



North Macedonia

CAPITAL

Skopje

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Macedonian

CURRENCY

Macedonian denar

Guide version: V2 draft**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.

Important Note

NAME CHANGE NOTICE: The country was officially renamed from the Republic of Macedonia to the Republic of North Macedonia on 12 February 2019, following the Prespa Agreement with Greece. The IAM baseline was published under "Macedonia" (November 2016). All references in this guide use the current official name.

Documents

For Non-Diplomatic Moves

- **Copy of passport**
- **North Macedonian ID card (temporary ID acceptable)**
- **Pro-forma invoice**
- **Request for temporary import issued by the employer in North Macedonia (for Customs)**
- **Letter of employment (must show duration of stay)**

- **Detailed packing list**
- **Original OBL, CMR (Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road), or AWB**
- **Lease agreement including address of temporary residence**
- **Customs export declaration from the previous export (returning residents only)**

For Diplomatic Moves

- **Import protocol from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
- **Diplomatic ID card**

Household Goods — Specific Information

Duty and Tax Calculation for Non-Diplomatic Moves:

Step 1: Declared value of goods + cost of transport = base value
 Step 2: Base value × 25% = import duties
 Step 3: (Base value + import duties) × 18% = VAT
 Step 4: Import duties + VAT = total customs charges

Ministry of Environment Import Permit for Electronics: An import permit from the Ministry of Environment is required for certain electronic items including televisions, DVD players, and refrigerators. This is an unusual requirement not common in the region — confirm current applicability and procedure with the destination agent before shipment, as enforcement and scope may have evolved since the IAM baseline was published in 2016.

Food and Pharmaceuticals: Food items, drinks, and pharmaceuticals generate Customs inspections and require an import permit. It is strongly advised that non-diplomatic clients do not include these items in household goods shipments. If food items must be shipped, they must be sent separately from the household goods and personal effects consignment.

ISPM 15: All wooden packing materials must comply with ISPM 15 phytosanitary treatment standards.

Prohibited / Restricted Items

Prohibited Items

- Weapons, explosives, and ammunition (without authorization)

- Pornographic materials
- Counterfeit goods
- Used tires
- Food items in unaccompanied household goods shipments (must be shipped separately with permits, or not at all for non-diplomats)
- Alcohol exceeding 1 liter for non-diplomatic shipments
- Cigarettes, cigars, and cigarillos for non-diplomatic unaccompanied shipments

Restricted / Dutiable Items

Alcohol (personal traveler allowances):

- Distilled beverages over 22% ABV: 1 liter
- Distilled beverages at or under 22% ABV: 2 liters
- Wine: 2 liters

Perfume: 50 ml.

Food and drink generally: Full duties and taxes apply. Percentages depend on the type of food or drink. Import permits are required for all food and drink in unaccompanied shipments — it is strongly advised to exclude these items from household goods consignments.

Animal-based food products (cheese, dairy, etc.): Permission required. **[PERMIT REQUIRED]**

Plants and plant products: Permission required. **[PERMIT REQUIRED]**

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

Vehicles

Vehicle Documents

- **Original registration card**
- **Original sales certificate or purchase invoice**
- **Certificate for standard EUR 3 (European emissions standard)**
- **OBL / CMR / AWB — must show model, type, chassis number, VIN, fuel type, year of production, engine capacity, number of doors, color, and engine number**

Specific Information

Vehicles must be less than 10 years old and in the possession of the owner of the goods at the time of importation. All vehicles must be equipped with a catalytic converter system meeting at minimum the EUR 3 standard.

For non-diplomatic shipments and temporary imports, taxes are charged at the same rate as personal effects: 3% of total calculated taxes per month. A bank guarantee is required for temporary imports.

A Ministry of Environment import permit is also required for certain vehicle-related electronic items including air conditioning systems, printers, and laptops transported with the vehicle. Confirm with the destination agent.

Pets

Requirements

- **Dogs: distemper, hepatitis, influenza, leptospirosis, parvovirus**

- 3. Additional vaccinations:

- **Cats: feline viral rhinotracheitis, panleukopenia, calicivirus, feline leukemia**

- 3. Additional vaccinations:

Specific Information

Update vs. IAM Baseline: The IAM baseline correctly identifies the key documents and notes the microchip-before-vaccination sequencing and titer test requirement. This guide adds clarifications from PetTravel.com: three-year rabies vaccinations are accepted; the titer test is not required for pets from EU-classified rabies-controlled countries; parasite treatment is mandatory (not optional); no import permit is required (a visitor permit or transfer-of-residency permit is issued on entry); and pets must be muzzled and on a leash on arrival. Pets should have resided in a rabies-controlled or rabies-free country for at least 6 months before travel.

