



Customs Guide **VENEZUELA**  
Information from FIDI LATIN AMERICA

# Customs guide VENEZUELA



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**The global quality standard for international moving.**

The FAIM label is your global assurance for a smooth, safe and comprehensive relocation process.

GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
<p><b>Used Household Goods</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Valid passport showing recent entry stamp of Venezuelan immigration officer.</li> <li>▪ Descriptive Inventory with PBO's contents listed.</li> <li>▪ Certificate of Use, duly stamped by Venezuelan Consulate in origin, only if shipper is a returning Venezuelan citizen or a returning resident, after having lived abroad for at least one year.</li> <li>▪ Work letter from employer is helpful.</li> <li>▪ Original OBL/AWB.</li> <li>▪ Copies of purchase invoices for all new items in the shipment.</li> <li>▪ Signature of consignee on Customs forms.</li> <li>▪ Copy of the consignee's RIF (Fiscal Information Registry) document. This is required for both import and export shipments. Air imports require notarization of a power of attorney. Depending on status of consignee, sea imports may also require it.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Importation is free of duties and taxes for returning Venezuelan citizens and returning residents if:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ They have obtained the stamped Certificate of Use at the Venezuelan Consulate in origin.</li> <li>▪ If the Customs official is satisfied that the contents are used household goods.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ The Customs officer and the National Guard will carefully inspect most shipments.</li> <li>▪ All others pay import duties and taxes, except diplomats.</li> <li>▪ Duties range from 5 to 40 % of the CIF value.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Import tax is 1 % of the CIF value.</li> <li>▪ VAT is 12 % of the sum of the CIF value, duties and taxes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Non-residents with a "TRANSEUNTE VISA3 (Business, Investor, Student, Work, etc.) are NOT eligible to obtain the Certificate of Use at the Venezuelan Consulates or Embassies located in the origin country, in order to avoid payment of import customs duties and taxes on household goods and personnel effects.</li> <li>▪ The household goods and personnel effects have been used for at least during six (6) months and show use.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Used Household Goods, including furniture, electrical appliances ... fall into this category.</li> <li>▪ Customs clearance is rigorous and demanding. Most shipments are inspected.</li> <li>▪ Returning Venezuelans and Residents must obtain Certificate of Use before they leave the country of origin. If no certificate is presented to Customs, shipment will be subject to payment of duties. Certificates cannot be obtained locally.</li> <li>▪ Important: all the clients must arrive in Venezuela before the shipment in order to avoid problems with the customs.</li> </ul>

<b>GOODS</b>	<b>DOCUMENTS REQUIRED</b>	<b>CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
<b>Unaccompanied air shipment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Same as above.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Same as above.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If Certificate of Use is not available, the client will be requested to pay duties, taxes and VAT.</li> </ul>
<b>Diplomatic shipments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Diplomatic franchise.</li> <li>▪ Packing inventory.</li> <li>▪ Signature of consignee on Customs forms.</li> <li>▪ Passport.</li> <li>▪ 2 OBL's/AWB.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Respective Embassy must supply the diplomatic franchise before customs clearance.</li> <li>▪ Diplomats may include small amount of liquor in their shipments, however for large amounts a note requesting permission is to be submitted before the MRI (Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores) confirming the amount of bottles.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Due to long process to obtain the diplomatic franchise storage charges and high container demurrage fees will be incurred.</li> </ul>
<b>Antiques (in Household Goods shipment)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Same documents as in normal Household Goods shipment</li> <li>▪ Stamped Certificate of Use.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Documented antiques pay high duties and taxes when shipped separately.</li> </ul>
<b>Alcohol (in household goods and luggage shipments)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prohibited without Sanitation Permit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Specific rule for Diplomats – see under 'Diplomatic shipments' section.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Confiscation may occur if rule is not complied with.</li> </ul>
<b>Food (in Household Goods shipment)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prohibited without Sanitation Permit.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Confiscation may occur if rule is not complied with.</li> </ul>
<b>Vehicles – For Diplomats</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original passport.</li> <li>▪ 3 Original OBL/AWB.</li> <li>▪ Original invoice.</li> <li>▪ Original Certificate of Title.</li> <li>▪ Customs letters.</li> <li>▪ RIF of Embassy.</li> <li>▪ Certificate of Origin.</li> <li>▪ Pictures of auto.</li> <li>▪ Picture of Serial Motor.</li> <li>▪ Diplomatic franchise.</li> </ul>		

