



## ***Importing Personal Property into***

# **URUGUAY**

### **IMPORTING HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS**

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

- The household goods and personal effects have been in the possession of the shipper for at least 2 years.
- The shipper has lived abroad for at least 2 years.
- The household goods and personal effects are not intended for resale.

#### **Notes:**

- Household and electrical appliances may also enter duty-free, but are restricted to one per kind in a household shipment. The only exception is television sets.
- Household goods and personal effects shipments or unaccompanied luggage must arrive within 90 days following the shipper's arrival in Uruguay.
- Foreigners must have permanent residency in Uruguay in order to qualify for customs clearance. If the shipper's residency status is being established, but it is not completed at the time of application for clearance, then the shipper must submit a bank guarantee letter before Uruguayan Customs.

- Tools must be normal household tools and declared as "domestic hand tools," to avoid confusion with specialized tools for professional or industrial use.

#### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:**

##### **For Uruguayan Citizens Returning Home:**

- ✓ Certificate of Residence issued by Uruguayan Consulate at the country of origin stating the shipper has resided abroad for at least 2 years. Or, if originating from a Mercosur country (Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay), then the time requirement is 1 year.
- ✓ Itemized inventory/ packing list in Spanish legalized by the Uruguayan Consulate at country of origin.
- ✓ Updated identification card.
- ✓ Certificate of Migration Office obtained by shipper upon arrival in Uruguay. If shipper is coming from Mercosur country, then a stamp in the shipper's passport must be requested from the migration authorities at point of entry. If the stamp is not obtained, there will be a delay in receiving the Certificate of Migration.

## **IMPORTING HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS (CONTINUED); DUTIABLE/ RESTRICTED AND PROHIBITED ITEMS:**

### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR IMPORTING HOUSEHOLD GOODS/PERSONAL EFFECTS (CONTINUED):**

#### **For Foreigners:**

- ✓ Copy of shipper's passport, including page stamped by Migrations in Uruguay with date of arrival in Uruguay.
- ✓ Resident visa issued by the Uruguayan Consulate at the origin (stamped in the shipper's passport), or a Certificate of Permanent Residence in Uruguay issued by the Migration Office in Uruguay. If Resident visa or Certificate of Permanent Residence is not provided, then a bank guarantee letter for value of the shipment is required. The guarantee will be returned by customs once shipment leaves the country or when the permanent visa is obtained.
- ✓ Itemized inventory / packing list in Spanish legalized by the Uruguayan Consulate at the origin and signed by the shipper.
- ✓ Migration certificate, obtained at Migration Office, Misiones 1513, Montevideo, with shipper's arrival date in Uruguay. This certificate must be presented at the "Dirección Nacional de Aduanas."
- ✓ Letter declaring value of the shipment, in the amount equal to the bank guarantee, signed by the shipper.

#### **For Diplomats:**

- ✓ Certificate of Residence abroad issued by the authorities from the shipper's country of last residence, legalized by the Uruguayan Consulate at the origin, stating that the shipper has resided abroad for a minimum period of 2 years.

- ✓ Itemized inventory in Spanish legalized by the Uruguayan Consulate at the origin.
- ✓ Franchise to be obtained from the Uruguayan Ministry for Foreign Affairs.
- ✓ Bill of Lading
- ✓ Shipper must be accredited by the Uruguayan Government

#### **DUTIABLE/ RESTRICTED ITEMS:**

- Duty and VAT will be assessed on new goods.
- Electrical appliances are restricted to one of each, except for TV sets.
- Works of art and antiques
- Sport guns, as determined by material and caliber, are permitted importation only if a permit is obtained from the Ministry of Defense, prior to importation.
- Alcohol and tobacco products are subject to duty.
- Jewelry and coins
- Bicycles are only allowed as part of a household goods shipment
- Works of art and antiques
- Food
- Wedding gifts require a packing list and a legalized marriage certificate.
- Inherited items require a packing list, legalized proof of estate of inheritance and a legalized death certificate.

#### **PROHIBITED ITEMS:**

- Engines
- New electrical appliances
- Firearms, weapons and ammunition
- Plants are prohibited unless accompanied by a Health Certificate
- Illicit drugs
- Pornographic and subversive materials are strictly prohibited.

## **IMPORTING MOTOR VEHICLES, PETS, WORKS OF ART & ANTIQUES:**

### **IMPORTATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES:**

- Foreigners are not allowed importation of automobiles.
- New automobiles will incur duty at a rate of 93% of the car's value as determined by the Uruguayan Customs.
- Returning Uruguayan citizens, Uruguayan diplomats and Uruguayan employees working for international organizations with mutual relations with Uruguay are allowed to import a used auto if they have lived abroad for at least 3 years and have owned the car for at least 3 years. Authorization must be obtained from the Ministry of Finance before Customs clearance can occur.

### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:**

The following documents must be legalized by the Uruguayan Consulate at origin and be officially translated into Spanish:

- ✓ Original Commercial Invoice
- ✓ Car title or Certificate of Register or Matriculation

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

- Uruvan Transport LTDA, 2003.
- Rinkens International Moving, <http://www.rinkens.com/UY.html>, 2003.
- LACMA Latin American & Caribbean International Movers Association, Customs Information for Uruguay, <http://www.lacmassoc.org/custom-regulations/e-uruguay.htm>, 2003.

### **IMPORTATION OF DOGS AND CATS:**

- Cats, dogs and other domesticated animals may be imported provided they are accompanied by the proper documentation.

### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:**

- ✓ International Health Certificates and Vaccination Certificates legalized by the Uruguayan Consulate.

### **IMPORTATION OF WORKS OF ART AND ANTIQUES:**

- Works of art and antiques may be imported, if they have been in the possession of the shipper for at least 2 years and they are not intended for resale.

**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.**