1. ISO 11784/11785-compliant 15-digit microchip — must be implanted **before** the rabies vaccination; if vaccinated before microchipping, the pet must be vaccinated again
1. Rabies vaccination administered at least 6 months before entry (or after a current valid post-microchip vaccination with a booster, in which case the 6-month wait does not apply); three-year rabies vaccinations are accepted; pets must not be vaccinated before 3 months of age

1. Rabies antibody titer test (RNATT) — required for pets from countries **not** classified by the EU as rabies-controlled; test must be administered at least 30 days after rabies vaccination and at least 3 months before travel; result must be 0.5 IU/ml or greater; performed by an approved laboratory
1. Internal and external parasite treatment including for Echinococcus multilocularis (mandatory; record on health certificate)
1. International health certificate completed by a licensed veterinarian and endorsed by a government veterinarian in the country of origin
1. Owner's passport copy
1. Pet's vaccination record

No import permit is required for owner-accompanied pets. A visitor permit or transfer-of-residency permit is issued at entry. Owners entering on a visitor permit must depart with their pet.

Pets must enter North Macedonia by air via Skopje International Airport. Pets may arrive in the cabin, as checked baggage, or as air cargo. On arrival, all dogs must be muzzled and on a leash. Owners must attest that the pet is being imported for personal, non-commercial use.

No breeds are banned from import.

Pets entering from high-rabies countries should have resided in a rabies-controlled or rabies-free country for at least 6 months before travel.

Puppies and kittens must be microchipped and vaccinated for rabies no earlier than 3 months of age and no sooner than 6 months before import. They may enter with their mother under 3 months of age; the mother must have proof of rabies vaccination and a titer test if entering from a high-rabies country.

Advance notice to veterinary officials at Skopje International Airport is required.

CITES: Import of wildlife species requires CITES permits. **[CITES]**

Consignment Instructions

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

No Food, Alcohol, or Tobacco in Non-Diplomatic Shipments. The inclusion of food, alcohol, tobacco, or pharmaceutical products in a household goods shipment will trigger mandatory Customs inspection and require import permits that are difficult to obtain for non-diplomatic importers. Advise clients to leave these items behind or consume/dispose of them before the

move.

Electronics Permit. Confirm with the destination agent whether the Ministry of Environment import permit for electronics (TVs, refrigerators, air conditioning, DVD players, laptops, printers) is still required and how to obtain it. This is an unusual requirement not seen in most neighboring countries and the process should be confirmed before packing.

Duty Calculation. Advise clients of the duty structure for non-diplomatic moves — 25% import duty on declared value plus transport, then 18% VAT on the combined total — so costs are understood before shipment.

Vehicle Age and Emissions. Vehicles over 10 years old cannot be imported. All vehicles must meet EUR 3 emissions standards. Confirm the vehicle's year and emissions certificate before booking any vehicle shipment.

Pet — 6-Month Lead Time from High-Rabies Countries. For clients from countries not classified as rabies-controlled by the EU, the titer test must be completed at least 3 months before travel, which itself must come at least 30 days after a post-microchip rabies vaccination. Plan a minimum of 4 to 6 months ahead.

Road Shipments. North Macedonia is well-served by road from neighboring Balkan countries. CMR documentation applies to road shipments as an alternative to OBL.

Cultural & Other Information

North Macedonia is a landlocked country in the western Balkans, bordered by Kosovo and Serbia to the north, Bulgaria to the east, Greece to the south, and Albania to the west. The capital is Skopje. The country has a population of approximately 2 million. The official language is Macedonian; Albanian is also an official language in certain municipalities. The currency is the Macedonian denar (MKD).

North Macedonia acceded to NATO in March 2020 and has been an EU candidate country since 2005, with formal accession negotiations formally opened in July 2022. It is a member of the Council of Europe and the Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA).

The country was renamed from the Republic of Macedonia to the Republic of North Macedonia on 12 February 2019 under the Prespa Agreement with Greece, resolving a 27-year dispute over the use of the name "Macedonia."

Time Zone: Central European Time (CET), UTC+1 in winter; Central European Summer Time (CEST), UTC+2 from the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October.

Useful Links:

- [OpenFactBook — North Macedonia](#)
- [Wikipedia — North Macedonia](#)
- [Customs Administration of North Macedonia](#)
- [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of North Macedonia](#)
- [U.S. trade.gov — North Macedonia Customs Regulations](#)
- [U.S. trade.gov — North Macedonia Import Requirements and Documentation](#)
- [U.S. trade.gov — North Macedonia Prohibited and Restricted Imports](#)
- [PetTravel.com — North Macedonia Pet Import Requirements](#)

Quick Links & Resources

- [Find Movers](#)
<https://iamovers.mobilityex.com/index.html#/search?loc=North+Macedonia&lat=41.61&lng=21.74&range=50&assocs=800&fvw=c&ctry=North+Macedonia>
- [Foreign Embassies in North Macedonia](#)
<https://www.embassypages.com/northmacedonia>
- [North Macedonia's Embassies Abroad](#)
<https://mfa.gov.mk/en-GB>