



Import Customs Guide **SOUTH KOREA**

Information from FIDI Asia

Customs guide **KOREA**



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GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
<p>General information</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consignment instructions – Air and Sea shipments: Shipper: Client's FULL name as on passport should be declared. Client's FULL name as on passport, (Final Destination City Republic of Korea) c/o your Korean agent's name, Client's Korean address, Your Korean agent's phone. Notify: your Korean agent's name, address, your Korean agent's phone. ▪ Description Section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For LCL shipment, actual no. of cartons needs to be declared with L/V quantities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Please contact your destination agent should you have any questions. ▪ In case of SOFA shipment, APO address should be inserted into Consignee's info. ▪ C/O phrase should be duly inserted into the consignee's section in any cases. Some SS Lines would not accept the B/L with the C/L phrases described in description of goods due to the lack of space on the Consignee even there is ** mark added.
<p>Korean Customs Houses</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Final designated destination cities for delivery will be the Customs Houses of either Seoul, Daejeon or Busan. ▪ Seoul Customs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Residence in Seoul and Incheon, Gyeonggi Province, Gangwon Province via POE Busan/Incheon ▪ Daejeon Customs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Residence in Daejeon, Chungchung Province, Gwangju & Jeolla Province via POE Busan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In case of the container booking at the origin, please be informed that Seoul customs office is located in Gimpo area, which is one hour away from Seoul. If the booking is made based on the Seoul container terminal, additional transportation charge might incur due to the distance between Seoul and Gimpo.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Busan Customs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Residence in Busan and suburb. 	
<p>Household goods</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For all: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BL or AWB Copy. ▪ Inventory list. ▪ Customs Declaration Forms. ▪ Power of Attorney. ▪ Privacy consent. ▪ Foreigners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Passport Copy (Identification & Entry Stamp) from Client and accompanying family members. ▪ Marriage certificate, employment letter (incl. start/end date), Entry Stamp copy(or Entry Certificate Ticket). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In case Entry Certificate Ticket is not available, Boarding Pass used when entering to Korea would be required instead. ▪ Alien Registration Card (ARC) for all accompanying family members is required for the customs clearance from 2019. ▪ Returning Koreans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Passport copy from client and accompanying family members. ▪ Certificate of entry & exit from client and accompanying family members. ▪ Certificate of Family Relationship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requirement for Tuberculosis (TB) Test Certificate Submission - Effective as of March 2nd, 2016: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Certificate of Health (Tuberculosis / TB) will be required for nationals of high TB-burden countries that reside in one of the high TB-burden countries for long-term visa applications (stay period of 91 days or longer). <p>(High TB-burden countries)</p> <p>① Nepal ② East Timor ③ Russia ④ Malaysia ⑤ Mongol ⑥ Myanmar ⑦ Bangladesh ⑧ Vietnam ⑨ Sri Lanka ⑩ Uzbekistan ⑪ India ⑫ Indonesia ⑬ China ⑭ Cambodia ⑮ Kyrgyzstan ⑯ Thailand ⑰ Pakistan ⑱ Philippines</p> ▪ Impact on the Foreign Employee / Assignee who will be working in South Korea: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ① If assignee entered Korea on March 2, 2016 or after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short-term visa holders: required when applying for change of status or extension of stay period to a long-term status. ▪ Long-term visa holders (granted on March 1, 2016 or before) holders: required when applying for alien registration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nationals of High TB-burden countries that do not reside in a High TB-burden country do not need the certificate of health (i.e. Chinese national living in Germany). ▪ Goods must arrive at POE/AOE in Korea within 6 months of the owner's arrival. ▪ Clearance is supposed to take place at a bonded warehouse. ▪ Personal effects cannot be customs cleared prior to the shipper's arrival ▪ All incoming shipments excluding diplomatic are subject to open inspection by Korean Customs Authority. ▪ All family members' ARC would be essential since their items should be included in the shipment and Korean customs would need the ARC as a proof of stay in Korea.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ② If assignee entered Korea on March 1, 2016 or before: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diplomat (A-1), Foreign Government Official (A-2), and International Agreement (A-3) status holders. ▪ Children aged 5 and under. ▪ Short-term status holders who apply for extension of stay period (without converting to long-term status). ▪ Duty free entry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Used household effects, excluding commercial commodities and new high value items. ▪ Subject to duties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New furniture 22.5% - 54.8%. ▪ New Carpet: 24.3%. ▪ All brand new electrical items (including items used less than 6 months) 20% of Customs assessed value. ▪ Tobacco products. ▪ Used or new automobiles, boats, aircrafts, motorcycles. ▪ Jewels. ▪ Upright piano (free if over 6 months old): 20%. ▪ Grand piano (free if over 6 months old for piano major diploma holder): 20%. ▪ TV over 65" or a second TV over (29" – 49"). ▪ Second and next golf club: 8%. ▪ Second and next ski: 20%. ▪ Air cleaner: 20%. 	

