



# Importing Personal Property Into Ecuador

## IMPORTING HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

### **DUTY-FREE ENTRY IS PERMITTED IF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ARE MET:**

#### **Shipper falls into one of the following categories:**

- Foreign Diplomat
- Ecuadorian Diplomat
- Ecuadorian Citizen returning after a minimum of 1 year of legal residence abroad
- Non-Ecuadorian citizen with immigrant visa
- Non-Ecuadorian with non-immigrant working visa

#### **AND:**

- All goods are used.
- All goods are in reasonable quantities for personal use only
- The shipper has had possession of the articles for at least one year.
- Shipment arrives within 60 days after shipper's arrival into Ecuador

#### **Notes:**

- Returning Ecuadorian citizens who have stayed in Ecuador for more than 30 days within the past year are NOT eligible for exemption from duties on household goods.
- Attempted importation of non-declared items is considered a felony and shipper will be severely punished.
- All non-diplomatic shipments will be inspected upon arrival.
- Shipment must arrive within 60 days of shipper's arrival
- Presence by the shipper is required at customs clearance.

#### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:**

- ✓ Complete list of all household goods and professional equipment in Spanish legalized at origin by Consulate of Ecuador. Please include all available

- ✓ Original passport and stamped visa
- ✓ Original Ocean Bill of Lading or Airway Bill
- ✓ Employment Contract valid for at least one year (for foreign shippers with working visa only)
- ✓ Migratory Certificate issued at destination by Migration Police

#### **Returning Ecuadorian Citizens:**

- ✓ Immigrant Certificate obtained in Ecuador
- ✓ Resident Visa from country of origin

#### **DIPLOMATIC REMOVALS:**

- Diplomats are permitted to import their household goods/ personal effects duty-free provided the necessary documents are obtained.
- Diplomatic shipments are not subject to the physical inspection requirement.

#### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:**

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise
- ✓ Original Passport
- ✓ Original Ocean Bill of Lading or Airway bill
- ✓ Inventory List (Legalization at Consulate not required)

#### **RESTRICTED/DUTIBALE ITEMS:**

- Alcohol, cigarettes and cigars are restricted but allowed in reasonable quantities
- New items are subject to duties
- One of each type of item is permitted; additional quantities are subject to duties.

#### **PROHIBITED ITEMS:**

- Wine and alcohol
- Live plants
- Food
- Firearms and ammunition
- Medicines
- Drugs and narcotics
- Pornography

## IMPORTING MOTOR VEHICLES/ IMPORTING PETS AND WORKS OF ART

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### IMPORTATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES:

- Motor vehicles and boats incur duties, unless they are part of a diplomatic removal.
- A physical inspection of the vehicle (unless part of a diplomatic removal) must be conducted at the port of origin by an authorized company who will issue a Verification Certificate.
- An Import Permit must be obtained from the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit prior to importation.
- Used cars are prohibited entry into Ecuador. Cars manufactured the year prior to importation are permitted if the odometer reads less than 600 miles (1,000 km).

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- ✓ Import License obtained prior to importation
- ✓ Verification Certificate
- ✓ Owner Certificate
- ✓ Two original invoices

### IMPORTATION OF WORKS OF ART OR ANTIQUES:

- Works of art, antiques, precious metals and jewelry are allowed duty-free entry as long as they are part of a household goods shipment.

### IMPORTATION OF PETS:

- Up to 3 pets may be imported into Ecuador, but duties apply.
- An Import License must be obtained from the Ministry of Finance prior to importation.

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- ✓ Import License
- ✓ Verification Certificate
- ✓ Owner Certificate
- ✓ Two original invoices
- ✓ Health Certificate stating the animal is free from contagious diseases and current with vaccinations. This Certificate must be signed by a Veterinarian and authenticated at the consulate.
- ✓ Vaccination Certificate

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

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- Metropolitan Expreso, 2002
- 4moversww.com, April 2000.
- Global Silverhawk, August 2000.

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.