

Faqs

When travelling to the Turks and Caicos Islands am I allowed a duty exemption on my personal items purchased abroad?

Yes, all returning residents and visitors are allowed a duty free exemption allowance of \$400. This means that the total value of their goods must not exceed this amount if they are to benefit.

How do I declare goods purchased for my business?

The same declaration form is used and you must distinguish between your personal effects and merchandise for your business.

Can I travel with alcohol, if so how much am I allowed?

Yes, you are allowed 1 litre of spirits, and 2 litres of wine, as your personal allowance, if you exceed this you must pay duty on the excess quantities.

Can I travel with tobacco products if so how much am I allowed?

You are allowed 200 sticks of cigarettees or a cartoon, 50 cigars and 25 cigarolls, if you exceed this you must pay duty on the excess quantities.

What is the Customs Processing Fee and why do I have to pay it? The Customs Processing Fee also known as the CPF is a processing fee which is paid by all travelers and importers on the value of their goods.

What are some of the items in the Customs Tariff that are duty free?

Milk, bread, eggs, meat, hurricane shutters. For more information consult our tariff at www.customs.gov.tc.

If I am a Turks and Caicos Islands resident who has studied abroad for a number of years and is now returning home do I have to pay duties on my personal effects?

No you are allowed to import your personal effects duty free. This excludes motor vehicles, boats, aircraft, foodstuffs, tobacco products, perfumes or other spirits, wines or beer.

I am a Pastor of the Need Jesus now Ministries and I wish to purchase a bus to transport members of the congregation, what percentage duties would I have to pay and what is the process.

You will be given a duty reduction down to 5% of the invoice Cost Insurance Freight Value. Which means it is the aggregate of the value of the vehicle, the freight and Insurance.

My aunt bought me a puppy for my birthday and I would like to import him into the TCI what is the process?

You should first ensure that the type of dog is not a prohibited importation under Customs Regulations, after which you will require an importation permit, from the Department of Agriculture. This may require that the dog is up to date with vaccines.

I am travelling to Haiti for a wedding and would like to bring back 5 boxes of mangoes what is the customs process? **If over 25lbs, you will require a permit from the Department of Agriculture.**

How do you calculate the duty to be paid on an imported vehicle?

The duty rate depends on the engine size or cubic centimeter capacity. With vehicles your duty rate may be 35%, 45% or 55%, and if it's a hybrid 10%. The duty rate is levied on the Cost, Insurance, and Freight (CIF) value of the vehicle. The 7.5% Customs Processing Fee, is levied on the first cost of the vehicle, this means the base cost without the freight and Insurance.

For example:

Vehicle cost :\$15,000

Freight: \$1000

Insurance: \$500

Total: \$16,500, CIF Value

Assuming the duty rate is 35%, then the total duty would be 35% of 16500=**\$5775**

The Customs Processing Fee would be 7.5% of 15000= **\$1125**

Total duty and Customs Processing Fee would be =**\$6900**

I purchased a cake mixer for my bakery, after only 2 months in use the blade got broken, I have a manufacturers repair warranty and would like to send it back to Miami for repair. What is the Customs procedure since I already paid duties the first time it was imported, and do not want to pay twice.

You must notify customs that you are exporting the damaged item for repairs or exchange, and you must show the receipt of payment for when the items was first imported. When the item arrives back into the country you will show customs your proof of export.

How do alcohol imports work, do I pay duties?

Alcohol is not duty free, and the duty is not based on value but on volume/gallonage