (pounds not allowed) measured in cubic meters (feet not allowed) CPF card number must be on the OBL for ALL Importers; No exceptions
- ✓ Baggage Declaration
- ✓ Guarantee Bond – for payment of taxes and any duties, issued by employer, signed by the client
- ✓ Fumigation Certificate - sent with OBL stating any and all wood crates/boxes, Liftvans/Airvans arriving in containers or single shipments have met fumigation requirements per ISPM 15 rules

**Returning Brazilians:** Must have lived abroad at least 1 year and have supporting documents such as a certificate issued by a Brazilian consulate. Along with the above applicable documents returning Brazilians must also provide the below documents:

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Proof of Residence – for more than 1 year, issued by the Consulate at origin
- ✓ Passport - 3 notarized copies, all pages including blank ones
- ✓ CPF Card (Brazilian Social Security Card) – valid, original
- ✓ Brazilian Identity Card – 3 notarized copies
- ✓ Power of Attorney “Procuracao Publica” – original & 2 copies
- ✓ Comprehensive Valued Inventory – 1 copy, in Portuguese
- ✓ Letter from Employer abroad on company letterhead attesting to length of work contract & salary or 13 consecutive utility bills

#### **Diplomat status**

Diplomat must be in Brazil before arrival of shipment to apply for the Brazilian documents. It takes 10-15 days to obtain the Franchise. Only diplomats may import alcohol duty free.

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise (Declaracao Simplificada de Importacao) – 3 notarized copies, obtained prior to arrival from Foreign Ministry
- ✓ Ministerio das Relacoes Exteriores (MRE) – 1 authenticated copy
- ✓ Supplemental Form – 3 copies

## RESTRICTED ITEMS

- ✓ Firearms, Ammunitions and any other weaponry - Subject to approval prior to departure from origin country by Brazilian Army: will be held upon arrival until inspected by an army official
- ✓ Liquor, wine, and other beverages – subject to duties & taxes (if declared “rest of cellar” Customs official may not charge duties
- ✓ Tobacco, cosmetics, soaps & other consumables- require inspection Agriculture Ministry and are subject to import duties & taxes
- ✓ Electronics/Appliances/Computers – one of each only, state make, model, serial number & value on inventory; bring receipts in hand-carry luggage
- ✓ Medications – must have a physicians prescription for each medication
- ✓ Cleaning materials

Note: Consumables may be confiscated by Ministry of Agriculture even after being cleared by Customs and payment of duties.

## PROHIBITED ITEMS

- ✓ Pornography
- ✓ Weapons of any kind without approval
- ✓ Gas grills & propane tanks, batteries, corrosive materials
- ✓ Flammable materials & combustible liquids - including shoe/furniture polish, paint, flares
- ✓ Narcotics & medicine without prescriptions
- ✓ Food and beverages including canned goods
- ✓ High value coins or stamp collections, jewelry & currency
- ✓ Vehicles/motorcycles/recreational vehicles – unless one has diplomatic status

## IMPORTATION OF PETS

Dogs and cats may be imported into Brazil if included on the original inventory and are accompanied with the required documentation. The below documents must be stamped at the Brazilian Consulate at origin within 7 days of issuance. The Health Certificate must also be stamped by the USDA. Pets must arrive into Brazil within 30 days of issuance of the Health Certificate. The licensed veterinarian must attest to the health, vaccination record and that the pet has not been exposed to contagious diseases 40 days prior to departure. Pets will be examined and cleared by a veterinarian at Customs upon arrival.

Other pets are subject to consultation with the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture.

Parrots and Parakeets: Upon approval must have a Certificate issued by the local office of the USDA, stating that the bird is free of psittacosis.

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- ✓ International Health Certificate -
- ✓ Vaccination Certificate – must include current rabies vaccine

## IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Only foreign diplomats or members of International Organizations like UNO, UNESCO, IMF, etc are allowed to import vehicles. If vehicle is shipped in same container as household goods it must have a separate OBL or be subject to a fine up to \$3000.00USD.

