



# Kosovo

**CAPITAL**

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**OFFICIAL LANGUAGE**

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**CURRENCY**

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**Last verified:** June 2026 | **Guide version:** 1.0**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**

**Customs duty rate:** 10% customs duty applies to imports from countries without a free trade agreement with Kosovo. Most imports from CEFTA member countries are duty-free. EU-origin industrial goods are subject to phased tariff reductions under the SAA, with complete phase-out set for 2026.

**VAT:** The standard rate is 18%. A reduced rate of 8% applies to certain essential goods.

## Documents

**Private Clients (Foreign Citizens / Expatriates)**

- **Copy of passport**
- **Original bill of lading (OBL) / CMR (Convention Marchandises Routiers, for road transport) / air waybill (AWB)**

- **Valued inventory or pro-forma invoice for customs purposes (the value must be different from the insurance value)**
- **Assignment letter from employer in Kosovo showing the duration of stay**
- **Packing list stating origin and creator of any art items**
- **Request for temporary import (issued by the employer in Kosovo) for Customs**
- **Letter of employment (showing duration of stay)**
- **Lease agreement / rental contract (showing address of temporary residence)**
- **Bank guarantee equivalent to the amount of total calculated customs duties (provided by the employer)**

## **Returning Kosovan Citizens**

- **Copy of Kosovan ID**
- **Certificate of residence in Kosovo**
- **Proof from municipality or police at origin that the client has deregistered**
- **Proof of rental contract showing the client has resided for more than 12 months outside the country**
- **Detailed valued inventory stating quantity, unit value, and total value (value must be different from insurance value)**
- **Customs export declaration from previous export**
- **OBL / CMR / AWB**

## **Diplomats**

- **Copy of passport**
- **Valued inventory for customs purposes**
- **Exemption certificate (issued by the diplomat's employer in Kosovo)**
- **Work certificate made in Pristina by the diplomatic organization**

## **Household Goods — Specific Information**

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**Temporary import regime for expatriates:** Household goods imported by foreign workers are typically brought in under a temporary import regime, secured by a bank guarantee from the employer equivalent to the total customs duties. This means the goods must be re-exported when the assignment ends, or duties must be paid to convert to permanent import.

**Duty on recently purchased items:** Full duties are payable on goods identified on the customs export declaration (or added to the inventory) if bought less than 6 months prior to import.

**Owner presence required.** The owner must be present with passport at the customs terminal for clearance.

**Regulatory update (August 2025):** Kosovo removed customs duties on goods of US origin effective August 1, 2025.

**Valued inventory note:** Both the IAM and FIDI guides emphasize that the declared value for customs purposes must be different from (lower than) the insurance value. This is a critical instruction for the origin agent when preparing documentation.

## Prohibited / Restricted Items

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### Prohibited Items

- Illegal drugs and narcotics
- Guns, ammunition, and explosives (without permit) [PERMIT REQUIRED]
- Pornographic materials
- Counterfeit money and goods

### Restricted / Dutiable Items

**Plants and plant products:** Permission and a phytosanitary certificate are required. The phytosanitary certificate must indicate the plants do not carry harmful organisms. [PERMIT REQUIRED]

**Animals and animal products:** Permission is required. [PERMIT REQUIRED]

#### Personal allowances (duty-free):

- Cigarettes: 200; Cigarillos: 100; Smoking tobacco: 250 g
- Alcoholic beverages over 22% volume: 1 litre

**Alcohol and tobacco within shipments:** Subject to excise tax in addition to customs duty and VAT.

# Vehicles

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## Vehicle Documents

- **Copy of vehicle ID / registration card**
- **Sales certificate or original purchase invoice**
- **All documents required for personal effects (see above)**

## Specific Information

**Vehicle age limit (FIDI 2023):** Vehicles older than 10 years cannot be permanently imported into Kosovo for private clients and returning citizens. The IAM guide (2016) stated 6 years; the FIDI guide (December 2023) updated this to 10 years. Confirm the current threshold with the destination agent, as this may have been adjusted again.

**Duties:** Full duties and taxes apply to all private and returning citizen vehicle imports. There is no duty-free vehicle import for returning citizens.

**Diplomats and international staff:** No age limits apply to vehicles imported by diplomats or for temporary import by international staff working in Kosovo.

**Vehicle details:** The shipping documentation must include: model, type, chassis number, number of doors, year of production, fuel type, cubic centimetres, engine number, and colour.