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<b>Used vehicles – For Non-Diplomats</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original passport.</li> <li>▪ 3 original OBL's.</li> <li>▪ Original invoice.</li> <li>▪ Original Registration Title.</li> <li>▪ Original Certificate of Use duly stamped by Venezuelan Consulate at origin.</li> <li>▪ Consignee' signature on Customs form supplied by the mover.</li> <li>▪ RIF document (Venezuela tax payers registration document).</li> <li>▪ Certificate of Origin.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Returning Venezuelan citizens and returning residents may import used cars after living abroad for at least one year and after having purchased the car at least 11 months in advance of import to Venezuela.</li> <li>▪ If the value of the car when brand new was over US\$ 20,000, duties will be 35 % of the CIF value based on the present day value as dictated by the tax office (Seniat).</li> <li>▪ Import tax is 1% of the CIF value.</li> <li>▪ Non-residents can NOT apply for a certificate of Use - they cannot import their used car.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Customs Office determines the value.</li> <li>▪ The value for Customs purposes is not necessarily the value indicated on the original invoice.</li> <li>▪ It is recommended to the shipper to determine the value of the car at the tax office (Seniat) in Caracas before shipping the vehicle.</li> <li>▪ The tax office will assign (1) a present day value to the car and (2) the value when it was brand new.</li> <li>▪ Vehicle imported duty free cannot be sold for a period of 3 years.</li> <li>▪ Before shipping a car to Venezuela (2000 model or over), the consignee must present the COVENIN and SENORCA permits to Customs, otherwise clearance will be delayed and car may be confiscated.</li> <li>▪ These permits are to be obtained in Venezuela prior to arrival of vehicle.</li> </ul>
<b>New and used vehicles (under a temporary import permit)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Application to Customs Office requesting a temporary import permit.</li> <li>▪ Remaining documents same as for used vehicles, except Certificate of Use.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Only after the permit is granted vehicle may be shipped to Venezuela.</li> <li>▪ Import tax is 1% of the CIF value.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ For release from Customs, a bond may be posted through a local insurance company or a deposit may be made for the value of the duties.</li> <li>▪ Before shipping a car to Venezuela (2000 model or over), the shipper must present the COVENIN and SENORCA permits to Customs, otherwise clearance will be delayed and car may be confiscated.</li> <li>▪ These permits are to be obtained in Venezuela, prior to arrival of vehicle.</li> <li>▪ The temporary import permit is valid for 6 months. A request may be filed with Customs to extend the permit for one additional six months period, after which the car must be exported. Only valid for tourists and/or holders of transit visas.</li> </ul>

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<b>New vehicles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original passport.</li> <li>▪ Original purchase invoice notarised at origin.</li> <li>▪ 2 original OBLs/AWBs.</li> <li>▪ Original title.</li> <li>▪ Consignee's signature on Customs forms.</li> <li>▪ Consignee's RIF document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Import tax is 1% of the CIF value.</li> <li>▪ Import duties are 40 % of the CIF value.</li> <li>▪ VAT is 12 % of the sum of the CIF value, duties and taxes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The vehicle must be brand new (no miles).</li> <li>▪ The shipper must be at least 18 years old and he must be in Venezuela when the auto arrives.</li> <li>▪ Before shipping a car to Venezuela (2000 model or over), the shipper must present the COVENIN and SENORCA permits to Customs, otherwise clearance will be delayed and car may be confiscated.</li> <li>▪ These permits are to be obtained in Venezuela prior to arrival of vehicle.</li> </ul>
<b>Motorcycles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original purchase invoice.</li> <li>▪ Original passport of consignee.</li> <li>▪ Shipper's signature on Customs form.</li> <li>▪ Shipper's RIF document.</li> <li>▪ Original Certificate of Origin.</li> <li>▪ Pictures of motorcycle</li> <li>▪ Picture of motorcycle Serial Motor</li> <li>▪ 3 Original OBLs/AWBs.</li> <li>▪ Original Certificate of Use duly stamped by Venezuelan Consulate at origin.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Returning Venezuelan citizens and returning residents may import used motorcycles after living abroad for at least one year and after having purchased the motorcycle at least 11 months in advance of import to Venezuela.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Certificate of Use issued by Venezuelan Consulate at origin for Venezuelan or returning residents is not valid for importing motorcycles.</li> </ul>
<b>Motorcycles - For Diplomats</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original purchase invoice.</li> <li>▪ Original passport of shipper.</li> <li>▪ Consignee's signature on Customs form.</li> <li>▪ Consignee's RIF document.</li> <li>▪ Certificate of Origin.</li> <li>▪ Pictures of motorcycle.</li> <li>▪ Picture of motorcycle Serial Motor.</li> <li>▪ Original diplomatic franchise.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Due to long process in obtaining the franchise, storage charges might occur.</li> </ul>
<b>Prohibited items</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Firearms drugs.</li> <li>▪ Pornographic material.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ For firearms, apply to the Ministry of Defence before shipping. Prohibited in household goods shipments.</li> </ul>

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<b>Fumigation of wood packaging</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Effective May 2, 2005 a new resolution of the Minister of Agriculture and Land states that all imports and exports containing wooden crates, lift vans,...., have to have the Seal that certifies the treatment by Bromade Methyl (BM) or Heated Treatment (HT).</li> <li>▪ Any import coming into the country without the certification will be returned to the country of origin. This norm does not apply to paper products.</li> </ul>	
<b>General remark</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Shippers must realise that on their door-to-door shipments, duties, taxes, VAT, deconsolidation fees, airport and airline handling and storage, port fees, container rental and hoisting are not included in the prepaid destination services charge.</li> <li>▪ Customs clearance is normally included.</li> <li>▪ The shipper must be in the country when his shipment arrives in case the customs office wants to see his passport.</li> <li>▪ No values should be declared on the shipping documents nor on the certificate of use, stamped by the Venezuelan Consulate at origin.</li> </ul>



## The FIDI Global Alliance

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