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Household Goods & Vehicle for Diplomats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BL or AWB copy. ▪ Packing list. ▪ Passport copy. ▪ Application for duty exemption issued by Foreign Affairs Ministry of Korea. ▪ Power of attorney. ▪ Automobile title. ▪ Diplomatic ID card copy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Customs duty exemption for vehicles, showing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VIN (Vehicle Identity Number). ▪ Year of car. ▪ Model, Brand. ▪ Engine number. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Embassy or Organization's official stamp should be put on all pages of these listed documents. ▪ Documentary clearance without physical inspection. ▪ The vehicle cannot be sold or transferred to non-diplomatic individual for three (3) years, however, sale or transfer between diplomatic individuals is authorized. ▪ In case of sale or transfer to non-diplomatic individual within three (3) years, customs duty/tax shall be charged by the Korean Customs. ▪ The vehicle must be listed on the inventory with full technical specifications (make, model, plate number, year, etc.). ▪ If Diplomat ID card is still in progress, Certificate of Employment with exact employment period would be mandatory. ▪ In case of SOFA/DIPLOMATIC shipments, container would not be forwarded to the customs and the clearance would be done at the container yard. DEMURRAGE free time (not for the detention) extension up to two weeks is recommendable.
Precious metal objects		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subject to payment of duties. 	
Presents & Souvenirs		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subject to payment of duties for high valued items. 	
Antiques, works of art		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Duty free entry unless they are national treasures. 	

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Vehicle, motorcycle & mechanical equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Original Title. ▪ Original Registration Certificate. ▪ Original Purchase Receipt or Invoice. ▪ Insurance policy (original or copy). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subject to payment of duties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vehicle must be listed on the inventory with full technical specifications (make, model, plate n°, year, etc.). ▪ Must be registered under consignee name for at least three months at origin. ▪ Domestic Vehicle Insurance should be prepared before the clearance and it should be valid at least two weeks from the date of the clearance.
Prohibited items		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drugs. ▪ Firearms (can only be imported with a special permit from the proper Korean authority). ▪ Ammunition. ▪ Pornographic material. ▪ Imitation of bank notes and coins. 	
Wine & Alcohols		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Duty free for one bottle of wine or spirit per adult. ▪ Detailed list of liquor, photos and official receipts of each bottle would be mandatory for the customs clearance ▪ For exceeding quantities, the following Customs duty/tax rates apply based on Customs assessed value: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wine: 68.25 %. ▪ Cognac: 144.9%. ▪ Whiskey: 155.5%. ▪ Beer: 210.31%. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Above rules apply also to diplomats. Please check with your local embassy/destination agent before shipping.
Food		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No food in air shipment. ▪ Subject to payment of 20% duty if total amount is too large as part of household goods. ▪ One small box max. for the sea shipment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small amount of dried & sealed food are okay in sea shipment.

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		Dried, unused, unopen and commercially packed items would be only allowed.	
Plants & Vegetables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarantine certificate of the entrance administration office of airport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Duty free entry. 	
Pets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Under 3 months old docs & cats from any country: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Microchip (ISO 11784/11785). ▪ Valid Official Health Certificate from Government official vet. ▪ Including microchip number and the pet is healthy and fit to travel. ▪ Over 3 months old docs & cats from rabies free country: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Microchip (ISO standard) ▪ Valid Official Health Certificate from Government official vet: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Microchip number. ▪ Official vet must certify the pet is healthy and fit to travel. ▪ Over 3 months old docs & cats from non-rabies free country: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Microchip (ISO 11784/11785) ▪ Rabies antibody test between 30 days-24months prior to travel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum waiting period from blood serum collection date is 30 days. ▪ Result should be equal or more than 0.5IU/ML. ▪ Valid official health certificate from government official vet including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Microchip number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There is no mandatory quarantine period unless pet does not meet the regulation. If in such case, pet will be quarantined until the pet meets the regulation or will be returned to the origin country where it departed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Effective since 1 Dec. 2012. ▪ Dogs and cats will be released only after being inspected by an animal quarantine official at the airport of entry. If the customs documents are prepared properly, dogs/cats can be released within 24 hours. ▪ As it normally takes about 5-6 hours from arrival at AOE Incheon to delivery residence in Seoul, please arrange the airplane which lands at AOE in the morning time during weekdays. ▪ Birds: 5 days of quarantine.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Blood test result ▪ Laboratory details ▪ Official vet must certify the pet is in good health. ▪ Dogs & Cats from Malaysia, Cats from Australia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Official health certificate from Government including: ▪ Animal has been kept in a Hendra and Nipah virus free region, or ▪ Animal has been kept in a Hendra and Nipah virus free area for 60 days prior to export and confirms a negative blood test result for Hendra and Nipah Virus within 14 days prior to import. 		
Firearms, pistols, rifles, explosives, swords, drugs, narcotics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Special official permit. 		
Prohibited Goods		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pornographic materials. ▪ Forged notes. ▪ Pirated editions. ▪ Counterfeits ... ▪ Animal related items, agricultural items and weapons 	



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