



Guinea

CAPITAL

—

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

—

CURRENCY

—

Last verified: June 2026 | **Guide version:** 2.0 (complete rewrite of June 2018 IAM guide)

Disclaimer

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

RTL Tax: Guinea customs levies an RTL (Redevance de Traitement et de Liquidation) tax of 2% of CIF value on all shipments, with a minimum of approximately 300,000 GNF (roughly EUR 30). This applies even to duty-free shipments.

Taxes on new goods: If the consignee does not have a tax exemption, taxes on new goods within a shipment can be as high as 38-45% of CIF value depending on the nature of the goods.

Documents

Required Documents

- **Copy of passport**
- **Packing list**
- **Original bill of lading (OBL) -- no express release permitted -- or air waybill (AWB)**

- **Original valued inventory in French, dated and signed by the owner of the goods**
- **Resident permit, work permit, or letter of employment**
- **Moving certificate or change of residence document**
- **International Cargo Tracking Note (ICTN) for all full container load (FCL) shipments**
- **Customs export declaration from the country of origin**
- **Tax ID document (Code NIF)**

Household Goods — Specific Information

Document timing (critical): All documents must be provided to the destination agent at least 2 weeks before the shipment arrives to obtain duty-free clearance. For diplomatic shipments, documents must be supplied at least 3 weeks prior to arrival, as the diplomatic organization must apply for privileges which may take several weeks for customs approval.

Language requirements: The valued inventory must be in French, dated, and signed by the owner.

International Cargo Tracking Note (ICTN): Required for all FCL shipments entering Guinea. This must be obtained before the shipment arrives. The destination agent can advise on the process.

Guichet Unique (one-stop shop): Guinea launched an online trade facilitation portal in 2019 (Guichet Unique du Commerce Extérieur de Guinée) to digitize customs declarations, certifications, and authorizations. Duties can be paid via wire to the Central Bank or through commercial banks via the portal.

Customs clearance challenges: Corruption remains a factor in clearing goods through Guinean customs. Working with an experienced local agent is strongly recommended.

Confiscation risk: Customs authorities have the right to confiscate cargo that is not released within 90 days of arrival.

ISPM 15: Wood packaging materials must comply with ISPM 15 standards.

Prohibited / Restricted Items

Prohibited Items

- Firearms, explosives, and ammunition (PROHIBITED)

- Illegal drugs and narcotic substances (PROHIBITED)
- Animals without prior permission (PERMIT REQUIRED)
- Plants and plant products (RESTRICTED)
- Religious literature (PROHIBITED per VisaHQ -- confirm with destination agent, as enforcement and scope may vary)
- Knives and deadly weapons (PROHIBITED)
- Counterfeit money and goods (PROHIBITED)
- Pornographic material (PROHIBITED)

Restricted / Dutiable Items

Duty-Free Allowances (personal baggage)

Tobacco products:

- 1,000 cigarettes, OR
- 250 cigars, OR
- 1,000 g of tobacco

Alcoholic beverages:

- 1 opened bottle only (no additional alcohol permitted duty-free)

Perfume:

- A reasonable amount for personal use

Dutiable Items

Computers, printers, and scanners: Not considered personal effects. Subject to duties and taxes at approximately 32.01% of CIF value.

Motor vehicles: Duties of approximately 53% of CIF value (see Section 2).

New goods within shipments: Subject to duties of 38-45% of CIF value if the consignee does not have a tax exemption.

Currency Restrictions

Local currency: Up to GNF 100,000 may be exported. Approximately EUR 5,000 (or equivalent) in foreign currency may also be exported.

Import: Residents and non-residents may import up to GNF 100,000, provided they have an export declaration for the equivalent amount. Unlimited foreign currency may be imported but must be declared upon entry. A portion of foreign currency brought in may need to be exchanged

into local currency at the discretion of immigration authorities.

Vehicles

Vehicle Documents

- **Original vehicle registration card**
- **Change of residence certificate**
- **Copy of passport**
- **Copy of purchase invoice (for new vehicles)**

Specific Information

Vehicle duties: Taxes on motor vehicles depend on age, engine power, and other characteristics, and can be up to 45% of CIF value for non-exempt importers. Duty on cars is cited at approximately 53% of CIF value in the IAM guide's restricted items section.

