



Croatia

CAPITAL

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OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

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CURRENCY

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This Country Guide reflects information believed to be correct at the time of publication. Regulations, procedures and charges are subject to change. IAM does not accept liability for errors, omissions, inaccuracies or misinterpretations in this guide. The information provided should not be considered as having been provided or sanctioned by the customs authorities of the country or territory concerned.

Overview

Duty-Free Eligibility

Duty-free conditions (from non-EU countries): Personal property is exempt from customs duties and VAT if the following conditions are met: the beneficiary has spent a minimum of 12 consecutive months in a third country before moving; the items were owned and used in their household for a minimum of 6 months before the day of the move; the property is intended for the same household or leisure purpose in Croatia. The owner must arrive in Croatia prior to or at the time of shipment arrival.

Duties if not qualifying: Approximately 35-45% of the total value apply if the owner does not qualify for duty and tax-free import.

Documents

For returning Croatian citizens (additional)

- **Statement from Croatian embassy at origin showing the owner has lived abroad for more than 12 months**
- **Croatian ID card**
- **EORI number**

For diplomats

- **Detailed packing list**
- **Copy of passport**
- **Original letter of protocol from the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
- **Copy of diplomatic passport**
- **EORI number**

Household Goods — Specific Information

Import timeline: Goods may be imported within 12 months from the date of the move, at once or on several occasions. The deadline may be extended for justified reasons such as political situations or natural disasters.

Pre-arrival import: Natural persons who intend to move to Croatia can also qualify for duty and VAT exemption, but they must physically move within 6 months from the day of customs clearance.

Prohibition of alienation: Imported household goods under customs duty exemption are under customs supervision and cannot be sold, lent, pawned, rented, or used for another purpose within 12 months of import, without prior notification of the competent customs office and payment of customs duties and VAT. The SDC source states 24 months; the official gov.hr source states 12 months. The gov.hr figure is used as the authoritative source.

Items qualifying as household goods: Furniture, household appliances, electrical appliances, works of art, hobby tools, smaller agricultural tools and devices, personal vehicles (cars), trailers, mobile homes, vessels, pets, riding animals, and reasonable quantities of consumables (approximately one month's supply of food). Goods must be intended for household or leisure use,

not for professional business activities.

EORI number: Required for all importers, including returning citizens.

Exercising the exemption multiple times: The right to customs duty exemption can be exercised again if you return to a foreign country and then return to Croatia, provided all conditions are met again. There is no one-time limit.

Prohibited / Restricted Items

Prohibited Items

- Firearms and ammunition (without proper permits)
- Stuffed animals (taxidermy)
- Narcotics and illegal drugs
- Counterfeit goods

Note: The IAM guide lists alcohol, wine, spirits, and tobacco under prohibited items, but these are more accurately restricted/dutiable (subject to quantity limits as specified above). They are prohibited only in quantities exceeding the duty-free allowances without proper declaration and payment of duties.

Restricted / Dutiable Items

All weapons and ammunition: permit required, must be reported to the police upon entry. PERMIT REQUIRED

Antiques, artifacts, carpets, paintings: when importing jewelry, art, or antiques, these items must be registered upon arrival in Croatia. No restriction on registered items as long as a document from the Croatian Ministry of Culture is available to show the presence of the item in Croatia.

Duty-free allowances (travelers from non-EU countries):

- 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 100 cigarillos or 250 g of tobacco
- 1 liter of spirits (over 22% vol.) or 2 liters of wine or 2 liters of liqueur (under 22% vol.)
- 250 ml of cologne or 50 g of perfume
- Goods of a non-commercial nature up to EUR 430 (air/sea) or EUR 300 (other modes); EUR 150 for passengers under 15

Duty-free allowances (travelers from EU member states):

- 800 cigarettes, 400 cigarillos, 200 cigars, 1 kg of tobacco

- 10 liters of spirits (over 22%), 20 liters of alcoholic beverages (under 22%), 90 liters of wine (max 60 liters sparkling), 110 liters of beer

EU food restrictions: You cannot bring meat, milk, or products containing them into Croatia from non-EU countries, with limited exceptions for medical reasons (infant milk, infant food, pet food).

Vehicles

Vehicle Documents

- **Original vehicle documentation (title/registration), in English and Croatian**
- **Invoice or pro-forma invoice with the vehicle value**
- **Technical data (chassis number, weight, power, etc.)**
- **Green card (insurance)**
- **Driver's license**
- **Proof of ownership by the owner for at least 6 months**
- **Diplomatic protocol, if applicable**
- **Letter of Indemnity (LOI): the owner must provide a signed statement confirming the fuel tank is empty and the battery has been disconnected**

Specific Information

From EU member states: A tax declaration must be filed for calculation and payment of the special tax on motor vehicles, even though the vehicle is being moved within the EU. Vehicle homologation (approval procedure through the State Office for Metrology, pisarnica@dzm.hr) must be completed before first registration of any vehicle in Croatia.

