

Latvia

IMPORTING HOUSEHOLD GOODS/ PERSONAL EFFECTS & PETS

DUTY-FREE ENTRY IS PERMITTED IF ONE OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ARE MET:

- The goods are household goods/ personal effects of a naturalized citizen.
- The goods are being imported temporarily.

Note:

 Shipper must be present in Latvia to clear their shipment through customs.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- Copy of Passport
- Copy of Visa
- ✓ Valued Inventory
- Customs Declaration
- Residence Permit
- ✓ Work Permit
- Confirmation to return items such as works of art, household machinery, electronics, etc.

RESTRICTED/DUTIBALE ITEMS:

- Religious materials
- Antiquities
- Medications containing psychotropic substances require special permits issued by the Welfare Ministry.
- Business equipment
- Alcoholic beverages
- Cigarettes, cigars and tobacco
- Gold, precious metals and precious stones
- "Packaging Tax" will be assessed on packaged items including food and beverages in glass, plastic, cardboard or metal containers.

PROHIBITED ITEMS:

- Firearms and ammunition, unless the proper authorization is obtained from the authorities.
- Drugs
- Pornographic materials
- Live animals other than pet dogs and cats

IMPORTATION OF PETS:

- Cats and dogs may be imported into Latvia if accompanied by the proper documentation.
- The pet must enter Latvia through border posts that handle animal imports, such as the international airport "Riga".
- The pets must be clinically healthy and free from rabies.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- Rabies Vaccination Certification stating that the pet was vaccinated against rabies 30 days to 12 months prior to arrival in Latvia.
- Veterinary Health Certificate with results of clinical exam, treatment against ectoparasites and immunization records. Dogs need to be vaccinated for rabies, canine distemper, infectious canine hepatitis and canine parvoviral infection. Cats need to be vaccinated against rabies and infectious panleucopenia.

Note:

 If the owner or a person authorized by the owner accompanies the cat or dog into Latvia, an International Animal Passport can then be substituted for the required Veterinary Health Certificate.

DUTY-FREE ALLOWANCES OF ACCOMPANIED ITEMS

VISITORS ARE ALLOWED TO BRING WITH THEM INTO LATVIA THE FOLLOWING ITEMS DUTY-FREE:

- Goods not exceeding 300 Lats in value and no more than 3 units of such an item. Or, if the goods do not exceed 15 Lats in value, then the quantity restriction does not apply.
- Foodstuff up to a value of 15 Lats.
- Alcohol/ Liquors in the amount of 1 liter or one 3-liter bottle. The visitor must be at least 18 years old.
- Tobacco in the quantity of 200 grams or 20 cigars or 200 cigarettes.

RESTRICTIONS ARE PLACED ON THE EXPORT OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- The fur or hides of animals require a special permit issued by the State Forest Service.
- Artistic works of cultural value require a special permit issued by the State Agency for Protection of Culture Values.
- Firearms, hunting rifles and gas pistols/revolvers require a special permit from the Ministry of Interior.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE PROHIBITED TRANSFER ACROSS THE BORDERS OF LATVIA:

- Combat guns, weapons and firearms of any kind
- Explosives
- Cold steel weapons
- Special chemical substances
- Pure alcohol spirits
- Narcotics and psychotropic drugs

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

- 4moversww.com, April 2000.
- Embassy of Latvia, <u>http://www.latvia-usa.org</u>, July 2000.
- Latvia Consular Information Sheet, <u>http://travel.state.gov/latvia.html</u>, July 2000.
- Transit: Latvia, Information System for Transportation & Transit, http://www.transit.lv/en/finan/tf2.html, 2000.
- Eunet Latvia/ Versia Ltd., Customs Information, http://www.eunet.lv/VT/general/custom.html, March 1999.

The information presented herein his 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 advice 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.