

# Importing Personal Property into JAMAICA



## IMPORTING HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

### Duty –Free Entry Is Permitted

The following requirements: -

- \* Goods have been in use abroad for at least 6 months.
- \* The Goods are for the continued use by the shipper.
- \* The shipper must be in Jamaica for Customs Clearance.
- \* Duty, if applicable, is determined after customs examination of goods at the air or sea port. Duty is based on the CIF value of the goods Customs Duty ranges between 5 % to 40% Advalorem plus General Consumption Tax (VAT) of 16.5 % depending on the item being assessed.

### Required Documents

Passenger Declaration, C-27 form to be completed upon shipper's arrival at the airport/seaport, if unaccompanied baggage/household effects are expected to arrive before or after the shipper's arrival in Jamaica. Their form is good for 6 months after which same must be renewed. Extracts must be obtained in the event of multiple shipments.

- ✓ Passport
- ✓ Visa
- ✓ Residence Permit
- ✓ Work Permit
- ✓ Inventory
- ✓ Tax Registration Number (TRN)
- ✓ Tax Compliance Certificate (T.C.C.)
- ✓ Invoice detailing the model, accessories & CIF value.

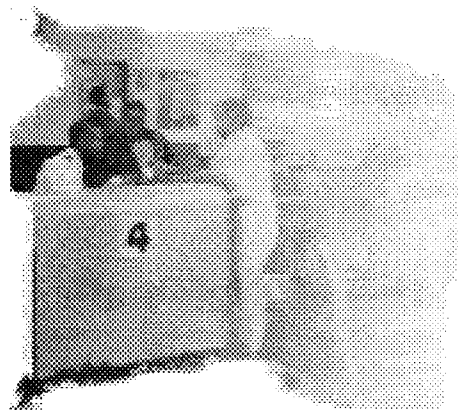
### **Returning Residents must also obtain the following documents:**

- \* Customs Declaration Form C27 provided by the Customs Officer at the time of arrival at the Airport in Jamaica.
- \* Documents proving the shipper has lived abroad For at least 3 years.
- \* Documents stating the shipper's intention to Establish permanent residency in Jamaica.
- \* If the shipper is a student who was studying abroad, A letter is required from the university, college or educational institution confirming the duration of the Course of studies or time spent at the institution.

### **Special Notes for Returning Residents**

Returning residents who satisfy the under mentioned conditions would be eligible for additional duty concessions in respect of personal and household effects and /or tools of trade.

1. A Jamaican national who has attained the age of eighteen (18) years;
2. Has been resident overseas for not less than three (3) consecutive years and
3. Returning to Jamaica to reside permanently



### **Are there any Special Cases?**

- \* Returning non-Jamaican spouses or persons who qualify as Returning Residents will be afforded the same concession as their Jamaican partner.
- \* Returning students who have attained the age of eighteen (18) years and who have studied abroad for more than one (1) year but less than three (3) consecutive years will qualify for concessions in respect of tools of trade and some personal and household effects.
- \* Jamaicans who gave up their citizenship (and can Provide proof of their previous status) who wish to Return home will be granted the status of Returning Resident with the attendant benefits.

## **Application for Special Concessions:**

The consignee will be required to submit:

- \* Their passport
- \* Some documentary evidence as may substantiate Your permanent residence outside of Jamaica for not Less than three consecutive years. Note that short Visits to Jamaica for vacations, et cetera will not Affect your eligibility.
- \* Such documentary evidence as may substantiate Your intention to re-establish permanent residence In Jamaica;
- \* In the case of a student, you will also have to Provide a letter from your university, college or educational institution confirming the duration of your course of study or time spent at the institution; and more.
- \* The Unaccompanied Baggage Declaration Form (C27) which you received at the airport/seaport on Arrival in Jamaica.
- \* When shipping your goods to Jamaica, the goods

*"Documentary Evidence to prove Returning Resident Status may include one of the following: - but is not limited to*

### **FROM ABROAD**

- \* Letter of Separation from employer
- \* Last three (3) years tax returns.
- \* Pay stubs, W2, P45.
- \* Evidence of bills honored while residing abroad.
- \* Copy of retirement papers/Pension Advice.
- \* Evidence of the Disposal of Property owned.
- \* Copy of Sales Agreement.