From non-EU countries: A person with a temporary stay permit or permanent residence in Croatia may import a used vehicle for a period of 12 months from the date following import. New cars can be registered to persons with a Croatian residence permit.

Vehicle age limit: Cars must not be older than 7 years for import into Croatia (per IAM guide, 2018). Confirm current age limits with the destination agent, as this may have been revised under EU harmonization.

Duty-free import: Vehicles can only be imported duty and tax-free with a diplomatic protocol issued by the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Without a protocol, temporary import is possible but a fee will be charged.

Temporary import without clearance: Possible if the vehicle will stay in Croatia for no more than 6 months. After 6 months, the vehicle must be exported and will not be allowed back into Croatia until a total of 12 months from the original import date.

Special tax on motor vehicles and end-of-life vehicle management fee: Both apply to all motor vehicle imports (whether from EU or non-EU countries). Consult the Croatian Customs Administration for current rates and the online estimate calculator.

Pets

Requirements

- **Veterinary health certificate (issued by a government vet at origin no more than 10 days prior to arrival)**
- **Vaccination record**
- **EU pet passport (if applicable)**
- **Microchip or tattoo number**
- **Pro-forma invoice**
- **Copy of owner's passport**
- **RNATT (rabies antibody neutralizing test), if applicable**
- **Import permit from Croatian Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Rural Development (not required for dogs and cats, but required for some birds, such as parrots)**

Specific Information

EU pet travel scheme: As an EU and Schengen member, Croatia follows EU pet travel regulations. Pets traveling from other EU member states with an EU pet passport, valid microchip, and up-to-date rabies vaccination can enter Croatia without additional documentation.

Border crossings: All species of animals (dogs, cats, birds, etc.) must enter across specific border crossings where veterinary health control inspections are performed.

RNATT: The rabies antibody neutralizing test may be required for pets originating from certain non-EU countries. Contact the destination agent for specifics.

Temporary import: Pets may be imported temporarily in some cases, provided the owner can supply an international vaccination certificate.

CDC rabies risk status: Croatia is not on the CDC's list of high-risk countries for dog rabies. Standard CDC requirements apply for dogs returning to the United States from Croatia.

Consignment Instructions

Recommended: Contact the destination agent to ensure all requirements have been met prior to import, especially for differences regarding air and sea shipments.

Owner arrival requirement: The owner of the goods must arrive in Croatia prior to the shipment. If importing before physically moving, the owner must move within 6 months of customs clearance.

Inventory requirements: A detailed, valued inventory must be prepared in both Croatian and English, signed by the owner, and provided in 2 copies.

EORI number: Must be obtained before customs clearance can proceed.

Vehicle homologation: For any vehicle being registered for the first time in Croatia (whether from an EU or non-EU country), contact the State Office for Metrology before moving to request information about the vehicle approval (homologation) procedure.

Customs Administration contact: Ministry of Finance, Customs Administration, Alexandera von Humboldta 4a, 10 000 Zagreb. Tel: +385 1 6211-300 or 0800-1222. Web: <https://carina.gov.hr/>

Cultural & Other Information

- **OpenFactBook -- Croatia (replaces CIA World Factbook):** <https://www.openfactbook.org/countries/croatia/> (verified 200)
- **Wikipedia -- Croatia:** <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Croatia> (returns 403 to bots; accessible in browsers)
- **Croatian Customs Administration (Carinska Uprava):** <https://carina.gov.hr/> (verified 200)
- **Croatian Government -- Shipping Household Goods (official guide):** <https://gov.hr/en/shipping-household-goods-into-the-republic-of-croatia/186> (verified 200)
- **Croatian Government -- Customs Procedure for Household Goods:** <https://gov.hr/en/shipping-household-goods-into-the-republic-of-croatia-customs-procedure/2004> (verified 200)
- **Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs:** <https://mvep.gov.hr/en> (verified 200)

- **PetTravel.com -- Croatia:** <https://www.pettravel.com/information/pet-passports/croatia-pet-import-requirements/> (verified 200)
- **Trade.gov -- Croatia Import Tariffs:** <https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/croatia-import-tariffs> (verified 200)
- **Embassy Pages -- Croatia:** <https://www.embassypages.com/croatia> (returns 403 to bots; accessible in browsers)
- **IAMX Directory -- Croatia:** [IAMX](#) (verified 200)

Regulatory Updates

Croatia joined the Schengen Area and adopted the euro (EUR) on 1 January 2023. This has significant implications for customs procedures. Moves from other EU member states are now treated as intra-EU transfers with no customs procedures or controls. The customs regulations below apply primarily to imports from non-EU (third) countries. The Croatian kuna (HRK) is no longer in circulation; all values are now in euros.

Quick Links & Resources

- [Find Movers in Croatia](#)
<https://iamovers.mobilityex.com/index.html#/search?loc=Croatia&lat=45.1&lng=15.2&range=50&assocs=800&fvw=c&ctry=Croatia>
- [Foreign Embassies in Croatia](#)
<https://www.embassypages.com/croatia>
- [Croatia's Embassies Abroad](#)
<https://mvep.gov.hr/en>