# Pets

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## Requirements

- **Vaccination record including current rabies vaccination**
- **Veterinary health certificate issued in the country of origin**
- **ISO 15-digit microchip recommended (ISO 11784 / Annex A to ISO 11785)**

## Specific Information

**Microchip:** Not strictly required but strongly recommended. The most accepted form is a 15-digit ISO-compliant chip.

**Rabies vaccination:** Required for all dogs and cats over 3 months of age, at least 30 days before travel. Pets must enter Kosovo before the expiration date of the vaccine. Titer test results and veterinary exemption letters are not accepted as substitutes.

**Additional vaccinations:** Dogs should be vaccinated against distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, and parainfluenza. Cats should be vaccinated against feline viral rhinotracheitis, calicivirus, and panleukopenia.

**Rabies titer test:** Not required for entry from any country.

**Quarantine:** No quarantine for compliant pets. Non-compliant pets may be quarantined, returned, or euthanized at the importer's expense.

**Health certificate:** Must certify the pet is healthy and free from symptoms of contagious disease. Should be endorsed by the government veterinary authority in the origination country.

## Research Notes

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**Sources consulted:** IAM Country Guide (November 2016), FIDI Import Customs Guide (December 2023), PetTravel.com (Kosovo pet import requirements), Trade.gov Kosovo Country Commercial Guide, PWC Kosovo tax summaries (January 2026), Kosovo Investment and Enterprise Support Agency.

**Key discrepancy -- vehicle age limit:** The IAM guide (2016) states vehicles must be less than 6 years old. The FIDI guide (2023) states vehicles older than 10 years cannot be permanently imported. This is a significant difference. The FIDI guide is more recent and should be given priority, but the current threshold should always be confirmed with the destination agent.

**Trade agreement updates:** Kosovo signed a free trade agreement with EFTA countries in January 2025. Kosovo removed customs duties on US-origin goods effective August 1, 2025. The SAA with the EU has been phasing out industrial tariffs, with complete phase-out scheduled for 2026. These developments may affect duty calculations on household goods depending on the country of origin.

**Kosovo's political status:** Kosovo declared independence from Serbia in 2008. It is recognized by over 100 UN member states, including the US and most EU countries, but not by Serbia, Russia, China, or five EU member states (Spain, Slovakia, Cyprus, Romania, Greece). This affects customs and shipping routes, as goods transiting through Serbia may face complications. The destination agent should advise on optimal routing.

**UNMIK reference:** The IAM guide references UNMIK (UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo) ID as a document option. UNMIK's administrative role has significantly diminished since Kosovo's independence, though some international staff may still hold UNMIK credentials.

**Link verification (re-checked June 2026):** Kosovo Customs (dogana.rks-gov.net): active (200), Albanian-language; English subpage /en/ still returns 404 -- re-confirmed. MFA (mfa-ks.net): active

(200). KIESA (kiesa.rks-gov.net): active (200). EmbassyPages: returns 403 to bots, browser-accessible. OpenFactBook (replaces CIA World Factbook): active (200). PetTravel.com Kosovo: active (200).

## Consignment Instructions

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

**Road transport is common.** Kosovo is landlocked; most shipments arrive by road (CMR waybill) from ports in Thessaloniki (Greece), Durres (Albania), or via overland routes from Western Europe. Air freight arrives through Pristina International Airport.

**Inventory requirements:** A detailed valued inventory is required with quantity, unit value, and total value for each item. The customs value must be different from (and typically lower than) the insurance value. Art items must have their origin and creator noted on the packing list.

**Bank guarantee:** Expatriate shipments under temporary import require a bank guarantee from the employer. This must be arranged before clearance can proceed.

**Timing:** Goods bought less than 6 months before import are subject to full duties even if the owner otherwise qualifies for favourable treatment.

## Cultural & Other Information

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- [OpenFactBook -- Kosovo](#) (verified 200)
- [Wikipedia -- Kosovo](#) (verified 200)
- [Kosovo Customs \(Dogana e Kosovës\)](#) (verified 200; Albanian-language; English subpage /en/ remains 404 as of June 2026)
- [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) (verified 200)
- [Kosovo Investment and Enterprise Support Agency \(KIESA\)](#) (verified 200)

## Quick Links & Resources

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- [Find Movers in Kosovo](#)  
<https://iamovers.mobilityex.com/index.html#/search?loc=Kosovo&lat=42.6629&lng=21.1655&range=50&assoc s=800&fvw=c&ctry=Kosovo>

- [Foreign Embassies in Kosovo](#)

<https://www.embassypages.com/kosovo>

- [Kosovo's Embassies Abroad](#)

<https://mfa-ks.net/>

- [OpenFactBook \(replaces CIA World Factbook\)](#)

<https://www.openfactbook.org/countries/kosovo/>

- [Wikipedia](#)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kosovo>

- [Customs Authority](#)

<https://dogana.rks-gov.net/>

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