### **IN JAMAICA**

- \* New/old Passport in addition to one of the following
- \* Evidence of property acquired.
- \* Copy of Light Bill.
- \* Copy of Water Rate Bill
- \* Tax Receipt
- \* Lease Agreement
- \* Letter from prospective employer.
- \* Evidence of employment contract

## **For Student Returning**

- \* Letter from Institution attended
- \* Copy of 1 -20 ID (Student)
- \* Copy of Transcript

### **Required Documents**

- ✓ Passport
- ✓ An Import License must be obtained prior to the Motor Vehicle's departure from the port of origin.
- ✓ Driver's License-the shipper can drive in Jamaica or one year before a Jamaican license is required.
- ✓ Insurance Certificate.
- ✓ Proof of ownership/Title of Registration.

### **Prohibited Items**

- \* Based or counterfeit coins of any country
- \* Narcotics
- \* Oil of gin or cognac
- \* Rum coloring solutions
- \* Spirits and wine
- \* Fictitious stamps and instruments
- \* Sugar, except under license

## **Importation of Motor Vehicles**

- \* A returning resident is allowed to import two new or Used motor vehicles (one commercial and one personal) during a 3 year period.
- \* Used vehicles MUST NOT be more than 4 years old.
- \* Motor Vehicles must not exceed 2800 cc's
- \* Duty is applicable and will be assessed by Customs authorities, according to the vehicle value on the local market.

### **Documents Required**

- ✓ Tax Registration Number (TRN)
- ✓ Tax Compliance Certificate (T.C.C.)
- ✓ Invoice detailing the model, accessories and CIF Value.

## **Importation of Pets**

Pets born and raised in the United Kingdom are permitted entry.

### **Required Documents**

- ✓ The pets must not be vaccinated against rabies
- ✓ A permit must be obtained prior to importation from
- ✓ The Ministry of Agriculture, Veterinary Department
- ✓ Quarantine may be required

## **Importation of Works of Art or Antiques**

- \* Duty-free if works of art are part of a bona fide household goods/personal effects shipment
- \* Large quantities to be accompanied by certificate from Antique Dealers Association from the country of exportation.

### **Required Documents**

- ✓ Certificate, only if there are large quantities included in a shipment

## **Importation of Diplomatic Goods**

### **Required documents**

- ✓ Bill of Lading
- ✓ Consular letter requesting free entry
- ✓ Inventory

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

- \* Aero International Shipping Limited
- \* Jamaica Customs

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 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.

## **Restricted/Dutiable Items**

- \* Medicines should be accompanied by Doctor's Prescription. It is recommended that the shipper hand-carry these items.
- \* Tins and foods are permitted only in sufficient Quantities for immediate use by family. Duty may be assessed by customs.
- \* Plants require a permit from the Ministry of Agriculture and a Fumigation or Certificate of Health.
- \* All items less than 6 months old are subject to duties for non-returning residents. Invoices are required.

*Diplomatic immunity is a form of legal immunity and a policy held between a government, which ensures that diplomats are given safe passage and are considered not susceptible to lawsuit or prosecution.*

## **Prohibited Items**

- \* Firearms and ammunition, except if prior permission Is obtained from the Commissioner of Police and the Trade Board Limited.
- \* Drugs
- \* Pornographic materials
- \* Dogs for racing or affiliate equipment
- \* Tablets containing diphenhydramine hydrochloride
- \* Certain brands under the Customs and Plants Protection from Disease Act.
- \* Goods prohibited entry into the U.K. under the Anthrax Prevention Act of 1919.
- \* Animals and carcasses of animals prohibited under The Animals Diseases and Importation Act.
- \* Brandy less than 30-proof.