Diplomatic vehicles: Embassies and diplomatic organizations are subject to an RPA administrative fee of GNF 800,000. Other organizations pay the RTL (2%) and TVA (18%).

Vehicle age limit: According to Maersk's Guinea import guidelines, vehicles older than 13 years are not allowed for import. Importers of used vehicles must provide a technical inspection sheet certifying the vehicle is suitable for use and has no specific issues that could represent a potential risk.

VAT (TVA): Guinea's standard VAT rate is 18%.

Pets

Requirements

- **Veterinary health certificate (issued at point of origin)**
- **Vaccination record (including rabies)**

Specific Information

Documentation: All veterinary documents must be issued in the country of origin prior to departure.

Rabies vaccination: Required for dogs and cats. Given Guinea's high rabies prevalence, ensuring current rabies vaccination is essential.

Veterinary services in Guinea: Veterinary services are limited, particularly outside Conakry. All vaccinations, treatments, and health checks should be completed before travel. Bring sufficient supplies of pet medications and food.

Import restrictions on animals: VisaHQ lists "Animals" under prohibited items "unless permission has been obtained." An import permit may be required. Contact the destination agent well in advance to determine current requirements and obtain necessary permits.

USDA endorsement (for US-origin pets): A USDA-endorsed health certificate is recommended for pets traveling from the United States. The USDA APHIS page for Guinea confirms requirements exist but does not provide Guinea-specific details beyond the standard process.

CDC high-rabies-risk: Guinea IS on the CDC's list of high-risk countries for dog rabies. Dogs returning to the United States from Guinea will need to meet the CDC's requirements for dogs from high-risk countries, including the Certification of U.S.-Issued Rabies Vaccination form (completed before departure from the U.S.), microchip, minimum age of 6 months, and potentially a rabies titer test. Plan return travel requirements before departure from the U.S.

CDC and Guinea rabies program: The CDC has been actively collaborating with Guinea's National Directorate of Veterinary Services on rabies control. As of 2023-2024, over 180,000 animals were vaccinated across 10 high-risk communities, achieving approximately 70% dog vaccination coverage. Despite this progress, rabies remains endemic.

Sources Consulted

1. **IAM Country Guide: Guinea** (last updated June 21, 2018) -- used as baseline; moderately outdated
2. **FIDI Global Alliance** -- no dedicated Guinea customs guide found (404)
3. **VisaHQ Guinea Customs** -- duty-free allowances, prohibited/restricted items, currency restrictions
4. **Trade.gov Country Commercial Guide: Guinea** -- customs procedures, tariff information, one-stop-shop portal details
5. **USDA APHIS** -- pet travel to Guinea page confirmed (200) but no Guinea-specific detail beyond standard process
6. **PetTravel.com** -- Guinea-specific page not found (404); used general West Africa guidance

7. **Maersk Guinea Import Guide** -- confirmed vehicle age limit of 13 years and technical inspection requirement
8. **CDC/PetTravel.com high-risk rabies lists** -- confirmed Guinea is on the CDC high-risk list
9. **CDC Global Rabies page** -- confirmed active CDC/Mission Rabies collaboration in Guinea (2023-2024)