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- ✓ Certificate of Title & Registration
- ✓ Pro forma invoice
- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise

## NOTES:

**Entry & Exit Requirements:** A Yellow fever vaccine may be required for entry depending if one has visited certain other countries. Vaccination is strongly recommended if one intends to visit or reside in Brazilian states where yellow fever exists. Refer to the Embassy of Brazil's website for further details and requirements. Showing contempt to a Brazilian government official at the port of entry, or elsewhere, is a serious offense. Fines for such offenses are based on the offender's claimed income. U.S. citizens must fill out an immigration form on arrival that will be stamped and handed back by immigration officials at the airport. It is important to retain this form to hand in to immigration officials upon exit from the country. According to the Brazilian Embassy's website, those who lose this form must get clearance from the Brazilian Federal Police to leave the country and may have to pay a fine. U.S. citizens also possessing Brazilian nationality cannot be issued Brazilian visas and must obtain a Brazilian passport (from the Brazilian Embassy or Consulate nearest to their place of residence) to enter and depart Brazil. Dual nationals may also be subject to other laws that impose special obligations on Brazilian citizens. Brazilian minors age 17 years and under, including minors who have both Brazilian and U.S. citizenship, are subject to strict exit requirements. US citizens must register with the Brazilian Federal Police within 30 days of arrival.

**Safety & Security:** US citizens are encouraged to enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program, to stay current with the latest safety and security announcements dispersed by the Embassy in your area. Your enrollment can also help the Department of State reach your family and friends in case of emergency. U.S. citizens crossing into Paraguay or Argentina should consult the Country Specific Information for those countries. Colombian groups have kidnapped residents and tourists in border areas of Colombia's neighbors. U.S. citizens residing in areas of Brazil near the Colombian border must exercise caution, and take care when visiting remote parts of the Amazon basin respecting local laws and customs. The U.S. Embassy restricts travel of U.S. government employees where narcotics traffickers and other criminals have recently resorted to violent actions. These areas include all favelas in Recife, Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, any area within 150 km of the borders with Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana and Paraguay, and, between the hours of 6:00 pm and 6:00 am, the "satellite cities" of Ceilandia, Santa Maria, Sao Sebastiao and Paranoa in Brasilia. This restriction does not include commonly used transit routes that often pass near or through favelas.

**Crime:** Crime throughout Brazil has reached very high levels. Brazil's murder rate is more than four times higher than that of the U.S. Rates for other crimes are similarly high. The majority of crimes are not solved. Foreign tourists or residents are often targets of crime and Americans are not exempt. This targeting occurs in all tourist areas but is especially problematic in Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Salvador and Recife. U.S. citizens are advised to keep a copy of their passport on them and to carry proof of whatever health insurance they may have while in public places. Robberies and "quicknappings" outside of banks and ATM machines are common. In a "quicknapping," criminals abduct victims for a short time in order to receive a quick payoff from the family, business or the victim's ATM card. Some victims have been beaten and/or raped. Carjacking is on the increase in Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Recife.

**Health:** Malaria risk exists throughout the year; depending on the part of Brazil one resides determines the type of prophylaxis to take. Immunization against typhoid and yellow fever is

recommended and may be required. Hepatitis A, B and D, Brazilian purpuric fever and brucellosis all occur. There are epidemics of meningococcal meningitis in and around the Rio area.

**Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials:** Brazil has stringent regulations regarding wood packing materials. Air and sea shipments found to not be fumigated will be fumigated at the cost of approximately 200.00USD and will delay the clearance process 1-3 days.

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

G-Inter Transportes Internacionais Ltd.: Sao Paulo, Brazil

Transworld Moving: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

FIDI Global Alliance

International Association of Movers

Department of State: [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1072.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1072.html)

Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>

Embassy of Brazil: <http://www.brasilemb.org/>

USDA: [www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov)

**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.**