



HONG KONG

Customs hints on importing shipments of household goods

Hong Kong is a duty-free port and there is no tax or duty for importing household goods; however, it does carry various restrictions as detailed below. Normally, the client does not have to be physically present during Customs clearance and inspection.

➤ **PROHIBITED ITEMS:**

Prohibited articles are articles the import of which are prohibited or controlled under the provisions of the Import and Export Ordinance (Cap. 60, Laws of Hong Kong) or any other laws of Hong Kong. Importers who wish to import prohibited articles should obtain in advance import licenses, permits or certificates:

- Controlled Chemicals, Antibiotics, Drugs and Narcotics
- Psychotropic Substances
- Firearms, Ammunition, Weapons, Fireworks and Explosive
- Strategic commodities such as high performance digital computers, high speed and high density integrated circuits, sophisticated communication systems and nuclear materials etc.
- Animals, Plants, Pesticides, Endangered species
- Telecommunication Equipment
- Pharmaceutical Products and Medicines
- Counterfeit or Pirated Goods and Infringing Articles
- Meat products, Poultry, Plants and Seeds
- Soil, fertilizer and pesticide

➤ **CUSTOMS CLEARANCE & INSPECTION:**

Customs control on import goods is done through inspection of documents such as manifests, and where necessary, physical examination of the goods. Physical examination is conducted on a selective basis. Customs officers will detain selected consignments for physical examination. In general, the Customs clearance process for air and sea shipment takes around 3 to 5 working days. The documents required for Customs clearance are:

- Copy of passport (photo page)
- Authorization Letter from the client (provided by Asian Express)
- Copy of Ocean Bill of Lading / Air Waybill
- Copy of packing list in English

For further information and details, please visit the Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department's website: http://www.customs.gov.hk/en/cargo_clearance/index.html

DISCLAIMER:

The above information herein is correct at the time of preparing, however, changes in laws and convention can alter from time to time which may affect the importation of Goods. Whilst every effort is made to keep this information as up to date as possible, Asian Express will not accept any responsibility or liability for any changes in import and export regulations.