Discrepancies and Clarifications

1. **Vehicle duty rates:** The IAM guide mentions "up to 45% of CIF" for vehicle taxes in the Motor Vehicles section, but then separately lists "53% of CIF value" for car duties under Restricted/Dutiable Items. The 53% figure likely includes all applicable taxes (import duty + VAT + RTL + surtax), while the 45% figure may refer to a subset. Trade.gov confirms surtaxes of 20-70% on vehicles. The actual rate will depend on the vehicle's characteristics and the importer's status. Both figures are included with context.
1. **Religious literature prohibition:** VisaHQ lists "Religious Literature" under prohibited items. Guinea is a majority Muslim country with a secular constitution, and enforcement of this prohibition may vary. This should be confirmed with the destination agent.
1. **Animal import prohibition vs. permit requirement:** VisaHQ lists "Animals" under prohibited items but qualifies it with "unless permission has been obtained." This is a permit requirement rather than an absolute prohibition. The IAM guide's pet section lists only a veterinary health certificate and vaccination record, suggesting pets can be imported with proper documentation.
1. **Flat tariff rate:** Trade.gov cites both "a flat tariff of 10 percent on most imports" (in one version) and "a flat tariff of 33 percent" (in an older Privacy Shield version). The more recent Trade.gov figure of 10% appears current, with DFI rates ranging from 0-35% depending on product category. The overall effective tax burden (including surtaxes) can be significantly higher for consumer goods.
1. **PetTravel.com Guinea page:** The Guinea-specific page returned 404. Pet requirements are based on the IAM guide (veterinary health certificate and vaccination record) and general West African practices. Specific requirements should be confirmed with the destination agent.

Unverified Items

- Whether an import permit is formally required for personal pets (vs. just documentation)

- Current specific DFI duty rate applicable to used household goods
- Whether the Guichet Unique portal is operational and accessible for household goods clearance
- Exact current vehicle age limit (IAM guide does not mention one; Maersk states 13 years)
- Scope and enforcement of the religious literature prohibition
- Guinea customs authority website (douanes.gov.gn) operational status (re-checked June 2026 -- still unreachable; DNS resolves but connection times out consistently)

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.

Document lead time: Provide all documents to the destination agent at least 2 weeks before shipment arrival (3 weeks for diplomatic shipments). Late documentation will delay clearance and incur storage charges.

Valued inventory in French: The inventory must be in French, valued, dated, and signed by the owner. This is a non-negotiable requirement for clearance.

ICTN requirement: An International Cargo Tracking Note is required for all FCL shipments and must be arranged before arrival.

Port of entry: The primary port is Conakry. Air shipments clear through Conakry International Airport (Ahmed Sekou Toure International Airport).

Confiscation: Cargo not released within 90 days of arrival may be confiscated by customs. Ensure all documentation is complete and delivered to the agent well in advance.

Unpredictable expenses: Demurrage, storage fees, and customs processing delays are common. Corruption can also add unpredictable costs. Budget accordingly and work with an experienced local agent.

Cultural & Other Information

- **OpenFactBook (replaces CIA World Factbook):**
<https://www.openfactbook.org/countries/guinea/> (verified 200)
- **Wikipedia -- Guinea:** <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guinea> (verified 403 to bots; works in browser)

- **Guinean Ministry of Foreign Affairs:** <https://mae.gov.gn/> (verified 202; bot-challenge redirect, resolves and TLS-connects cleanly, browser-accessible)
- **Guinean Customs (Direction Nationale des Douanes):** <https://douanes.gov.gn/> (re-checked June 2026 -- still unreachable, DNS resolves but connection times out consistently; confirmed genuinely inaccessible from this network)
- **Trade.gov -- Guinea Customs Regulations:** <https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/guinea-customs-regulations> (verified 200)
- **Trade.gov -- Guinea Import Tariffs:** <https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/guinea-import-tariffs> (verified 200)
- **Trade.gov -- Guinea Prohibited & Restricted Imports:** <https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/guinea-prohibited-and-restricted-imports> (verified 200)
- **USDA APHIS -- Pet Travel to Guinea:** <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/pet-travel/us-to-another-country-export/pet-travel-us-guinea> (returns 503 to this proxy; standard WAF/IP block, confirmed live -- URL corrected from prior non-standard path which now returns 000)
- **VisaHQ -- Guinea Customs:** <https://www.visahq.com/guinea/customs/> (verified 200)

Quick Links & Resources

- [Find Movers in Guinea](#)
<https://iamovers.mobilityex.com/index.html#/search?loc=Guinea&lat=9.9456&lng=-9.6966&range=50&assocs=800&fvw=c&ctry=Guinea>
- [Foreign Embassies in Guinea](#)
<https://www.embassypages.com/guinea>
- [Guinean Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#)
<https://mae.gov.gn/>
- [OpenFactBook \(replaces CIA World Factbook\)](#)
<https://www.openfactbook.org/countries/guinea/>